

Open Source Hardware Survey

Do you have any feedback or comments about the survey?	
Answer Options	Response Count
	226
answered question	226
skipped question	1865

Number	Response Text	Categories
1	I know only two genders: male and female.	
	What's the purpose of the survey?	
2	no.	
3	I intend to release projects as OSH, but I have yet to finish any of them. So I intend to put the OS	
4	M-m-m... it's quite Western, you know, First-World.	
	Don't remember seeing "self-taught" mentioned. Education is not available everywhere.	
	Also, nothing about communication. 24/7 Internet is not available everywhere.	
5	Great survey with excellent questions!!	
6	More questions, and please give us the raw data of the study so we can analyse the data using p	
7	None other than that it's odd I didn't see it earlier. Hopefully it will have gotten wider attention th	
8	How do I get started with open source hardware?	
9	one of the questions was unclear - I mentioned that in the section below. (about hardware only b	
10	I liked it. good questions. You should get some good info.	
11	no	
12	a little bit long!	
13	I probably shouldn't have taken it. ;)	
14	THANKS!!!!	
15	Seems very interesting. I would like to see the results.	
16	your welcome. =)	
17	Well done.	
18	No	
19	Nope! Hope you are having fun reading through all of these!	
20	No.	
21	Thanks for doing this!	
22	I was confused by the choices "pursuing" and "incomplete" for the educational background. The	
23	This is a great survey, I hope it helps the push of open-source hardware.	
24	Look forward to the results!	
25	Great survey! look forward to reading the results	
26	most open hardware not from big places are crap	
27	I think question seven could have been splitted in a few more questions, and some questions cou	
28	This should be yearly like the Git users survey! The statistics are always really nice to see from t	
29	Good thorough survey without being long and tedious.	
30	Not sure if I qualify for the survey, but what the hell!	

- 31** When thinking about educational resources, don't forget the homeschool kids! There are some b
- 32** I like it.
- 33** No
- 34** good luck
- 35** THANK YOU OPEN-SOURCE!!!!
- 36** na
- 37** Oh I guess I left these in the other box.
- 38** well done!
- 39** Not sure what it means to "develop" open-source hardware. I've made a number of circuits both
- 40** Nice amount of questions. Not too many.
- 41** A version of this would be nice to have as a check list for launching an open hardware communit
Maybe an option to select.
- 42** Do you have a one man hackerspace?
Are you thinking about making a open
hackerspace? (because some of us out
there actually have a machine park that
would have ordinary tech people drool in
ave.
And some of us is thinking of maybe
sharing this oneman lovelines with others
with a mind like ours that do not have
access or money to bye or use machines.)
- Website idea.
So in regards to open source hardware, you
could have a place on the website where
people could team up. Select country, city
and see if there is someone in your
naborhood, that would like to share
machines and facilities.
- 43** Provide an "out for those not currently working on an open source project. It seems that in my ca
- 44** none
- 45** None.
- 46** a little too long...
- 47** i look forward to having an association and to putting the logo on the [open source hardware proj
- 48** Great Survey and Good Luck for Open Source Hardware Association
- 49** Well-designed.
- 50** I am happy to see not just strides but leaps occurring on the OSHW forefront. Please keep up the
- 51** it is a great way for people to share all the good idea.
- 52** Thank you for doing this
- 53** Thanks for hosting a wonderful survey and I hope it turns out well!
- 54** very good survey

55 I think the Open Source Hardware Initiative has some of the greatest potential payback for investment, period. Having seen crisis medicine and desperation engineering in Haiti, I can appreciate the level of impact some of these projects can have. Being able to have the complete schematics, programming language, and technical sheets for a product is priceless when it needs to be repaired. Being able to hop onto the internet and have knowledgeable experts ready and willing to coach you on fixing/improving the product will save lives and provide incredible support to communities who have access to it.

As a learning tool, I can't even begin to tell you how much this has helped me.

