

REUSE

Make licensing easy for everyone

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Some fundamental problems



- Which license does a file have?
- How to properly declare licensing and copyright information?
- How can developers make sure that re-users adhere to their licensing choice?



**Are the current solutions
solving these problems?**

REUSE goes a different path



REUSE
S O F T W A R E

<https://reuse.software>

- Solve problem at the source!
- Best practices for Free Software developers to increase reuse and sharing of their software
- Licensing and copyright information stored in files
- Started in 2017, version 3.0 released this August



Three simple steps



REUSE
S O F T W A R E

<https://reuse.software>

1. Choose and provide licenses
2. Add copyright and licensing information
3. Confirm REUSE compliance

1. Choose and provide licenses

- Choose license(s) the project uses
- Save the license text(s) in the project's LICENSES/ directory
- Use SPDX license identifiers

```
project/  
├── LICENSES/  
│   └── GPL-3.0-or-later.txt  
├── src/  
│   └── main.c
```

2. Add copyright and licensing info

- In each file, add information in comment header
 - License(s): *SPDX-License-Identifier*
 - Copyright: *Copyright* or *SPDX-FileCopyrightText*

```
/*  
 * SPDX-License-Identifier: GPL-3.0-or-later  
 *  
 * SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2019 Jane Doe <jane@example.com>  
 * Copyright © 2017 Foo Bar <foo@bar.baz>  
 */
```

2. Add copyright and licensing info

- Two alternatives if in-file header are not possible:

1. Extra **.license** file ←

2. DEP-5 file in `/.reuse`

```
project/  
├── img/  
│   ├── cat.jpg  
│   └── cat.jpg.license
```



```
SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2019 Jane Doe <jane@example.com>  
SPDX-License-Identifier: CC-BY-SA-4.0
```


2. Add copyright and licensing info

- Two alternatives if in-file header are not possible:
 1. Extra .license file
 - 2. DEP-5 file in /.reuse ←**

```
Format: https://www.debian.org/doc/packaging-manuals/copyright-format/1.0  
Upstream-Name: reuse-example  
Upstream-Contact: Free Software Foundation Europe <https://fsfe.org>  
Source: https://github.com/fsfe/reuse-example
```

Files: img/*

Copyright: 2019 Jane Doe <jane@example.com>

License: CC-BY-SA-4.0

3. Confirm REUSE compliance

Run the REUSE helper tool to check for lacking information

```
$ reuse lint
```

```
# SUMMARY
```

```
* Bad licenses: 0
```

```
* Missing licenses: 0
```

```
* Unused licenses: 0
```

```
* Used licenses: CC-BY-4.0, CC0-1.0, GPL-3.0-or-later
```

```
* Read errors: 0
```

```
* Files with copyright information: 6 / 6
```

```
* Files with license information: 6 / 6
```

```
Congratulations! Your project is compliant with version 3.0 of the  
REUSE Specification :-)
```

Components

Best practices

Specification to make REUSE an industry standard



FAQ / Tutorial

Answer basic licensing and copyright questions

Helper tool

Support developers in becoming REUSE compliant



API / Badge

Quickly check a repository and generate a dynamic badge

REUSE adopters

- Many FSFE source code repositories
- >120 projects funded by the European Commission in the scope of the *Next Generation Internet* project
- (Linux kernel)
- Your projects?

Thank you! Questions?



REUSE
S O F T W A R E

Web: reuse.software

API: api.reuse.software

Git: git.fsfe.org/reuse | github.com/fsfe

Legal information

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