Free and Open Source Software Tools for Making Open Source Hardware

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Agenda



- Open source hardware
- Free and open source software for designing PCB
- Free and open source CAD software and 3D printing

What is Open Source Hardware? Group



Design of physical objects that is publicly available so that anyone can study, modify, distribute, make, and sell the design or hardware based on that design

Open Source Hardware Licenses Grou



- GNU General Public License (GPL)
- Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike
- CERN Open Hardware License (OHL)
- TAPR Open Hardware License (OHL)
- FreeBSD
- MIT
- Other

OSHW Benefits



Open source hardware is good for:

- Giving confidence that the design will be available if the original manufacturer stops production
- Putting pressure on the price to be low
- Enabling customizations for 3rd party products
- Sharing knowledge, educating students and getting feedback from the community

Who is making OSHW?



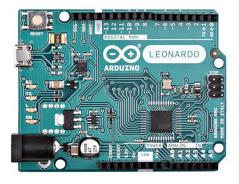
- Arduino
- Olimex
- SparkFun
- Adafruit
- Intel
- Google
- IBM
- And many more...

Arduino



Just a few Arduino products:

- Arduino Leonardo
- Arduino MEGA 2560
- Arduino YUN



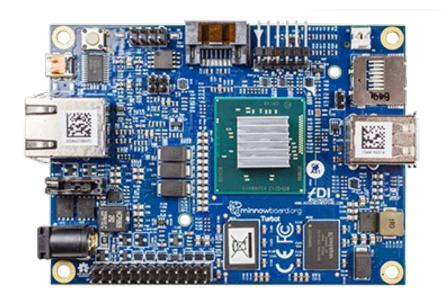




MinnowBoard Turbot



Open source hardware development boards with Intel Atom CPU



Google Cardboard



Affordable way to experience virtual reality through a smartphone and an open source cardboard case

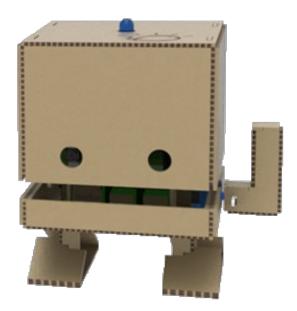


https://vr.google.com/cardboard/manufacturers/

IBM TJBot



An open source hardware case for building a robot using Raspberry Pi and Watson services



Olimex TERES-I

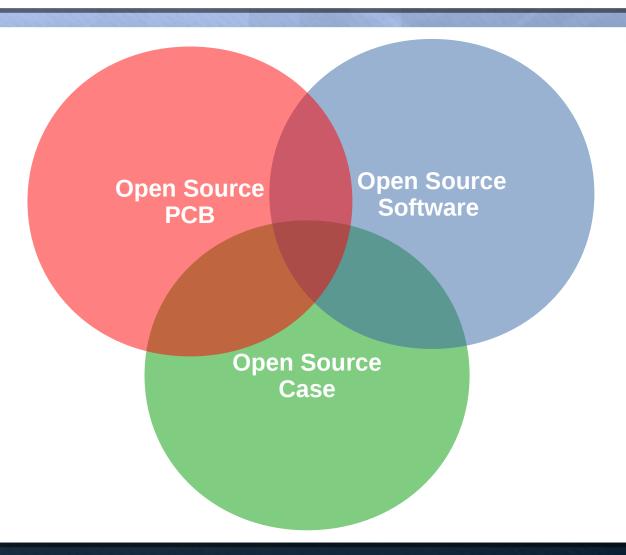


- Do-It-Yourself open source hardware laptop
- Allwinner A64 64-bit ARM SoC
- 2GB DDR3L memory
- 16GB eMMC flash memory
- 11.6" LCD display
- WiFi, camera, etc.





Open Source Physical Product





Is it worth designing open source hardware with expensive proprietary software tools?

PCB Proprietary EDA



- EAGLE free for small 2 Layer PCB, free for students, paid subscription;
- Altium (formerly known as Protel) free trials, paid subscription
- OrCad free trials, free student version, paid licensing
- SolidWorks Electrical online product trial, trial software for a class and curriculum development, paid licensing

