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 USPTO Services

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Sticking to it

Co-inventor of Post-it Notes Art Fry solves common problems in unexpected ways.

What is Intellectual Property?

Intellectual property (IP) is a legal term for any creative work that can be protected, such as inventions, literary works, artistic works, designs, symbols, names, images, and computer code.

USPTO Services

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) offers a variety of services, including:

Granting patents: The USPTO is responsible for granting patents in the United States.

Registering trademarks: The USPTO registers trademarks in the United States.

Trademark classes: The USPTO uses the Nice Classification of Goods and Services, which is a standard used by most countries for trademark registration.

Research resources: The USPTO website provides resources for researching patents and trademarks, including information on:

Searching for patents

Fees

Filing

Finding registered patent attorneys and agents

Trademark ID Manual: The USPTO provides a Trademark ID Manual to help applicants identify and classify their goods and services.

Trademark Electronic Search System (TESS): The USPTO's TESS allows users to search for existing trademarks.

Online portal: The USPTO works with ID.me to verify users accessing their online portal.

The USPTO also requires that a desired name, logo, or slogan be used in interstate commerce before it can be awarded trademark rights.

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Intellectual property (IP) is a legal term for creations of the mind, such as inventions, designs, artistic works, and symbols. It also includes names and images used by businesses. IP rights protect the creators of IP from others who might profit from their creations without permission. IP rights can also help businesses earn back their investment in developing a product or their company's reputation. Examples of IP include: patents, trademarks, registered designs, copyright, geographical indications, and trade secrets. To protect IP, businesses can take steps like restricting access to important information. They can also take legal action to stop unauthorized disclosure and seek damages.

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