

[LimeWire](#) , one of the world's most popular peer-to-peer filesharing websites, has been shut down after a four-year legal battle with the US music industry!!!

Limewire has been one of the most popular, efficient and easy to use file sharing methods basically since the internet started. It appears that they are a victim of their own success and to our knowledge this is the first time a file sharing service has been forced to shut down.

A federal court in New York issued a ["permanent injunction" against LimeWire](#) late on Tuesday, ruling that the platform intentionally caused a "massive scale of infringement" by permitting the sharing of thousands of copyrighted works by its 50 million monthly users. Founded in 2000 by Mark Gorton, a former Wall Street trader,

[LimeWire](#)

is now restricted from allowing the searching and sharing of copyrighted material. The website will continue "working with the music industry to move forward", a LimeWire spokeswoman confirmed.

The judge stated "Using its best efforts," Wood wrote, "Lime Wire shall use all reasonable technological means to immediately cease and desist the current infringement of the Copyrighted Works by Legacy users through the LimeWire System and Software and to prevent and inhibit future infringement of copyright works."

A Limewire spokesperson said in a statement. "While this is not our ideal path, we hope to work with the music industry in moving forward,. We look forward to embracing necessary changes and collaborating with the entire music industry in the future."

Is this the beginning of the end of free file sharing? We will see, for now at least there are alternatives to Limewire some are listed below:

[FrostWire](#)

Open Source by Frostwire | WindowsLinuxMac

[eMule](#)

Open Source by Merkur & eMule-Team | Windows

[BearShare](#)

Free by Musiclab, LLC | Windows