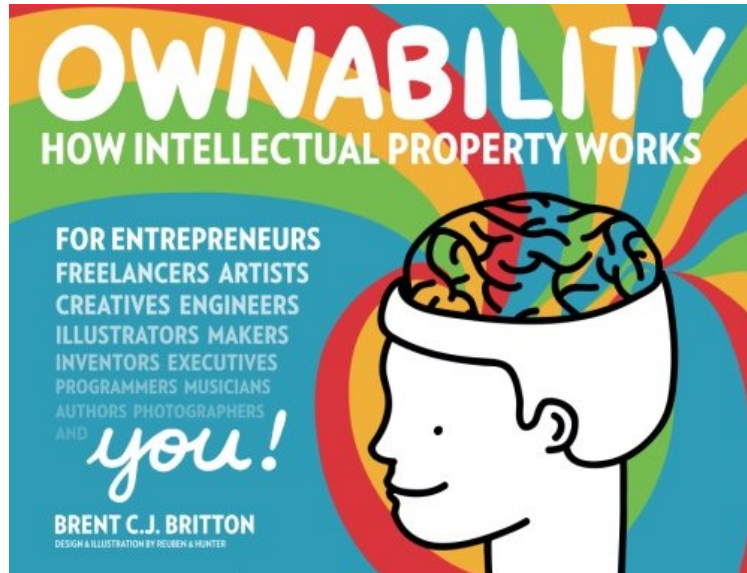


Ownability: How Intellectual Property Works

Brent C.J. Britton

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When you create, design, or invent things, the rules of intellectual property (IP) determine who owns your creations and whether or not you can prevent other people from copying them. If you work in a creative or innovative field, you should know enough about IP to make intelligent decisions about your job or business. You should understand the ownability of your own ability. This book provides a working understanding of the four primary forms of IP: patents, copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets. You will learn what these forms of IP protect, how to obtain them, and how to avoid having them used against you by others. Intellectual property is a complex subject; expertise in the field requires years of study and practice. By necessity, then, I have significantly simplified this material. This book will not prepare you to take the patent bar exam, but it will help you understand how IP can affect your life for better and for worse.

About the Author A Silicon Valley veteran, Britton has been practicing Intellectual Property law since the early 1990s for entrepreneurs, engineers, artists, and companies both large and small. As the only graduate of the MIT Media Laboratory to become a lawyer, Britton is uniquely skilled in both the art and science of intellectual property. Alongside his masters degree from MIT, Britton holds a Juris Doctor from the Boston University School of Law, and a bachelors degree in computer science from the University of Maine. A prolific writer and speaker, Britton published his first digital works on the internet in 1984.