Open-Source Proponent

* **What is open source?** (<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/introduction-to-open-source-and-its-benefits/>)

The term **Open-source** is closely related to [Open-source software (OSS)](https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/open-source-freeware-and-shareware-softwares/). Open-source software is a type of computer software that is released under a license, but the source code is made available to all the users. The copyright holders of such software allow the users to use it and do some valuable modifications in its source code to add some new features, to improve the existing features, and to fix bugs if there are any. Because of this reason only Open-source software is mostly developed collaboratively.

* **The purpose of open source** (https://www.bigcommerce.com/ecommerce-answers/what-open-source-and-why-it-important/)

Open source is a type of licensing agreement that allows users to freely modify a work, use said work in new ways, integrate the work into a larger project or derive a new work based on the original.

* Example of open source product?
* **Operating systems –**  
  Android, Ubuntu, Linux
* **Internet browsers –**  
  Mozilla Firefox, Chromium
* **Integrated Development Environment (IDEs) –**  
  Vs code (Visual Studio Code), Android Studio, PyCharm, Xcode
* **Benefits of Open-source contributions :**
* We code for real-world open-source projects.
* It refines our existing knowledge of programming and also helps us to learn new skills.
* Many open-source projects offer mentorship programs to guide and help us through our first few contributions.
* We need not develop the whole thing from scratch, we just have to fork our favorite projects and start experimenting with them.
* After making any open-source contribution, we get immediate feedback regarding our developmental work.
* While doing open-source contributions, we interact with like-minded developers from all over the world and build connections along the way.
* As we get more closer to the open-source community, we get to know much more about our field of interest and other related fields.
* The most important aspect of open-source contributions is It may fetch us a job in our field of interest.
* **Disadvantages of open source** (https://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/content/disadvantages-open-source-software)
* The difficulty of use - Some open source applications may be tricky to set up and use. Others may lack user-friendly interfaces or features that your staff may be familiar with. This can affect productivity and prevent your staff from adopting or using programs with ease.
* Compatibility issues - Many types of proprietary hardware need specialised drivers to run open source programs, which are often only available from the equipment manufacturer. This can potentially add to the cost of your project. Even if an open source driver exists, it may not work with your software as well as the proprietary driver.
* Liabilities and warranties - With proprietary software, the developer usually provides indemnification and warranty as part of a standard licence agreement. This is because they fully control and copyright the product and its underlying code. Open source software licences typically contain only limited warranty and no liability or infringement indemnity protection.
* Hidden costs - Software that is free up-front but later costs money to run can be a major burden, especially if you haven't considered hidden costs from the outset.