
# Open Source Software (OSS)

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Lecture #2

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# How Do I Know if a Particular OSS Application Is Right for My Business?

The following series of questions can help you decide if a particular OSS application is right for your business:

**1- How long has the software been around? Is the software well established?**

As a general rule, open source software that has been around longer is more reliable and of good quality. Each open source software application has a version number. The software may represent the first version or ninth-or more. Mature OSS software examples – Linux , Open Office, and etc.

The following series of questions can help you decide if a particular OSS application is right for your business:

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**2. Are there regular updates, and new features?**

Open source software that receives regular updates, and new features will likely be less bug-ridden, more secure, and more feature-rich than that which does not.

The following series of questions can help you decide if a particular OSS application is right for your business:

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**3. Does your company have the skills to install and maintain the software?**

If your company does not have the expertise, there are service providers out there that do. You should also consider whether staff need training to help use and maintain the software. (this consideration applies to any type of software).

The following series of questions can help you decide if a particular OSS application is right for your business:

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**4. Is there good (active) free support from the online OSS community (e.g. online forums, blogs)?**

Can you go online and post a question about the product? Be prepared to participate in these forums and answer questions yourself.

The following series of questions can help you decide if a particular OSS application is right for your business:

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**5. Is there commercial support available to help you install and manage the software?**

Are service providers available to provide you with installation and management support for your software?

# Homework

What Do u mean of service provider ?

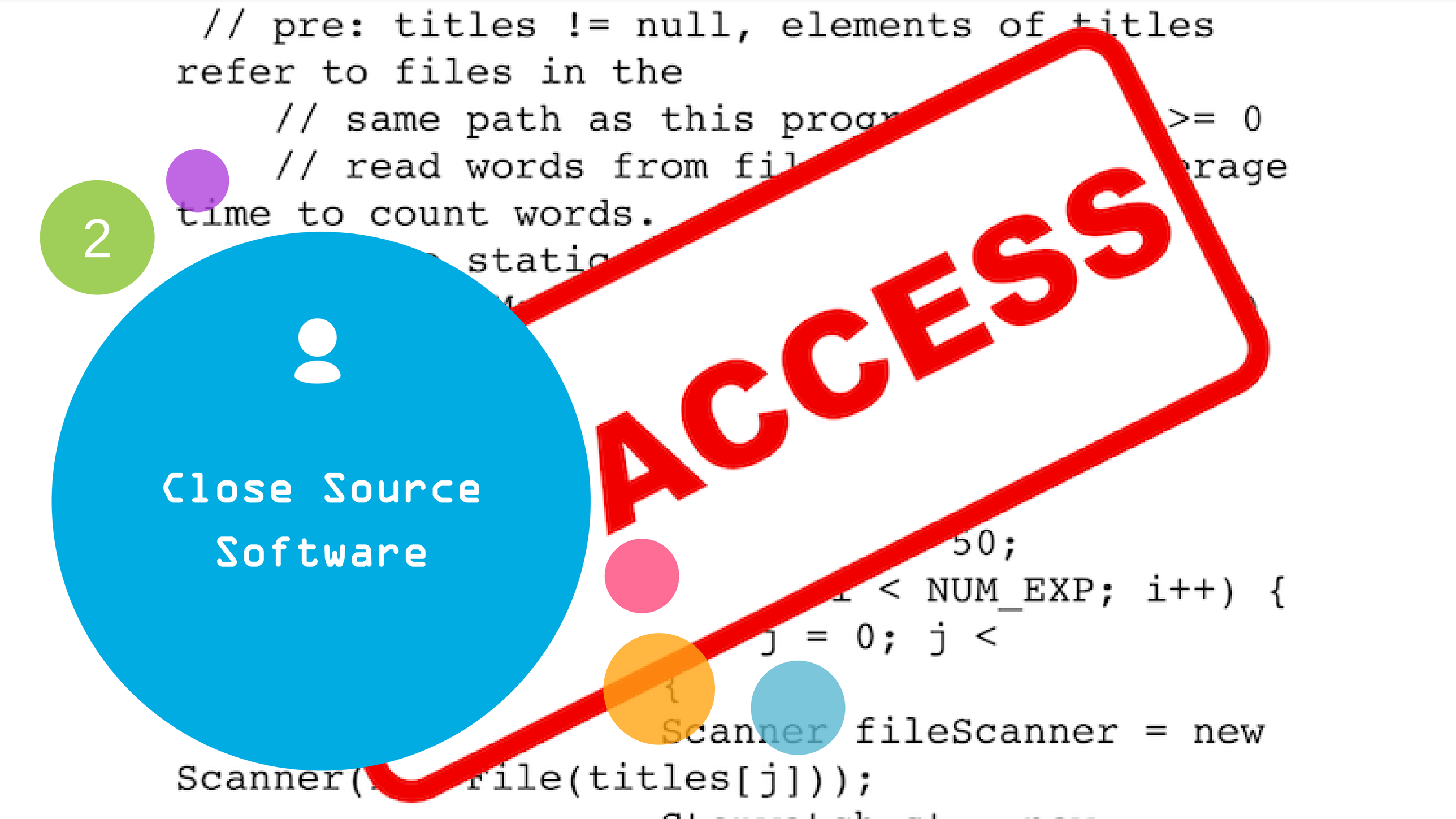
There are Two well-known specialist OSS organizations that provide support : ---------- and ----------

