

Music Clearances: Original Music

Always look first to your Production Counsel and/or music counsel with any questions or concerns related to your music clearance obligations. Please be mindful that music deal terms for other productions will not necessarily be the same deal terms to apply here and what's acceptable to another production partner may not be appropriate for this production.

Original Music

- Unless otherwise approved by YouTube Legal, all original music commissioned for the production (be it composer score, custom library cues or other cues, original songs, lyrics, sound recordings, etc.) must be created on a **work-made-for-hire** basis or must otherwise be owned by the production and fully licenseable to YouTube on a fully-cleared, royalty-free basis, including, without limitation, synchronization of both the master recordings and compositions, public performance/communication/transmission/making available and reproduction rights. **Composers and performing artists may not retain any ownership in the resulting master recordings or compositions (e.g., no 50/50 co-publishing deals or deals where the composer retains ownership of any music and licenses back to the production), and composers and performing artists may not retain any soundtrack rights.** All of these rights must be licensed to YouTube without restriction for all uses, including marketing and promotion.
- Note that when any original music is created by a recording artist or songwriter/composer (score, songs, sound recordings or other materials), **additional waivers, approvals and/or clearances may be required from a record company** and/or music publishing company and extra time may be needed to negotiate those deals in accordance with YouTube requirements. Consult with Production Counsel and/or music counsel with respect to the engagement of any artists who are subject to exclusive recording and/or publishing agreements. All associated costs must be included in the show's Production Budget Cap.
- Consult with Production Counsel and/or music counsel with respect to the engagement of any musicians who are members of musicians' unions such as the AFM (American Federation of Musicians).