

Calculating Fees for Recording Documents and Notices of Termination in the Copyright Office

The information below explains how to calculate fees for recording documents under 17 *United States Code* sections 205 (copyright transfers and other transactions), 903 (mask works), and 1320 (vessel hulls), as well as notices of termination under sections 203 and 304.

Fee for Recording a Document or Notice of Termination

The proper fee for recording a document or notice of termination depends on the number of legal transactions and titles contained in the document.

- 1 The basic recording fee is \$105 if only one legal transaction and one title are involved.
- 2 If more than one legal transaction is contained in the document, then the fee is \$105 for each.
- 3 The \$105 fee covers the first title contained in a document, but there is a charge of \$35 for each set of 10 or fewer titles beyond the first title.

“Alternative” titles, “formerly-known-as” titles, and “also known-as” titles are considered to be extra titles. Titles are counted by groups. If there are fewer than 10 titles in a group, the fee for a group still applies. Examples:

A document or termination notice containing 1 transaction and 1 title is \$105.

A document containing 2 transactions and 1 title is \$210 (\$105 + \$105).

A document containing 1 transaction and 2-11 titles is \$140 (\$105 + \$35).

A document containing 1 transaction and 12 titles is \$175 (\$105 + \$35 + \$35).

A termination notice containing 25 titles is \$210 (\$105 + \$35 + \$35 + \$35).

In the case of multiple-title documents, titles that are repeated in documents will be counted as a single title, except where the document lists different issues, volumes, chapters, or installments following the title. Each such entry will be regarded as a separate title and will be indexed separately and counted separately for purposes of computing the recordation fee. Examples of multiple titles for which a separate fee is charged:

“Fan Club News,” vol. 1, no. 3 (June 1981)

“Fan Club News,” vol. 1, no. 4 (July 1981)

“Fan Club News,” vol. 1, no. 5 (August 1981)

Fee for Special Handling

The fee for special handling of recordation of a document or a notice of termination is \$550 in addition to regular recordation fees. Special handling is a request for expedited service to meet contractual deadlines or for pending litigation.

***NOTE:** 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 or 1-877-476-0778.

Make checks payable to Register of Copyrights. Bank drafts must be drawn on, or payable through, a U.S. bank.

Fee Calculation for Multiple Title Documents

Effective as of May 1, 2014

Basic Fee (document with no more than 1 title): \$105

| NO. OF TITLES | FEE FOR TITLES | FEE + \$105 | NO. OF TITLES | FEE FOR TITLES | FEE + \$105 |
|---------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|
| 2-11 | \$35 | \$140 | 202-211 | \$735 | \$840 |
| 12-21 | \$70 | \$175 | 212-221 | \$770 | \$875 |
| 22-31 | \$105 | \$210 | 222-231 | \$805 | \$910 |
| 32-41 | \$140 | \$245 | 232-241 | \$840 | \$945 |
| 42-51 | \$175 | \$280 | 242-251 | \$875 | \$980 |
| 52-61 | \$210 | \$315 | 252-261 | \$910 | \$1,015 |
| 62-71 | \$245 | \$350 | 262-271 | \$945 | \$1,050 |
| 72-81 | \$280 | \$385 | 272-281 | \$920 | \$1,085 |
| 82-91 | \$315 | \$420 | 282-291 | \$1,015 | \$1,120 |
| 92-101 | \$350 | \$455 | 292-301 | \$1,050 | \$1,155 |
| 102-111 | \$385 | \$490 | 302-311 | \$1,085 | \$1,190 |
| 112-121 | \$420 | \$525 | 312-321 | \$1,120 | \$1,225 |
| 122-131 | \$455 | \$560 | 322-331 | \$1,155 | \$1,260 |
| 132-141 | \$490 | \$595 | 332-341 | \$1,190 | \$1,295 |
| 142-151 | \$525 | \$630 | 342-351 | \$1,225 | \$1,330 |
| 152-161 | \$560 | \$665 | 352-361 | \$1,260 | \$1,365 |
| 162-171 | \$595 | \$700 | 362-371 | \$1,295 | \$1,400 |
| 172-181 | \$630 | \$735 | 372-381 | \$1,330 | \$1,435 |
| 182-191 | \$665 | \$770 | 382-391 | \$1,365 | \$1,470 |
| 192-201 | \$700 | \$805 | 392-401 | \$1,400 | \$1,505 |

For more than 401 titles, calculate the fee using combinations of the fees above.

Example: If a document has 730 titles, the total fee is \$2,660. This is calculated as follows:

\$1,505 (the basic fee of \$105 plus the cost for 400 titles, which is \$1,200)
 + \$1,155 (the cost for 330 titles) equals
\$2,660 total