

## *What is Open Source?*

Open source refers to software whose source code is freely available to read, redistribute, and modify. Firefox, Webkit, Android, and WordPress are all open source. More than just source code, open source means you can be part of a community that shapes the future of the open source projects you care about.

## *Why Should I Care?*

The open flow of information, easy exchange of ideas, projects that span continents and decades, and software you own: all of these things are open source. Open source projects encourage contributors, embrace those with diverse interests, and provide tons of information complete with access to the experts who create it.

## *How Does It Help Me?*

By using these tools and participating in the community you'll have access to leading-edge technology, experts in various fields, an international forum, openly-licensed assets, and like-minded friends from around the world! If you are starting out in your career you can work with established experts from all over. If you're an expert, you can work directly with the authors of your tools to add features, fix problems, and make them better. Oh, we almost forgot to mention, this stuff is free!

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# Exploring Open Source

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*Edition*