Popular FOSS EDA



- Fritzing
- gEDA
- KiCAD

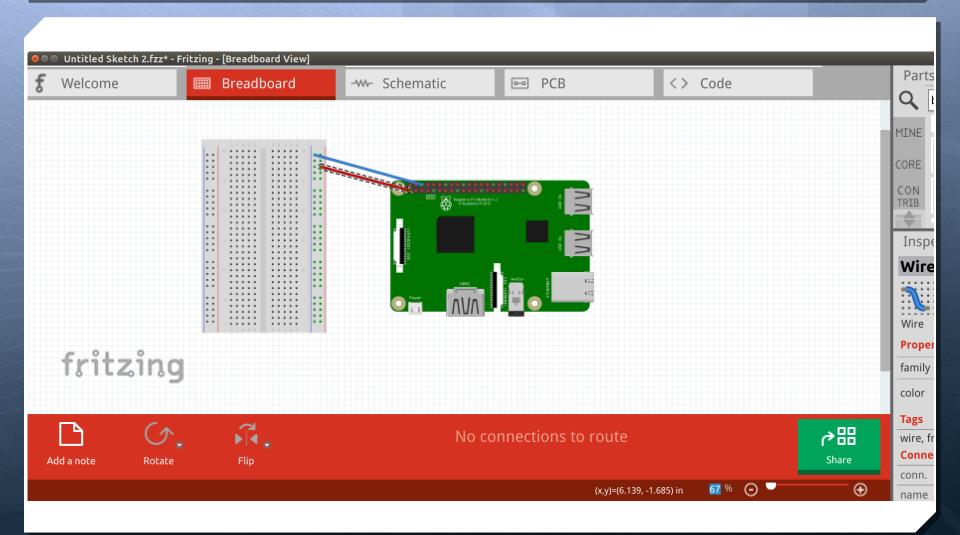
Fritzing



- □ Free & open source software (GNU GPLv3)
- Cross platform (works on GNU/Linux distributions, MS Windows and Mac OS X)
- PCB view for designing single layer PCB
- Widely used by the community for sketching hobby projects with Arduino, ESP8266, Raspberry Pi, etc.
- Written in C++ with Qt, source in GitHub

Fritzing





gEDA



- Free & open source software (GNU GPLv2)
- Cross platform (works on GNU/Linux distributions, MS Windows and Mac OS X)
- Supports PCB with multiple layers
- Written in C/C++ with GTK+, source in Git repositories

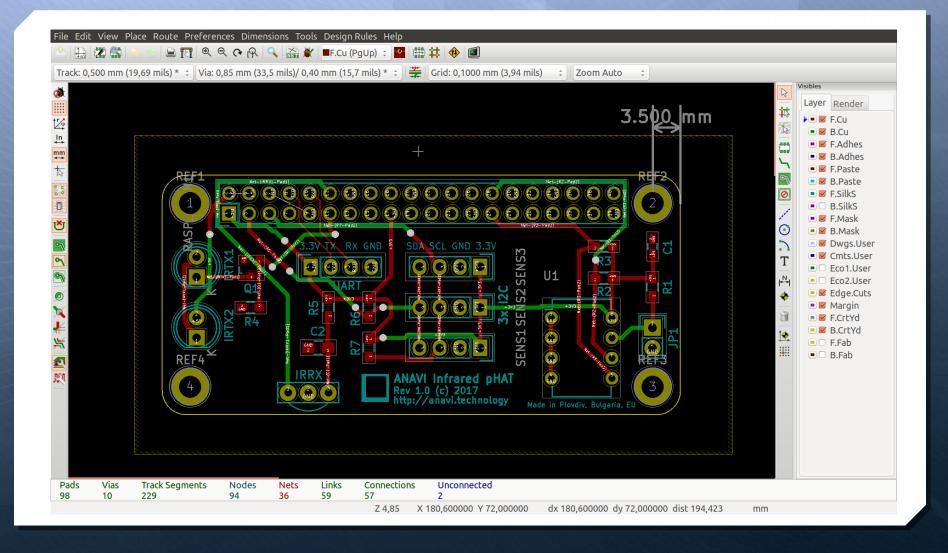
KiCAD EDA



- □ Free & open source software (GNU GPLv3)
- Cross platform (works on GNU/Linux distributions, MS Windows and Mac OS X)
- Supports PCB with multiple layers and integrated 3D viewer
- Contributions from CERN developers
- Already well adopted by the industry
- Written in C++, source in Git repositories

KiCAD Pcbnew





MeowCAD



- Online tool for designing PCB in a web browser
- Free & open source software (GNU AGPLv3)
- Written in JavaScript, python and Go, source in GitHub

https://meowcad.com/

Recommendations



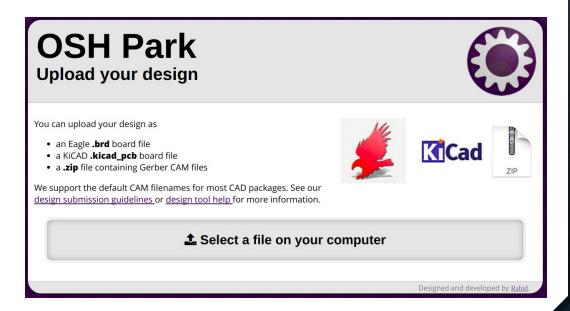
- Comply with the minimum requirements of the PCB manufacturer for trace spaces, drills and angular rings
- Keep in mind the complexity of the assembly process while designing the PCB
- Consider the design of the case simultaneously with the design of the PCB

Prototypes



PCB printing services from:

