

# Terms of use/Creative Commons 4.0

From Meta, a Wikimedia project coordination wiki

< Terms of use

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We are considering upgrading the default copyright license for Wikimedia to Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0. This proposed amendment will be available for discussion for at least thirty days (until November 8, 2016).

**Learn more and share your comments.**

The Wikimedia Foundation invites you to provide comments and feedback on upgrading the default license for text on the Wikimedia projects to Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0. Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects have been available under a Creative Commons license since June 2009, when the Wikimedia community expressed very strong support for using version 3.0 of the license. Since then, Creative Commons licenses have empowered people to easily create, share, and collaborate on the Wikimedia projects.

The new version 4.0 keeps the same general terms requirements, with upgraded legal code, including two new important changes:

- **Improved clarity** – the 4.0 version is easier to understand and organized cleanly, including a common-sense explanation of attribution and other license conditions.
- **More international** – the 4.0 version of the license now has official translations beyond English, improving international accessibility.

To upgrade to Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0, we will need to amend the Wikimedia Foundation Terms of Use, as proposed here. After the Terms of Use changes, all newly created or edited articles will be available for use under the terms of the 4.0 license. We have prepared a legal note explaining more legal details and the upgrade process here.

As is our commitment in Section 16 of the Terms of Use, we are receiving community comments for 30 days on this proposed amendment before discussing the final version with the Board of Trustees. Translations of the amended Terms of Use are now available in German, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, and a few other languages, and we welcome your help translating this into additional languages if you are able.

How can you help?

## Creative Commons 4.0 upgrade

- Legal note
- FAQ
- **Share your thoughts**

1. Provide feedback on the proposed change to the Terms of Use.
2. Translate the amendment and other documents into additional languages, if you are able.
3. Once the final change is made, join the CC 4.0 cleanup drive to keep all of Wikimedia docs and pages up to date.

## **Proposed new Wikimedia Terms of Use, Section 7**

A more detailed breakdown of these changes is available [here](#).

## 7. Licensing of Content

To grow the commons of free knowledge and free culture, all users contributing to the projects are required to grant broad permissions to the general public to re-distribute and re-use their contributions freely, so long as that use is properly attributed and the same freedom to re-use and re-distribute is granted to any derivative works. In keeping with our goal of providing free information to the widest possible audience, we require that when necessary all submitted content be licensed so that it is freely reusable by anyone who cares to access it.

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Category: Creative Commons 4.0 community consultation

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