

Open Source Software and Libraries

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Abstract: Open Source software and the programming habits surrounding Open Source software are becoming more and more popular in library settings. We'll take a closer look at the possibilities and drawbacks of Open Source as well as some practical examples of Open Source applications in libraries.

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<http://web.media.mit.edu/~nicholas/>

Open source: Cons

- Lack of documentation, support
- Lack of focus on user interface design
- Tendency to program with open source developers as an intended audience, rather than the general public
- Reinventing the wheel syndrome - refusing to learn lessons from proprietary software

Open Source: Pros

- Fewer conflicting priorities due to marketing pressures
- There is no single entity on which the future of the software depends.
- Availability of the source code and the right to modify it

Open source: Discovery

OpenSearch Plugins

<http://www.lib.montana.edu/~jason/dev/tools/>

Open Source: Experiments and Innovation

Montana State ETD Application

<http://etd.lib.montana.edu/etd/view/>

<http://etd.lib.montana.edu/etd/view/itunes.xml>

Open Source: Standard Skills and Programming Techniques

Montana State Libraries People and Resources Management Tools

<http://new.lib.montana.edu/people/>

<http://new.lib.montana.edu/resources/>