56 Bit long :-)

57 have a nice day

58 looong

59 Keep up the great work!

60 Not sure what you are trying to learn. I was just thinking that an open source hardware organization

61 It contains too many questions actually

62 just because it is about open source, doesn't mean everyone wants to share information about e

63 Thanks for making the survey. I can't wait to see the results.

64 NA

65 I would have answered a question or two in the "user" section of the survey differently had I know

66 It's almost unreasonably long.

67 pretty comprehensive

68 I thank spark fun for being awesome. May the electromagnetic force be with you.

69 Seems quite complete, maybe too centred on electronics. Many other kinds of open hardware ex

70 nice survey, btw :)

71 good job=)

72 I would like to see the final results of his survey.

73 Thanks for being interested! :)

74 Less typing questions. Better responses from lazy or busy people. But kudos on that they are no

75 Very good survey, short and to the point without a lot of boring secondary questions. I look forward

76 Being & remaining OPEN

77 I'm longing to see the results!

78 not much up to now

79 cool story bro

80 Enseñen a trabajar, crear y dar sin esperar nada a cambio.

La vida recompensa a quienes trabajan para educar.

81 No.

82 I liked the survey, felt quick and straight to the point, good job.

83 "The hardware I want only exists as open-source" seems hard to rate on a scale like that.

84 publish the results

85 It's good to have a chance to take this survey!

86 Nope.

87 a bit too intrusive about demographics

- 88 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_OXfAPPckQU
- 89 nope
- 90 maybe the best survey I have ever done
very interesting questions
well designed
maybe a little too long
- 91 Nope
- 92 bit long? Oh well, I have no better use for my time.
- 93 Excellent idea... Will the results of the survey be posted anywhere?
- 94 Open source hardware and software makes the world go round. Just look at how many things we
- 95 It was kind of long and I was hoping there would be cake and grief counseling at the end.
- 96 I think you should open source the survey results and see what exciting things the community co
- 97 this is a well-laid-out survey. and I found it particularly fun to fill out.
- 98 Thanks for doing this assessment of the OSHW community! I think it will benefit all of us!
- 99 no
- 100 No.
- 101 nope
- 102 great idea, i think that open-everything movement should consolidate and such surveys are small s
- 103 It's important. Thanks.
- 104 its tooo long! but necessary.
- Hope my answers help.
- 105 Orange on gray is not the easiest colors on the eyes.
- 106 No
- 107 I did not realize it was this comprehensive. Please excuse the very brief explanations.
- 108 Love the survey.....
- 109 didn't feel like giving some of the answers, even though I feel like they'd be interesting to see from
- 110 Well constructed questions!
- 111 Thanks for this initiative.
We've got to get organized people!
- 112 Overall, nicely put together survey. I would consider explicitly digging into some of the software s
- 113 no
- 114 Surveys are generally no fun, somewhat misleading but I wanted to participate and see the resul
- 115 Thanks ...
- 116 T'was a bit long. Perhaps John or
whomever created it has a career in
creating surveys for industry magazines ;-)
- "Are you in charge of the purchasing
decisions for the following types of
components: resistors? capacitors? Linear
regulators?..."
- 117 Not too much, just that some of the "how important" questions didn't all make sense
- 118 nope
- 119 ...
- 120 Thanks for taking the time to do the survey!
- 121 I think the results of this survey will be interesting...
- 122 thank you for your interest
- 123 Nope, but thanks for your work in the open source field!
- 124 No
- 125 Good survey

