

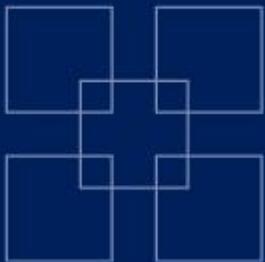


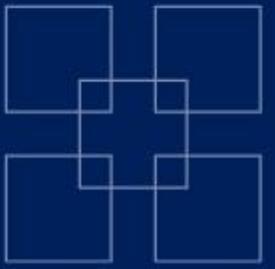
# Summer of IP: Becoming a Chartered Trade Mark Attorney

April Parker

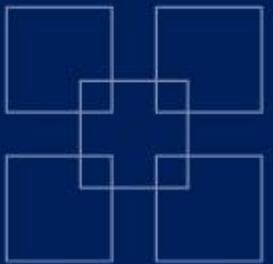
Trainee Trade Mark Attorney

Bird & Bird LLP





# Introduction



## A bit about myself...

- Law LLB Graduate (2018-2021), University of Sheffield.
- Discovered IP through a mentoring scheme at university and consequently, set up a legal blog with a focus on IP and commercial law (According To A Law Student (ATALS)).
- Why did I choose the Trade Mark Attorney route?
- Joined Bird & Bird LLP in December 2023 as a Trainee Trade Mark Attorney.

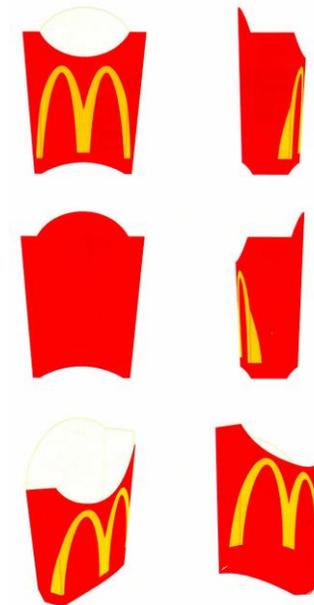
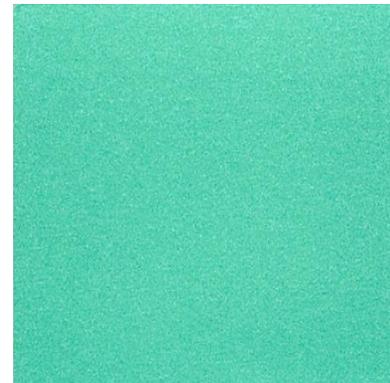
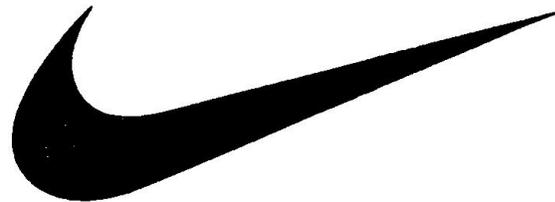
## A bit about CITMA...

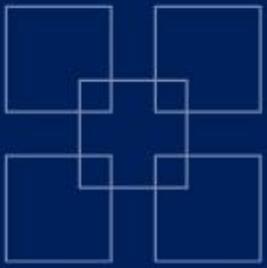
- Responsible for the regulation of the trade mark attorney profession.
- Membership includes:
  - Chartered Trade Mark Attorneys
  - Trainee Trade Mark Attorneys
  - Administrators / Paralegals
  - Barristers and Solicitors with a trade mark / design interest
- Seeks to influence authorities (UK and overseas) to ensure that trade mark and design protection systems work for the benefit of owners and users of the system.
- Maintains relationships with UK government and other international organisations (e.g. EUIPO, WIPO etc.)
- Provides educational and networking opportunities.

# What is a trade mark?

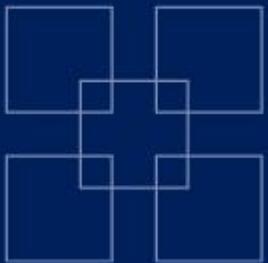
- Type of intellectual property right which allows consumers to distinguish a brand's products and services from its competitors.
- Badge of origin.
- Can take place in various forms (traditional vs non-traditional marks).

