



MPLC

# FAQs

## Q. What is an MPLC Licence?

**A.** MPLC specialises in blanket licensing, which offers a legal and compliant way to show copyright protected content in public. A public performance is where a film or TV programme is shown in a place where members of the public can see it outside of their own home.

The MPLC Blanket Licence allows for the public viewing of MPLC's rights holders' films and TV content intended for personal, private use. It's affordable with unlimited exhibitions with no need to report what's being shown and where.

- DVD, Blu Ray
- Download or Streaming
- Linear Broadcast, or satellite TV

The licence grants the public performance rights from 1000's of rights holders.

## Q. Who has an MPLC Licence?

**A.** MPLC's UK licensees include well-known restaurant chains; major hotel brands; healthcare; car dealerships; schools and nurseries, care homes and businesses.

## Q. Why do I need an MPLC Blanket Licence?

**A.** In the UK, the legislation changed in 2016 making the MPLC Blanket Licence required for showing MPLC's rights holders' copyright protected films and TV programmes in a public space. We have been working hard to inform every business that might need a licence since that date.

MPLC Licences are affordable, easy to buy and can be put in place immediately. They are the legal way to show movies and TV programmes in a public or commercial space.

## Q. We already pay for a TV Licence – do we need to pay for another Licence?

**A.** Yes. The TV Licence allows you to use any television receiving equipment (e.g., a TV set, digital box, PC, laptop or mobile phone) to watch or record television programmes. This is purely for the use of the TV receiving equipment. When showing in public, it does not cover the use of copyright protected content in a broadcast which has separate licensing requirements. The Government's guidance is linked here: Changes to Section 72: Public showing or playing of broadcasts - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)).

**Q. We already pay for the sports licence – do we need to pay for another licence?**

**A.** MPLC does not currently licence sports so if you are only showing live sports programming, you do not need an MPLC licence. However to avoid a copyright infringement you would need a mechanism in place to avoid the accidental or occasional showing of non sporting programmes. If you do not have that then an MPLC licence will cover you for that liability.

To the best of our knowledge, none of MPLC's right holders license recorded sports content as part of this business subscription service. As a guide, you should be aware that MPLC licenses on behalf of thousands of right holders, including major Hollywood and independent studios, and TV producers. If there is content owned by these rights holders, then a licence will be required. You can contact MPLC directly to discuss specific cases.

**Q. We are a care home and one TV in the communal room only for which we have the TV Licence, do we also need the MPLC Licence?**

**A.** Care homes do not require a licence where residents choose to watch TV or film in their private rooms.

Care homes do not require a licence where residents act independently and arrange to watch TV or film in a communal lounge (either alone or with other residents).

Care homes do not require a licence where the provider aids individual residents to put on a TV show or film, in response to an ad-hoc request.

Care homes will require a licence, where the care provider organises a TV or film screening as a group activity and/or market themselves as offering dedicated cinema facilities.

**Q. What happens if we don't apply for the MPLC Licence?**

**A.** We understand that taking legal action against unlicensed organisations is not ideal for anyone involved. It can be costly and challenging, especially for small businesses. That's why we'd much prefer to work with you directly to find a solution. An MPLC Blanket License is both affordable and easy to obtain, allowing you to quickly become compliant.

While legal action is available as a last resort, it's important to note that organisations knowingly showing copyrighted content without a license do face risks, and there are cases where copyright holders have taken legal steps. You can find more about these examples at [fact-uk.org.uk](http://fact-uk.org.uk).

There is no need to expose yourself or your business to the risk of legal enforcement action because an MPLC Blanket License is affordable, easy to buy and can be in place immediately.

**Q. Is MPLC a genuine company?**

**A.** Yes MPLC provides licenses for the public performances of film and TV content, ensuring that organisations comply with copyright laws. Please also refer to MPLC's listing on the IPO section of Gov.uk website where you can find out more information - [Licensing bodies and collective management organisations – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

**Contact us now**  
to get licensed today.