Subject: Copyrights, trademarks and patents
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 06 Oct 2005 22:09:36 GMT
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Just a slight clarification, for anyone that might come across this thread and become confused. Copyrights do not protect words or names. They collect the expression of works, like written articles, painted pictures, photographs, schematics, etc. They do not protect ideas, just the body of the document. They also do not protect product names. Trademarks protect logos and product names, and they are actually there to protect the public, not the trademark holder. The infringing trademark is one that might be confused by the public, and they might think they are buying a genuine branded product when in fact they are buying one that is confusingly similar. Patents protect ideas, but they cannot be nebulous ideas, they must be proven by a working prototype. Patents protect machines, processes, drugs and other technologies.