AI Video Copyright Safety Checklist

What Timeline AI's commercial rights do and do not cover, the risk tier of every media type, and the pre-publish checks that keep a channel safe.

The One Rule

Commercial rights let you sell videos you make with the tool. They do NOT transfer anyone else's copyright to you. A clip's owner can still claim it — the tool's license and the footage's license are two different things.

Media Type Risk Tiers

- Stock footage and stock images from licensed libraries: LOWEST risk — this is what they are licensed for.
- AI-generated images and AI video clips: LOW risk — generated for you, though platforms may label AI content.
- Your own uploads (screen recordings, product shots, your footage): NO third-party risk.
- Website scrolls and screenshots: LOW–MEDIUM — fine for commentary/review contexts, keep them brief and transformative.
- YouTube clips from other channels: MEDIUM–HIGH — Content ID matches are automatic; commentary use helps but does not immunise you.
- Movie and TV clips: HIGHEST — studios claim aggressively. Use seconds, with commentary, or not at all.

Pre-Publish Checklist

- I know which of the 10 media types this video uses, and the risk tier of each
- No clip runs longer than the commentary genuinely needs
- My commercial rights cover MY use of the tool — I am not assuming they license third-party footage (they do not)
- Music, if any, is from a library I am licensed for
- I kept the project file and sources list, so a claim can be answered with evidence
- If a claim arrives: check it is a claim (not a strike), dispute with my commentary rationale, and log it — claims on review-style content are routinely released

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