



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

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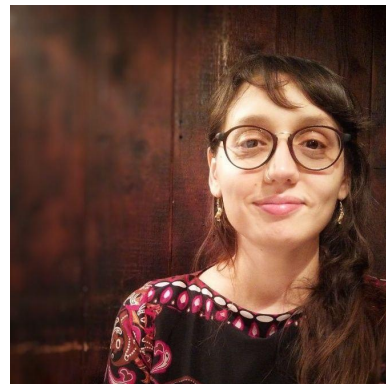
Hi there!

OHM organizers

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Agenda



1. **Why** Open Hardware Makers?
2. **What** is the program about?
3. **Who** is it for?
4. **How** does it work?
 - 4.1. The open curriculum
 - 4.2. The meetings
 - 4.3. Time commitment
5. **The expert role**
6. **Next steps**
7. **Q&A**

Why?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What?



A mentorship program sharing best practices in open hardware

Who is it for?

- Individuals or teams
- New or ongoing hardware projects
- Any domain (education, science, social innovation, business, others)
- Any background (professionals, students, hobbyists)
- Willing to learn and apply open hardware practices
- All around the world





How does it work?

The program



Open and
collaborative
curriculum

Hands-on
learning

public
project demo

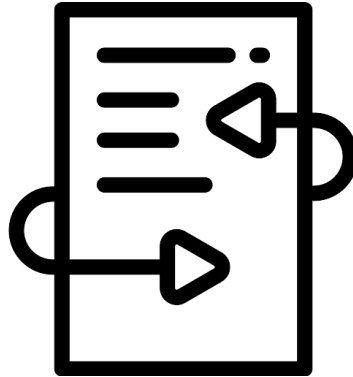
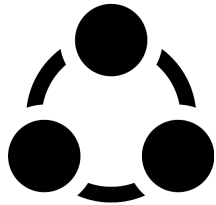
1:1 mentorship



expert assessment

peer review

The curriculum



Content

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

- Seven content modules with submodules
- Two weeks for each module
- Each submodule follows the same structure

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!](#)
- [Resources](#)

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 ►

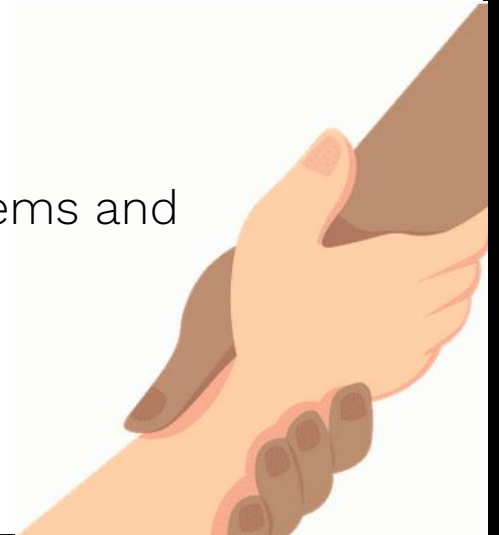
Mentor meetings

Experts only participate in these meetings if mentors request it

Mentors and mentees will meet every 15 days.

During each meeting, they will:

- Review progress on the curriculum, discuss problems and opportunities
- Access resources
- Assess if they need external expert support



Cohort meetings

This activity is not mandatory for experts

Happen during the weeks when there isn't a meeting

What happens in a call?

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



Public call & global sprint

This activity is not mandatory for experts

- Goal: present a demo at the public call
- In preparation, we organize a weekend global sprint (optional for mentors) just before the call
- The public call is live-streamed, and takes place on week 13 (June 13.- 19.)



Expert role: formal review

- All projects will go through a formal expert's review on week 9
 - For cohort 1, this is Mid-May 2022 (May 16-22)
 - You will read projects' documentation and will join a meeting to provide feedback
- Experts provide support in specific domains (technical, financial, legal, community and more)



Expert role - 1:1 meetings

- Mentors can request a meeting if they consider this will benefit the mentee
- Expert meetings take 30'-60' in a one-time session
- We expect experts to take up to two of these sessions, you can always accept or decline



Commitments

Time commitment:

- 2 hours on week 9 (May 16-22) for expert review
- 30-60 min for an expert call with individual projects when needed

Attend all scheduled meetings, communicate early if you can't make it

Responsive to communications from the mentor and OHM organizers



Next steps

- Send us your profile information for the website
- Introduce yourself in the GOSH forum
- Wait for emails from our side when the cohort starts

<https://forum.openhardware.science>

Communities → Open Hardware Makers

Q&A





openneuroscience



Gathering for Open
Science Hardware



<https://openhardware.space>

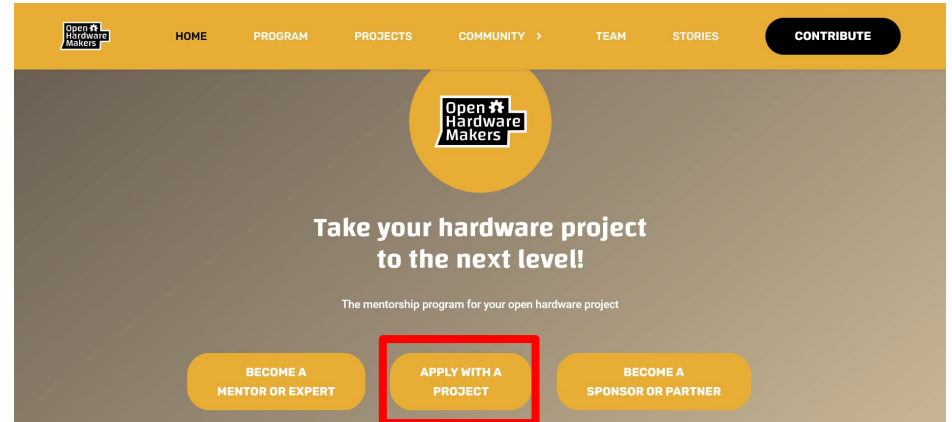
[@openHWmakers](https://twitter.com/openHWmakers)

ohwmakers@gmail.com

Application process



- About you
- About the project
- Motivation letter



Go to: openhardware.space

Review criteria & key dates

- Readiness about the program
- Project stage and goals
- Openness



Important dates

- Application opens: 24 January 2022
- Webinar for applicants: 28 February 2022
- Applications closes: 7 March 2022
- Cohort starts: 14 March 2022
- Cohort ends: 1 July 2022

Participant support

- Connectivity problems
- Childcare support
- Other limitations

Reach out!