



# WHAT IF SOMEONE INFRINGES YOUR COPYRIGHT?

## WHAT IS COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT?

Infringement occurs when a person copies, distributes, performs, or displays all or part of a copyrighted work.



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

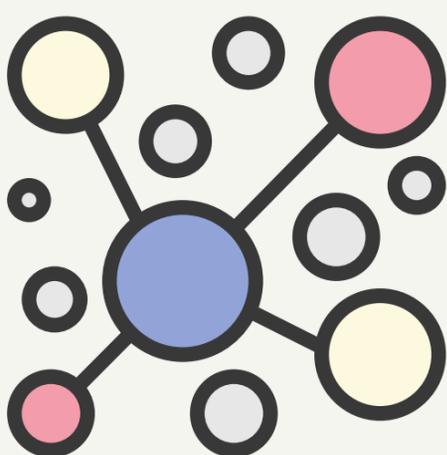
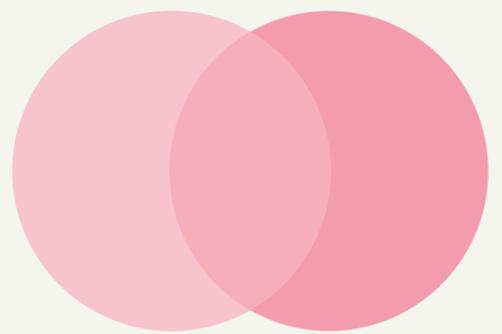
If you can prove infringement – either by getting the infringer to admit guilt, or by showing that he had access to your work and that his work is substantially similar – then you can recover monetary damages

### DID YOU KNOW?

In 2011, Kanye West was sued for sampling Sly Johnson's song "Different Strokes" to create his new song "The Joy" on Kanye's and Jay-Z's album "Watch The Throne." The case was settled out of court for an undisclosed amount.

## HOW CAN YOU PROVE SIMILARITY?

There are two ways. One is to show "fragmented literal similarity" – meaning, that the infringing work contains specific copied elements of your original work.



## WHAT'S THE SECOND WAY?

The second type of similarity – called "comprehensive non-literal similarity" – is more of a qualitative "look and feel" issue. It is infringement if the structure of one work is substantially similar to another.

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