What is proprietary software?

Proprietary software, also known as closed source software or commercial software, is a software that legally remains as property of the party that created it, thereby bears limits against use, distribution and modification . The developer party owns the rights to the product, therefore distribution of software is strictly illegal, unless otherwise stated in the terms and conditions of purchase.

* Source code is kept secret due to intellectual property rights
* Only developer has control over its development
* Use and distribution comes with a cost

Examples of proprietary software

* System software

Windows and OS X operating systems

* application software

Microsoft Office productivity suite

Adobe Creative Suite productivity software

Logic music creation software

paid-for games for consoles

Benefits of proprietary software

* The product should be free of bugs. If bugs still exist, updates known as patches are often provided free of charge, which fix these bugs.
* Help can be sought from the organization who supplied the software if problems occur.
* Feature updates which extend the software's facilities are often available, although usually at a cost.

Eg. The Sims 4 game packs , extension packs, stuff packs improve the gameplay by adding more stuff with a small fee

<https://www.digitalspy.com/tech/a36109527/best-sims-4-expansion-packs/>

Drawbacks of proprietary software

* initial or ongoing cost for subscription.

Eg. Subscription to Adobe creative cloud, includes adobe Photoshop, adobe illustrator costs $69.72, a month <https://www.adobe.com/sea/products/premiere.html>

* Software cannot be adapted to meet the needs of the user. Only the machine code version of the software is distributed, which cannot be edited.
* It can be limited to a single computer or network, so unless the license allows it, a user may not redistribute the software.

Eg. Microsoft offers their software for 1x purchase for 1 device

<https://www.microsoft.com/id-id/microsoft-365/p/office-home-student-2021/cfq7ttc0h8n8?activetab=pivot%3aoverviewtab>