

iText Dual Licensing

HISTORY OF ITEXT LICENSING

2010

DUAL MODEL

- Commercial customers are guaranteed complete legal warranty, support & updates with version 5 and higher.
- Free users are obligated to distribute the full source code of their applications, according to the AGPL terms.

2009

LICENSE CHANGE TO AGPL

- A clean version 5.0.0 is released under AGPL terms.
- Newest features for PdES, PDF/A, PDF/UA get added continuously.

2008

FIRST ITEXT COMPANY

- Code was carefully reviewed to remove or refactor proprietary code and ensure 100% clean IP rights to the software.
- Version 2.1.7 is the last version under the old licensing terms and no longer offered or supported.

2000

LAUNCH

- The very first version of iText was released under LGPL/MPL terms.
- The only obligation is to distribute the changes you make to iText.

itextpdf.com

Is iText Free? iText is Free Open Source Software offered under the AGPL license. It can be used for free only in situations where you also distribute your software as free open source. As soon as you want to use iText in a closed source, proprietary environment, you have to pay for your use of iText.

WHAT IS “FREE SOFTWARE?”

Many people think that free software simply means “software you can get for zero price.” However, according to the Free Software Foundation, free software is “software that gives the user certain freedoms.”

Free software is licensed software. A license defines the terms by which you can reproduce, adapt or distribute the software. Some license types can be more permissive, while others – less so.

WHAT IS “OPEN SOURCE?”

Open-source software (OSS) is software for which the source code is freely and publicly available, though the specific licensing agreements vary as to what one is allowed to do with that code.

WHAT IS THE AFFERO GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE (AGPL)?

AGPL is a type of “copyleft” license, as opposed to a “copyright.” While copyright does not give you any rights over the software, copyleft gives you permission to reproduce, adapt or distribute the software, AS LONG AS any resulting copies or adaptations are also bound by the same copyleft licensing scheme.

AGPL is often referred to as a viral license: all the software that touches an AGPL library such as iText needs to be free too. AGPL increases software freedom as it creates even more open source for the community.



Did you know?

Free Software is licensed software. A license defines the terms by which you can distribute the software.

iText Commercial License

INVESTING IN YOUR BUSINESS

Because iText has full ownership of the iText code, it is able to tailor its commercial licensing terms to meet the unique requirements of users interested in embedding or bundling iText.

YOU GET:

✓ Legal warranty and compliance during internal audits

With a clean and clear-cut license, you're insured against any IP infringements. You also get peace of mind during funding rounds, or company mergers or acquisitions.

✓ Future-proof performance

iText maintains best-in-class ISO compliant features by releasing frequent updates and fixes. With an iText commercial license, you're ensured that your systems will be running smoothly, regardless of how technologies and laws change in the future.

✓ Consulting and support

Most medium to large businesses need support, especially for different data formatting and advanced media integration. iText support and consulting are available to assist with timely answers to support tickets and best practices.

Freedom comes with responsibility. We at iText have invested a lot of time and effort into cleaning up the code base. As a professional open source company, we are very disciplined with respect to code contributions. You, as a responsible developer or a business, need to take action too.

ARE YOU RUNNING AN OBSOLETE VERSION OF ITEXT, E.G. VERSION 2.1.7 (OR ITEXT SHARP 4.1.6) COMMERCIALY?

You do this at your own risk: running a business with no intellectual property (IP) guarantee, or offering your customers outdated features may cost you money or your reputation.

ARE YOU RUNNING ITEXT 5 OR HIGHER IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AGPL STIPULATIONS?

• Are you using iText to create a closed source application?

If the answer is YES, you may be in legal violation of the AGPL terms.

• Have you opened the source of your free application?

If the answer is NO, you still have work to do – open your code, or consider buying a license.

ARE YOU CONSIDERING ITEXT FOR A FUTURE PROJECT?

If you're an in-house developer, OEM, independent software vendor or a reseller and do not wish to distribute the source code for your software under the AGPL, you must enter into a commercial agreement with iText. We provide flexible pricing based on your unique scenario – deployment in the cloud, servers, desktops or distributed in an OEM bundle.

If you've checked one of the above, contact us to discuss iText commercial license agreement options.

Request a quote: itextpdf.com

Questions? itextpdf.com/contact

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