

Short summary version of Fair Use and non-infringement.

From Fair Use:

In summary, although courts will balance all four factors when assessing fair use, the fair use defense is most likely to apply when the infringing use involves criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, or research. In addition, some general rules of thumb can be helpful in analyzing fair use:

- A use that transforms the original work in some way is more likely to be a fair use;
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- A non-profit use is more likely to be considered a fair use than a for-profit use;
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- A shorter excerpt is more likely to be a fair use than a long one; and
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- A use that cannot act as a replacement for the original work is more likely to be a fair use than one that can serve as a replacement.

So, some plus points here is that we are using these for teaching, we are a non profit (ie, we aren't making money off of it), and we are normally providing some sort of commentary or additional info. We are also providing them for the limited use of our members only.

Some problems are the patterns are providing the majority of input, and are intended to be a usable replacement for the original. Also, I'm copying photos along with the patterns, or those might have been copied off the internet to use as illustrations.

In my opinion (not a lawyer), as long as we are very careful in **providing links (where available) and attribution** to the people that originated the patterns, we are acting in good faith. We are actually providing a form of free advertising in a win-win way.

Also, we can remove any specific pattern that we get a claim of copyright infringement on.

John Howard, 2/3/2021