

# Calculating Fees for Recording Documents and Notices of Termination

in the Copyright Office *(Fees in effect as of March 20, 2020)*

Copyright Office fees for recording documents and notices of termination vary depending on the number of legal transactions and works and alternate identifiers contained in the document as well as how the works and alternate identifiers are submitted to the Office. This circular describes how to calculate these fees.

The information below explains how to calculate fees for recording documents via paper filing under Title 17 of the *United States Code* sections **205** (transfers of copyright ownership and other documents pertaining to a copyright), **903** (mask works), and **1320** (vessel hulls), as well as notices of termination under sections **203** and **304**.<sup>1</sup>

For more information about recordation, please visit the Office's [website](#).

## Fee for Recording a Document or Notice of Termination

The proper fee for recording a document or notice of termination depends on the number of legal transactions and works and alternate identifiers (titles and/or registration numbers) contained in the document and whether the document is accompanied by an electronic title list. The first title and/or registration number provided for a particular work constitutes a *work*. If a work is identified by more than one title or registration number, every additional title and registration number provided beyond the first counts as an alternate identifier.

1. The basic recordation fee is \$125 if only one legal transaction and one title and/or registration number provided for a particular work are involved.
2. If more than one legal transaction is contained in the document, then the fee is \$95 for each transaction.
3. The \$125 fee covers the first work contained in a document. There is a charge of \$60 for each group of one to ten additional works and alternate identifiers provided beyond the first work. However, if the document is accompanied by an electronic title list, a generally discounted charge for additional works and alternate identifiers is assessed as follows:

- 1 to 50 additional works and alternate identifiers are charged a flat fee of \$60
- 51 to 500 additional works and alternate identifiers are charged a flat fee of \$225
- 501 to 1,000 additional works and alternate identifiers are charged a flat fee of \$390
- 1,001 to 10,000 additional works and alternate identifiers are charged a flat fee of \$555
- 10,001 or more additional works and alternate identifiers are charged a flat fee of \$5,550

**NOTE:** To submit an electronic title list, the document must be a transfer of copyright ownership or other document pertaining to a copyright that is recordable with the Copyright Office under section 205. Notices of termination are ineligible. For more information about electronic title lists, please visit the Office's [website](#).

For documents not accompanied by an electronic title list, additional works and alternate identifiers are counted by groups of ten. If there are fewer than ten titles in a group, the fee for the group still applies.

*Examples:*

- A document or termination notice containing 1 transaction and 1 work is \$125.
- A document containing 2 transactions and 1 work is \$220 (\$125 + \$95).
- A document containing 1 transaction and 2-11 works and alternate identifiers is \$185 (\$125 + \$60).
  - » If the document is submitted with an electronic title list, the fee is \$185 (\$125 + \$60).

**NOTE:** Fee savings are realized where documents have more than eleven titles.

- A document containing 1 transaction and 12 works and alternate identifiers is \$245 (\$125 + \$60 + \$60).
  - » If the document is submitted with an electronic title list, the fee is \$185 (\$125 + \$60).
- A document containing 1 transaction and 501 works and alternate identifiers is \$3,125 (\$125 + (\$60 x 50)).
  - » If the document is submitted with an electronic title list, the fee is \$350 (\$125 + \$225).
- A termination notice containing 65 titles is \$545 (\$125 + \$60 + \$60 + \$60 + \$60 + \$60 + \$60 + \$60).

For more information about how to calculate the total number of titles for multiple-title documents, review the instructions for completing Item 2 on [Form DCS](#) or [Form TCS](#).

## Fee for Special Handling

The fee for special handling of recordation of a document or a notice of termination is \$550 in addition to regular recordation fees. Special handling is a request for expedited service to meet contractual deadlines or for pending litigation. See [chapter 2300](#), section 2307 of the *Compendium of U.S. Copyright Office Practices* for more information.

### **Fee for Correcting the Public Catalog Due to an Erroneous Electronic Title List**

The fee to correct online public catalog data due to an erroneous electronic title list submission is \$7 per title. For more information about this process, please visit the Office's [website](#).

**NOTE:** Copyright Office fees are subject to change. For current fees, please check the Copyright Office website at [www.copyright.gov](http://www.copyright.gov), write the Copyright Office, or call (202) 707-3000 or 1-877-476-0778 (toll free).

