



**i - d o t t**

inspiring designers of tomorrow today

Copyright & i-dott CIO

## COPYRIGHT – Legal Definition

### Overview

Copyright protects your work and stops others from using it without your permission.

You get copyright protection automatically - you don't have to apply or pay a fee and there isn't a register of copyright works in the United Kingdom.

You automatically get copyright protection when you create:

- original literary, dramatic, musical and **artistic work**, including illustration and photography
- original non-literary written work, such as software, web content and databases
- sound and music recordings
- film and television recordings
- broadcasts
- the layout of published editions of written, dramatic and musical works

You can mark your work with the © for copyright add your name and the year of created the work but whether you mark the work or not doesn't affect the level of protection you have.

### How copyright protects and prevents your work being:

- copied by other parties
- copies being distributed whether for sale or free of charge
- shown in public
- adapted in any way
- used by other parties on the internet

### Copyright overseas

Your work could be protected by copyright in other countries through international agreements, for example [the Berne Convention](#).

In most countries copyright lasts a minimum of life plus 50 years for most types of artistic works

### **How long does copyright last:**

- Copyright protection starts as soon as a work is created
- For an artistic work the length of the copyright period is 70 years after the date of the creator's death
- once your copyright has expired, anyone can use or copy your work

### **Entering the i-dott Annual Surface Pattern Design Competition**

- A condition of entry is that you signed all rights in the design/s over to i-dott CiO
- Once you have signed the Assignment of Copyright all rights in the design/s are transferred to i-dott CiO for a time limited period not exceeding 2 years
- Once this is registered on the i-dott Competition records you must not show, offer or other way promote the assigned design/s to any other party or publish/upload to any website in the public domain

More information can be found: <https://www.gov.uk/topic/intellectual-property/copyright>

If you have any questions please contact us: [info@i-dott.com](mailto:info@i-dott.com)