

# Copyright Policy for Family History Centers

## Church Policies

Church policies regarding the use of copyrighted materials are discussed in *Handbook 2: Administering the Church*, Section 21.1.12, “Copyrighted Materials,” available online at [lds.org](https://www.lds.org/resources/leadership-and-teaching/handbook-2) (see [lds.org](https://www.lds.org/resources/leadership-and-teaching/handbook-2)>Resources>Leadership and Teaching>Handbook 2). Church members are counseled to “strictly observe all copyright laws.”

## Family History Centers and Copyright Laws

Copyright laws vary from one country to another. The Church policies mentioned above and the policies outlined in this document are consistent with international treaties that are applicable in most countries.

## Family History Center Copyright Policies

Adherence to the following policies will help ensure that the Church and family history center directors and staff are in compliance with copyright laws and cannot be held liable for copyright infringement by persons using copy equipment:

1. Copyright Notice
  - **United States** - Family history centers located in the United States should post the following Notice near all equipment used for making copies:

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, U.S. Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

The person using this equipment is liable for any infringement.

If you have any questions, call the Church Intellectual Property Office, 1-801-240-3959.
  - **Other Countries** – Copyright notices for family history centers located outside of the United States are not available at this time.
2. Center directors and staff should not make any copies for patrons.
  - Patrons assume full liability for the copies they make.
3. Patron copying should be unsupervised
  - Center directors and staff may not supervise patron copying, try to enforce the law, or advise patrons regarding copyright law or the legality of making copies.
  - In the United States, center directors and staff may direct a patron to the posted copyright Notice.