GIVE FREELY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

By the Free Software Foundation. Learn more at www.fsf.org

Electronics are popular gifts for the holidays, but people often overlook the restrictions that manufacturers slip under the wrapping paper. Companies like Microsoft and Apple can and will use Digital Restrictions Management (DRM) to restrict how your loved ones copy or share their gifts. And if the recipient of your gift is as unlucky as one woman last year, Amazon might even block all the books on their Kindle and refuse to explain why.

The good news is, for every restrictive device, there's a better one that your loved ones will be free to enjoy however they wish. Here's a list of these smarter gifts, compared with their more restrictive alternatives on the right.

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Trisquel GNU/Linux

- Completely free operating system: transparent and modifiable.
- Break the cycle of forced upgrades and planned obsolescence. Visit trisquel.info to download.

Windows 8

- Proprietary software that profits from controlling how you use your computer.
- Invades privacy and exposes personal data to Microsoft, the NSA, and other malicious attackers.

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ThinkPenguin GNU/Linux Notebook

- Comes preinstalled with free software for a no-hassle experience.
- This laptop is not fully free—but it is one of the most freedom supporting models currently available.
- Visit libre.thinkpenguin.com and gnu.org/links/companies to shop for fully free GNU/Linux compatible laptops.

Macbook Pro

- Runs on proprietary software that restricts the user's freedoms.
- Apple's App Store uses DRM (Digital Restrictions Management) to restrict what you can do with your purchases.
- Planned obsolescence: business model forces you to buy new devices frequently.
Project Gutenberg

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- Amazon claims you don't actually own or control your ebooks.

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- Get your friend a gift membership today at fsf.org/associate. Membership donations are tax-deductible in the US.
- For a smaller gift, donate in a friend's name at fsf.org/donate

iTunes Card

- The iTunes store uses DRM (Digital Restrictions Management) on everything it sells except music to control what you can do with your purchases.
- Apple claims (wrongly) that you don't actually own anything you buy from the iTunes store.
- Requires proprietary software to use, including to download DRM-free music