

23 RDM Things

Edition Free Licenses



You would like to publish your research data and make it reusable and now you are asking yourself: "How do I communicate to other researchers what they are allowed to do with my data?" Use free licenses!

Free or open licenses are public licenses (one licensor, many licensees) that allow the use, redistribution, and modification of copyrighted works. This also supports the Open Data guiding principle.

In this handout, we have arranged important information, links and literature on the topic for you.



Basics

A free license is a kind of generalized declaration of consent which the author can apply to give potential users information on how data may be re-used. You can find basic information and literature on free/open licenses on the following websites.

- 1 Information on licenses at [forschungsdaten.info](https://bit.ly/2YFvXpH)**
» <https://bit.ly/2YFvXpH>
- 2 Information from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research**
» <https://bit.ly/3bYS4KQ>
- 3 Appeal to use open licenses**
» <https://bit.ly/3n5BPIr>
- 4 "How to License Research Data" (DCC How-to Guide)**
» <https://bit.ly/3FawUGh>
- 5 Open licenses for research data (Brettschneider et.al.)**
» <https://bit.ly/3C0sW0Z>



Legal Issues

Before choosing a free license, you should establish whether your research data is protected by copyrights or performance rights and whether you are actually the rights holder.

There is unfortunately no general answer to this. But the information below can guide your legal assessment.

- 6 Legal Issues in Open Science - A Guide (Kreutzer et.al.)**
» <https://bit.ly/3C7SKli>
- 7 Framework conditions for research data management (HeFDI)**
» <https://bit.ly/3wFcbHp>
- 8 Who "owns" research data? (Brettschneider)**
» <https://bit.ly/30fBYd1>
- 9 Online magazine on rights in creative media**
» <https://bit.ly/30aca24>
- 10 Platform for legal matters in Social Sciences and Humanities**
» <https://bit.ly/3wji0DW>
- 11 Platform for legal matters in RDM in general**
» <https://bit.ly/3qxWPDP>



Creative Commons

Creative Commons licenses (CC) are often used for the licensing of research data. The following information provides insight into the most widely used among the free licenses.

- 12 Overview of CC Licenses**
» <https://bit.ly/3wy9o2Q>
- 13 CC licenses selection aid**
» <https://bit.ly/30br15Q>
- 14 Considerations for CC licensors and licensees**
» <https://bit.ly/3H6dtjH>
- 15 A practical guide to using Creative Commons licences (Kreutzer)**
» <https://bit.ly/3qoGaCt>



Selection Guideline and Tools

Deciding exactly which license is suitable for your data often depends on several factors. The following election guidelines and tools help you in choosing the appropriate license for your works and data.

- 16 License-Selector by Charles University (Institut ÚFAL):**
» <https://bit.ly/3omVgpt>
- 17 "Choose an open source license" by GitHub Community:**
» <https://bit.ly/3F35AJS>
- 18 Free and Open Software License Center**
» <https://bit.ly/3ogDkNb>
- 19 Overview of free and open source licenses**
» <https://bit.ly/3qt2KK4>
- 20 Licenses according to the "Open" principle**
» <https://bit.ly/3c4JURf>



Focus Topic: RDM software

Here you can find information about licensing research software.

- 21 Handout on how to use research software**
» <https://bit.ly/308Jl6a>
- 22 Software licenses explained in simple English**
» <https://bit.ly/3C3X4Zd>
- 23 Research Software Engineers (RSE) website**
» <https://bit.ly/3n6s8TL>