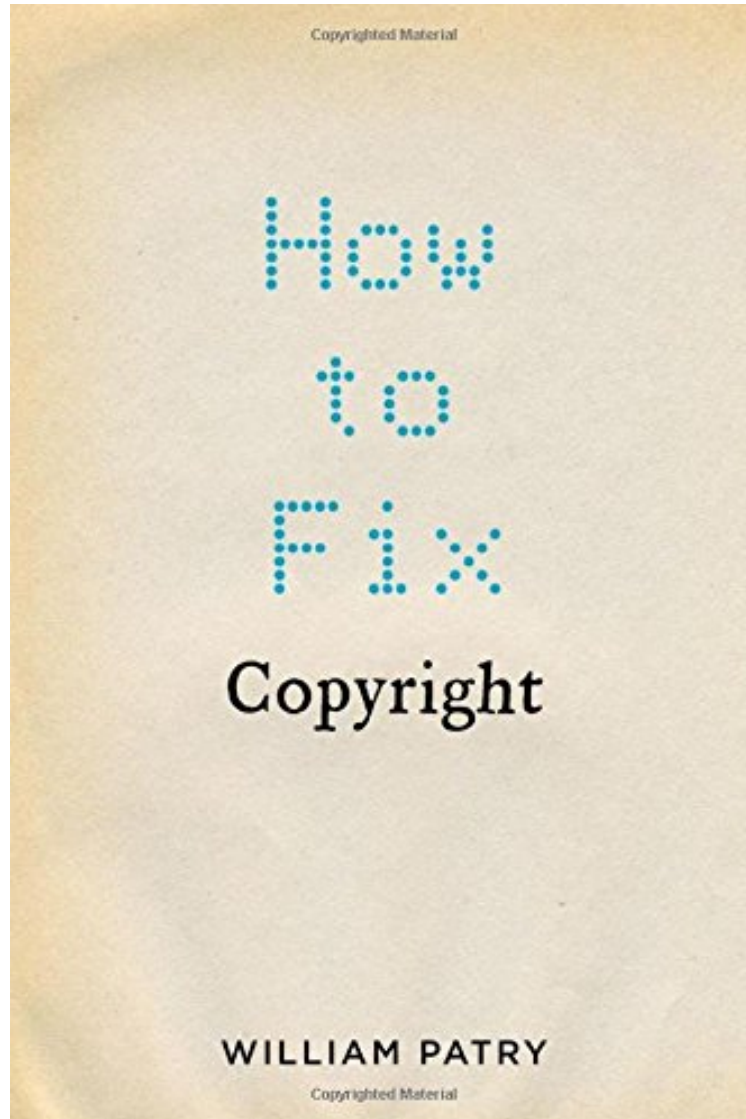


(Read now) How to Fix Copyright

How to Fix Copyright

William Patry

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#1104891 in Books 2012-01-04Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 5.80 x 1.00 x 8.30l, 2.20 #File Name: 0199760098336 pages | File size: 68.Mb

William Patry : How to Fix Copyright before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How to Fix Copyright:

11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Don't Mind the Trolls - Essential Reading for Anyone Who Cares About Copyright LawBy Paul M FaklerBill Patry has published another essential work on copyright law. Drawing on his experience as a congressional staffer working on copyright legislation, his time at the Copyright Office, his many years of legal scholarship (including writing a multi-volume treatise on copyright law and the only specialized treatise on fair use) and many years as a private practice copyright lawyers and litigator, Patry has written two important books

