



Copyright and Copier Policy

Copyright

The Gates Public Library complies with federal copyright law (Title 17, U.S. Code). It is the intent of this law to protect the rights of copyright owners from unauthorized reproduction of their works. This includes works that have been fixed in any format, including print, audio, video, and computer file, whether or not they have been published.

However, the law also recognizes the public benefit of allowing citizens to do limited copying from copyrighted works for educational purposes. Under the precepts of fair use (section 107), library patrons may copy or print parts of copyrighted works for one-time, educational, nonprofit activities. Copying that would replace or infringe upon a commercial sale of a copyrighted work (such as copying a work in its entirety, copying something for repeated use, or making exceedingly numerous copies of the same item) is forbidden. In such cases, Library patrons should seek permission from the copyright owner before proceeding.

Use of copy machines, printers, and library materials

The Library provides copy machines and networked printers for the convenience and lawful use of staff and patrons. While Library staff act in good faith to remind Library patrons about copyright law and its restrictions, they cannot be liable for the acts of individual patrons using Library materials or equipment.

The Library's public copier is subject to these guidelines:

- In the course of their work, Library staff seek to adhere to the tenets of Title 17 and will not knowingly fulfill patron requests that constitute violations of copyright law.
- Staff can provide limited assistance to patrons using the copier but cannot complete lengthy or detailed jobs on patrons' behalf.
- The public copier is a shared, multi-use machine, and patrons doing lengthy copying/printing may be asked by staff to pause and allow other patrons or staff to use the copier.

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