

# MUSIC LICENSING

Not Rocket Science. But Not Intuitive Either.

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## SONG

Lyrics & Melody

Owned by songwriters and/or music publishers.

## SOUND RECORDING

Recorded Rendition of Song

Owned by record labels and/or recording artists.

It is possible to use a song without using a sound recording.

One song can have multiple sound recordings  
example: YESTERDAY

Song, Yesterday, was written by Paul McCartney	Sound recordings of Yesterday have been created by The Beatles   Bob Dylan   Boyz II Men   Frank Sinatra   Liberace   Elvis Presley   Judy Collins   Count Bassie & over 2,000 other artists
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Source: ultimateclassicrock.com/beatles-yesterday-covers

It is not possible to use a sound recording without using the underlying song. That means when you use a sound recording, you must clear rights in both the sound recording and the underlying song.

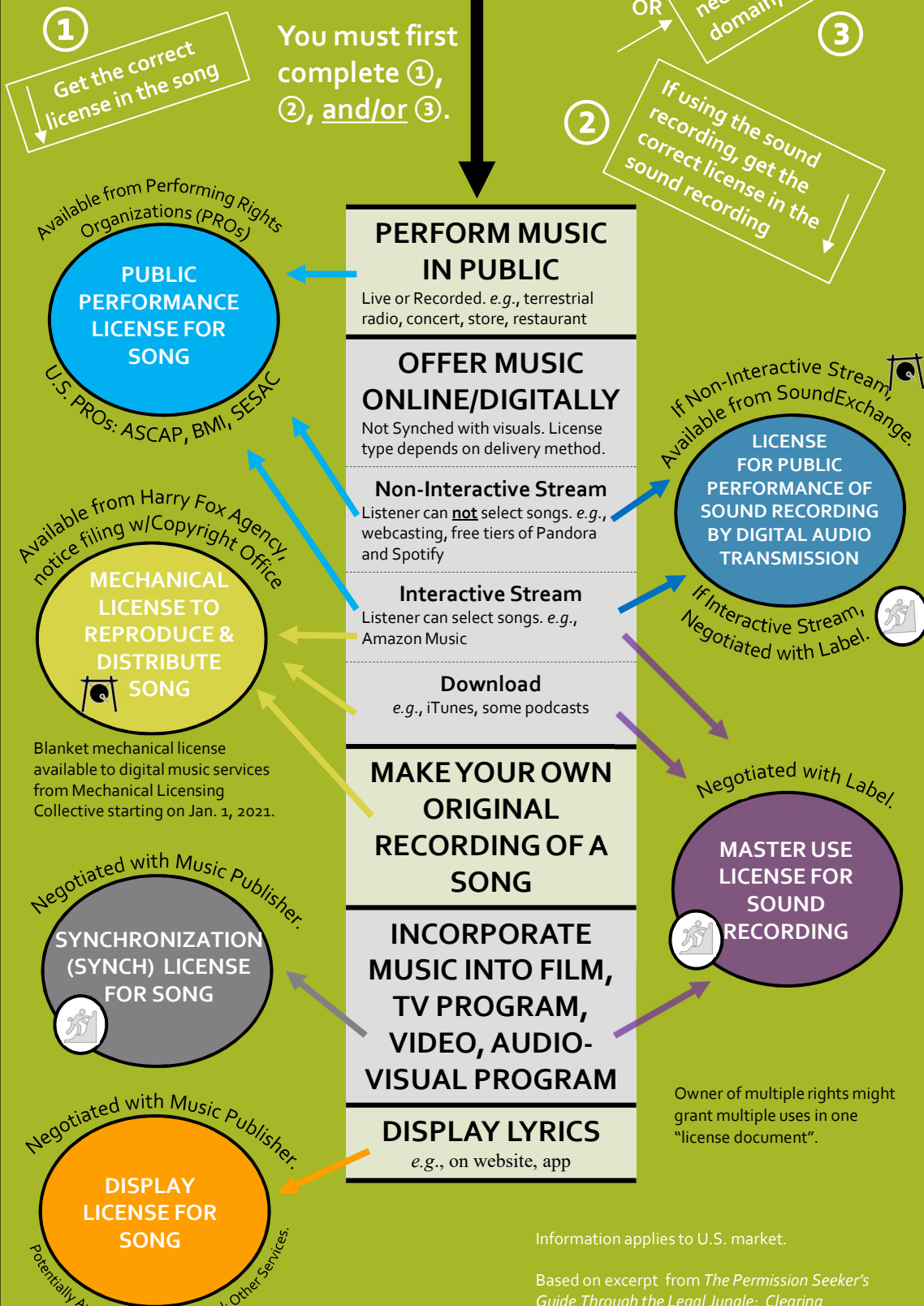


When a compulsory license is available, the law sets license fees and terms. The rights owner can't refuse to grant license.



Certain licenses for popular music can be difficult to obtain and expensive.

# TO DO THIS



Information applies to U.S. market.

Based on excerpt from *The Permission Seeker's Guide Through the Legal Jungle: Clearing Copyrights, Trademarks and Other Rights for Entertainment and Media Productions*