

Software Enshittification or Freedom?

It's not a hard choice!



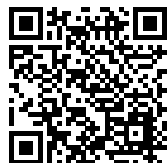
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<https://www.fsfla.org/svn/fsfla/ikiwiki/blogs/lxo/pres/unshittify/>

Summary

- Enshittification
 - of software
 - of the web
 - of “your” devices
- How to fight back



Enshittification

- Online services
- Lure victims in
- **Change the deal**
- Bait and switch 2.0
- Irresistible strategy
- How platforms **die**



So nothing to worry about?

Software (industry) enshittification

- Multi-layer enshittification
- From obedient machines to...
 - Nonfree software, builtin **malware**
 - **Imposed** updates (backdoor)
 - **Exclusive** app stores
 - Remote revocation



It has intensified over time

Software (static) enshittification

- Back when users could choose
- Offline voluntary upgrades
- Users could choose to roll back
- New and old versions competed
- Needed attractive new features
- Upper limit for enshittification









Hard to get it worse from under you

Software (dynamic) enshittification

- Online imposed updates
- No way to roll back
- Most enshittifiable (so far)
 - On your computers: TRApps and **CRA**pps
 - Javasc**rap**ped **WWW**orst App Store
 - Service as a Software Substitute (**SaaSS**)



Programmable Devices

- SmartIoT 
- Installable nonfree software (firmware, μ code)
 - Auto-installed by OpSys 
 - Available in online repo 
 - From driver disk, download 
- RYF hardware
 - With firmware \equiv hardware circuit 
 - Without firmware 

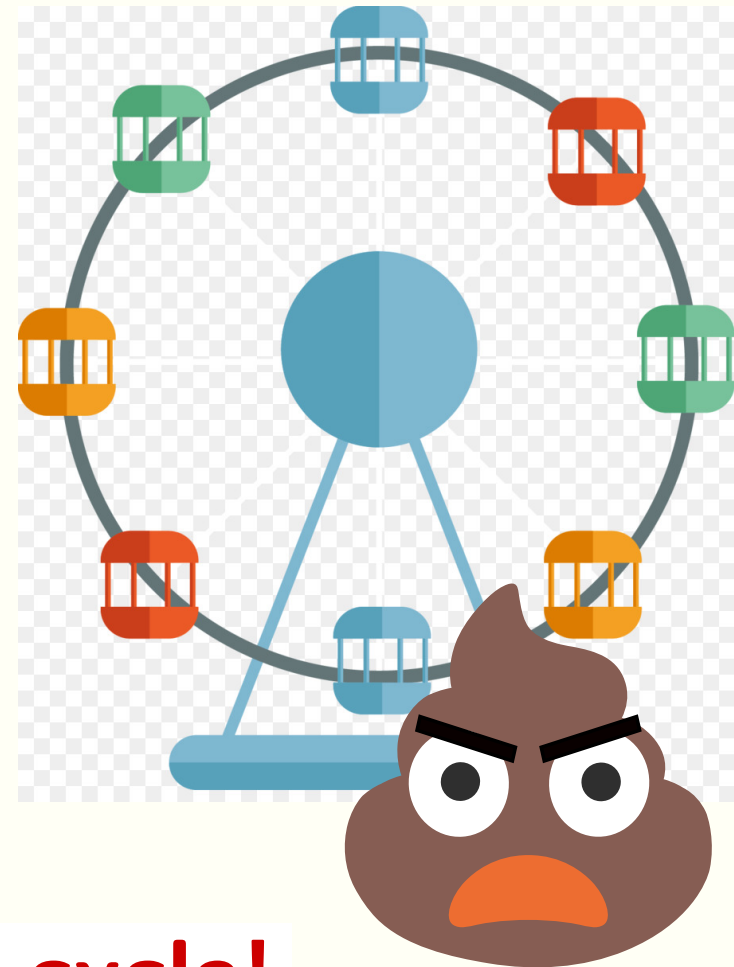
There's a new μ code version.

Should I install it?



Enshittification cycle

- Bait
- Dependence
- Switch
- Extraction
- Death?
- Unhappiness



Break the cycle!

Software Freedom: Attain

- Increment it: flush!
 - CRApps, TRApps, WWWRApps, SaaS
 - Beware Free-for-somebody-else Software
- Disrespectful to boot
- Expect enshittification
- Compare accordingly



Irresistible strategy, absent freedom

Software Freedom: Keep

- Eternal vigilance
- Control your computing
 - Enshittification or freedom?
- Avoid enshittifiable crap
- Cultivate desirable alternatives
 - Unregrettable **backup** plans



Unshittify your digital life

**Four freedoms a day
keep enshittification away**



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Be (Shit-)Free!

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Thank you!