



How to Compute Fees

for Recording a Document with the U.S. Copyright Office

1 In General

The fee charged to record a document in the U.S. Copyright Office depends on:

- 1) the number of titles in the document; *and*
- 2) the number of transfers in the document.

Fees Effective July 1, 2002

2 Fees for Recording a Document

- **Basic Fee:** The basic fee for recording one document listing one title and containing a single transfer is \$80.
- **Additional Fees:** Additional fees are charged for recording...
 - multiple titles, at a charge of \$20 for each additional group of 10 or fewer titles; *and*
 - multiple transfers in the same document, at a charge of \$80 per transfer.

3 Multiple Titles in One Document

- **Counting Titles:** Count *each title* and *each variant title separately* when computing recordation fees. To compute the proper recordation fee, count all the following as *separate titles*: series titles; alternate titles, such as “also known as” (a.k.a.); changed titles or former titles, such as “previously known as” (p.k.a.) or “formerly known as” (f.k.a.) titles; multiple issues or numbers of a serial; separate versions; chapters, installments, and episodes; and the like. For example:
 - 1) “My Hero,”
a.k.a. “He’s My Man”
f.k.a. “My Man Harry” } = 3 titles, requiring
a fee of \$100
 - 2) “McCall’s” vol. 1, no. 6, June 1990 } = 2 titles, requiring
“McCall’s” vol. 1, no. 7, July 1990 } a fee of \$100
 - 3) “Titanic” (motion picture) } = 2 titles, requiring
“Titanic” (screenplay) } a fee of \$100
 - 4) “West Wing” episode 3 } = 2 titles, requiring
“West Wing” episode 4 } a fee of \$100
- **Computing the Fee:** Use the following chart to compute the correct fee for recording a document containing multiple titles:

Fees for Multiple Titles in One Document			
The basic recordation fee (including the first title) to record a document of transfer in the U.S. Copyright Office is \$80. The fee for each additional group of 10 or fewer titles is \$20. For example:			
<i>Basic recordation fee,</i>			
<i>including one title =</i> \$80	62–71 titles = \$220	132–141 titles = \$360	202–211 titles = \$500
2–11 titles = \$100	72–81 titles = \$240	142–151 titles = \$380	212–221 titles = \$520
12–21 titles = \$120	82–91 titles = \$260	152–161 titles = \$400	222–231 titles = \$540
22–31 titles = \$140	92–101 titles = \$280	162–171 titles = \$420	232–241 titles = \$560
32–41 titles = \$160	102–111 titles = \$300	172–181 titles = \$440	242–251 titles = \$580
42–51 titles = \$180	112–121 titles = \$320	182–191 titles = \$460	252–261 titles = \$600
52–61 titles = \$200	122–131 titles = \$340	192–201 titles = \$480	<i>and so forth...</i>

4 Multiple Transfers in One Document

Each separate transfer or document requires a separate recordation fee of \$80, even if two or more transactions appear on the same page or within the same document. The format of the document may also be important in determining the number of transfers. For example:

In a document listing one title, John Doe assigns his copyright to ABC Company, which in turn assigns the copyright to XYZ Company. Both John Doe and ABC Company have signed the document. This situation is counted as *two* transfers for computing the recordation fee:

- 1) John Doe to ABC Company, *and*
- 2) ABC Company to XYZ Company } = two transfers, requiring a recordation fee of \$160

5 Multiple Documents in One Submission

Each *document* submitted for recordation requires a separate basic recordation filing fee of \$80, plus any additional fees for multiple titles or additional transfers in the same document. For example, if you submit:

- 1) a copyright assignment listing one title; *and*
 - 2) a mortgage of copyright listing one title
- } = two transfers, requiring a recordation fee of \$160

6 When Sending Payment for Recordation Fees

- Payments must be:
 - 1) in the form of checks, bank money orders, or bank drafts (*no cash*)
 - 2) redeemable without service or exchange fee through a U.S. institution
 - 3) payable in U.S. dollars *and*
 - 4) imprinted with American Banking Association routing numbers
- Make your check or money order payable to **Register of Copyrights**.
- Make sure that your check/money order is **signed**.
- Do **not** include fees for any other Copyright Office services (such as registration claims, search requests, or additional certificates) in your check for recording a document. This will help avoid delays in processing.

Notes

- 1) The Copyright Office does **not** accept international money orders, postal money orders negotiable only at a Post Office, or credit cards in payment of recordation filing fees.
- 2) If you are charging recordation fees to your Copyright Office Deposit Account, make sure that the account contains sufficient funds to cover the entire recordation filing fee, especially for recording multiple titles and multiple transfers. Insufficient funds in a Deposit Account will result in delays in processing and delay the effective date of recordation.

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Copyright Office fees are subject to change. For current fees, please check the Copyright Office website at www.copyright.gov, write the Copyright Office, or call (202) 707-3000.

For Further Information

- **Information via the Internet:** Circulars, announcements, regulations, other related materials, and all copyright application forms are available on the Copyright Office homepage at www.copyright.gov. See Circular 12 for more information on document recordation.
- **Information by fax:** Circulars and other information (but not application forms) are available by using a touchtone phone to access Fax-on-Demand at **(202) 707-2600**.
- **Information by telephone:** For general information about copyright, call the Copyright Public Information Office at **(202) 707-3000**. The TTY number is **(202) 707-6737**. Information specialists are on duty from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., eastern time, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Recorded information is available 24 hours a day. If you know which application forms and circulars you want, request them from the Forms and Publications Hotline at **(202) 707-9100** 24 hours a day. Leave a recorded message.
- **Information by regular mail,** write to: Library of Congress, Copyright Office, Publications Section, LM-455, 101 Independence Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20559-6000