



**Pure Energy Music**

# Music Licensing Guide for UK Gyms

## Why licensing matters

Playing music in your gym — in classes, on the gym floor, or in communal areas — **is classed as a public performance and requires a licence.**

### The different types of **licences**

#### **Core Licence:**

covers **background music** anywhere members can hear it (gym floor, reception, changing rooms, etc)

#### **Bolt-On Licence:**

required for group exercise, instructor-led, or virtual classes

Together these form TheMusicLicence from PPLPRS —  
**the standard licence all UK gyms need to stay compliant when playing music registered with PPLPRS.**

**Not licensed? You could **face backdated fees, fines, or legal action.****  
Enforcement is ramping up, and penalties can be severe.



#### **Real-world example:**

A facility running around 200 classes per month should pay £12,931.20 per year (incl. VAT) for TheMusicLicence from PPLPRS. If you're unlicensed, **you risk backdating up to 6 years plus a 50% surcharge on unpaid fees.**







### 3 Common Pitfalls

- Using platforms such as Spotify/Apple Music/YouTube. These platforms are not licensed for commercial use. Even if you're using so-called 'licence-free' music on these platforms, they can't give you any guarantee or warranty to protect you against a PPLPRS claim
- Online classes change your licensing needs — gyms must review their coverage for livestream + on-demand classes
- Inconsistent licence management across sites/instructors leaves gym owners open to the risk of large fines and closures



### 3 Risks Of Non-Compliance

- **Financial:** Backdated fees + 50% surcharge, legal fees, court orders
- **Operational:** Injunctions can force you to stop playing music
- **Reputational:** Legal action erodes member + partner trust

**TheMusicLicence IS ENFORCEABLE BY LAW.**



### 3 Step Compliance Checklist

- Map where music is used in your facility: studios — gym floor — reception — online
- Confirm you hold the correct music licence for each site and make sure all staff are aware of your music policy. For example, a background music licence can't be used for group exercise or any instructor-led exercise classes. If you don't hold a PPLPRS licence, but your instructors play music anywhere in your facility where a licence is required, it won't be the instructor who gets fined — it will be your facility
- Consider rights-included services like Pure Energy Music to simplify compliance + reduce risk

**A better and simpler  
alternative**





# Pure Energy Music

## The Ultimate Fitness Music App

UK gyms can use a **rights-included service like Pure Energy Music** — delivering music programmed for fitness and removing the need for PPL and PRS licences altogether.

### When **rights-included** just makes sense

A rights-included provider designed for fitness like **Pure Energy Music** bundles usage rights into the subscription. This **removes the need for a PPLPRS licence** for that content, and it enables brand-consistency along with interruption-free playback.

A Pure Energy Music subscription can be used to soundtrack part of your gyms timetable alongside PPLPRS registered classes – **acting as a hybrid solution that saves money.**



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