HOW TO CLEAR MUSIC FOR FILM & TV

When using music in film and TV productions, both the artist and those who wrote and composed the music have the right to be acknowledged and compensated. Here's a step-by-step guide to using commercial music in your production.

Note that the process for clearing commissioned music is different in each country. Contact NCB for more information.



1. CLEAR THE RECORDING

The master rights are the rights of the artist and/or the record label who made the recording of the song. If you use an existing recording, you need to clear the master rights.

The master rights are cleared either directly with the record label or with IFPI/Gramex/Gramo. In some cases, the broadcaster might have an agreement with the master owners that covers your use.

If you're not using an existing recording, skip this step.



2. CLEAR THE COMPOSITION

The composition rights are the composer, writer and publisher's rights to the musical work.

Regardless of whether you're adding a recording in post-production, making your own recording or simply filming a live performance, the composer and writers have a right to be compensated when their music is used.

The clearance process depends on which production type you're making.

You can always find our current price lists, music report, calculator & information about production types at:

www.ncb.dk/index.php/using-music



TV productions

Documentary & short film without cinema distribution

Smaller productions



3. FILL IN & SUBMIT

Fill in our music report with the music you are using.

Submit it by e-mail and we'll send you an invoice.



4. PAY & DISPLAY

Once you've paid your invoice you are good to go!

Feature film

TV drama broadcast outside the Nordics

Documentary & short film with cinema distribution

Commercial & trailer

Signature & bumper



Contact the rights holder or music publisher directly to get a license.

Remember to use our calculator to budget your production at: www.calculator.ncb.dk

70

is the magical number in music rights?
A recording is under copyright until 70 years after the recording was made.
The composition is under copyright until the end of the 70th year after the death of the composers.