

## D.R.M.



### Digital Rights Management (DRM)



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## DRM



DRM is used to restrict the ability to make copies of electronic media such as music, films, software and games.



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## DRM



Until recently, almost all music which could be purchased and downloaded via the internet was protected by DRM.



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## DRM



The DRM protected music could be sold, downloaded and played on a set number of computers and/portable devices.



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## DRM



When DVDs were launched, they included an encryption scheme called the 'Content Scrambling System' which prevented users from making digital copies of films from the disc.



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When the game Spore was first released, DRM limited users to only three installations of the game.



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How does DRM work?

DRM relies on encryption to protect the content itself.

Authentication systems then ensure that only authorised users can unlock the protected files



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When applied, DRM scrambles the data in a file rendering it unreadable to anyone without the appropriate unlocking key.



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Authentication systems stand between users and the decryption keys, ensuring that only people with the proper permissions can obtain a decryption key.



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Without a username and password or if a file has been decrypted too many times, the system will not provide a key.



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Thus, music files with DRM can be swapped over the internet and remain unusable to anyone who has not paid for them.



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Information adapted from: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/6337781.stm>

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