

# Yanik Silver's Public Domain Resources and Rolodex

## General copyright information:

Copyright office

<http://www.copyright.gov>

## International copyright information:

<http://www.wipo.org>

Australia: <http://www.copyright.org.au>

Canada: <http://cipo.gc.ca>

UK: [http://www.hmso.gov.uk/copyright/managing\\_copyright.htm](http://www.hmso.gov.uk/copyright/managing_copyright.htm)  
<http://www.patent.gov.uk/copy/index.htm>

## Book searches:

[www.alibris.com](http://www.alibris.com)

Use advanced search to search via title word and publication date.

<http://www.addall.com/used/>

Good resource if you know a title already – searches multiple used book sites

## Public domain collections:

<http://www.gutenberg.org>

Project Gutenberg – large collection of public domain texts

<http://www.digital.library.upenn.edu/books/>

Over 20,000 titles

<http://ipl.org/reading/books/>

Internet Public Library

<http://www.eldritchpress.org/>

## Government Links

Catalog of US Government publications

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cgp/index.html>

Federal Citizen Information Center

<http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/>

<http://www.library.okstate.edu/govdocs/browsetopics/>

<http://www.firstgov.gov/>

<http://www.access.gpo.gov/>

Freedom of Information Act

<http://www.rcfp.org/foiact/index.html>

**Copyright renewal search (publications from 1923-1963)**

<http://www.loc.gov/copyright/search/>

copyright office's new system of searching copyright records since 1978 – therefore if something was to published in 1950-1963 this is a good place to look

1923-1949 Catalog of copyright entries

<http://www.digital.library.upenn.edu/books/cce/>

(be sure to check at least 3 years worth of CCEs – year 27, 28 and 29)

Thomson & Thomson (copyright search firm for hire)

Washington, DC

800-356-8630

<http://www.thomson-thomson.com>

**Images:**

<http://www.royaltyfreeart.com/101text.html>

[http://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public\\_domain\\_image\\_resources](http://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_domain_image_resources)

**Film:**

<http://www.desertislandfilms.com/>

<http://www.buyoutfootage.com>

<http://www.nara.gov>

**Music:**

<http://www.pdinfo.com/list/g.htm>

<http://levysheetmusic.mse.jhu.edu/>

<http://www.sheetmusicusa.com>

**Software:**

Many software programmers place their work in the public domain by dedicated it to the public. Be sure to read license agreements carefully to see what you are allowed to do with software you download.

<http://www.shareware.com>

<http://www.download.com>

**Scanning Service:**

Melville Harris Company  
Dallas, TX 75206  
214-824-1559

They PDF'd a book I had (about 200 pages) for \$75.00. They'll send you a CD-rom with it on there. The only problem is they'll have to cut off the binding.

**Typing Service:**

<http://www.elance.com>

**Reference Works:**

“The Public Domain” by Stephen Fishman, Esq.

“International Copyright Protection” by Paul Geller

“Information USA” by Mathew Lesko

“The Film Superlist: 20,000 motion pictures in the public domain” by Johnny Minus and William Storm Hale

**Additional Recommended Resource for Information Marketers:**

Instant Internet Profits: How to sell digitally delivered information online on autopilot: <http://www.InstantInternetProfits.com>

Legal protection your site and Intellectual property protection:  
<http://weblaw.yanikrecommends.com>

## ***Public Domain Cheat Sheet***

1. Anything published in the US before 1923 – this goes for anything published here in the US or something published abroad and then republished in the US before 1923
2. Works first published in the US from 1923 – 1963 are in the public domain if they were not renewed in their 28<sup>th</sup> year. Estimates are 85% of works were not renewed.
3. Foreign works published anywhere before 1909 are in the public domain.
4. Foreign works published 1909 – 1923 with copyright notices are now in the public domain.

### **Copyright Charts for U.S. Published Works**

Published before 1923 - public domain

Published 1923-1963 and not renewed - public domain

Published 1923-1963 and renewed - 95 years from date of first publication

Published 1964 – 1977 - 95 years from date of first publication (automatic)

Created 1978 or later  
(does not have to be published) - Life of author plus 70 years\*

\* If work is made for hire or under a pseudo name or anonymous then copyright protection lasts 95 years from date of publication or 120 years from date of creation – whichever ends first.

### Written Material Public Domain Checklist and documentation sheet

Title of work: \_\_\_\_\_

Author(s) of work: \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Source of work: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Country of publication: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Is the date of publication before 1923?  
\_ Yes: skip to line 5  
\_ No: continue
2. Is the date of the publication 1923 - 1963?  
\_ Yes: skip to line 4  
\_ No: continue
3. Is the work in public domain due to an improper copyright notice?  
\_ Yes skip to line 5  
\_ No: skip to line 6
4. Has there been a 28<sup>th</sup> year copyright renewal?  
\_ Yes: skip to line 6  
\_ No: continue to line 5
5. Congratulations you may use this work as public domain
6. Is the work a derivative?  
\_ Yes: skip to line 8  
\_ No: continue
7. Is the work a compilation?  
\_ Yes: continue  
\_ No: stop you cannot use this work

8. Is any of the material compiled or a derivative of public domain material?

☐ Yes: you may use the public domain portions only

☐ No: stop you cannot use this work

Justification for why this work is in the public domain:

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