- OSHPark (made in the USA)
- Local European factories
- China



3D CAD Software



- OpenSCAD
- QCAD
- FreeCAD
- Blender

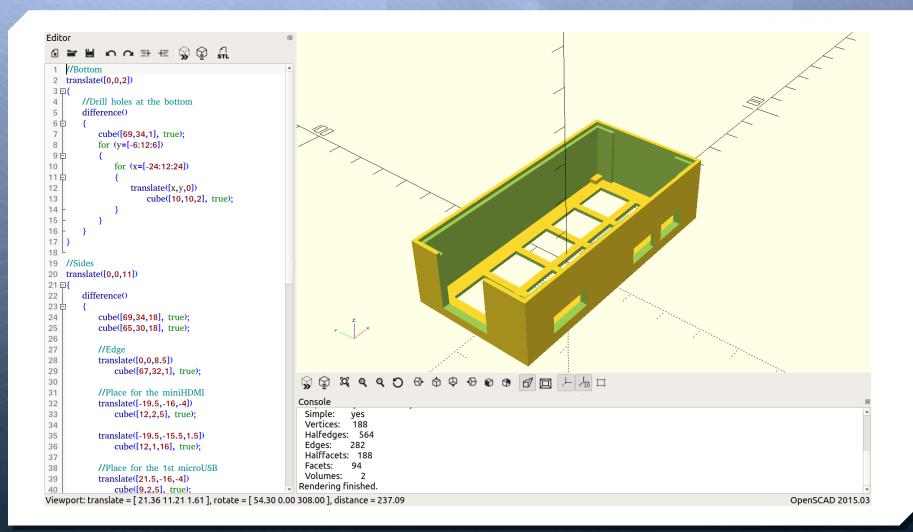
OpenSCAD



- Software for creating solid 3D CAD objects
- Script-only based modeller with its own language
- Free & open source software (GNU GPLv2)
- Cross platform (works on GNU/Linux distributions, MS Windows and Mac OS X)
- Written in C++ with Qt, source in GitHub

OpenSCAD





QCAD



- 2D CAD software
- Free & open source software (GNU GPLv3)
- Cross platform (works on GNU/Linux distributions, MS Windows and Mac OS X)
- Written in C++ with Qt, source in GitHub

FreeCAD



- General purpose software for 3D modelling based on OpenCASCADE
- Free & open source software (GNU LGPL2+)
- Cross platform (works on GNU/Linux distributions, MS Windows and Mac OS X)
- Written in C++ & Python with Qt, source in GitHub

Blender



- Professional 3D computer graphics suite for creating animated movies, visual effects and 3D models
- Free & open source software (GNU GPLv2)
- Cross platform (works on GNU/Linux distributions, MS Windows and Mac OS X)
- Written in C, C++ & Python with OpenGL, source in Git repository

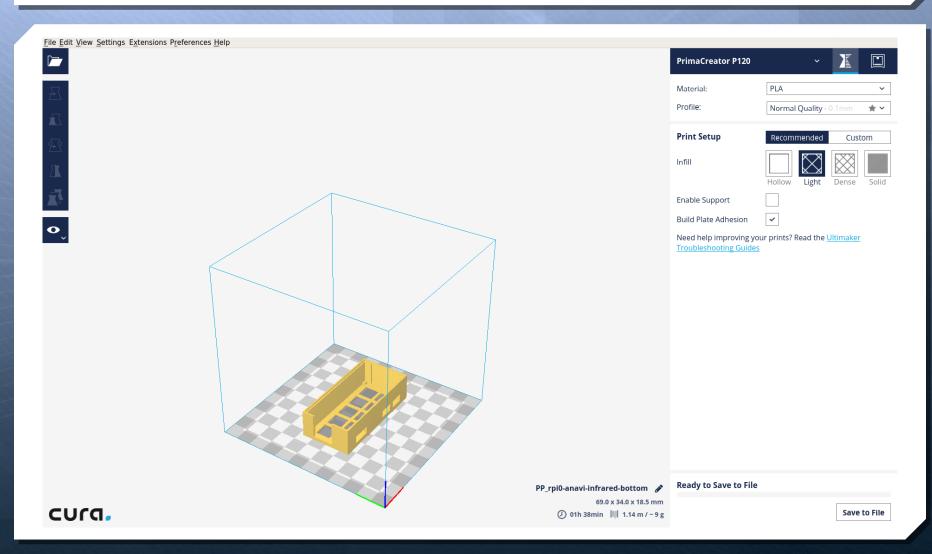
Ultimaker Cura



- 3D printer slicing application
- Supports Ultimaker and many other 3D printers
- Free & open source software (GNU LGPLv3)
- Cross platform (works on GNU/Linux distributions, MS Windows and Mac OS X)
- Written in Python with QML, source in GitHub

Ultimaker Cura





Conclusions



- Open source hardware is a viable business model
- High quality free and open source software tools for designing open source hardware are available





Share your hardware and software under open source licenses:)

Thank You!



Useful links:

- http://fritzing.org/
- http://www.geda-project.org/
- http://kicad-pcb.org/
- http://www.openscad.org/
- https://www.freecadweb.org/
- http://www.qcad.org/en/
- https://www.blender.org/
- https://ultimaker.com/en/products/ultimaker-cura

