

## Copyright

### **What is it?**

Protection for anyone who creates something – only they can copy or modify it.

### **How long does it last?**

Current U.S. law protects a work until 70 years after the creator's death. Past law was different. Works published before **1923** are in the **public domain** and may be used any way you like.

### **Where can I find public domain sheet music?**

Good news! There are many people dedicated to making these scores available:

- [imslp.org](http://imslp.org)  
The International Music Score Library Project – the most extensive online source of public domain music.
- [flutetunes.com](http://flutetunes.com)  
These pieces are all for flute! You can browse by category, instrumentation (solo, duet, etc.), or key. There are many Christmas pieces on the site.
- [JenniferCluff.com/freemusic.htm](http://JenniferCluff.com/freemusic.htm)  
Jennifer Cluff has a wonderful site with tons of information about flute. She has put together a list of other sites with free sheet music. Have fun!

## Arranging Music

You don't have to limit yourself to music written for flute. Many other pieces are easily arranged. Some great places to start are

- Bach's Inventions and Sinfonias  
These are written in two- and three-“parts.” Write out each part on a separate staff changing octave where needed, and you'll have an instant duet or trio.
- Choral music or hymns  
These again are written for several different voices. Try some Renaissance works or Handel's Hallelujah Chorus.
- Works for other instruments  
You may have to transpose (change the key) of one or more parts.

## **Resources**

- Blank manuscript (staff lines) pages: [blanksheetmusic.net](http://blanksheetmusic.net)
- Free computer notation
  - [noteflight.com](http://noteflight.com) – An online system
  - Finale Notepad ([finalemusic.com](http://finalemusic.com)) – The free version of top-selling software.
  - MuseScore ([sourceforge.net](http://sourceforge.net)) – Another free and powerful system.

## Music to Purchase

### **What is that piece?**

You need more than a title to identify a piece of music or even a book. There are too many same or similar titles.

- Title
- Key  
Many composers wrote multiple “duos,” “sonatas,” or “minuets.” Musicians use the key of the piece to help identify it.
- **Composer**  
The most important information!
- Arranger  
This is the person who modified the piece.
- Publisher and publisher number  
This tells who printed it and what number they assigned it. A music store can easily find a piece if you have this information.

### **Where can I see new music?**

Sometimes you have the chance to look at music in a store. When you don't, it can be frustrating not knowing what the music is like before you buy. Some sites let you see inside the books they sell:

- [sheetmusicplus.com](http://sheetmusicplus.com)  
A large selection of music many of which have a “look inside” option.
- [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)  
When Amazon gives a “look inside,” it is often more extensive than any other site.
- Publisher sites  
Many publishers offer sample pages of their books. These include Alfred Music, Hal Leonard, and Mel Bay.

**Tip:** When all else fails, search the item on Google and then select “Images.”