



## **Choosing the Right Open Source License for Your Software**

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## Open Source Framework

Open source is two different things are the same time:

- Open source development model
- Open source licensing model



## Open Source Development Model



<https://www.pexels.com>



## Definitions

Source Code – language programmers use to write software

Object Code – source code that has been translated into machine readable code using a compiler

Proprietary Software

Freeware – Proprietary code that is distributed at no cost such as Skype and Adobe Reader

Public Domain – author has waived his/her copyright interest/No IP rights.

Derivative

Distribution



## Open Source Licenses

Open Source Initiative (OSI) is the stewards of the Open Source Definition (OSD) and the community recognized body for approving licenses as OSD compliant.

~ 100 approved licenses

Most commonly used ones include:

- GPL
- Apache 2.0
- MIT
- BSD
- Mozilla



## Open Source Licensing Model

Permissive Licenses

Copyleft



MIT  
BSD

GPL  
Mozilla  
CDDL  
AGPL3



## Permissive Licenses - MIT and BSD

- Do whatever you want with the code
- Use at your own risk
- Acknowledge me



## Copyleft Licenses



- If you distribute object code you must make the source code available
- Same copyleft terms as the code you got
- No additional restrictions
- Strong/weak – scope of surrounding software that may be subject to copyleft provisions





## Compliance

Why is compliance important when using open source software

Factors to consider when implementing a compliance program



## Open Source License Guidelines

What factors should a university tech transfer office consider when choosing an open source license?



## Non-commercial Use Licenses

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Questions?

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**Thank You!**