The following series of questions can help you decide if a particular OSS application is right for your business:

6- **Is there documentation available**? Is the documentation complete and coherent? Open source software should have documentation available with respect to its development history. Are the bug fixes and feature changes well documented?

7. **What are the conditions of use for the software?**

Take the time to read the conditions for use. Many open source packages use GNU General Public License.


// pre: titles != null, elements of titles
refer to files in the
// same path as this progr >= 0
// read words from fil erage
time to count words.
static
50;
< NUM_EXP; i++) {
j = 0; j <
{
Scanner fileScanner = new
Scanner( file(titles[j]));
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Close Source
Software
ACCESS

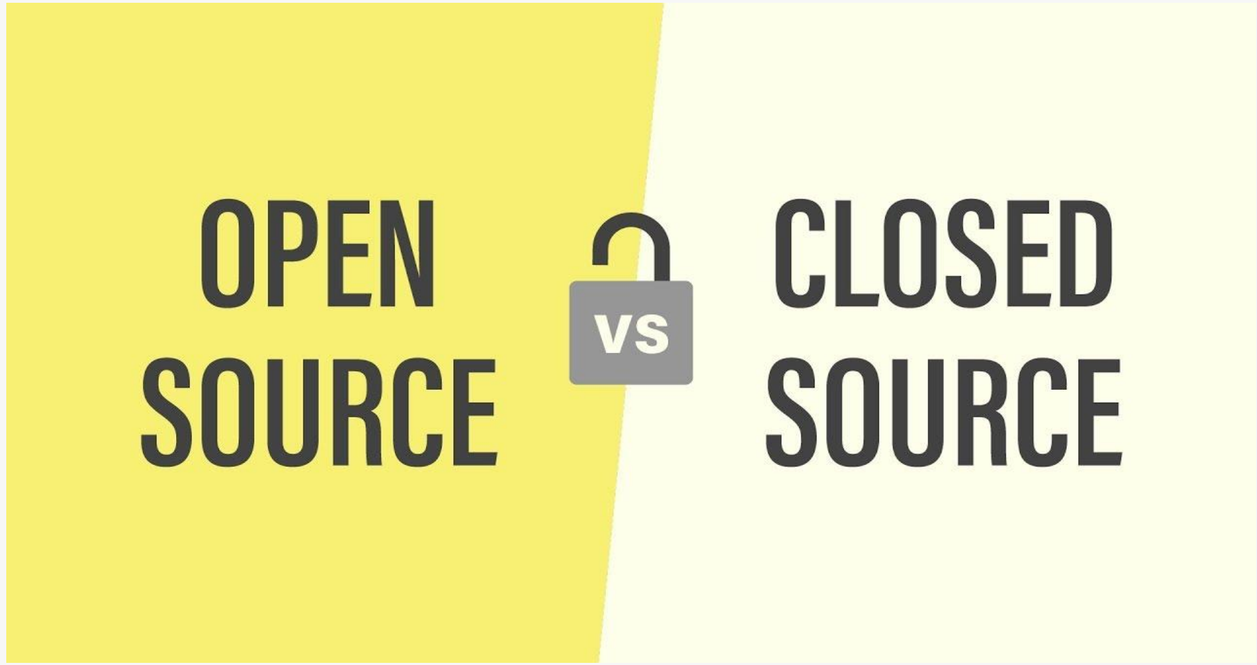
**Closed source software** (also known as **proprietary software**) refers to the computer software which source code is closes means public is not given access to the source code. In short it is referred as **CSS**. In closed source software the source code is protected. The only individual or organization who has created the software can only change it. The price of closed source software is high and users need to have valid and authenticated license to use the software. As is issues an authenticated license so it also put a lot restrictions on users based on usability and modification of software. Some **examples of closed source software** are Skype, Google earth, Java, Adobe Flash, Virtual Box, Adobe Reader, Microsoft office, Microsoft Windows, WinRAR, mac OS, Adobe Flash Player etc.

