





## WHY DO WE NEED A LICENCE?

Movies have long been a great way to entertain, educate, and inspire. What you may not have considered is that movies, TV programs, and other content, when purchased, rented or borrowed, are intended for personal, private use only. More importantly, they require a licence when shown in public.

The rise of home videocassettes revolutionised the way consumers viewed movies and created the need for copyright protection. The Copyright Act was adopted in 1987 to provide guidelines for both the creative community and consumers.

Noncompliance with the Singapore Copyright Act under Section 119 carries steep and significant penalties, including damages up to \$200,000 plus cost and attorney fees.

## OUR VALUES



**Established:** With more than 30 years of experience, we take pride in our pioneering approach to licensing.



**Educational:** We share our knowledge to help clients better understand the importance of their compliance contribution.



**Empathetic:** Together, we can create a community that supports the future of the entertainment we know and love.



**Driven:** Passion drives us forward as we grow and evolve in support of the creative community.

## THE SIMPLE SOLUTION

Founded in 1986, MPLC's mission is to provide clients and rights holders with a simple solution for the public viewing of movies, TV programmes, and other content. Since the introduction of our pioneering Umbrella Licence, we have come a long way. Today, MPLC represents nearly 750 rights holders, and grants the Umbrella Licence in over 30 countries around the world.

### BENEFITS

- Public performance rights from nearly 750 rights holders.
- Enjoy unlimited showings without any reporting requirements.
- One licence fee based on intended use.

### GUIDELINES

- Exhibitions must be free of charge.
- Promotion must fall within MPLC guidelines.
- Rightsholders vary according to the intended use.

### COMPLIANCE

- Contact MPLC for a licence fee quote and rightsholder list.
- Complete and submit the Umbrella Licence Application.
- Your Certificate of Licence will be issued upon receipt of application.
- Begin showing movies, TV programmes, and other content immediately.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- Q:** We show movies, TV programmes, and other content that we have purchased on DVD or rented through an online streaming service subscription. Do we still need a licence to view or show it in public?
- A:** Yes. The location requires a licence regardless of who owns the content. While you may have rented, borrowed, or purchased the content, you are only granted the right to view it for personal, private use, not to perform it in public.
- Q:** We do not charge admission. Do we still need a licence?
- A:** Yes. A licence is required regardless of whether an admission fee is charged. In fact, the Umbrella Licence only covers situations where admission is not charged.
- Q:** We're a nonprofit organisation. Do we still need a licence?
- A:** Yes. Under the Singapore Act, a public performance licence is required for both nonprofit and for-profit organisations.
- Q:** Does a child care centre qualify for a teaching exemption?
- A:** No. Under Section 23 of the Copyright Act of Singapore, the exception to copyright infringement for the performance of works by students or staff of an educational institution is narrowly defined. It applies to educational institutions not conducted for profit that only utilise movies, TV programmes, and other content in the course of the activities of the institution if the audience is limited to persons who are taking part in the instruction. This does not apply when the programmes are used for entertainment purposes. Child care centres are not included under the definition of an educational institution under the definition of an educational institution under Section 7 of the Copyright Act.
- Q:** We're not open to the general public. Do we still need a licence?
- A:** Yes. Members of the public will have access to the work, and the showing is considered a communication to the public and/or showing would likely not be for private and domestic use, but rather would be considered a performance of the work in public pursuant to Section 26 of the Copyright Act of Singapore."
- Q:** We rent out our facility to other groups. Can we be liable for copyright infringement?
- A:** Yes. The facility owner can be held vicariously liable or considered a contributory infringer.