

Entertainment and the Licensing Act 2003

Although the provision of regulated entertainment is licensable under the Licensing Act 2003, various changes to legislation have removed the licensing requirement from *some* forms of entertainment in *certain circumstances*.

What is licensable?

The following activities generally require a licence when they are provided for the purpose of entertaining an audience:

- Performance of a Play
- Exhibition of a Film
- Indoor Sporting Event
- Boxing or Wrestling
- Performance of Live Music
- Playing of Recorded Music
- Performance of Dance
- Any entertainment of a similar description

Facilities for entertainment previously had to be licensed prior to October 2012. You may still see these authorised on your licence if it has not been amended but they are no longer relevant to licensing.

In what circumstances do I not require a licence?

- Performance of a Play

No licence is required for theatrical performances in community premises between 08.00am and 11.00pm for audiences up to 500 people.

Rehearsals for private audiences where no charge is made with a view to making a profit are not licensable.

- Exhibition of a Film

No licence is required for "not-for-profit" exhibition of films in community premises between 08.00am and 11.00pm for audiences up to 500 people.

The showing of films for educational purposes, in museums/art galleries, for information or advertising purposes is not licensable. Live television broadcasts are also not licensable.

The exhibition of film where it is incidental to some other activity is not licensable.

- Indoor Sporting Event

No licence is required for indoor sporting events between 08.00am and 11.00pm for audiences up to 1000 people.

Games played in pubs, youth clubs etc. (e.g. pool, darts etc.) are not licensable.

- Boxing or Wrestling

Greco-Roman and freestyle forms of wrestling are not licensable providing it takes place between 08.00am and 11.00pm for audiences up to 1000 people inside a building where the spectators present are accommodated wholly inside that building.

All other types of boxing and wrestling and combined fighting sports remain licensable at all times.

- Performance of Live Music

Amplified live music does not require a licence between 08.00am and 11.00pm provided that it takes place in premises authorised and open for the sale of alcohol for consumption ON the premises for audiences up to 500 people. This can apply to beer gardens and terraces provided they are included in the licensed premises.

Amplified live music is also permitted between 08.00am and 11.00pm in a workplace that is not licensed to sell alcohol on those premises, provided that the audience does not exceed 500.

Unamplified live music does not need a licence anywhere between 08.00 to 23.00 regardless of the number of people in the audience.

- Playing of Recorded Music

No licence is required for any playing of recorded music between 08.00am and 11.00pm provided that it takes place in premises authorised and open for the sale of alcohol for consumption ON the premises for audiences up to 500 people.

Incidental and low level background music is exempt.

Recorded music is also exempt between 08.00am and 11.00pm in church halls / village halls / community halls or other similar premises provided the audience does not exceed 500. Other exemptions apply to schools, local authorities and hospitals – please contact us for further information.

- Performance of Dance

No licence is required for dance performances in community premises between 08.00am and 11.00pm for audiences up to 500 people.

Morris dancing is not licensable at any time.

Note:

None of the exemptions affect the need to apply for copyright licensing or the requirement not to cause a noise nuisance.

Contact:

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Corporation Street
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