

# Introduction

Open source projects are projects made available to the general public for personal use or modification as they see fit.

With the many business and government organizations that now use open source software such as Linux, it's becoming increasingly clear that price is not the only the advantage that open source software and projects holds

So why are Opensource projects important?

## Support Option

Open source software is generally free, and so is a world of [support](http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/207958/how_to_get_support_for_open_source_software.html) through the vibrant communities surrounding each piece of software. Most open source projects have their individual community or forum where people can come together,share and distribute ideas that will help their individual project excellent documentation for instance ubuntu, has an online community,forums, mailing lists etc where beginners can go and learn.

## Quality

Open source projects tend to have more quality since it’s a project in which different developers work on and users share their ideas on different modifications that can be added to the project to increase user quality.In general, open source software gets closest to what users want because those users can have a hand in making it so. It's not a matter of the vendor giving users what it thinks they want--users and developers make what they want, and they make it well.So in general users feel comfortable around opensource projects because their ideas are actually been put into consideration which leads to my next point

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## Freedom

Open source projects tend to give businesses that feel of freedom to work or use open source software,codes etc without been afraid of the severe vendor lock-in that can afflict users of proprietary packages.

With open source projects users are in control to make their own decisions and to do what they want with the software and they also have a worldwide community of developers and users at their disposal for help with that which encourages productivity.

**Flexibility and Interoperability**

When your business uses proprietary softwares it requires you to keep upgrading software and hardware while Open source projects on the other hand is typically much less resource-intensive, meaning that you can run it well even on older hardware and it’s solely up to you to decide when you want to upgrade

With Open source softwares or Projects it’s much easier to adhere to open standards than proprietary softwares are.

If you value interoperability with other businesses, computers and users, and don't want to be limited by proprietary formats, open source software and projects is definitely the way to go