

Copyright 101.

Copyright law covers a wide variety of matters, including protection of software, books, artistic works, photographs, sculpture, musical works, dramatic works, films, video and television programs, to name a few.

Copyright law is governed by the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth).

You do not have to apply or register to obtain copyright protection for such works; it comes into existence automatically when the work is created.

The main issue that arises in commercial life in relation to copyright is ownership. Often it is owned by the author and not the person who commissioned the author to create the work. Accordingly, it is often necessary to transfer the copyright in the work from the author to the person who commissioned it. This is particularly the case in the IT industry where contractors are used to develop software.

Where the author is the employee of a business, the employer will own the copyright.

Marshall IP Group can attend to all of your copyright law needs, including:

- general advice and assistance in relation to copyright law;
- commercial agreements relating to copyright – licence agreements, transfer agreements (assignments); and/or
- copyright litigation and disputes.

Businesses that are likely to need copyright law advice include:

- publishers;
- software based businesses;
- IT contractors;
- web developers and designers; and/or
- anyone dealing with any of the above businesses.
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Contact us today about COPYRIGHT

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