



# THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

## COPYRIGHT ACT 2021

### 2020 REVISED EDITION

This revised edition incorporates all amendments up to and including 1 December 2021 and comes into operation on 31 December 2021.

*Prepared and Published by*

THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF  
THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ACT 1983



# Copyright Act 2021

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

### PART 1

#### PRELIMINARY

#### Section

1. Short title and commencement
2. Application to things existing before 21 November 2021
3. Extension of Act to reciprocating countries
4. Exclusion of non-reciprocating countries from Act
5. Saving for other laws
6. Act binds Government

### PART 2

#### INTERPRETATION

##### *Division 1 — General*

7. General interpretation

##### *Division 2 — Works and performances*

##### *Subdivision (1) — Works*

8. What is a work

##### *Subdivision (2) — Authorial works in general*

9. What is an authorial work
  10. What is a work of joint authorship
  11. Reference to author includes all joint authors
  12. What is an authorial work with an identified author
- ##### *Subdivision (3) — Literary, dramatic and musical works*
13. Literary work includes computer program and compilation
  14. Subject matter of copyright in compilations
  15. What does a dramatic work include
  16. When is a literary, dramatic or musical work made

*Subdivision (4) — Adaptations of literary, dramatic or musical works*

Section

17. What is an adaptation of a literary or dramatic work
18. What is an adaptation of a musical work
19. Adaptation of literary, dramatic or musical work includes adaptation of substantial part thereof

*Subdivision (5) — Artistic works*

20. What is an artistic work

*Subdivision (6) — Sound recordings*

21. What is a sound recording
22. When is a sound recording made
23. Who is the maker of a sound recording

*Subdivision (7) — Films*

24. What is a film; what are the visual images, sounds and soundtrack of a film
25. What is the making of a film
26. Who is the maker of a film

*Subdivision (8) — Broadcasts*

27. What does it mean to broadcast (verb)
28. What is a broadcast (noun)
29. What is a television broadcast
30. What is a sound broadcast
31. Who is the maker of a broadcast
32. Where is a broadcast made
33. When is a broadcast made

*Subdivision (9) — Cable programmes*

34. What is a cable programme
35. What is a cable programme service
36. What is inclusion in a cable programme service

*Subdivision (10) — Qualifying performances and recordings of protected performances*

37. What is a qualifying performance
38. What is a recording of a protected performance

*Division 3 — Acts relating to works and performances**Subdivision (1) — General*

## Section

39. Act done in relation to work, etc., includes act done in relation to substantial part thereof
40. Act done in relation to protected performance, etc., includes act done in relation to substantial part thereof

*Subdivision (2) — Copying*

41. What is a copy of an authorial work
42. What is a copy of a published edition of an authorial work
43. What is a reasonable portion when copying a published edition of a literary, dramatic or musical work
44. What is a copy of a sound recording
45. What is a copy of a film
46. What is a copy of a television broadcast
47. What is a copy of a sound broadcast
48. What is a copy of a cable programme
49. Copy of work includes copy of substantial part
50. Copy of work includes temporary or incidental copy
51. What is a copy of a recording of a protected performance
52. Copy of recording of protected performance work includes temporary or incidental copy

*Subdivision (3) — Publishing*

53. What constitutes publication of an authorial work
54. What constitutes publication of an edition of an authorial work
55. What constitutes publication of a sound recording
56. What constitutes publication of a film
57. What constitutes publication of a recording of a protected performance
58. Matters to be considered or ignored for publication, first publication, and publication before death
59. Effect of acts done before 21 November 2021
60. Specific acts that do not constitute publication

*Subdivision (4) — Communicating*

61. What does communicate mean
62. What does accessibility on demand mean
63. Who is the maker of a communication