Licences

Data accessibility is defined by the presence of a user license. The license you select will determine the freedom with which others can reuse your data. When choosing a license, it is important that you adhere to any funder, repository, institutional, legal or ethical obligations.

1 Data

CC0

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If you find the use of a CC0 license is inappropriate for your data, you should consider the following CC licenses all of which require attribution in addition to further restrictions:

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CC BY-NC – Prevents the licensed data from being used for commercial purpose.

CC BY-ND – Prevents the licensed data from being modified.

CC BY-NC-ND – Prevents the licensed data from being used for commercial purposes or modified.

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Caution!

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Making your software open source allows it to be freely used, modified, and shared by others. To ensure this is the case, you should consider using a license approved by the Open Source Initiative. Popular OSI approved licenses include: MIT, GNU General Public License, and Apache License 2.0.

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Once you’ve selected a license, you need to apply it. Most licenses include application instructions, so it’s best to follow these. Repositories also often support license application by allowing you to select a license from a pre-defined list on deposition.

Caution!
Be aware of any licensing restrictions where your dataset contains data derived from a 3rd party.

Caution!
Licenses cannot normally be revoked, and license conditions may differ with version.

Toolbox

→ OSI Approved Licenses
→ Choose an Open Source License
→ CC License Chooser
→ How to License Research Data