

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910791682203321
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Titolo	In praise of copying [[electronic resource] /] / Marcus Boon
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, 2010
ISBN	0-674-26217-4 0-674-05842-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (304 p.)
Disciplina	153
Soggetti	Copying Philosophical anthropology Mahayana Buddhism - Doctrines
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Introduction -- 1/ What Is a Copy? -- 2/ Copia, or, The Abundant Style -- 3/ Copying as Transformation -- 4/ Copying as Deception -- 5/ Montage -- 6/ The Mass Production of Copies -- 7/ Copying as Appropriation -- Coda -- Notes -- Acknowledgments -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	German critic Walter Benjamin wrote some immensely influential words on the work of art in the age of mechanical reproduction. Luxury fashion houses would say something shorter and sharper and much more legally binding on the rip-off merchants who fake their products. Marcus Boon, a Canadian English professor with an accessible turn of phrase, takes us on an erudite voyage through the theme in a serious but engaging encounter with the ideas of thinkers as varied as Plato, Hegel, Orson Welles, Benjamin, Heidegger, Louis Vuitton, Takashi Murakami and many more, on topics as philosophically taxing and pop-culture-light as mimesis, Christianity, capitalism, authenticity, Uma Thurman's handbag and Disneyland.