

# Free Software

**What**



**Why**



**How**



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Wanna buy this?

Amazing Features \*

# \* Terms and Conditions

- The car comes in a 'hot pink' color. You shall not change the colour **without permission**.
- You shall use the car only to drive to a mall and back. For other places, **take permission**.
- You shall carry only **one registered person** in the car. For others, **take permission**.
- You **shall not lend** the car to anyone (friends, family or colleagues), **without permission**.
- The car's **engine is sealed**. You shall not open it. Permission won't be given at all.

[Please visit our world class service center, located on the beautiful **Andaman islands**]

# This is what you get!





# What about Software?

- Do you know that:
  - You shouldn't install your software in someone else's system?
  - You only get the permission to use the software for few allowed purposes? You CANNOT own the software?
  - .... many more coming soon.
  - Next time, try reading the **END USER LICENSE AGREEMENT (EULA)**.

# How many do you recognize?



# What is the solution?

## Free Software

# What is Software?



# Understanding Free

- The irony of the English language
  - “Dude!! There's free dinner at the party tonight.”
  - “Dude!! Where's my free speech?”

# (Mis)Understanding Free

Free **not** as in

- Free Briyani
- Free Beer
- Free Antivirus with a Windows PC

# Understanding Free Software

- Free as in
  - Freedom of speech
  - Fight for Freedom
  - Freedom Fighters
  - Free from restrictions
- Some people also call it **Open Source**.

# What Freedoms?

`std::freedoms Freedom[4];`

Freedom[0] = to use for any purpose;

Freedom[1] = to study your software;

Freedom[2] = to redistribute your copy to anyone;

Freedom[3] = to modify/adapt your software;

# Brief History

- Free Software Foundation – Richard Stallman
- GNU Project
- GNU/Linux Operating System
- The Linux kernel
- The hacker culture
- Free Software powers about 70% of the websites on the Internet.

# How it works

## Who makes them?



# Benefits in General

- Total Cost of Ownership
- Support by the community (almost 24x7)
  - e.g Word 95
- Inculcates the value of sharing
- Discourages the notion of 'sharing = stealing'

# Benefits for Students

- Let's recall something from an **old famous story**
- An **open environment** to learn from experiences of others
- Even the best of the best colleges/universities can't give you **everything you need**.
- Your **academic project** can be the latest feature in the next version of VLC Media Player.
- Your **resume/CV** could be just one page, still the best among thousands.

# Advantages : Social

- Bridging the digital divide
- Software available in local languages
- Our government data. Is it protected?
- Solving local problems with global tools
- FSMK's community centers

```
select * from student.doubts;
```

“You take the blue pill, you will wake up from your  
dream and remain where you are.  
You take the red pill, I will take you through the  
rabbit hole and show you how deep it goes.”

Morpheus to Neo  
The Matrix (1999)

# What can **you** do?

- Start your own community – **GLUG**
  - **Gnu/Linux Users Group**
    - Knowledge sharing platform
  - **Activities**
    - Technical Sessions
      - Learn --> Share --> Contribute back to community
    - Conduct Workshops
    - Improve your labs
    - Take up projects
- \*\*\* SECRET : most of the free software developers are students like you \*\*\*



# How **we** will help

- **FSMK**
  - State level organization to support free software initiatives (part of FSMI network)
  - Technology experts from IT industry
  - Academic experts from various universities
  - Guidance in taking up and executing Projects

# Thank You!

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