



**Topline Report** - BusinessWeek Research Services Survey  
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These are some of the results of a nationwide Business Software Alliance study about downloading within the workplace. The study was conducted by BusinessWeek Research Services.

File-Sharing and Hiring Decisions

The vast majority of Managers (86%) say that applicants' file-sharing attitudes and behaviors have an impact on their hiring decisions.

About one-third of Managers say that:

- If they company knew that a job applicant had lax attitudes toward illegal file-sharing in the work place, they would probably (23%) or definitely (6%) reject the candidate (total of 29%).
- If a company knew that a job applicant had improperly obtained or shared files in the past, they would probably (24%) or definitely (10%) reject the candidate (total of 34%).

Workplace Consequences

Managers say that, if someone was caught improperly obtaining or sharing copyrighted files at work, the person would probably experience the following kinds of consequences:

- They would be disciplined or reprimanded (62%)
- **They would be fired (18%)**
- Two in ten managers (19%) are not sure what the consequences would be.
- They'd be put on probation (14% of hiring managers and 16% of supervisors)
- Nothing would probably happen to them (8%)
- They'd have to pay a fine, or have other legal problems (3%)

Workplace Behavior

A sizable minority of recent college graduates (22%) download or copy various kinds of copyrighted files at work (or on their work computers) without paying for the files, including:

- **Business Software (12% of all recent graduates);**
- Music (11%);
- Movies/Video (5%); and
- Games (3%)

Methodology: The online survey was conducted within the United States between February 16 and March 10, 2006 among a nationwide cross section of 954 corporate managers who hire or supervise recent college graduates, and 523 people who graduated from college within the past five years. In theory, with probability samples of this size, one can say with 95 percent certainty that the overall results have a sampling error of plus or minus four percentage points.

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**About BSA**

The Business Software Alliance ([www.bsa.org](http://www.bsa.org)) is the foremost organization dedicated to promoting a safe and legal digital world. BSA is the voice of the world's commercial software industry and its hardware partners before governments and in the international marketplace. Its members represent one of the fastest growing industries in the world.

BSA programs foster technology innovation through education and policy initiatives that promote copyright protection, cyber security, trade and e-commerce. BSA members include Adobe, Apple, Autodesk, Avid, Bentley Systems, Borland, CNC Software/Mastercam, Internet Security Systems, McAfee, Microsoft, PTC, SolidWorks, Sybase, Symantec, The MathWorks, and UGS.

**About BusinessWeek Research Services**

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