## Fee Calculation for Multiple Work Alternate Identifier Documents

Effective as of March 20, 2020

**Basic Fee (document with one transaction and no more than one work): \$125**

<b>No. of works and alternate identifiers</b>	<b>Without Electronic Title List</b>		<b>With Electronic Title List</b>	
	<b>Fee for works and alternate identifiers</b>	<b>Fee + \$125</b>	<b>Fee for works and alternate identifiers</b>	<b>Fee + \$125</b>
2-11	\$60	\$185	\$60	\$185
12-21	\$120	\$245	\$60	\$185
22-31	\$180	\$305	\$60	\$185
32-41	\$240	\$365	\$60	\$185
42-51	\$300	\$425	\$60	\$185
52-61	\$360	\$485	\$225	\$350
62-71	\$420	\$545	\$225	\$350
72-81	\$480	\$605	\$225	\$350
82-91	\$540	\$665	\$225	\$350
92-101	\$600	\$725	\$225	\$350
102-111	\$660	\$785	\$225	\$350
112-121	\$720	\$845	\$225	\$350
122-131	\$780	\$905	\$225	\$350
132-141	\$840	\$965	\$225	\$350
142-151	\$900	\$1,025	\$225	\$350
152-161	\$960	\$1,085	\$225	\$350
162-171	\$1,020	\$1,145	\$225	\$350
172-181	\$1,080	\$1,205	\$225	\$350
182-191	\$1,140	\$1,265	\$225	\$350
192-201	\$1,200	\$1,325	\$225	\$350
202-211	\$1,260	\$1,385	\$225	\$350
212-221	\$1,320	\$1,445	\$225	\$350
222-231	\$1,380	\$1,505	\$225	\$350
232-241	\$1,440	\$1,565	\$225	\$350
242-251	\$1,500	\$1,625	\$225	\$350
252-261	\$1,560	\$1,685	\$225	\$350
262-271	\$1,620	\$1,745	\$225	\$350
272-281	\$1,680	\$1,805	\$225	\$350
282-291	\$1,740	\$1,865	\$225	\$350
292-301	\$1,800	\$1,925	\$225	\$350
302-311	\$1,860	\$1,985	\$225	\$350
312-321	\$1,920	\$2,045	\$225	\$350
322-331	\$1,980	\$2,105	\$225	\$350
332-341	\$2,040	\$2,165	\$225	\$350
342-351	\$2,100	\$2,225	\$225	\$350
352-361	\$2,160	\$2,285	\$225	\$350
362-371	\$2,220	\$2,345	\$225	\$350
372-381	\$2,280	\$2,405	\$225	\$350
382-391	\$2,340	\$2,465	\$225	\$350
392-401	\$2,400	\$2,525	\$225	\$350

### ***Calculating More Than 401 works and alternate identifiers***

For more than 401 works and alternate identifiers without an electronic title list, calculate the fee using combinations of the fees above.

*Example:*

If a document has 730 works and alternate identifiers, the total fee is \$4,505. This fee is calculated as follows:

\$2,525 (the basic fee of \$125 plus the cost for 400 works and alternate identifiers, which is \$2,400)  
+ \$1,980 (the cost for 330 works and alternate identifiers) equals  
\$4,505 total

For more than 401 works and alternate identifiers with an electronic title list, the fee is as follows

<b><i>No. of works and alternate identifiers</i></b>	<b><i>Fee for works and alternate identifiers</i></b>	<b><i>Fee + \$125</i></b>
402-501	\$225	\$350
502-1,001	\$390	\$515
1,002-10,001	\$555	\$680
10,002+	\$5,550	\$5,675

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**NOTE**

1. This circular is intended as an overview of calculating fees for recording documents and notices of termination in the Copyright Office. The authoritative source for U.S. copyright law is the Copyright Act, codified in Title 17 of the *United States Code*. Copyright Office regulations are codified in Title 37 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*. Copyright Office practices and procedures are summarized in the third edition of the *Compendium of U.S. Copyright Office Practices*, cited as the *Compendium*. The copyright law, regulations, and the *Compendium* are available on the Copyright Office website at [www.copyright.gov](http://www.copyright.gov).

## **For Further Information**

### ***By Internet***

The copyright law, the *Compendium*, electronic registration, application forms, regulations, and related materials are available on the Copyright Office website at [www.copyright.gov](http://www.copyright.gov).

### ***By Email***

To send an email inquiry, click the *Contact Us* link on the Copyright Office website.

### ***By Telephone***

For general information, call the Copyright Public Information Office at (202) 707-3000 or 1-877-476-0778 (toll free). Staff members are on duty from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, eastern time, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. To request application forms or circulars by postal mail, call (202) 707-9100 or 1-877-476-0778 and leave a recorded message.

### ***By Regular Mail***

Write to

Library of Congress  
U.S. Copyright Office  
Outreach and Education Section  
101 Independence Avenue, SE #6304  
Washington, DC 20559-6304

