



Making open hardware the default everywhere, one project at a time

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Hello!

OHM organizers

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Summary

1. Why?
2. What?
3. How?
4. The Modules
5. Mentor Role
6. Expert Role
7. Q&A

Why?

“It is open... but not for commercial purposes”

“I have built this, now I have to spend hours answering users”

“I want to contribute, but do not know how”

“I tried to replicate it, but it was missing crucial files”

“I have built it, but no one knows about it!”

“We will release the source code after we clean it up”

“Yay, we are making yet another air quality monitor from scratch”

What?

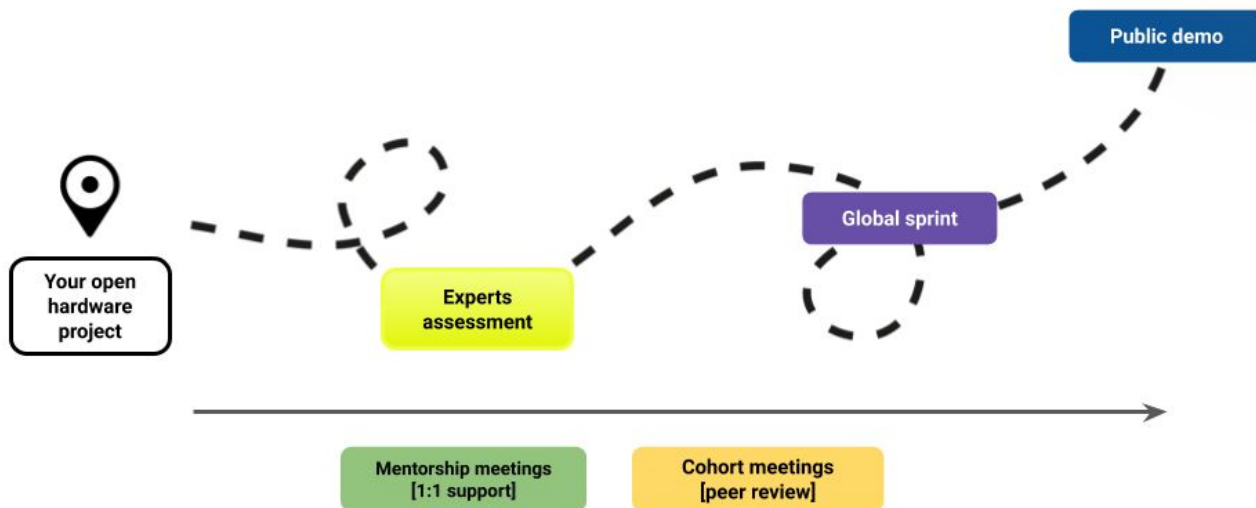


A mentorship program sharing best practices in open hardware

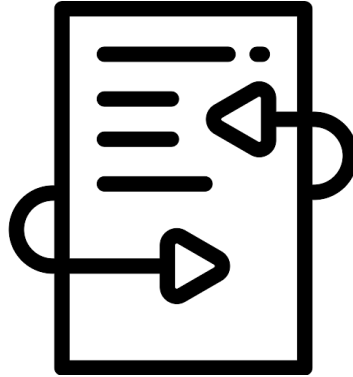
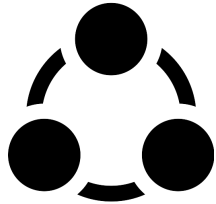
How?



Road to an awesome open hardware project



The curriculum review



Curriculum

- Seven content modules with submodules
- two weeks for each module
- each submodule is structured the same

OHM Basics

1. Welcome to OHM
2. Staging Your Project
3. Building Open Projects
4. Open Hardware Specifics
5. Roadmapping
6. Licenses and Standards
7. Community and Communication
8. OHM Outro

Resources

Glossary

curriculum.openhardware.space

Lessons

Content

Assignments

Resources

curriculum.openhardware.space

2.2. Working smart: create, contribute or fork?

Ways of interacting with other open hardware projects

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- [Working smart: original or derivative?](#)
- [🔗 Assignment: Do some research on projects similar to yours!](#)
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Not reinventing the wheel

Probably one of the biggest advantages of working open is that we can access the knowledge and experience of those creating before us, to build up our own projects without having to start from scratch. Most of the best practices in this series point towards that goal: making your project reusable by others.

