



Registered Designs Act 1949

1949 CHAPTER 88 12 13 and 14 Geo 6

Supplemental

44 Interpretation.

- (1) In this Act, except where the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned by them, that is to say

^{F1}
...
^{F2}
...
^{F2}
...

“assignee” includes the personal representative of a deceased assignee, and references to the assignee of any person include references to the assignee of the personal representative or assignee of that person;

[^{F3} “author” in relation to a design, has the meaning given by section 2(3) and (4);]

^{F4}
...
^{F2}
...

[^{F5} “the court” shall be construed in accordance with section 27 of this Act;]

^{F6}
...

[^{F7} “complex product” has the meaning assigned to it by section 1(3) of this Act;]

“design” has the meaning assigned to it by [^{F8} [^{F9} section 1(2)] of this Act];

[^{F10} “electronic communication” has the same meaning as in the Electronic Communications Act 2000;]

[^{F11} “employee”, “employment”, and “employer” refer to employment under a contract of service or of apprenticeship,]

[^{F7} “national unregistered design right” means design right within the meaning of Part III of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988;]

^{F12}
...

“prescribed” means prescribed by rules made by [^{F13} the Secretary of State] under this Act;

Changes to legislation: Registered Designs Act 1949, Section 44 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

[^{F7}“product” has the meaning assigned to it by section 1(3) of this Act;]
“proprietor” has the meaning assigned to it by section two of this Act;

^{F6}
...

“registered proprietor” means the person or persons for the time being entered in the register of designs as proprietor of the design;

“registrar” means the Comptroller-General of Patents Designs and Trade Marks;

^{F2}
...

^{F14}(2)

^{F14}(3)

(4) For the purposes of subsection (1) of [^{F15}section 14 of this Act], the expression “personal representative”, in relation to a deceased person, includes the legal representative of the deceased appointed in any country outside the United Kingdom.

Subordinate Legislation Made

P1 S. 44: power previously exercised by 1989/1105, 1131 and 1990/1698

P2 S. 44(1): s. 36 (with ss. 40 and 44(1)) power exercised by [S.I. 1991/1628](#)

Textual Amendments

F1 S. 44(1): definition of “Appeal Tribunal” omitted (6.4.2015) by virtue of [Intellectual Property Act 2014 \(c. 18\)](#), [ss. 10\(6\)](#), 24(1); [S.I. 2015/165](#), art. 3

F2 S. 44: definitions of “article”, “artistic work”, “corresponding design” and “set of articles” repealed (9.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/3949](#), reg. 9(2), [Sch. 2](#) (with transitional provisions in [regs. 10-14](#))

F3 Definition inserted by [Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 \(c. 48, SIF 67A\)](#), s. 272, [Sch. 3 para. 31\(3\)](#)

F4 Definition of “copyright” repealed by [Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 \(c. 48, SIF 67A\)](#), ss. 272, 303(2), [Sch. 3 para. 31\(4\)](#), [Sch. 8](#)

F5 Definition substituted by [Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 \(c. 48, SIF 67A\)](#), s. 272, [Sch. 3 para. 31\(6\)](#)

F6 Words in s. 44(1) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Designs and International Trade Marks \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/638\)](#), reg. 1, [Sch. 8 para. 10](#); 2020 c. 1, [Sch. 5 para. 1\(1\)](#)

F7 S. 44(1): definitions of “complex product”, “national unregistered design right” and “product” inserted (9.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/3949](#), reg. 9(1), [Sch. 1 para. 14\(3\)](#) (with transitional provisions in [regs. 10-14](#))

F8 Words substituted by [Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 \(c. 48, SIF 67A\)](#), s. 272, [Sch. 3 para. 31\(7\)](#)

F9 S. 44(1): words in the definition of “design” substituted (9.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/3949](#), reg. 9(1), [Sch. 1 para. 14\(2\)](#) (with transitional provisions in [regs. 10-14](#))

F10 Words in s. 44(1) inserted (1.10.2006) by [Registered Designs Act 1949 and Patents Act 1977 \(Electronic Communications\) Order 2006 \(S.I. 2006/1229\)](#), arts. 1, 3

F11 Definition inserted by [Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 \(c. 48, SIF 67A\)](#), s. 272, [Sch. 3 para. 31\(8\)](#)

F12 Definition of “Journal” repealed by [Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 \(c. 48, SIF 67A\)](#), ss. 272, 303(2), [Sch. 3 para. 31\(9\)](#), [Sch. 8](#)

F13 Words substituted by [Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 \(c. 48, SIF 67A\)](#), s. 272, [Sch. 3 para. 31\(10\)](#)

Changes to legislation: Registered Designs Act 1949, Section 44 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

- F14** S. 44(2)(3) repealed (9.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/3949](#), [reg. 9\(2\)](#), [Sch. 2](#) (with transitional provisions in [regs. 10-14](#))
- F15** Words in s. 44(4) substituted (9.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/3949](#), [reg. 9\(1\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 14\(4\)](#) (with transitional provisions in [regs. 10-14](#))

Changes to legislation:

Registered Designs Act 1949, Section 44 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 44(1) words repealed by [2007 c. 15 Sch. 23 Pt. 6](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Words already repealed (6.4.2015) by 2014 c. 18, s. 10(4); S.I. 2015/165, art. 3)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 22(1)(aa) and word inserted by [2014 c. 18 s. 9\(2\)](#)
- s. 22(5) inserted by [2014 c. 18 s. 9\(4\)](#)
- s. 22(6)(7) inserted by [2014 c. 18 s. 9\(5\)](#)