

Name _____

How Do Musical Artists Earn Royalties?

Did you know that whenever you listen to your favorite song, the musician who made that song gets paid? They earn something called "royalties". Royalties are a type of payment that artists receive each time their music is played or purchased. It's like their way of getting a thank you every time someone enjoys their music.



There are many ways a musician can earn royalties. The first way is through the sale of their music. When you buy a song from an online store like iTunes, or a physical album from a store, the artist earns a portion of that money. They also earn when their music is streamed on platforms like Spotify or Apple Music. Every time you hit the play button on a song, a tiny bit of money goes to the artist.

Another way musicians earn royalties is through radio plays. When a radio station plays their song, they get paid. Radio stations keep track of how many times they play each song, and then they send a payment to the artist.

Musicians can also earn royalties when their music is used in movies or TV shows. This is known as a synchronization royalty. Every time a TV show or a movie uses an artist's song, the artist gets paid. They can also earn from performances. If their music is played in a concert or a live show, even if they are not the ones performing it, they get a payment too.

Royalties are a very important income source for musicians. They allow artists to continue making music even if they aren't selling out big concerts or getting millions of views on their music videos. So, next time you listen to your favorite song, remember that you are not just enjoying the music, but also supporting the artist who created it.

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Reading Comprehension Questions

1. What are royalties?
2. Name two online platforms mentioned in the passage where musicians earn royalties when their music is streamed.
3. How do musicians earn royalties from radio stations?
4. What is a synchronization royalty?
5. How does an artist earn royalties from a concert or a live show?