FREE MEDIA SOURCES • 2025

The following sites are resources for media that is free to use in most circumstances. Despite being free, pay special attention to how each piece of media is licensed and follow the rules of usage for that license as described below.

COPYRIGHT KEY: The resources listed here are labeled as following to indicate what general copyright category most of its media falls under. Please note that though a resource might be categorized under one type of license in this document, you are still responsible for double-checking the specific copyright information for any materials you find.

PD = Public Domain *or* a similar free license.

Good to go for any use, even commercial. Attribution may still be encouraged, though not required. Read more about the public domain here.

CC = Creative Commons or a similar free license.

If a piece is licensed as <u>CC BY-SA</u>, this means you must provide attribution for that media and also license your work, created with that media, in the same way. Read more about Creative Commons <u>here</u>.

UN = Unconfirmed *or* may contain a variety of licenses.

Pause and research to confirm licensing information for any piece of media. If unable to find any licensing information, do not use that piece of media in your work.





- 1. <u>Pixabay.com → Photos</u> <u>Pixabay License</u>
- 2. <u>Unsplash.com</u> <u>Unsplash License</u>
- 3. Pexels.com Pexels License
- 4. Pond5.com → Free Photos Individual License

*Note that Pond5's main site has paid stock media, so stay on the free pages to avoid the priced content.

- 5. Pond5.com → Public Domain Photos PD
- 6. Publicdomainreview.org

*Note that commercial use is not always permitted.

- 7. Archive.org UN
- 8. Wikimedia Commons UN
- 9. The National Gallery of Art
 - → Open Access Images PD
- 10. New York Public Library Digital Collections PD
- 11. The Met → Open Access Images PD

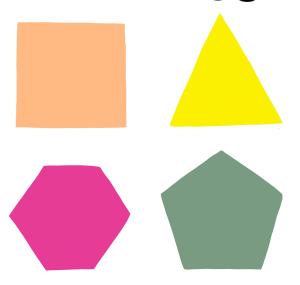
*Make sure "Open Access" is checked under filter menu.

- 12. List of Digital Collections/Open Repositories UN
- 13. The Library of Congress
 - → Science Images and Videos PD
- 14. NOAA Photo Library PD
- 15. NASA Image and Video Library PD
- 16. Public.Work PD

*Search engine for public domain content.

GRAPHICS

- 1. The Noun Project
 - → Free Icons and Symbols PD or CC
- 2. <u>Pixabay.com</u> → <u>Illustrations</u> <u>Pixabay License</u>
- 3. <u>Pixabay.com → Vector Images</u> <u>Pixabay License</u>
- 4. Flaticon.com
 - → Free Icons and Symbols Individual License
- 5. <u>Vemaps.com → Map Graphics</u> PD



VIDEOS



- 1. Pexels.com → Videos Pexels License
- 2. Pond5.com → Free Footage Individual License

*Note that Pond5's main site has only paid stock media, so stay on the free pages to avoid the priced content.

- 3. Pond5.com → Public Domain Footage PD
 *Note that commercial use is not always permitted.
- 4. Pixabay.com → Videos Pixabay License
- 5. Archive.org → Movies UN
- 6. The Library of Congress → Digital Collections UN
- 7. OrangeHD.com → Stock Footage cc
- 8. Vimeo → Creative Commons Videos cc
- 9. The Library of Congress → Science Images and Videos PD
- 10. <u>C-SPAN → U.S. Government Proceedings</u> <u>License</u>

YouTube → Audio Library PD or CC
 *Note that you cannot copy urls of music from YouTube's

*Note that you cannot copy urls of music from YouTube's audio library, so when citing, include as much info about the piece and include the url to the YouTube Audio Library.

- 2. Free Music Archive PD or CC
- 3. Archive.org → Audio un
- 4. AudionautiX.com cc
- 5. Silverman Sound Studios cc
- 6. Pond5.com → Free Music Individual License

*Note that Pond5's main site has only paid stock media, so stay on the free pages to avoid the priced content.

7. Pond5.com → Public Domain Music PD

*Note that commercial use is not always permitted.

- 8. Pixabay.com → Music Pixabay License
- 9. Free-stock-music.com cc
- 10. The Library of Congress → Digital Collections UN
- 11. MobyGratis → Individual License
- 12. Musopen PD or CC

SOUND EFFECTS



- 1. Freesound.org cc
- 2. Pixabay.com → Sound Effects Pixabay License
- 3. Zapsplat.com → Free Sound Effects Standard License

