

Annual Open Source Software I'm Using

- [The Open Source Software I'm using in 2025](#)
- [The Open Source Software I'm Using in 2026](#)
- [The Open Source Software I'm NOT Using Anymore](#)
- [The Open Source Software I'm Still Using in 2026 - Part 2](#)

The Open Source Software I'm using in 2025

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/bex0UEoUMbU>

I have done an annual video about the open source software I use on a regular basis for the past several years, and in keeping with that tradition this is my current / updated list. I undoubtedly have some that I've missed, but I hope this list and the associated links will inspire you to find and try some new software you didn't know about, or have been curious about.

Timestamps

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Links

Linux on the Desktop and Server

An open source, freely available, full-featured operating system for any computer (seriously, any computer). They have x86, x86_64/amd64, aarch64, armv7, and so many other variants available.

<https://www.linux.org/>

Homepage

A dashboard to help you quickly access your homelab and self-hosted services, as well as to get a quick glance at stats for those services through their available APIs.

<https://youtu.be/3Ux7zfCCM1A?si=hkxncm9EYLrA2Kvd>

<https://gethomepage.dev/>

Proxmox

A virtual machine and container orchestration platform (think VMWare, ESXI, and so on), but free and open source.

<https://youtu.be/38G0ghc5RfM?si=q6HdfIXATseS2LMa>

<https://www.proxmox.com/en/>

Technitium DNS Server

A self hosted DNS server with a ton of features for controlling the DNS for all your domains.

<https://youtu.be/QWvVVheYCes?si= fRPWGKkOItOpm7W>

<https://technitium.com/>

Netbird VPN

A powerful Wireguard orchestration platform to create a robust network of machines and devices across the internet as though they were all on one local network.

https://youtu.be/_vfSgqmOUI?si=1ANs3PLztRgkSkB0

<https://youtu.be/Vi2UqOFqDQU?si=oS7jxmPVJwJrDiLd>

<https://youtu.be/ro7hbqLyv9M?si=lkxSYOJ9-83CXA33>

<https://youtu.be/FHiku2Lt3x8?si=HfDLzj2Q96YMJNgS>

<https://netbird.io/>

OpenWRT

Powerful router firmware that can be installed on tons of off the shelf hardware, x86 machines, and even raspberry PI type single board computers.

https://youtu.be/4zmo8RafBFg?si=cfRnGOW_ytNSDoau

https://youtu.be/WMiSH7xsL6w?si=H67LFR8_OP-BIFzW

<https://openwrt.org/>

Beszel

An easy to setup, powerful system monitoring server.

https://youtu.be/xzl_uMaIND8?si=JskJs02XdqoeaAwd

<https://beszel.dev/>

Minarca Backup

An amazingly powerful and robust server-client backup system.

<https://youtu.be/JuM5AbrJgZQ?si=IIDlc0kOmq6tVhBG>

https://minarca.org/en_CA

LXConsole

Graphical web user interface for orchestrating your servers running Incus containers and KVM virtual machines.

https://youtu.be/xGh_k4bUaUQ?si=Pqf9gIUePYzovN_-

<https://github.com/PenningLabs/lxconsole>

RxResumes

A robust, easy to use, easy to setup Resume builder.

<https://rxresu.me/>

Immicch

Google Photos, Apple Photos, replacement. Self hosted, open source, and powerful features like face recognition, location grouping, timelines, memories, and so much more.

<https://youtu.be/0TX9cMQIOdY?si=EeNRN3LgcMrGJeQr>

<https://immich.app/>

Wazuh (SIEM)

Endpoint intrusion and detection software, but also so much more. It can be setup to remove applications added to various protected locations, it can scan endpoints for viruses, and send out alerts of devices with issues such as security alerts, virus alerts, malware issues, and so much more.

<https://youtu.be/dwr-4CXtOso?si=1dAMXX3fR7XEs-k>

<https://wazuh.com/>

Uptime-Kuma

Service status uptime, monitoring, and alerting tool.

<https://youtu.be/ausjbjrjFI?si=WnWVbmDloZhdnhME>

<https://uptime.kuma.pet/>

Get My

A simple application for getting stuff done. Lists, to-do's, menus, and more.

https://youtu.be/hbGNTzU24hl?si=uFXLSpi0_d55AN-o

<https://getmydocs.opensourceisawesome.com/>

Invoice Ninja

A powerful, open source invoicing, payment, expense tracking, estimation, and quoting system.

