

LearnWiki™ video series



Module 16:
"Uploading Original Images to Wikimedia Commons"

Contact:
https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/User_talk:Pine

WIDE ANGLE VISUAL

Title card or scene (might be video but probably not due to resource constraints). Be sure to include images of community people in small and large groups, as well as a few images of Wikimedia content.

SOUND EFFECT

Series signature audio cue or music (approximately 5 seconds)

VISUAL: fade to white slide. Fade in black text "Uploading Images to Wikimedia Commons". Narrator walks into the frame from the right side. Use chroma keying to support this.

NARRATOR

Hello, my name is X, and my Wikimedia username is Y. In this video, we will learn how to upload original images to Wikimedia Commons. Let me emphasize that this video talks about uploading original images. If you want to upload a modified version of an image, then please watch both this module and the module about uploading modified images.

VISUAL: FADE TO a web browser address bar that is at <https://commons.wikimedia.org>, then ZOOM OUT to see the full Commons home page. We are already logged in.

NARRATOR

Wikimedia Commons hosts most of the images that are used on the Wikimedia projects, including Wikipedia and Wikidata. Commons hosts images that anyone can use without paying a copyright fee.

VISUAL: as each example is mentioned by the narrator in the text below, show an image example (the actual images, not the file pages). Fade from one to the next as the narrator speaks.

1. Natural objects:
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rajasthan-Chittore_Garh_15.jpg
2. Useful objects:
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bicycle_in_the_afternoon_in_a_residential_neighborhood,_Auckland_-_0074.jpg
3. People in public spaces:
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kofi_Annan_2012.jpg
4. Maps:
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Carte_physique_simp

lifi%C3%A9e_de_la_France.svg

5. Diagrams:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:ECEF_ENU_Longitude_Latitude_relationships.svg

NARRATOR

(NOTE: pause briefly between each type of object)
Commons hosts images of thousands of subjects. Examples include natural objects like flowers, useful objects like bicycles, people who are in public spaces, maps, and diagrams.

VISUAL: FADE TO the file page for Diagrams:
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:ECEF_ENU_Longitude_Latitude_relationships.svg (not the image itself). Scroll down to the list of places where the photo appears. Highlight each language code of Wikipedia where the image appears, such as cs.wikipedia.org.

NARRATOR

We can see on an image file's page where it is used on Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects like Wikidata and Wiktionary. This photo appears on the Czech, English, Hebrew, Hindi, and Serbo-Croatian Wikipedias. Some photos appear only on Commons, while other photos may appear on dozens of Wikipedia pages.

VISUAL: FADE TO the Commons home page.

NARRATOR

People who are logged in can upload new images to Commons. To upload a new file, click the Upload button near the top of the window.

VISUAL: mouse move to scroll over the "Upload" button that has white text with a blue background. Click the button. We see the first page of the upload wizard.

NARRATOR

This page provides basic information about what kinds of images are allowed on Commons. Around the world, laws about images vary from country to country.

VISUAL: ZOOM IN on the part of the image that starts with "You may upload works that you created entirely by yourself" and ends at the blue horizontal line below that.

NARRATOR

We can usually upload images that we have created entirely by ourselves. Keep in mind that when we upload an image, we grant everyone permission to use, copy, modify, and sell it. Wikipedia is free of charge, and images on Commons should have no fees for use. However, we usually keep an important right called attribution, which means that anyone who uses the image must give us a written credit.

VISUAL: PAN and ZOOM TO the portion of the help image that has at its top "We can't accept works created or inspired by others" and at its bottom "You can upload your photographs of old art, statues, and buildings (usually over 150 years old)."

NARRATOR

Many images created or inspired by other people and their work should not be uploaded to Commons because the images are **protected by normal copyrights**. If we find an image on the Internet and the image has no copyright information, then we usually assume that the image is fully copyrighted. However, there are two important kinds of images by other people that we are allowed to upload to Commons.

VISUAL: PAN and ZOOM TO on the portion of the image that says "You can upload someone else's work if the author **granted permission** for anyone to use, copy, modify, or sell it."

NARRATOR

If someone grants permissions that are compatible with Commons, then uploading the image is OK. For example, some governments permit anyone to reuse images that are official government works and are released to the public.

VISUAL: Fade to the page [File:Flickr - DFID - A female doctor with the International Medical Corps examines a woman patient at a mobile health clinic in Pakistan.jpg](#) (not the image itself). Scroll down to view the entire "Permission" section. Briefly highlight the entire subsection that begins with "This file is licensed under the [Open Government Licence v1.0](#) (OGL)."

NARRATOR

Also, some photographers permit their photos to be reused under a Creative Commons Attribution license.

VISUAL: briefly highlight the entire subsection that begins with "This file is licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic](#) license."

NARRATOR

Sometimes images have multiple licenses, such as this image, which has both a Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 license and an Open Government 1.0 Licence.

VISUAL: FADE TO our previous place on <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Special:UploadWizard>. PAN RIGHT to the portion of the image that says "You can upload your photographs of old art, statues, and buildings (usually over 150 years old)."

