

Free Software Movement: How Non Programmers can play a vital role too

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There are many ways of contributing to Free Software movement other than just hacking on the codes. Lets take a look at how you can make a difference.

REPORTING BUGS AND ENHANCEMENTS:

Users feedback is necessary and indispensable too. If you find any bugs in the software you are using or if you wish to have a feature added in future, you can report it in the bug section of the concerned website. Some software also have inbuilt bug tracking/reporting tools for your convenience, you can also use them too.

CREATIVE WORKS:

If you are good enough in artwork or creating multimedia stuffs, you can do a lot of work for this movement. Create logos, icons, graphics, wallpapers and above all themes to make Free software and related websites more attractive and userfriendly.

SOFTWARE LOCALISATION:

You can promote your mother tongue in computing task and vice versa. Make regional users use computers without learning English. Localise not only the software but also the manuals, help files and even the website too. So that people can take the advantage of these software without any English terms.

ADVOCACY:

Encourage others to use Free software and make them informed about the alternatives offered for available Proprietary software. Also about the advantages of using Free software. Thus you can make not only a community of Free software users but also a community of active contributors of Free software Movements.

FINANCIAL and RESOURCE HELP:

Donating money to the authors of various Free software, you are using, can also help this movement to grow rapidly. Because it will make them satisfied that someone really thinks that their software is worthy.

You can also donate Hardware to the projects and to your local GNU/Linux users groups can also help them grow in a big way.

GREAT IDEAS:

No one can guess all the needs of users. So if you have any great idea, which you think may help this movement and community to grow, feel free to discuss it on various forum or at relevant venue.

USER GROUPs : The simplest one, gathered with some of your fellow Free software users and make a user group at your locality or join the same. And keep preaching for this Movement.

So , go ahead and be a part of this great movement for freedom, and enrich yourself and society with this vast expanse of knowledge. Because knowledge is no use in a showcase where other can see it but can't none can use it. It's a great time, just put your knowledge to more productive use.

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