<https://youtu.be/Uv11VPP4XP4?si=sLdlcWeJ7tjZDQU6>

<https://invoiceninja.com/>

NGinX Proxy Manager

A reverse proxy to help direct traffic properly to all your self-hosted services.

<https://youtu.be/RBVcnxTiIL0?si=NA4Z2h0aTAsdFluT>

<https://youtu.be/UfCkwIPlozw?si=ZMFADgx4P-u7gbuB>

<https://youtu.be/cjJVmA11Do4?si=ibr-UADuKO05c5tL>

<https://nginxproxymanager.com/>

Home Assistant

Open source home automation under your control on your terms.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLjLkaXQ35321UKMrpRp81_w2Hc_tcnsj

<https://www.home-assistant.io/>

Authentik

Self hosted, open source Single Sign On identity and authentication service.

https://youtu.be/KIDJ4K45M_o?si=vFt-LYxGuLD6ckDD

<https://goauthentik.io/>

Guacamole RDP SSH VNC

Web portal for Remote Desktop access through RDP, VNC, and even terminal shell access as needed. User and machine groups, roles, and permissions galore.

<https://youtu.be/DGw6P5Lkj-U?si=mhchw2v4xQqldiCkl>

<https://youtu.be/WlYAGuMbjmY?si=U99W6wuZYgRIM04z>

<https://guacamole.apache.org/>

Nextcloud

Self hosted, open source Microsoft 365 replacement, with privacy first, ownership as top of mind, and federation that you approve.

- File Syncing and Sharing
- Email
- Calendars, events, meetings and notifications
- Notes
- Contacts
- To-do boards
- Team Chat, Voice, and Video calling
- External Voice, Chat, and Video calling
- Browser based office suite
- so much more

<https://youtu.be/OCLq62KOqNU?si=ItCD-7mwdNUmZod6>

<https://youtu.be/YZN2n0Wv0p4?si=Ne4iz3Q-UIUWD1M->

<https://nextcloud.com/>

Metabase

Open source data analytics platform made for the average person.

<https://youtu.be/eYUnfyq7KWU?si=s59BuUaj-ft6PmhS>

<https://www.metabase.com/>

FluffyChat for Matrix

Chat client for the Matrix protocol.

<https://fluffychat.im/>

https://youtu.be/H-6kflqPol4?si=bQVz_g3dx2_wVt3O

<https://youtu.be/TFDFR6EBG3k?si=CwDDb1JDxM97I--N>

Evolution Email

Email for the Linux Desktop

<https://help.gnome.org/users/evolution/stable/>

FreeCAD

Computer Aided Design for modeling and 3D printing designs.

https://youtu.be/-Woz1q4iIKY?si=0sKzNUtHYsWQ_C5r

<https://www.freecad.org/>

LibreOffice

Open Source full office suite that is better than Microsoft office (seriously).

<https://youtu.be/q-PoKzTlJY8?si=x7Le-G12ZQl9sYq9>

<https://www.libreoffice.org/>

Veloren

Online game server that you can run yourself, or share with the world.

<https://youtu.be/y8YrZ8QQCjg?si=YDVinGoP69ZzxAix>

<https://veloren.net/>

GIMP

Photoshop replacement with incredible tools and power.

<https://www.gimp.org/>

RustDesk

Anydesk, Teamviewer, GoToAssist full replacement that's open source and self hostable.

<https://youtu.be/9nzHm3xGz2I?si=HOYo8bs7DucL6CSr>

<https://youtu.be/EeFqj23jxMk?si=N3dXfSnrHgXFroxf>

<https://rustdesk.com/>

Ghostwriter

Open Source Markdown editor

https://youtu.be/O_yIPQOPQxA?si=mLPoW4LEyNnQSCU8

<https://ghostwriter.kde.org/>

VSCodium

Full open source version of VSCode code editor.

<https://vscodium.com/>

OBS (Open Broadcast Studio)

Open Source, powerful recording and streaming orchestration software.

