

IT TOOLS

BASIC UNDERSTANDING ON FREE AND OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE

a) Describe Open-Source Software with example

Ans- Open source software is software with source code that anyone can inspect, modify, and enhance.

Open source licenses affect the way people can [use, study, modify, and distribute](#) software. In general, open source licenses grant computer users [permission to use open source software for any purpose they wish](#). Some open source licenses—what some people call "copyleft" licenses—stipulate that anyone who releases a modified open source program must also release the source code for that program alongside it.

[LibreOffice](#) and the [GNU Image Manipulation Program](#) are examples of open source software.

b) Describe Free Software with example

Ans- Free software” means **software that respects users' freedom and community**. Roughly, it means that the users have the freedom to run, copy, distribute, study, change and improve the software. Thus, “free software” is a matter of liberty, not price.

Free software is [software](#) that can be freely used, modified, and redistributed with only one restriction: any redistributed version of the software must be distributed with the original terms of free use, modification, and distribution (known as [copyleft](#)).

The best known example of free software is [Linux](#)

c) Difference between free and open source software

Ans- **Free Software:**

“Free software” means software that respects users’ freedom and community. Roughly, it means that the users have the freedom to run, copy, distribute, study, change and improve the software. The term “free software” is sometimes misunderstood—it has nothing to do with price. It is about freedom.

Open Source Software is something which you can modify as per your needs, share with others without any licensing violation burden. When we say Open Source, source code of software is available publicly with Open Source licenses like GNU (GPL) which allows you to edit source code and distribute it.

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