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Category

OPEN SOURCE

Tagged

TINYMCEOPEN SOURCETEXTAREAPRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

Free software – where would we be without it?

If free, **open source software** and services shut down, the worldwide infrastructure that supports the internet would grind to a halt. That's not an exaggeration. There are countless examples of infrastructure that relies on free software components to work (Apache server for instance).

It's not just the heavy hitters.

Consider the whole ecosystem. There are many small, vital, and helpful components that make your life easier... but without them, life would quickly turn into a succession of little frustrations.

TinyMCE is a free WYSIWYG HTML editor. And it's one of those small, helpful components (consider how many websites rely on text entry) that you can't do without.

It's **the WYSIWYG editor of choice** for the world's leading product teams. Trusted by 100M+ products across the world, more than 1.5M+ developers incorporate its rich text editor components in their projects – because they know that it's reliable, customizable and the best on the market.

This article explores the why, how and what parts of TinyMCE are free – the core editor, Premium Plugins, and TinyMCE licensing.

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Is TinyMCE free?

Yes.

The TinyMCE core editor is free to use for commercial and noncommercial purposes. When it comes to licensing, the TinyMCE **version 5 series** makes use of an **LGPL license**. **This is a distinct from a GPL licence, which is a copyleft licence.**

Whereas from TinyMCE **version 6 onwards**, the core TinyMCE editor runs under an **MIT License**.

There's more detail on the differences between these licenses, in the following sections.

Why is TinyMCE free?

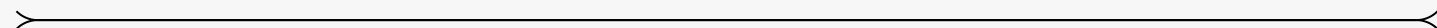
Open source first appeared in the 1970's and 1980's. Then in the early 1990s, the first operating system that could be classified as open source was released.

TinyMCE became available as open source software, in 2004 with the TinyMCE 1.0 release (by MoxieCode).

Open source availability has several advantages for users, which is why TinyMCE continues to be open source:

- It's transparent, with development happening in the open
- It's supported by a community, and developed in a collaborative way
- Anyone can access the project and have access to a rich text editor when they need it

How to get started with TinyMCE



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