

AVLA

Do you know
the **licensing**
requirements
for **djs?**

information for liquor licensed establishments

why bother?



As an liquor licensed establishment, we know that you recognize the importance of ensuring that all activities that take place on your premises are legal. So, the sound recordings played as entertainment should be legal copies.

Buying an LP/CD/cassette doesn't give anyone the right to reproduce it for the purpose of entertaining the public. The liner notes of every LP/CD/cassette indicate who owns the copyright of the sound recording or the album, and warn that unauthorized copying of sound recordings is **strictly prohibited**.

The Canadian **Copyright Act** is a federal law that protects creative endeavours by ensuring that the rights owner has the sole right to authorize the publication, performance or reproduction of the work. Section 18(1)(b) of the *Copyright Act* provides that only the copyright owner can reproduce a sound recording or authorize the act of reproduction.

how can I safeguard an event?

- Make sure the event or catering contract contains the provision that all music (sound recordings) played on premises is legal.
- Contact AVLA or check our website or the DJ association's website to find out if a particular DJ is licensed.
- A DJ who is licensed to make copies of sound recordings will receive a display licence from AVLA that will confirm that the reproductions are licensed and of good quality. The quality of the reproductions must be up to industry standards.
- A DJ must display their licence (sample on page 7).

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when does a dj not need a licence?

① A DJ does not require a licence if they are using CDs leased from a Music Supply Service (MSS). MSS produce CD compilations of popular sound recordings at industry quality and lease music to DJs and commercial users.

These CDs may not be copied for any purpose whatsoever. Copied MSS CD are obvious by the lack of artwork. A legal CD is professionally printed and not handwritten in felt marker or photocopied. Even if a DJ is licensed, it is contrary to the DJs agreement with the MSS to copy these CDs.

AVLA Licensed Music Supply Services in Canada include:

- Multi Music Services
- POC Music ULC (Promo Only and PODDS)
- ERG / First Source
- iSun Music Services

② A DJ does not require a licence when they are using **original**, store-bought LPs/CDs or cassettes.

how can a dj licence be obtained?

DJs can obtain their licence 2 ways:

- ① **Directly from AVLA**
- ② **Through an AVLA licensed DJ Association such as:**
 - Alberta Association of Mobile Entertainers (AAME)
www.aame.ab.ca
 - Canadian Association of Mobile Entertainers and Operators (CAMEO)
www.cameodj.com
 - Canadian Disc Jockey Association (CDJA)
www.cdja.org
 - Canadian Online Disc Jockey Association (CODJA)
www.codja.com
 - Canadian Recorded Dance Music Operators Inc. (CRDMO)
www.crdmo.d2g.com



you should also know

- All the DJ's reproductions of sound recordings must be made from commercially produced product made by record companies.
- A DJ may only download sound recordings from the Internet for commercial purposes from AVLA approved websites.
- All reproductions of sound recordings must be licensed, even if A DJ is not charging money for their services (i.e. doing a favour for a friend).
- **Private copying** - There is a limited right to copy music for **private** use. This does **not** apply to DJ or commercial establishments.
- An AVLA DJ licence does not cover any other licences or permits relating to music.

AVLA cannot authorize:

- Synchronization (embedding of sound recordings into visual presentations.)
- Compiling sound recordings on CDRs to use as "give-aways".

what does a dj licence look like?



Signifies that the DJ is licensed for CD-Rs.

“HD” would signify the DJ is licensed to copy onto a computer Hard Drive

AVLA corporate seal

Must indicate current year.

DJ must display the original licence, not a photocopy.





We appreciate that music plays a vital role at any event. AVLA and its member record companies are pleased to be able to offer the convenience of blanket licensing of sound recordings for use in business at reasonable rates.

For more information contact:

AVLA
Audio-Video Licensing Agency Inc.

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Toronto, ON M6K 3E3
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Fax: (416) 967-9415
e-mail: info@avla.ca

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