

Linké



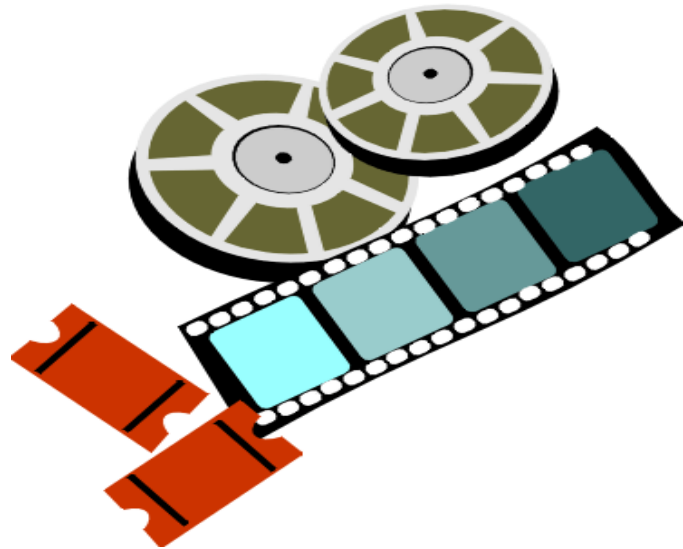
downloading



music, tv shows,



and movies



for free?



YOU WON'T LIKE



the consequences!



No Big Deal?

If you're illegally downloading music from P2P file-sharing applications like KaZaA, BitTorrent, or Limewire not only is your computer at risk for viruses, but you're at risk for school suspension, heavy fines, and even criminal charges. You most likely already know downloading music for free is illegal, but do you know how easy it is to get caught?



The Facts



What counts as illegally downloading?



The common forms of copyright infringement on the internet are downloading copyrighted materials without purchasing them and having materials that are not supposed to be distributed (just because you bought something doesn't give the right to disperse it to others). You must assume all materials are copyrighted unless you have permission from the maker or have created it yourself.

Is UMASS spying on me?



No, it's not OIT or anyone at UMASS who's looking out for illegally downloading. It is copyright agents. A copyright holder or one of their representatives reports you to OIT once they catch you.

What happens when I'm caught?

It depends what exactly you're getting in trouble for and how many offences you have. The three different scenarios that can happen simultaneously or separately are:



- **Disciplinary action.** Your name may be forwarded to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action. Sanctions include disabling your Internet connection permanently and withdrawal from the University.
- **Legal consequences.** Copyright holders may offer a legal settlement option or pursue legal action against you.
- **Financial implications.** The minimum damage for sharing copyrighted material is \$750 per file, along with legal and court fees. Students who settled their cases outside of court were forced to pay between \$3500 and \$7000.

The Actions!



What Not To Do

- Do not download any file sharing programs
- Do not attempt to sell or give away music you have bought
- Make sure others who may use your computer aren't downloading illegally or downloading any file sharing programs. Just having the program can get you in trouble!



The Big Picture



Buying music might seem like a waste of money when you can just get it for free. But think about it, the music you're downloading was created by someone, and their not getting paid for it. Although you might feel many artists make enough money, there are many artists that depend on album sales just to keep making their music. Record companies lay off and fire employees due to drops in album sales. Aside from what it will cost you financially, try to think about how your actions are affecting music being made in general. If you like music so much then support it.

Resources



Other Ways to Listen/Download Music

Pandora Radio

A site where you can create your own radio station based on what music you like. You can't download the music for free, but you can listen to it all that you want and discover new music.

Itunes

The largest music downloading website, songs typically cost 99 cents.

Napster

For five dollars a month for a year you can get 60 songs but unlimited online listening of over 8 million songs.





OIT Website

Website: <http://www.oit.umass.edu/copyright/basics.html>

Location: UMASS Amherst, Lederle Building, A109 LGRC

Explains exactly what illegally downloading is and the actions OIT will take when reported of copyright violations on the UMASS network. Make sure to watch the video on the site: **Downside of Downloading.**

Student Legal Services Office

Location: 922 Campus Center

Times: M-F 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Number: 413-545-1995

Website: <http://www.umass.edu/rso/slso/>



The SLSO offers free legal counseling. They can tell you what course of action you should take and what the charges or fines against you mean. This is a valuable resource you should definitely turn to. In order to make an appointment with them, you must either call or come into their office to set one up. They cannot give you legal advice over the phone or email.

This bulletin board and more can be found at:

www.umass.edu/mycenter



Everywoman's Center, Wilder Hall

413.545.0883

ewcmail@admin.umass.edu