



WHO PAYS FOR MUSIC PERFORMANCE ROYALTIES?



EXHIBITORS DO.

What is a Public Performance?



A "public performance" occurs when music is transmitted to the public, via radio, TV broadcasts, digital service providers, streamers and many other means. Songwriters, composers, and music publishers have the exclusive right to play their music publicly and to authorize others to do so under the copyright law. This is known as the "Performing Right."



An 'Exhibitor' is anyone who plays music publicly.
For example, this could be a broadcast network, a streaming platform, social network, concert venue or shopping mall. The Exhibitor is responsible for securing a Performance License.

BROADCAST TV, CABLE & RADIO 	STREAMING TV 	DIGITAL PLATFORMS 	LIVE EVENTS, RETAIL & RESTAURANTS
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A Performance Rights Organization (PRO) collects royalties from Exhibitors and distributes them to Rights Owners.
Each country has its own performance rights organization and collects royalties on behalf of its members. The United States has several PROs, including...



Rights Owners are the copyright holders of musical works.

PUBLISHERS	COMPOSERS	MUSIC LIBRARIES	SONGWRITERS	LYRICISTS



CREATORS DO NOT.

Creators are generally not responsible for any additional payments unless they are ALSO the exhibitor (e.g., a show produced by AND shown on NETFLIX).

Here are some examples where a public performance license is already paid for by the exhibitor:



Ad agency creates social media campaign for FB/Insta: no additional \$ needed, already covered by exhibitors



Podcasts on iHeart? Already covered.



Vids for Youtube channel: no additional \$, already covered by YouTube



A Twitch channel? Already covered.



A personal website? Generally covered by licenses with the hosting DSP.

- AD AGENCIES
- BRANDS
- PRODUCTION COMPANIES
- YOUTUBERS
- MOVIE STUDIOS

Certain exceptions apply:

Please contact a PRO directly if you are uncertain about performance rights licensing.
ascap.com | bmi.com | sesac.com

FOR PERFORMANCE ROYALTIES: WHO PLAYS THE MUSIC, PAYS FOR THE MUSIC.

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