

Free & Open Source Software

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Free software is a matter of **liberty**, not price



What is Freedom?

Freedom 0: Run the program for any purpose

Freedom 1: Study how the program works and adapt it to your needs

Freedom 2: Redistribute copies to help others

Freedom 3: Improve the program and release your improvements to the public



Free Software ...

- need not be gratis
- does not mean non-commercial
- must provide access to source code
- is not the same as Open Source Software

<http://www.gnu.org/philosophy/free-sw.html>



Free Software Licenses

- GPL and GPL compatible
- Non GPL compatible
- Copyleft and non-copyleft

<http://www.gnu.org/licenses/license-list.html>



Open Source is a development methodology
Free Software is a **social** movement



What's in it for Universities?

- Economic factors
- Opportunity for knowledge exploration
- Teaches to interact with a wide technical community
- Helps in research

Teaches students the role model of public service rather than that of tycoons



Free Softwares for Engineering

- DBMS
MySQL, postgresql
- UML
Umbrello, Dia
- Math Computations
Octave, gnuplot
- CAD/CAM
qCAD
- C/C++ compilers
gcc, g++
- Java Development
gcj, eclipse
- html editing
quanta
- GIS
GRASS



What's in it for Corporates?

- Re-usability of components
- Development of better quality software
- Reduced software development time
- Scope to provide services
- Reduced deployment costs



What's In It For Home Users

- No installation or updates costs
- Zero cost to try hands at a software
- Availability of wide choice of reliable and quality desktop software
- No virus, spyware hassles



GNU/Linux Distributions



Some Popular Distributions

- Debian
- Red Hat/Fedora
- Ubuntu
- Mandrake
- SUSE
- Knoppix



Knoppix Live CD

- No need to install the OS
- No harddisk required
- Carry it in a pocket on USB, CD, mini CD or DVD
- Complete hardware detection
- Save your work on Flash drives, Hard disks, Internet or even on the same CD!
- Recover lost data



Swecha: We made our own distribution!

<http://www.swecha.org/>



Value your freedom or you will lose it, teaches history!

