The Free Software Definition

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

Free Software

- about liberty
- FREE like in "free speech"
- not "free beer"

A matter of the users' freedom to run, copy, distribute, study, change and improve the software.

Four kinds of Freedom

- To run the program, for any purpose.
- To study how the program works, and adapt it to your needs (needs source code).
- To redistribute copies/ help neighbor.
- To improve the program, and release your improvements to the public, so that the whole community benefits (needs source code).

Is this following free?

- Microsoft Windows
- Microsoft Office
- Microsoft Internet Explorer
- Adobe Acrobat
- Mozilla Firefox
- GNU/Linux
- Openoffice.org
- non-commercial software?!
- free download

Open Source

- Others introduce yet another term
- Open Source is similar but NOT identical.
- "Open" never refers to freedom.

Conclusion

- Free Software
- Kinds of Freedom
- Open Source Software