

# Pre-configured Hardware & Software

Throughout this course, we've had to take insecure and/or unprivate pieces of software and hardware, and modify them to our benefit. But, are there any options out there that do this work for us? Luckily, at the time of making this course, there are some projects and products I wanted to share with you that aim to offer security, privacy, or both out of the box. It's important for us to support companies and projects that take this stuff seriously, and leave behind other companies that don't give a crap...our advocacy lesson is coming soon.

## Promotional Spot

Let's start with software:

- *Tor is preconfigured to boost your anonymity. It's offered for free, and the setup is extremely simple. Don't forget about TailsOS and Whonix.*
- *Mozilla doesn't have the world's cleanest history, but Firefox and other variants of Firefox deserve a huge shoutout.*
- *Brave has its share of problems, but attempting to bring privacy and security to the masses is very admirable.*
- *The EFF is a wonderful organization who develops amazing software like HTTPS Everywhere and Privacy Badger, as well as great advocacy. Check their site for meetups so you can take action.*
- *Proton gives you a private and secure email, VPN, and more products with a great track record.*
- *Searx.me, Startpage, and DuckDuckgo are all fantastic search engines.*
- *Veracrypt makes file and drive encryption easy and free.*
- *Most linux distributions are private and secure out of the box, emphasis on most.*
- *LineageOS, GrapheneOS, and CalyxOS are excellent ROMs for android devices.*
- *VirtualBox and KVM allow you to create virtual machines quickly and easily.*
- *Libreboot and coreboot offers a FOSS bootloader for your machines.*
- *OpenWRT and PfSense both give you FOSS protection on your home routers.*
- *And cryptocurrency projects like Monero and Zcash offer private ways to send payments to anyone around the world.*

Those are just a few of many amazing projects out there. Moving to hardware:

- *Purism, Pine, and System76 make private computers built from the ground up with you in mind, as well as some phone options.*

- *The Ministry of Freedom pre-installs Libreboot and Linux on laptops, making it easy for consumers to switch to Linux and Libreboot.*
- *The Ledger Nano is a cryptocurrency wallet allowing you to securely store your coins, something we should be encouraging more often.*
- The final and more unexpected devices that have your security in mind are *iPads and Chromebooks*. We've discussed using these in the past for high security, and low privacy activities; this includes personal banking, personal email, and anything else that is inherently unprivate, but requires a degree of security.

### *Queue Outro Promos*

And that's it! My hope is that some of you watching this course have some programming, engineering, or development experience. If so, I encourage you to make a difference. This list was awesome, but it would be even better if it was twice the size. If you have an idea or project that you need help with, make sure to reach out to me because I would love to help you out in any way I can. Thank you for watching, and I'll see you in the next lesson: *Downsides to Safety*.