Copyright Term and the Public Domain in the United States

Date: February 1

Never Published, Never Registered Works[1]

Type of Work	Copyright Term	In the public domain in the U.S. as of January 1
Unpublished and unregistered	Life of the author + 70 years	Works created before 1955
Unpublished and unregistered	Life of the author + 70 years or the term of the last surviving author, whichever is longer	Works created before 1955

Works Registered or First Published in the U.S.

Date of Creation	Copyright Term
Before 1923	None. In the public domain due to copyright expiration
1923 to 1963	Initial term of 28 years, plus one optional renewal term of 67 years
1964 to 1977	Initial term of 28 years, plus automatic renewal term of 67 years
1978 to 1989	Life of the author + 70 years, or if the work is a joint work, 70 years from the death of the last surviving author
1990 to 2002	Life of the author + 70 years, or if the work is a joint work, 70 years from the death of the last surviving author
2003	Life of the author + 70 years, or if the work is a joint work, 70 years from the death of the last surviving author
2004	Life of the author + 70 years, or if the work is a joint work, 70 years from the death of the last surviving author
2005	Life of the author + 70 years, or if the work is a joint work, 70 years from the death of the last surviving author
2006 to 2007	Life of the author + 70 years, or if the work is a joint work, 70 years from the death of the last surviving author
2008 to 2009	Life of the author + 70 years, or if the work is a joint work, 70 years from the death of the last surviving author
2010 to 2011	Life of the author + 70 years, or if the work is a joint work, 70 years from the death of the last surviving author
2012	Life of the author + 70 years, or if the work is a joint work, 70 years from the death of the last surviving author
2013	Life of the author + 70 years, or if the work is a joint work, 70 years from the death of the last surviving author