- 126 very good thing
survey in education, in technology, in
society... is very important.
- 127 [this comment contained information that
may identify the respondent and was
removed to protect their anonymity]
- 128 Great idea!
- 129 Thanks for putting together a survey! I'm glad someone is taking the time to research our little world
- 130 Good work :)
- 131 Try to fit it on less pages. Whether that's reducing the number of questions or putting more questions on fewer pages.
- 132 Open questions are hard. Much easier to do tick boxes etc, rather than fill out a big blank box.
- 133 degree table is not international. what is an associate degree ?
- 134 Very well thought out!
- 135 A bit long
- 136 Missing Fablabs as an option on one of the earlier questions, next to the maker and hacker space
- 137 ...
- 138 feels like it covered sufficient areas for me.
- 139 Hope for the best
- 140 It seems very much aimed at the business demographic which is fine but might scare off hobbyists
- 141 no
- 142 Please provide a list of some well-known open-source projects.
- 143 not really
- 144 no
- 145 A little long but I am glad you are doing this. Sorry for not answering the middle questions I had to skip
- 146 The study / degree questions fit well to USA, but I can't tell what degree I'm studying, because of the way the questions are phrased
- 147 focused to the US.
- 148 No :)
- 149 Long live the open hardware :)
- 150 Nice initiative! Will be fun to see the result
- 151 None
- 152 would have done more, busy at work. :-/
- 153 Keep up the good work.
- 154 Some questions are better answered through a phone interview or meeting or else. But it was really helpful
- 155 No
- 156 thanks for all your efforts and inspiration!!
- 157 not at this time
- 158 no
- 159 please send me the results of this survey.
- 160 Good survey! :-D
- 161 The word "free" (as in freedom) is not mentioned once. "Open Source" is a confusing term that needs to be clarified
- 162 great
- 163 good initiative
- 164 Nope.
- 165 some answer sets didn't fit the associated statement. makes it harder to answer correctly. "The study is focused on the US" is a bit confusing
- 166 I think I have said enough.. hope it is useful.
- 167 Just because Bill Gates says that sharing / Open Source is Un-American does NOT mean he knows better
- 168 I really believe that there should be more tie-ins to open source software because it has a strong history

169 Left in previous boxes.

I HATE SURVEYS.

You are lucky, I vowed to do 4 a year, you are #2!!!

170 Happy to participate!

171 Nope

172 Make it less USA based, I don't know what the hell a associate degree is, and I didn't go to high s

173 Not at this time

174 The "important/not important/etc" should have a "Not Applicable" option

175 Not sure the difference between the first three categories on the first question.

176 I love Jeri Elsworth.

177 Games are for children. Use your skills for something worthwhile and to the actual betterment of

178 s'alright.

179 Nil.

180 Wow, is this survey long or what!?!

181 has too much weird questions

182 Nice survey.

183 I don't know what you meant by making an open source project. Design one from scratch and sh

184 Yeah! the "Next" button has reset me back to the start several times! Buggy, closed-source softw

185 no

186 Your survey assumes that respondents have many completed, released projects. I do not. I pos

187 No.

188 Thanks for gathering this information, I'll be interested to learn more about this great community.

189 None

190 Too many 'fill in by writing'!

Race and ethnicity? ohh please...

191 It's insanely long.

There are several related questions

192 scattered around. They should be together.

The direct questions like age, gender, company etc. should come in the beginning. In answering the longer questions I added in that information because I thought it was relevant and hadn't been asked yet.

Some of the questions in the importance rating question sets don't make sense given the response options. They should be rephrased such that each of the possible answer choices is a valid answer to each question.

193 "Race" fields seem US-centric

194 I only found this because I subscribe to the twitter account. Is it spread out enough?

- 195** I think the survey is very well done.
- I was only a little uncomfortable with the section on "Race" and "Ethnicity" which I find irrelevant to an open community, and I do not understand how that information could be of any help...
- 196** well, you need to consult with a sociologist or someone who is familiar with survey methodologies
- 197** Can't wait to see the results!
- 198** Question 15 seems quite strange: what would one's racial/ethnic background have to do with open source?
- 199** the second important/unimportant list was somewhat vague... but other than that no it's a good survey
- 200** You should consider removing the question about race/ethnicity. Legal penalty for this kind of question is not worth it.
- 201** no
- 202** school level is only understandable by us natives
- 203** [this comment contained information that may identify the respondent and was removed to protect their anonymity]
- 204** useful to ask for contact details, to start building an open database of interested people - might help with outreach
- 205** Good work at keeping survey sensitive (having "other" options in traditional either-or questions, etc.)
- 206** Too long
- 207** Nicely laid out and very thorough survey.
- 208** Thanks for all the work put into the community.
- 209** Less essay questions.
- 210** It was cool.
- 211** Questioning the licenses (think it was ~q18) it is not possible to select "have not already, but would do it under this and that circumstances" ... but maybe this only affects me as i have not released anything yet ... same applies to "have you made money with open source designs..."
- Really great survey otherwise!!!!
- 212** I hope to see the results of this survey have a positive impact on the OSHW community!
- 213** Could the OSH also shed some light on the TAPR Open Hardware licenses? Granted, TAPR Open Hardware is a bit of a niche, but it's a good idea to have a survey that covers the whole community.
- 214** Just that I really appreciate the work y'all do. One of the things that really bothers me about electronics is the lack of open source designs.
- 215** [this comment contained information that may identify the respondent and was removed to protect their anonymity]
- 216** Great job Catarina! Can't wait to see the data.
- 217** It's great! Best of luck with the results
- 218** Nope -- glad you are doing this, though I'm not doing many hardware projects right now.
- 219** Nope.
- 220** Great to see the survey happen. Too bad I don't have time to fill it out in detail right now. Great work!
- 221** Thank you for running this survey -- I'd love to see the results published when you're ready!
- 222** Nope.
- 223** Nope. Keep up the good work guys(gals)!
- 224** Should have asked what hardware is used: arduino, beagle, etc... because I think right now Atmega is the most common.
- 225** Just thankful for the possibilities of Opensource! Stoked to begin contributing.

