



## Napster gets a legal defeat

Napster (the MP3 music online sharing site) received a severe legal blow yesterday. As covered in this [AP article](#), the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that Napster "must somehow stop the millions of people who use it as a clearinghouse to swap copyrighted music without charge and without restriction. The court sent the case back to a trial judge, asking her to rewrite an injunction so it allows Napster to survive if it is able to patrol its network for copyright infringement — something its own lawyers have said is virtually impossible.

Napster has said it plans to start charging subscription fees by summer (although what they may be able to serve is now unclear). Bertelsmann AG insists it will continue to support Napster financially."

As of this morning, we could still access files via Napster, but don't count on this lasting for long.