Subject: Re: Buying Music You Outright Own
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sun, 06 Aug 2017 16:39:28 GMT
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No, nothing has changed since recordings have started being made digitally. The ownership of copyrighted material is still held by the author, or if paid for, by the employer.

When you are sold a copy of a recorded work, what you are actually being sold is the media and packaging and the permission to make lawful personal use of the material. If there is no media - like a digital download - then you are only being sold the permission for use. You can store it, play it or make archival copies of it, but only for your personal use.

Your "ownership" is sort of like a one-seat transferable license, so that means you can sell it or give it away if you want. But if you buy one copy, you can only sell or give away one copy. And when you do, you can't retain a copy.