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IC github / **choosealicense.com**   ⊙ Watch ▾ 35   ★ Star 175   ⑂ Fork 66

A site to provide non-judgmental guidance on choosing a license for your open source project

http://choosealicense.com

⊙ **468** commits	⑂ **4** branches	🏷 **0** releases	👥 **37** contributors

⇅ ⑂ branch: **gh-pages** ▾   **choosealicense.com** / ⊞

Merge pull request **#176** from penibelst/markdownify-titles   ···

👤 **benbalter** authored a day ago   latest commit 89f2242a08 ⎙

📁	_includes	Make sure titles are in smarty pants	4 days ago
📁	_layouts	Work around spaces being added when copying to clipboard.	a month ago
📁	css	application.css: Minor cleanup.	22 days ago
📁	img	Use a CSS sprite for the license images.	23 days ago
📁	js	Remove selectivizr-min.js.	22 days ago
📁	licenses	remove sub-licensability as a concept for public domain licenses/waivers	21 days ago
📁	script	Combine javascript files.	25 days ago
📄	.gitattributes	Clean up .gitignore and .gitattributes.	a month ago
📄	.gitignore	ignore .bundle	a day ago
📄	.ruby-version	upgrade to gh-pages 4	4 months ago
📄	.travis.yml	Remove trailing spaces.	2 months ago
📄	CNAME	revert 48261c1	6 months ago
📄	CONTRIBUTING.md	Remove trailing spaces.	2 months ago
📄	Gemfile	remove ffi version lock and bump version	20 days ago
📄	Gemfile.lock	dat 💎 bump	a day ago
📄	LICENSE.md	Remove trailing spaces.	2 months ago
📄	README.md	README.md: no need to make the localhost a clickable link.	23 days ago
📄	Rakefile	Don't ignore all '#' URLs when running HTML::Proofer	21 days ago
📄	_config.yml	Ignore more files in _config.yml.	a month ago
📄	about.md	Fix apostrophes	11 days ago
📄	favicon.ico	initial work on new design	a year ago
📄	index.html	Fix apostrophes	11 days ago
📄	licenses.html	attempt to sort licenses in list	21 days ago
📄	licenses.json	Remove trailing spaces.	2 months ago
📄	no-license.md	Remove trailing spaces.	2 months ago
📄	terms-of-service.md	Remove trailing spaces.	2 months ago

📖 **README.md**

<> **Code**

ⓘ **Issues**   28

🎏 **Pull Requests**   10

ᔅ **Pulse**

📊 **Graphs**

⑂ **Network**

HTTPS clone URL

https://github.com

You can clone with **HTTPS**, **SSH**, or **Subversion**. ⑦

🖥 **Clone in Desktop**

⬇ **Download ZIP**

Choose a License Web Site `build passing`

Like a Choose Your Own Adventure site, but only much less interesting.

Intro

A lot of repositories on GitHub.com don't have a license. GitHub provides a license chooser, but if you don't know anything about licenses, how are you supposed to make an informed decision?

ChooseALicense.com is designed to help people make an informed decision about licenses.

Immediate Goals

- Politics Free - Let's just not get into it.
- Well designed, but that goes without saying.
- The homepage should have just enough to help 99% of folks make a decision.
- For the 1%, the site will contain a list of licenses common to specific communities and situations.
- Not comprehensive. Seems like an odd goal, but there are a bajillion licenses out there. We're going to have to filter that down to a small list of those that matter.

Run It On Your Machine

```
git clone https://github.com/github/choosealicense.com.git
cd choosealicense.com
script/bootstrap
script/server
```

Open `http://localhost:4000` in your favorite browser.

Adding a license

The text of the license should be wrapped to a 78 character width.

Licenses sit in the `/licenses` folder. Each license has YAML front matter describing the license's properties. The body of the file should be the text of the license in plain text. The available metadata fields are:

- `title` - The name of the license
- `layout` - This should be `license`
- `permalink` - The absolute URL to the license, beginning with `/licenses/`
- `source` - URL to the license source text
- `note` - The note field in the sidebar (optional)
- `how` - How to use the license, also in the sidebar
- `required`, `permitted`, `forbidden` - bulleted list of rules applicable to the license (see below)
- `filename` - The filename to be created on GitHub.com when a repository is initialized with this license.

The licenses on choosealicense.com are regularly imported to GitHub.com to be used as the list of licenses available when creating a repository. When we create a repository, we will replace certain strings in the license with variables from the repository. These can be used to create accurate copyright notices. The available

variables are:

- `[fullname]` - The full name or username of the repository owner
- `[login]` - The repository owner's username
- `[email]` - The repository owner's primary email address
- `[project]` - The repository name
- `[description]` - The description of the repository
- `[year]` - The current year

Rules

Rules (the license's properties) are stored as a bulleted list within the licenses YAML front matter. A full list of rules can be found in the repository's `_config.yml` file. Each rule has a name e.g., `include-copyright`, a human-readable label, e.g., `Copyright inclusion`, and a description `Include the original copyright with the code`. To add a new rule, simply add it to `config.yml` and reference it in the appropriate license.

License

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