

Spring 2021 Suggested Music Sources for Videos

Project videos are a creative way to communicate your project to a broader audience. An important component of any video is music! Background music helps set the tone for your video. Check out how changing a music's theme can completely change the tone of a clip [here](#).

As you decide what mood you want your music to set in your video (happy, sad, thoughtful, suspenseful, hopeful, etc.), check out the following **suggested websites** for music downloads:

- [YouTube Audio Library](#)
- [Free Soundtrack Music](#)
- [Freeplay Music](#)
- [Purple Planet](#)
- [BenSound](#)
- [Incompetech](#)
- [Free Music Archive](#)

****Note:** even for the websites linked above, you **always** need to check the license information for each piece of music. The music must fall under an approved creative commons license or be royalty free. Make sure to read the attribution requirements carefully and follow every step, including linking to the license page if required.

Beware of the following websites. If you want to add music to your video from the following, message a Comm Fellow for more information on how to proceed (we do not recommend downloading music from these sources because the licensing related to tracks posted on these websites is ambiguous and may trigger YouTube to pull the video):

- YouTube
- SoundCloud

Like the footage or images you will include in your video, music also needs to be cited on screen and in the credits. **However**, the music you choose may require extra information in your citations. Make sure to read all of the posted requirements for how that specific website or artist requires attribution. Sometimes all you need is the music title, artist, website name, and url, but other times you may need to cite additional links or information (such as linking to the license page).

Be diligent in your music choices! If you do not cite it correctly, your video may not be able to be shared with partners or publicly on YouTube. To avoid this possibility, you can submit a narration file separately from your video (i.e. no music or footage, just a narration file that matches the narration timing in the video exactly) so that the music can be removed and we can re-upload your video with just narration. When in doubt, reach out to a Comm Fellow for questions or approval!

Questions? Contact:

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