

GIVING GUIDE | 2014

Are you giving your loved ones tech gifts they can use freely, or gifts which put someone else in control?

From remote deletion of files to harsh rules about copying and sharing, manufacturers slip nasty software restrictions under the wrapping paper. But there are ethical alternatives! Free software (think freedom, not price) increases security, protects from surveillance and puts control where it belongs -- with the user. Get discounts and discover more gifts at fsf.org/givingguide.



ThinkPenguin GNU/Linux Notebook

- Comes installed with a free software operating system, works with others
- Carries proprietary boot firmware, but is still one of the most freedom-supporting laptops
- Discounts available!



GIMP and Inkscape

- Free software, with thriving developer communities
- Designed for free formats, but can also open files created in nonfree programs
- Wide variety of plugins grants limitless features



Apple Macbook Pro

- App Store uses DRM (Digital Restrictions Management) to limit what you can do with your purchases.
- Included software spies on you
- Business model forces you to buy new devices frequently



Photoshop and Illustrator

- Nonfree software controlled by Adobe
- Prefers locked-down proprietary formats
- Requires costly subscription to stay up to date



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Lulzbot TAZ 4.0

- Certified to run with all free software, making 3D printing more accessible and encouraging innovation
- Hardware designs available to make modification and improvement easy
- Discounts available!



Makerbot Replicator 2

- MakerWare software is proprietary, restricting freedom and stifling innovation.
- Recently announced an increasingly proprietary approach, further distancing itself from the free developer community



Project Gutenberg

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- The original purveyor of ebooks free of DRM (Digital Restrictions Management), inspiring many others
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Amazon

- Can remotely block or delete individual ebooks with no warning (they've done it before)
- Uses DRM to prevent you from sharing - Amazon openly claims you don't actually own or control your ebooks.

