License Overview Table

License Name	Type	Description (Simple Explanation)	Good For
No License	None	Others cannot legally use, copy, modify, or distribute your code. All rights reserved by default.	Private or personal projects
MIT License	Permissive	Allows use, modification, and selling as long as copyright notice is included.	Open-source, startups, libraries
Apache License 2.0	Permissive	Similar to MIT but also provides patent protection.	Enterprise and open-source projects
GNU GPL v3.0	Strong Copyleft	Modified or derived work must also be open-source under GPL.	Fully open-source projects
GNU GPL v2.0	Strong Copyleft	Older GPL version; derivative work must be GPL licensed.	Linux-style projects
GNU AGPL v3.0	Very Strong Copyleft	Like GPL but also applies to web and SaaS applications.	Network and server software
GNU LGPL v2.1	Weak Copyleft	Allows linking with proprietary software; changes to LGPL code must be shared.	Libraries
BSD 2-Clause	Permissive	Similar to MIT with minimal restrictions.	Academic and open-source projects
BSD 3-Clause	Permissive	Like BSD 2-Clause but prevents use of author's name for promotion.	Corporate-friendly projects
Boost Software License 1.0	Permissive	Very flexible license allowing commercial use.	C++ libraries
Mozilla Public License 2.0	Weak Copyleft	Only modified files must be open-source.	Mixed open and closed projects
Eclipse Public License 2.0	Weak Copyleft	Similar to MPL, designed for enterprise use.	Enterprise and Java projects
Creative Commons Zero (CC0 1.0)	Public Domain	Waives all rights; no attribution required.	Templates, configs, snippets
The Unlicense	Public Domain	Places code into the public domain explicitly.	Maximum freedom projects

License Comparison Table

License	Can others use your code?	Commercial use allowed?	Modification allowed?	Must open-source changes?	Attribution required?	Best For
No License	No	No	No	No	No	Private or protected projects
MIT License	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Beginners, startups
Apache 2.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Enterprise, patent safety
BSD 2-Clause	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Academic reuse
BSD 3-Clause	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Corporate projects
Boost Software 1.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	C++ libraries
GPL v2.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (entire project)	Yes	Fully open-source
GPL v3.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (entire project)	Yes	Strong copyleft
AGPL v3.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (including SaaS)	Yes	Web and server apps
LGPL v2.1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partial (library only)	Yes	Libraries
Mozilla Public 2.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	File-level only	Yes	Mixed licensing
Eclipse Public 2.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partial	Yes	Enterprise Java
CC0 1.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Public domain
The Unlicense	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Maximum freedom

GitLab Alternatives Comparison Table

Platform	Hosting Type	Private Repos Free?	CI/CD Built-in	Open-Source	Description	Best For
GitHub	Cloud	Yes	Yes	No	Popular Git platform with large community, issues, pull requests, and automation.	Students, startups, open-source
Gitea	Self-hosted	Yes	Limited	Yes	Lightweight and fast self-hosted Git service.	Privacy and personal servers
Forgejo	Self-hosted	Yes	Limited	Yes	Community-driven Gitea fork focused on ethics and freedom.	Privacy-focused users
Bitbucket	Cloud	Yes (small teams)	Yes	No	Atlassian Git hosting integrated with Jira and Trello.	Small teams
Azure DevOps	Cloud / Self-hosted	Yes	Yes	No	Microsoft DevOps platform with repos, pipelines, and boards.	Enterprise and .NET teams
Codeberg	Cloud	Yes	Limited	Yes	Non-profit Git hosting for open-source projects.	Students and FOSS
SourceHut	Cloud	Limited	Basic	Yes	Minimalist, email-based development platform.	Advanced users
GitBucket	Self-hosted	Yes	No	Yes	Java-based GitHub-like platform.	Java teams
Phabricator	Self-hosted	Yes	No	Yes	Advanced platform with strong code review features.	Large teams