Anti-Piracy Enforcement

Cambridge University Press has a zero tolerance policy on the unauthorised distribution of its copyrighted material, otherwise known as piracy. Unlicensed copying not only threatens the Cambridge brand, it jeopardises our mission to further the dissemination of knowledge, learning and research worldwide. We have many measures in place tackle piracy quickly and effectively and we are continually improving the ways in which we protect the intellectual property rights that together form the foundation of our publishing.

Types of piracy
Illegal sharing of copyrighted material comes in many forms. While many infringements appear online, we also take action against the illegal copying and distribution of physical counterfeit products in our key territories.

Proactive anti-piracy strategy
Cambridge uses an automated online anti-piracy tool to trawl the internet and seek out and request immediate removal of illegal digital copies of our content. In addition, our team proactively searches for infringing sites and content online and issues takedown notices to site owners and hosts. We also review infringements brought to our attention by the business, issue ‘cease and desist’ notices and liaise with local authorities where relevant. Cambridge has excellent and long-established links with industry associations around the world and is at the forefront of working groups tackling key piracy issues.

How successful is our anti-piracy strategy?
We have seen our success rate in removing unauthorised files from infringing websites grow exponentially in recent years, into the tens of thousands. We currently estimate an approximate 90% takedown success rate from the notices we serve.

Despite our best efforts, take down notices are not always successful. In such instances, we can make a “de-listing” request to Google to have the URL removed permanently from their search engine, thereby reducing the visibility of the infringing content.

How you can help
If you suspect that Cambridge University Press material is being made available illegally in any format, please report it to us at piracy@cambridge.org.

Avoid clicking on any links; send them directly to us for assessment as they may not be safe and could contain malware.

To help us prevent unlawful distribution, please only share electronic copies of your published work according to our Open Access guidelines.

For more information, contact piracy@cambridge.org.