

The Plagiarism Spectrum:

Tagging Ten Types of Unoriginal Work

The Plagiarism Spectrum identifies 10 types of plagiarism based on findings from a worldwide survey of nearly 900 secondary and higher education instructors. Each type has been tagged with an easy to remember digital moniker, defined, ranked by severity (#1-10), and scored by frequency of appearance (1=least, 10=most).

SEVERITY

FREQUENCY

Rank	Icon	Type	Definition	Frequency Score
#1		Clone	Submitting another's work, word-for-word, as one's own	9.5
#2		CTRL-C	Containing significant portions of text from a single source without alterations	8.9
#3		Find - Replace	Changing key words and phrases but retaining the essential content of the source	3.9
#4		Remix	Mixing paraphrased material from multiple sources	5.6
#5		Recycle	Borrowing generously from one's previous work without citation	5.5
#6		Hybrid	Combining perfectly cited sources with copied passages without citation	.5
#7		Mashup	Mixing copied material from multiple sources	9.1
#8		404 Error	Citing non-existent sources or including inaccurate information about sources	.6
#9		RSS Feed	Including proper citation of sources but containing almost no original work	2.8
#10		Re-tweet	Including proper citation but relying too closely on the text's original wording and/or structure	4.4

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