<https://obsproject.com/>

The Open Source Software I'm Using in 2026

<https://pt.opensourceisawesome.com/videos/embed/kYU98bEs9KMS2tX1igzKZL>

Authentik

<https://goauthentik.io/>

https://youtu.be/KIDJ4K45M_o?si=B34xfPzxNCIPfTYa

Nextcloud

<https://nextcloud.com/>

<https://youtu.be/OCLq62KOqNU?si=sZELIsUMnziCcdAR>

Navidrome

<https://www.navidrome.org/>

<https://youtu.be/K3DtR3g2S8Y?si=tyAF0C5kMzqfR7Xw>

Jellyfin

<https://jellyfin.org/>

https://youtu.be/psHLgVzjLhY?si=_4BY6hmpIZyLGKZB

Metabase

<https://www.metabase.com/>

<https://www.metabase.com/>

Beszel

<https://beszel.dev/>

https://youtu.be/xzl_uMaIND8?si=47BznhPCYz1LHzSs

Bookstack

<https://www.bookstackapp.com/>

<https://youtu.be/2izkat9tzoY?si=ct5bxujfGlrfa0s>

Vaultwarden

<https://github.com/dani-garcia/vaultwarden>

<https://github.com/dani-garcia/vaultwarden>

Pangolin

<https://pangolin.net/>

<https://youtu.be/zEBaXAU8zE0?si=AXhQYGzH0Wf5Wx69>

Immich

<https://immich.app/>

<https://youtu.be/0TX9cMQlOdY?si=2J0zjWg9KPQsPqPJ>

Chhoto URL

<https://github.com/SinTan1729/chhoto-url>

<https://youtu.be/ZUOmIHRaBow?si=WGI9ozXqwIkd7jMM>

LubeLogger

<https://lubelogger.com/>

https://youtu.be/_eAsSytpwlw?si=bNWSG8Jb5tTNmKE-

Quant-UX

<https://www.quant-ux.com/>

<https://youtu.be/liL0FyQOG-k?si=VijwXDyUTuAqVgfv>

Netbird

<https://netbird.io/>

https://youtu.be/_vfSgqmOUI?si=zqy-0ygd8KCir-rM

<https://youtu.be/Vi2UqOFqDGU?si=5IXLMVESsuDODljz>

Peertube

<https://joinpeertube.org/>

<https://youtu.be/lw9XQmIY0gU?si=Ga9UPriYdbLHzGYC>

Home Assistant

<https://www.home-assistant.io/>

<https://youtu.be/E2YXIArfjdE?si=nMluzWoabMlvHhzo>

<https://youtu.be/Km0CNQETPuM?si=4xw4F9IFSO50EsTS>

Matomo

<https://matomo.org/>

https://youtu.be/8ilAwAgAhpU?si=ijrUT_R19Z8vN2nO

Nexterm

<https://nexterm.dev/>

https://youtu.be/G4Q-vj_lHtA?si=C6lpYtBXXB6nUGvz

Forgejo

<https://forgejo.org/>

https://youtu.be/FPVpKCvFQr8?si=L6i-PHW_6H8BnpYK

Guacamole

<https://guacamole.apache.org/>

<https://youtu.be/DGw6P5Lkj-U?si=SKN3o0scxKNpemGG>

<https://youtu.be/WlyAGuMbjmY?si=iRnxXZwknRnqWYu->

LXConsole

<https://github.com/PenningLabs/lxconsole>

https://youtu.be/xGh_k4bUaUQ?si=mFTVKiOKeUfalni2

Invoice Ninja

<https://invoiceninja.com/>

https://youtu.be/Uv11VPP4XP4?si=NCFHpt5jL_jtTN6O

OBS - Open Broadcast Studio

<https://obsproject.com/>

Thunderbird

<https://www.thunderbird.net/en-US/>

Nextcloud Talk

<https://nextcloud.com/talk/>

https://youtu.be/mRbWNR3_os?si=MoZjFB45hNse5hFL

Ollama and Open-Web-UI

<https://ollama.com/>

<https://openwebui.com/>

Ardour

<https://ardour.org/>

FreeCAD

<https://www.freecad.org/>

<https://youtu.be/-Woz1q4ilKY?si=jb03Pbl6-nEOzkyX>

The Open Source Software I'm NOT Using Anymore

<https://pt.opensourceisawesome.com/videos/embed/n8jv6nvoutEGomiaDUBqbh>

MeshCentral - Reason - Lack of Wayland Support, but they are working on it.

<https://github.com/Ylianst/MeshCentral>

Crater Invoice - Reason - Wnet Unmaintained, but was spit off to [InvoiceShelf](#)

<https://crater.financial/>

RocketChat - Reason - Just became too hard to maintain, and little by little more features behind a paywall.