FACEBOOK

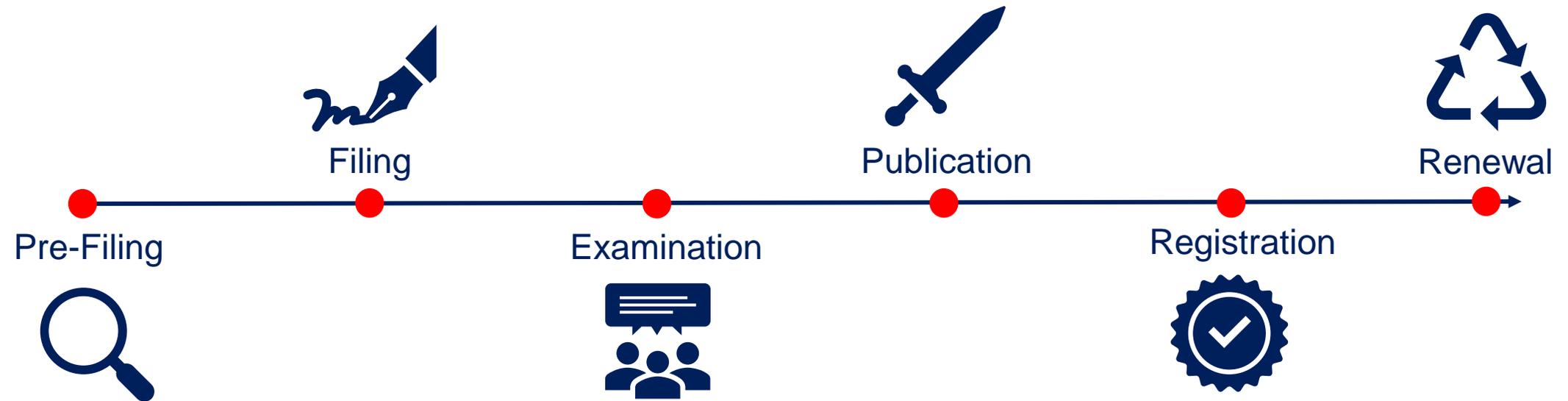




# The Role of a Trade Mark Attorney



# Life cycle of a UK trade mark (and what we do at each stage)

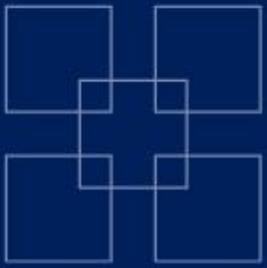


# Trade Marks in "Real Life"

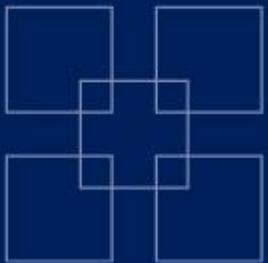








# How to Become a Trade Mark Attorney



## The Pre-Requisites:

- Minimum 2:2 in any subject or appropriate training and/or experience.
- Successful completion of foundation course **and** advanced course.
- Accumulate 2+ years of supervised training overseen by a Chartered Trade Mark Attorney (this should happen automatically during the course of your training contract).

# The Qualifications:

## YEAR 1

- **Bournemouth University – Postgraduate Certificate: Intellectual Property Law & Practice**

Starts in January and runs for five months. Delivered over three weekends, supported by online distance learning.

- **Brunel University London – Postgraduate Certificate: Intellectual Property Certificate**

Starts in September and runs for eight months. Delivered Wednesday afternoons.

- **Queen Mary University of London – Postgraduate Certificate: Trade Mark Law & Practice**

Starts in September and runs as a two-week intensive course, followed by ten two-day sessions between October and April.

## YEAR 2

- **Nottingham Law School – Professional Certificate: Trade Mark Practice**

Starts in October and runs for ten months. The course is built around five intensive study units, usually running from Wednesday to Saturday.

## Further Information:

[https://www.citma.org.uk/careers/becoming\\_a\\_chartered\\_trade\\_mark\\_attorney](https://www.citma.org.uk/careers/becoming_a_chartered_trade_mark_attorney)

### IPReg

<https://ipreg.org.uk/pro/getting-qualified/>

### Careers in Ideas

<http://careersinideas.org.uk/>

### IP Careers

<http://ipcareers.co.uk/>



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