226 Many of the multiple-choice questions were missing *really* obvious answers.

WAY too many of the open-ended questions were way too vague.

And, THIS question belongs at the end of the survey, not in the middle. The next page has flaws, too.

SH logo there, but I haven't yet. On this question I could choose Yes/No, so I picked Yes :)

proper methods (multivariate analysis of variance & factor analysis)
an has been obvious to me, and not just to "people reading this particular blog, and on that particular for
eing available as open source)

difference was not so clear to me

uld have only popped up according to previous answers.
hat.

brilliant, untapped minds in that demographic, just waiting to be introduced to the open source community

from scratch and on top of existing open designs, but I've not open-sourced them as they're very much
my project.

else, I promote open source but am not directly involved in a particular project so it felt alienating around

project] prototype

the momentum!

ion could network or team with professional organization like the IEEE, ACM, APS, ACS, ASME, USA S
everything.

vn what was coming in the "designer" section.

ist such as reprop, plastic extrusion & moulding, or CNC machining. Convergence of all those forms of

t mandatory.
rd to taking it next year..

e use daily.

mes up with.

steps in gaining knowledge about this movement.

n the community

side of open source hardware in a future survey (for example, where/why is it easier/harder to code agai

ts of this one. Mainly because I think this gen-x will be responsible for getting the USA back to what it dc

orld.

ions on a single page.

es.

makers. Well done for arranging this I look forward to the results, open I trust!

o run so I skipped a few.
f the difference in educational systems.

ally comprehensive and hit most if not all the key points.

nisses the point entirely, if you do any activism about freedom. I surely won't forbid anybody else to use i

hardware I want only exists as open source" doesn't jive well with unimportant to very important range a

ows what he is talking about.

place in the open source hardware community, but otherwise it seemed like a very good survey. I look f

school

humanity.

Comparing with open source distribution or just buying and using other people's products and designs?
Are...

Post my findings on my website/blog as they happen and don't really pursue any kind of '1.0' release of any

s, there are mistakes in question/answer formulation, in general, survey does not shine as professional, :

en hardware ? :/

survey

estion can get pretty high at least in France.

elp facilitate groups in areas where they are not currently active.
such as gender).

l licenses tend to be for larger projects where patent and material design are more significant. Still, the
tronics design as an industry is that no one seems to be actually having fun with it. You get so locked in

ork. Keep it up!

el and arduino are dominating, dangerous thing. Would be good to know how much domination

um".

1.

beginner/learner projects. However if asked I would always share. I put "NO" to this question but feel th

I the 3rd page... This will cause some users to bail out...

cience & Engineering Festival, etc, educational institutions like MIT, and gov't groups like NSF to promot

open hardware and fabrication capabilities sharing seems a promising way. Hackerspaces & fablabs prc

inst than proprietary hardware).

es best.

it, but if the hardware community would be more careful in "double branding" the movement, it would ma

answer.

forward to seeing the results!

thing.

sorry to say that ;)

TAPR licenses seem more relevant to certain projects depending on the OSH --they might not be aware of the idea of "job" that it takes someone coming in from outside to remind you of just how amazing it is

the YES/NO paradigm was a bit limited.

te itself to and educate students.

propose an interesting model.

like it far more easy for activists to do our job...

of the added protections. Perhaps dedicate a page to comparing the advantages of each.. that so much can now be accomplished so easily. You really put a lot of energy and life back