NARRATOR

If an image's **copyright has expired**, then the image is OK to upload to Commons. Length of copyright varies around the world, so we may need to research the copyright rules for a particular image.

VISUAL: Fade to https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Villers_Young_Woman_Drawing.jpg (the file page, not the image itself). Scroll down to the License section. Briefly highlight the entire License section.

NARRATOR

Note that this image file is a photo of a painting. **In situations where a photo shows artwork or another object that can be copyrighted, then we need to check the copyright both for the image file and for the object that appears in the image.**

VISUAL: Fade to https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Thiruvalluvar_Statue5.jpg (the file page, not the image itself).

NARRATOR

For buildings and objects other than photographs, such as statues, some nations have an exception called "**freedom of panorama**", sometimes called "F.O.P.", that allows people to take new photographs of the object even if the object itself is copyrighted. Freedom of panorama varies significantly around the world. For example, in some countries freedom of panorama applies only to certain parts of buildings, while in other

countries F.O.P. might apply also to some types of statues and paintings. If you want to upload a photo of a copyrighted object, then check whether there is a freedom of of panorama exception that would apply.

VISUAL: fade to a slide that says "A few more notes".

VISUAL: Fade in a bullet point line that says "Images on Commons must have licenses that permit commercial use." (without quotes)

NARRATOR

Some copyright licenses, including Creative Commons licenses, say that using an image is free for **non-commercial purposes**. However, **images on Commons must allow commercial use**.

VISUAL: Fade in a bullet point line that says "Images on Commons **must not be "fair use"**." (without the external quotes)

NARRATOR

There are exceptions to copyright known as "fair use". However, fair use images are not permitted on Commons. On occasion, fair use images are permitted with strict conditions on English Wikipedia, but again, fair use images are not allowed on Commons.

VISUAL: Fade in a bullet point line that says "Be respectful of **privacy and personality rights**." (without the external quotes)

NARRATOR

Be respectful of privacy and personality rights. Privacy rights may include the right of a person not to be photographed when they are inside a private place like their home unless the person gives permission. Personality rights may include the right to be shown honestly. Editing a photo could be dishonest if the edits make important changes to the content, such as changing the appearance of someone's clothing from green to purple.

VISUAL: Fade in a bullet point line that says "Some areas may have **special restrictions on photography**." (without the external quotes)

NARRATORS

In many countries, private property owners and government

officials may place restrictions on taking photos in places like courtrooms, military facilities, and museums. Knowing local laws and customs is important. Sometimes officials in certain facilities may have policies that vary, for example, in the United States some courts allow cameras while others do not, so even if you get permission to take photos in one place you should check whether taking photos is OK in a similar place.

*VISUAL: Fade to a slide that says "How do we know whether an image is copyrighted? * Check the Commons licensing flowchart * If you are uncertain then find a lawyer to advise you, or do not upload the image." (Each bullet point should be on a separate line).*

NARRATOR

Now we have some basic knowledge about copyright and other laws. In the LearnWiki additional materials, there is a flowchart that provides more detailed guidance. However, because copyright laws are so complicated and have so much variation around the world, if you are uncertain whether an image is protected by copyright, three options are (1) to find a lawyer to advise you, or (2) to not upload the image. Most people will choose not to upload the image because getting professional legal advice can be expensive. Each person is solely responsible for their own decisions about uploading images. If you upload an image that a court decides is protected by copyright, then you may receive significant penalties, so be wise when deciding which images to upload.

VISUAL: Fade to a white background with the text on it that says: "Commons image decision flowchart" (without quotes) and provides a link to the flowchart page in Additional Materials.

ZOOM OUT to show the user's browser window. Show the user opening a new tab. ZOOM IN to the browser address bar. Show the user typing the URL and pressing the "go" button. The page with the flowchart appears. (Flowchart draft is at <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Law04Zc9-yEqsPna7CnGJeiD73CfqvqFr2p6pR6118A/edit?usp=sharing>)

NARRATOR

In many cases, when we upload images to Commons, we already know the legal status of an image, so we can skip using this flowchart. If we need to research the legal status then the flowchart can provide guidance. Feel free to pause the video here and use the flowchart.

FADE TO the full screen of
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Special:UploadWizard>.

NARRATOR

Let us say that we already know that our image is allowed on Commons. With this information, we can continue to the next step for uploading. At the bottom right corner of the screen, press the "next" button.

VISUAL: mouse click on the "Next" button at the bottom right corner of the screen. The "Upload" page of the Upload Wizard appears.

NARRATOR

Select images to upload.

VISUAL: mouse click on the "Select media files to share" button. A file manager window appears. Select two files to upload; File "A.jpg" should be an original work, and file "B.png" should be a freely licensed US Government work. The files appear on the Upload Wizard window.

NARRATOR

After the uploads are finished, press "continue".

VISUAL: mouse click on "Continue". The next page appears.

NARRATOR

When we upload multiple files, we can provide copyright licensing information for all the files as a group, or separately for each image.

VISUAL: select "Provide copyright information for each file individually on the next page." Click continue. The license page for the first image appears.

NARRATOR

Commons will try to fill out some information for us. We should give the file a meaningful name that will make it easy for other people to find. The file name can be in any language.