geared towards a more general readership. First, with *Moral Panics and the Copyright Wars*, Patry set out his view of how the law of copyright has been distorted by content owners (and their lobbyists) and how extremist rhetoric on both sides of the copyright "wars" have managed to change the law in ways that weaken its ability to serve copyright's original purposes. That book was all about identifying problems. Now, with *How to Fix Copyright*, Patry builds upon his prior work and includes various ideas and starting points for solutions. No, as he points out in his forward, he does not extract an over-simplified bullet-point list of action items at the end of the book. Such an approach would be silly and unproductive, given the complexity of the problems and would give a false impression that Patry has (or possibly could) provide simple, pat or "finished" solutions to all of the problems in copyright law. The suggestions are, rather, discussed throughout the book and at the very least provide a helpful starting point for working on the identified problems. Patry has a true talent for taking highly technical legal issues and writing about them in an engaging way that people, lawyer and non-lawyer alike, can understand. Anyone who has read his more technical legal treatises or knows his other work is aware that as a legal scholar of (and participant in) the development of copyright law Patry knows more about the history and working of copyright than just about any other living person. Even so, Patry is willing to admit that his views on various issues have changed over time, as he has continuously re-examined and tested them. Consequently, his views do not fall neatly on either side of the increasingly polemic public arguments about copyright law. This is exactly why his work is so valuable (and unique). Of course, precisely because he does not fit neatly into either side of the polemic, he is often the subject of ad hominem attacks from both sides. You will see some of them among the reviews, notably from individuals who work for the content owner industries (one is a publisher and the other runs a digital right management company and also serves as an expert witness for music, motion picture and other big content companies). One thing about the review of Patry's books is that you can usually tell which ones you should ignore by the amount of vitriol or condescension in them. If you are interested in thinking about the hard issues related to copyright law and have an open mind, ignore the copyright maximalist industry trolls and read this book. It is bound to change the way you think about copyright law, and as Patry points out, changing your mind is the best way to prove you have one.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thank you! Great Experience
By Customer Thank you! Great Experience
2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Mile-a-minute insights about the harm done by too much copyright protection
By T. P. Olson
What did copyright do to Danger Mouse's "Grey Album" -- which mashed up the Beatle's White Album and Jay-Z's Black Album? ([...]) How long does it take to clear rights in old records and books, and what does that do to the ability of the public to enjoy them? Do lengthy copyright terms really promote more creativity?
In *HOW TO FIX COPYRIGHT*, Bill Patry answers hundreds of questions like this, combining his profound knowledge of copyright law with a limitless appreciation for all forms of culture. The result is a devastating indictment of how Hollywood and the record industry have generated a legal regime that crushes the ability of writers and artists to do what great creators have always done -- draw on existing culture to create new works. This is a superb book that deserves a wide audience.

Do copyright laws directly cause people to create works they otherwise wouldn't create? Do those laws directly put substantial amounts of money into authors' pockets? Does culture depend on copyright? Are copyright laws a key driver of competitiveness and of the knowledge economy? These are the key questions William Patry addresses in *How to Fix Copyright*. We all share the goals of increasing creative works, ensuring authors can make a decent living, furthering culture and competitiveness and ensuring that knowledge is widely shared, but what role does copyright law actually play in making these things come true in the real world? Simply believing in lofty goals isn't enough. If we want our goals to come true, we must go beyond believing in them; we must ensure they come true, through empirical testing and adjustment. Patry argues that laws must be consistent with prevailing markets and technologies because technologies play a large (although not exclusive) role in creating consumer demand; markets then satisfy that demand. Patry discusses how copyright laws arose out of eighteenth-century markets and technology, the most important characteristic of which was artificial scarcity. Artificial scarcity was created by the existence of a small number gatekeepers, by relatively high barriers to entry, and by analog limitations on copying. Markets and technologies change, in a symbiotic way, Patry asserts. New technologies create new demand, requiring new business models. The new markets created by the Internet and digital tools are the greatest ever: Barriers to entry are low, costs of production and distribution are low, the reach is global, and large sums of money can be made off of a multitude of small transactions. Along with these new technologies and markets comes the democratization of creation; digital abundance is replacing analog artificial scarcity. The task of policymakers is to remake our copyright laws to fit our times: our copyright laws, based on the eighteenth century concept of physical copies, gatekeepers, and artificial scarcity, must be replaced with laws based on access not ownership of physical goods, creation by the masses and not by the few, and global rather than regional markets. Patry's view is that of a traditionalist who believes in the goals of copyright but insists that laws must match the times rather than fight against the present and the future.

"How to Fix Copyright is full of smart, sensible ideas." --The Wall St. Journal
"A book that is incandescent in every sense of the word...How to Fix Copyright is a superbly argued, enraging book on the state of copyright law today." --

Boing Boing "William Patry, Senior Copyright Counsel at Google and one of America's foremost experts on copyright law, offers an insightful, reasonable series of fixes to our increasingly outmoded copyright system. But perhaps the author's greatest triumph is that he makes his complex subject seem familiar and even entertaining. In well-written, easily digestible sections, Patry puts the complex legal, procedural, and constitutional underpinnings of copyright law in context with the rapidly evolving, tech-fueled lives of creators and users. Insightful, impeccably researched, and prescriptive, Patry's vision of copyright should resonate with today's creators - and infuriate yesterday's media and entertainment conglomerates." --Publishers Weekly, Starred About the Author William Patry is Senior Copyright Counsel at Google Inc. He previously served as copyright counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary; as a Policy Planning Advisor to the U.S. Register of Copyrights; as a law professor; and as a private lawyer. He is the author of the definitive eight volume treatise on copyright law, Patry on Copyright, a separate treatise on the fair use doctrine, Patry on Fair Use which has been in print since 1985, as well as many law review articles, including one with Judge Richard Posner.