However, one of the common traits we see in open hardware communities is that projects are developed and recreated multiple times, each time documented as if it was original work. This is not a bad thing in itself, we all learn by repetition and you have to start somewhere. It becomes a problem though when platforms become cluttered with duplicated documentation, or entire teams, effort and resources are dedicated to create something that can be found, literally, a couple of clicks away.

This is usually called "reinventing the wheel" and it tends to happen when we dive directly into making without checking what others have previously done. In general, we tend to avoid it, because it's much more interesting to learn from others, replicate what they do and then add our own unique contribution! It also accelerates the field, and builds a more coherent knowledge base.

🔗 Assignment: Do some research on projects similar to yours!

To avoid reinventing the wheel, and once you have defined the purpose of your project, go out there and look for open hardware projects that you can use as references.

Maybe you found a proof of principle for a function you need? There is some usability feature you'd like to incorporate, or you found a project you love and you'd like to make a derivative for your own needs?

Make a list of at least 3 projects, including project name, link to documentation, and a short note of why that project is useful for you.

Resources

- [Reinventing the Wheel - Wikipedia entry](#)
- [When reinventing the wheel does make sense](#)

NEXT: BUILDING BLOCKS OVERVIEW ►►

The mentor meetings

During each mentor meeting, you will:

- discuss a unit of the curriculum
- how the mentee is progressing through assignments
- suggest resources/contacts

Mentees will document your meetings in the GOSH forum

Don't worry, we'll send you emails with the agenda :)

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The cohort meetings

Cohort calls are **not mandatory** for mentors.

They happen during the weeks when you don't meet with your mentee.

What happens in a call?

- Peer review of work on assignments
- Interaction between mentees
- Q&A with invited speakers



Expert review

- During the whole program, projects have access to experts on different domains
- If you think your mentee would benefit from connecting to an expert, just drop us an email at any point
- All projects will go through an expert's review on week 9



ROLE DESCRIPTION

Experts support participants with domain-specific knowledge as they practice working open and facilitating connections within the network.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Demonstrated expertise in their field Open to facilitate connections in their network

DURATION AND COMMITMENT

- One-time round of experts assessment of projects, 2h
- 45 min online meeting with interested participants on request

Public call & global sprint

- One of the goals of the program is that mentees present a demo at the public call
- In preparation, we organize a weekend global sprint (optional for mentors) just before week 13
- The public call is live-streamed, and takes place on week 13
- **In which ways can you support your mentee towards a great demo?**

Closing mentor meeting

- The program closes with the last mentor meeting after the public call
- The goal is to debrief what worked and what didn't
- Both mentee and mentor provide feedback about their experience, after this call

To recap:

- You will meet your mentee every 15 days
- You will track your mentee's progress in our spreadsheet
- Check your mentee's feelings on the program & report if there's any conflict as soon as possible

[illegible]

Mentors commitments

Attend one of the certified training sessions

- 22 Feb: 9am-noon UTC
- 02 Mar: 13-16 UTC
- 03 Mar: 17-20 UTC

**Track if meetings happen or not in our spreadsheet
(we'll give you access by email)**

**Can't make a meeting? Let us know at least a week
in advance**

**Be responsive to communications from the OHM
team and mentee**





Go to <https://www.menti.com/9onhkfvnsg>

What next?

- Join the GOSH forum and introduce yourself:
<https://forum.openhardware.science/t/cohort-1-mentors-introduction/3430>
- Wait for our email! Program starts March 14th
- Spread the word about our call for projects:
https://openhardware.space/stories/ohm_cohort1



openneuroscience



**Gathering for Open
Science Hardware**

Thank you for your attention!



<https://openhardware.space>

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