

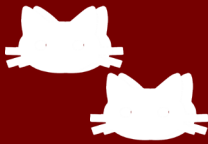
THE THIRTEEN

TYPES OF PLAGIARISM

IN ORDER OF HOW SERIOUS THE OFFENSE



IDENTITY



COPYCAT



CHERRY-PICK



MITOSIS



RECYCLE



REMIX



GHOST CITA-



HALF-N-HALF



WARP



MOSAIC



REFLECTION



MISCUE



plagiarism

[pley-juh-riz-uh m]

noun

1. an act or instance of using or closely imitating the language and thoughts of another author without authorization and the representation of that author's work as one's own, as by not crediting the original author.
2. a piece of writing or other work reflecting such unauthorized use or imitation.

WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

You can see Dictionary.com's definition on the previously page, but the term "plagiarism" generally refers to when a person takes someone else's work and then takes credit for it, as if it's their own. While that may seem fairly straightforward, there are varying degrees of seriousness in copying someone else's work. All forms of plagiarism should be avoided, no matter what, but it's helpful to understand the many ways where you might go awry if you don't give proper credit where credit is due. Follow this chart—which goes from most severe to least severe forms of plagiarism—to make sure you don't make these mistakes.

WHY SHOULD I AVOID PLAGIARIZING?

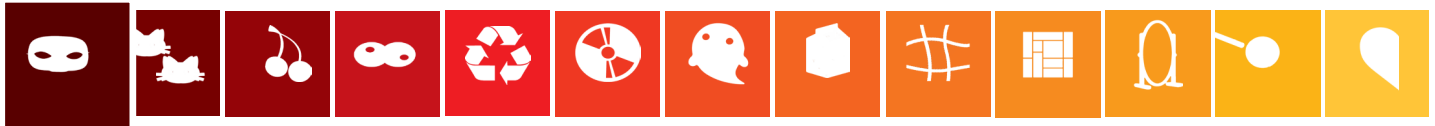
In short, because it's deceptive and dishonest. Even honest mistakes (like forgetting to cite a source) are problematic because they *appear* like you were trying to be deceptive and because they still take credit where credit isn't due. When you take credit for someone else's work, you're not giving them proper recognition for the time, effort, and creativity they spent into creating something. Just as you would likely not appreciate it if someone took credit for the work you did, it's unethical to assume it's okay if you do it to them. In many ways, plagiarism is just like stealing, only with intellectual property instead of physical property.

In addition, it's fairly easy to track if you have plagiarized. That's not a reason in and of itself to not plagiarize, but it draws attention to the fact that plagiarizing will rarely go in your favor. Most schools and organizations take plagiarizing very seriously and you may face failing a project or course or even expulsion from an organization if caught.

IDENTITY THEFT



When you copy, steal, or purchase an entire document that someone else wrote and you claim it as your own. You are essentially disguising yourself as another person and lying about what you created. This is the most severe form of plagiarism.



PLAGIARISM SEVERITY METER

WHY IT'S PLAGIARISM

Using someone else's work and claiming it as your own is the very definition of plagiarism. When you deliberately use someone else's work and claim it to be your own, original work, you are being blatantly dishonest.

HOW TO AVOID IT

While this is the most severe form of plagiarism, it is also the easiest to avoid. Do not ever purchase, steal, or copy a document and put your name on it.