

# What Is Open Source Software?

 THE **LINUX** FOUNDATION

# The Two Meanings of Word “Free”

Free as in **not limited/controlled**, as in freedom of speech and freedom to distribute



Free as in **no cost/payment**, or as is often said “free beer”

Open Source

# Open Source Software

Source code is made available with a license which provides rights to:

- › **examine**
- › **modify**
- › **redistribute**

without restriction on the user's identity or purpose.

# Licensing Classifications

## Permissive

- Any code changes need not be available to recipients
- Often preferred by companies

Example: BSD-licensed software

## Restrictive

- Any code changes must be available to all recipients
- Sometimes called “Copyleft”

Example: GPL-licensed software