VISUAL: rename the photo to something like "1965 Ford truck"

NARRATOR

Provide a brief description.

VISUAL: in the description, click on the language button and change the language to Vietnamese. Type "1965 Ford xe tải tại một cửa hàng sửa chữa" in the description box.

NARRATOR

We have the option to provide descriptions in more languages.

VISUAL: click the "Add a description in a different language" button. In the description field, type "1965 Ford truck in a repair shop".

NARRATOR

Now we need to declare whether this image is our own work. If it is entirely our own work, click the first button.

VISUAL: click the "This file is my own work" button. Legal information appears.

NARRATOR

The default license is shown on the page. If we want to read more about the license or change the license, we can do that here. If this is our first time using a Creative Commons license, then reading the legal information is recommended.

VISUAL: briefly highlight the "[\(legal code\)](#)" and "Use a different license" links.

NARRATOR

Select the date that the image was first created or published.

The numbers show the year, then the month, then the day. Sometimes, Commons is able to detect this information from the file that we uploaded.

VISUAL: type "2017-02-05" into the date field

NARRATOR

This information says that the photo was created or published on February 5th, 2017. Now we need to select categories for the photo. We can begin by typing the name of the main subject in the photo to see if there are any matching categories.

VISUAL: type "Ford truck" into the category field. Matching

options appear, including "Ford trucks".

NARRATOR

This is a good start. Let's select that for now.

VISUAL: select "Ford trucks".

NARRATOR

Being more specific is better when that is possible. Let's search by location or year.

VISUAL: type "Ford trucks in". Only "Ford trucks in Norway" appears.

NARRATOR

This truck isn't in Norway, so let's delete that. Instead, we'll try "1960s Ford trucks".

VISUAL: delete "Ford trucks in Norway". Type "1960s Ford trucks". An exact match appears.

NARRATOR

Great. Now let's see if we can get an exact match.

VISUAL: type "1965 Ford trucks". A matching category appears.

NARRATOR

This is great. Now we can delete the other two categories, because they are more general than the specific category that we found.

VISUAL: use the mouse to click the X next to "Ford trucks" and "1960s Ford trucks".

NARRATOR

Guessing about the names of categories is a good idea until we find a good match.

NARRATOR

We are finished with the information for the first image. For the second image, let's make the name more specific.

VISUAL: click on the Title field. Enter "Space Shuttle Discovery launch - 31 May 2008".

NARRATOR

Now add the description.

VISUAL: click on the Description field. Add "Space Shuttle Discovery launches from Kennedy Space Center launch pad 39A at 5:02 p.m. (EDT) on 31 May 2008."

NARRATOR

This photo was originally made by someone else.

VISUAL: click on "This file is not my own work."

NARRATOR

Enter the place where we found the image, and the name of the creator.

VISUAL: enter (NASA url) in the Source field.

VISUAL: Enter "NASA/Tony Gray & Don Kight".

NARRATOR

Now select the correct license.

VISUAL: Click "This work was made by the United States Government". Then click "Original work of NASA".

NARRATOR

Add categories.

VISUAL: in the Categories field, add "Space Shuttle Discovery". Type "Launch Pad 39A", but there is no matching category for that.

NARRATOR

There was no match for the second category, so we will try something else.

VISUAL: delete "Launch Pad 39A". Type "Kennedy Space"; the option "Kennedy Space Center Launch Complex 39A" appears.

NARRATOR

That worked. We know the location where this photo was taken, and we have the option to add that information.

VISUAL: click "Add location and more information..." Enter the

latitude and longitude.

NARRATOR

Editing the file name, adding descriptions and categories, and adding location information can take a little time, but these actions will make the image much easier for other people to find.

NARRATOR

We're finished. Press the continue button.

VISUAL: press the continue button. We are taken to the publication page.

NARRATOR

This is the end of the upload process. Our files are now on Commons. There are two ways to access a file. If we want to include the file on a page in a Wikimedia site like Wikipedia, we can copy the first line of text.

VISUAL: highlight "[[File:1965 Ford truck.jpg|thumb|1965 Ford truck in a repair shop]]"

NARRATOR

If we want to use the link in an email or on a different website, we can use the second line of text.

VISUAL: highlight
"https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:1965_Ford_truck.jpg"

NARRATOR

We're finished with our uploads, so now we can return to the Commons main page. If we want to upload a modified version of this image, such as a version without the extra space at the top and bottom of the image, then we should watch the separate LearnWiki module about uploading modified versions of images.

VISUAL: at the bottom of the screen, click "Go to wiki home page".

ZOOM OUT TO WIDE ANGLE VISUAL

Page FADES to an information screen that displays "Uploading Original Images to Wikimedia Commons", the Wikimedia community

logo, links to Additional Materials, and a link to the next module.

NARRATOR

This is the end of this video module. You can restart the module, look at Additional Materials, or watch another module.

MEDIUM ANGLE VISUAL

End credits

- This series was funded by an Individual Engagement Grant from the Wikimedia Foundation, and produced in cooperation with the Wiki Education Foundation and Cascadia Wikimedians User Group
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