<https://rocket.chat>

BarrierKVM - Reason - No longer need, and unmaintained

<https://github.com/debauchee/barrier> - **Updated offering called Deskflow**

<https://github.com/deskflow/deskflow>

Joplin Notes - Just grew out of it into Nextcloud Notes for convenience

<https://joplinapp.org/>

PI-hole - Reason - Just moved on to more powerful tools over time

<https://pi-hole.net/>

Discourse - Reason - No longer needed, very heavy on resource usage

<https://www.discourse.org/>

Portainer - Reason - Moved on to other tools, slowly grew more to business instead of community

<https://www.portainer.io/>

Ghost Blog - Reason - Moved to a more flexible platform that had better support

<https://ghost.org/>

NGinX Proxy Manager - Reason - Found a purpose built reverse proxy that included the wireguard tunnel in it.

<https://nginxproxymanager.com/>

TrueNAS - Reason - Just more than what I personally needed

<https://www.truenas.com/>

FusionPBX - Reason - No longer needed it.

<https://www.fusionpbx.com/>

Remotely - Reason - Went mostly unmaintained (Immense/Remotely)

<https://github.com/immense/remotely>

URBackup - Reason - Went unmaintained and stopped working - **possibly maintained again as of Feb / March 2026.**

<https://www.urbackup.org/>

Tabby - Reason - Just moved on

<https://github.com/eugeney/tabby>

Dashy - Reason - Just moved on to other dashboard

<https://dashy.to/>

Mail-in-a-box - Reason - No longer wanted to run a mail server, and fell behind on linux base, and getting a VPS that isn't on a blacklist was painful due to spammeers.

<https://mailinabox.email/>

QOwnNotes - Just an awkward, clunky interface

<https://www.qownnotes.org/>

Cal.com - great, but found the same features built into Nextcloud

<https://cal.com/>

If you check these out, and in particular for those that have been unmaintained, and you find a new version, fork, or whatever...let me know in the video comments, or drop me a message on Matrix @mickintx:discuss.opensourceisawesome.com.

The Open Source Software I'm Still Using in 2026 - Part 2

<https://pt.opensourceisawesome.com/videos/embed/iRe3HzH913McYbKvkYo1iq>

Software Description and Links

WriteFreely

<https://github.com/writefreely/writefreely>

WriteFreely is a modern, clean, focused blogging and journaling software solution.

Picsur!

<https://github.com/CaramelFur/Picsur>

Picsur! is a self hosted, open source solution for photo upload and linking. It's Imgur for the privacy focused individual.

OpenWRT

<https://openwrt.org/>

OpenWRT is open source firmware / software used on network equipment like routers, wifi routers and access points, switches, and more. It's the best way to take full control of your network.

WLED

<https://kno.wled.ge/>

WLED is an incredibly powerful LED lighting control solution that runs on ESP32 and ESP8266 devices. It's incredible how much those little boards can do. I'm linking to ChrisMaher as well, because he has an awesome channel almost solely focused on getting the most from WLED.

<https://www.youtube.com/@ChrisMaherDIY>

OpenSprinkler Pi

<https://opensprinkler.com/product/opensprinkler-pi/>

This is a hardware and software project. The hardware is build as a sprinkler controller, and in the case of the Pi version it's an add-on to a raspberry Pi. Connect them up, and install the software. You've get a fully functional, powerful, and actually usable sprinkler automation and control system.

Technitium

<https://technitium.com/dns/>

Technitium is a self hosted DNS server with all the features adn power you can imagine. Intended to be run as several different DNS servers for fall back, it uses a synchronization system so you setup DNS inone, and the rest inherit those changes. Block Ads, protect your privacy, and route like a pro.

RustDesk

<https://rustdesk.com/>

RustDesk is a fully open source, self hosted, encrypted remote desktop support system akin to AnyDesk, TeamViewer, and other popular proprietary solutions out there. It's extremely useful and powerful.

KdenLive and Shotcut

<https://kdenlive.org/>

<https://www.shotcut.org/>

These are two fully open source, and incredibly powerful video editing solutions.

Wave Terminal

<https://www.waveterm.dev/>

This is a newer one for me, but I really like how it functions. It boasts a host of modern functions, and adds the option to utilize AI within it if you want to. Even without it, it has a ton of really nice features, is super easy to get into using, and even has some great features of it's own by utilizing their `wsh` command tools.

Veloren

<https://veloren.net/>

Self Hosted, Open Source, MMORPG. This is one of the greatest, funnest games to play with your family friends, or even on the public servers all over the world. So many great features, and constant updates.