

you may use the content in your PLOS paper provided that you give proper attribution, a

If the content was published under a more restrictive license, you must ascertain what rights you have under that license. At a minimum, review the license to make sure you can use the content in your PLOS paper. If you have any questions about the license terms – PLOS staff cannot give you advice about your rights to use third-party content. If the license does not permit you to use the content that will be covered by an unrestricted license, you must obtain written permission from the publisher of the content in your PLOS paper. Please do not include any content in your PLOS paper that you do not have rights to use, and always give proper attribution.

Maps

Any maps included or created as part of a figure must use a basemap tile, shapefile, or image with our CC BY 4.0 license. The basemap refers to the foundational geographic layer of data (including country boundaries, for example) onto which other layers of data are plotted. Satellite images may also be used as basemaps.

If your submission file inventory includes a map, we will ask you to provide a direct link to the basemap and provide attribution to this source in the corresponding figure legend. We will also provide information regarding the terms of use or license information for the map.

If you created the map in a software program like R or ArcGIS, please locate the source of the data within the package used to generate the map.

Several sources provide map data and shapefiles within the public domain or with open licenses:

- › U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) - (<http://www.usgs.gov>)
- › Natural Earth - (<http://www.naturalearthdata.com/about/terms-of-use/>)
- › OpenStreetMap - (<https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright>)
- › CIA Factbook - ([Maps - The World Factbook](#))

As with all content, we ask that authors respect map providers' requirements for attribution.

Removal of Content Used Without Clear Rights

PLOS reserves the right to remove any photos, captures, images, figures, tables, illustrations, audio files, video files, or other confidential or proprietary content, from any article, whether before or after publication, if concerns are raised about copyright, license, or permissions and the authors are unable to provide documentation confirming that appropriate permissions were obtained for publication of the content in question under a CC BY 4.0 license.

Trademarks and Symbols

Please note that we cannot publish copyright symbols such as ©, ®, or ™. We are also unable to publish logos or other brand-related content.

Acceptable Licenses for Data Repositories

If any relevant accompanying data is submitted to repositories with stated licensing policies, the license should not be more restrictive than CC BY 4.0.

Giving Proper Attribution for Use of Content

When citing a PLOS research article, use the “Vancouver style”, as outlined in our [Submissions Guide](#). For example:

Kaltenbach LS et al. (2007) Huntingtin Interacting Proteins Are Genetic Modifiers of Neurodegeneration. *Genet* 3(5): e82. doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.0030082.

When citing non-article content from a PLOS website (e.g., blog content), provide a link to the content.

cite the title and author(s) of that content.

For examples of proper attribution to other types of content, see websites such as [Open](#)