The Copyright Resources Center

The Copyright Resources Center can help you understand your rights as an author. While not able to provide legal advice, we are available to answer your questions regarding:

- What rights Copyright Law provides automatically
- What is and is not covered by copyright
- What happens when you sign a copyright agreement
- What to consider when negotiating copyright agreements

Assistance is available at no charge.
To access the service or learn more about it:

Call 614-688-5849
Email libcopyright@osu.edu
Website go.osu.edu/copyright
Visit The Copyright Resources Center
      Thompson Library
      1858 Neil Avenue, Suite 221
The author’s bundle of rights:
In the United States, copyright protection applies automatically, the moment an original work of authorship is fixed in a tangible medium of expression (e.g., written down, saved on the computer, painted on canvas, etc.). This means an author must do something not to have copyright protection. Under U.S. copyright law, a copyright owner has the exclusive rights to:

- Reproduce their work
- Prepare derivative works
- Distribute their work
- Publicly display their work
- Publicly perform their work

Manage your rights:
As a copyright owner, you can choose how best to exercise your exclusive rights. Do you want to retain all or some of your rights? Do you want to let others use your work so long as they credit you? Be sure to clearly communicate your copyright choices!

Signing an agreement?
- READ the agreement. Which of your exclusive rights are you transferring or licensing?
- ASK yourself: What rights do I want and what rights do I need now or might need in the future?
- UNDERSTAND what you are signing.