A **MEDLEY** is a type of composite musical work comprised of the *continuous and sequential* combination of preexisting musical works or excerpts from preexisting musical works.

A medley is considered a new musical work that is separate and distinct from its component preexisting musical works. As such, a medley work requires its own works registration with The MLC. This allows The MLC to match the medley work registration to uses of sound recordings featuring the medley work that are reported by DSPs to The MLC.

---

**GUIDELINES FOR REGISTERING MEDLEY WORKS**

**For medleys you have approved**

**Work Registration and Claiming:**

- Use The MLC’s Claiming Tool to see if the medley work has already been registered but not fully claimed. If the medley work exists in the database, use the Claiming Tool to claim your share of the medley work.

- If the medley work has not already been registered, use The MLC’s Registration Tools to create a new work registration for the medley work and claim your share of the medley work. *Also see the section on the next page regarding Medley Titles.*

- The shares claimed by each individual Member should reflect the shares agreed upon by all of the rightsholders with an interest in any of the component musical works included in the medley work.

- As you would with any works registration, provide as much data as possible about the medley work (title, writer names, IPIs, ISWC) and the related sound recordings that feature the medley work (title, artist name, ISRC).

- If you believe another rightsholder has claimed the wrong share of the medley work, you may contact The MLC to initiate an ownership dispute in accordance with The MLC’s Ownership Dispute Policy [found on our website](https://themlc.com).

**Matching to Sound Recordings:**

- Use The MLC’s Matching Tool to identify any unmatched medley sound recordings that feature the medley work.

- MLC cannot match a medley recording to your composition if the medley also includes a composition, or compositions, that you do not control.
**What if I find a medley I have NOT approved?**

If you have not approved the use of your work in a medley work and you want to stop that medley work from being distributed, you should notify the sound recording owner and any DSP(s) distributing the unapproved medley work. Please also contact The MLC Support Team to let us know so that we can address any uses of the medley work that were previously reported to The MLC.

**MEDLEY TITLES**

The title of a medley should be determined by the rightsholders of its component preexisting musical works. Although there are several common approaches to naming medley works (see chart below), The MLC recommends that rightsholders give their medley works the same title used for the corresponding sound recording(s) that feature the medley. This helps ensure that uses of the medley sound recording(s) can be matched properly to the related medley musical works registration.

### RECOMMENDED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sound Recording: Red / White / Blue</th>
<th>Medley Work: Red / White / Blue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The MLC recommends this approach because the titles are the same which helps ensure that uses of the medley sound recording can be matched properly to the related medley musical works registration.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOT RECOMMENDED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sound Recording: Red / White / Blue</th>
<th>Medley Work: Patriotic Colors Medley</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The MLC does NOT recommend this approach because the titles are not the same which reduces the chances that uses of the related medley sound recording will be matched properly to the related medley works registration, and it also makes it difficult for rightsholders of the pre-existing musical works in the medley to know that the medley includes their works.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE TO SOUND RECORDING OWNERS AND DSPs**

A medley work is also considered a derivative work under copyright law. As such, the creation and distribution of a medley work requires the approval of ALL rightsholders of each of the preexisting musical works included in the medley. Only approved medleys are eligible for the compulsory blanket license established by 17 U.S.C. § 115 that The MLC administers.