Almost every piece of computer software is created using **source code**, which is the technical blueprint that tells a program how to function. When creators release their finished product to the public, they must decide whether to make its code open source or closed source.

## Which type is more common?

The **vast majority** of apps, games, and other popular software is closed source. However, there are **open source options** for many types of programs. If you want an open source alternative to Microsoft Office, you could use LibreOffice. Instead of using Windows, you could try an open source Linux operating system. Other common open source examples include the Firefox web browser and WordPress blogging platform.

# Differences between open and Closed Source Software



- **Open source software refers to the computer software which source is open means the general public can access and use.**
- **Closed source software refers to the computer software which source code is closes means public is not given access to the source code**

❑ **Open Source Software in short also referred as OSS.**

❑ **Closed Source Software in short also referred as CSS.**

❖ **The source code of open source software is public**

❖ **In closed source software the source code is protected.**

✓ **This code can be modified by other users and organizations means that the source code is available for anyone to look at**

✓ **The only individual or organization who has created the software can only modify the code.**

- The price of open source software is very less.
- The price of closed source software is high

- ❑ There is no so much restrictions on users based on usability and modification of software.
- ❑ There is so much restrictions on users based on usability and modification of software.

- ❖ Programmers compete with each other for recognition.
- ❖ Programmers do not compete with each other for recognition.

- ✓ Programmers freely provide improvement for recognition if their improvement is accepted
- ✓ Programmers are hired by the software firm/organization to improve the software

- If the program is popular then very large number of programmers may work on the project.
- There is a limitation on the number of programmers/team who will work on the project

- ❑ It is purchased with its source code
- ❑ It is not purchased with its source code.

- ❖ Open software can be installed into any computer.
- ❖ Closed software needs have a valid license before installation into any computer.

- ➢ Open source software fails fast and fix faster.
- ➢ Closed source software has no room for failure.

- **In open source software no one is responsible for the software**
- **In closed source software the vendor is responsible if anything happened to software.**

**Examples are Firefox, OpenOffice, Gimp, Alfresco, Android, Zimbra, Thunderbird, MySQL, Mailman, Moodle, TeX, Samba, Perl, PHP, KDE etc**

**Examples are Skype, Google earth, Java, Adobe Flash, Virtual Box, Adobe Reader, Microsoft office, Microsoft Windows, WinRAR, mac OS, Adobe Flash Player etc**

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What is the four Essential freedom that makes a software free?

The term “free software” is sometimes misunderstood—it has nothing to do with price. It is about freedom. A program is free software if the program’s users have the four essential freedoms:

- The freedom to run the program as you wish, for any purpose (freedom 1).
- The freedom to study how the program works, and change it so it does your computing as you wish (freedom 3).


- The freedom to redistribute copies so you can help your neighbor (freedom 2).
- The freedom to distribute copies of your modified versions to others (freedom 4). By doing this you can give the whole community a chance to benefit from your changes..

# Thank You for Listening!

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