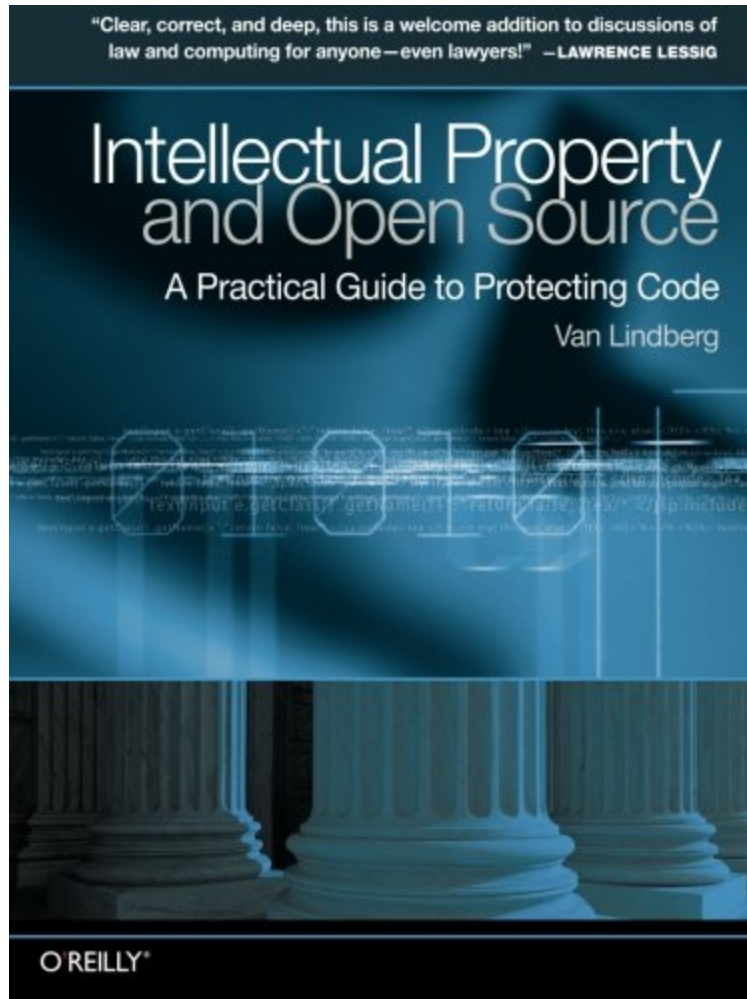


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# Intellectual Property and Open Source: A Practical Guide to Protecting Code

Van Lindberg

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**Van Lindberg : Intellectual Property and Open Source: A Practical Guide to Protecting Code** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Intellectual Property and Open Source: A Practical Guide to Protecting Code:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Gives the context that other books miss By Customer What distinguishes this book is context - it puts open source in the context of economics and real-life IP concerns. It isn't just about the legalese. It talks about the purposes of intellectual property and how we make agreements about how to share and sell that IP. No other book addresses concerns like employment agreements, contracts, and nonprofit organizations, all of which are essential to successfully working with open source today. 2 of 2 people found the

following review helpful. Great book for variety of audiences  
By Filkertus I am an attorney with a decent background in the basics of intellectual property. I bought this book because I wanted to learn more about IP issues related to open source licensing. While this book isn't really written for an attorney audience I still found it to be very useful. In addition to dealing with the important legal issues related to open source licenses the book also does a great job of discussing and analyzing the economics and community issues that are critical to understanding the open source movement in general. He also does an excellent job of discussing the various theories and philosophies behind the open source movement which I think are important to understand for those who are really interested in having a thorough understanding of open source. The author is an attorney and programmer and the book is geared more towards an audience who has a decent background or knowledge in computer programming. If you do not have a background in computer programming some of the examples and analogies the author uses are a bit hard to follow but in most cases I did not find it was critical to fully understand the examples to understand the author's point. Overall I think it is a great book for developers who work on open source platforms and for attorneys who are looking for an general overview or introduction to the legal issues which surround open source software.  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars  
By AGG77Pithy read but lays out all of the facts on open source licensing with use cases.

"Clear, correct, and deep, this is a welcome addition to discussions of law and computing for anyone -- even lawyers!" -- Lawrence Lessig, Professor of Law at Stanford Law School and founder of the Stanford Center for Internet and Society  
If you work in information technology, intellectual property is central to your job -- but dealing with the complexities of the legal system can be mind-boggling. This book is for anyone who wants to understand how the legal system deals with intellectual property rights for code and other content. You'll get a clear look at intellectual property issues from a developer's point of view, including practical advice about situations you're likely to encounter. Written by an intellectual property attorney who is also a programmer, *Intellectual Property and Open Source* helps you understand patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, and licenses, with special focus on the issues surrounding open source development and the Gpl. This book answers questions such as: How do open source and intellectual property work together? What are the most important intellectual property-related issues when starting a business or open source project? How should you handle copyright, licensing and other issues when accepting a patch from another developer? How can you pursue your own ideas while working for someone else? What parts of a patent should be reviewed to see if it applies to your work? When is your idea a trade secret? How can you reverse engineer a product without getting into trouble? What should you think about when choosing an open source license for your project? Most legal sources are too scattered, too arcane, and too hard to read. *Intellectual Property and Open Source* is a friendly, easy-to-follow overview of the law that programmers, system administrators, graphic designers, and many others will find essential.

About the Author  
The title that best describes Van Lindberg's job is "translator" - translating from "lawyer" to "engineer" and back. He enjoys working with both computer code and legal code to get things done. As an attorney, Van helps people build businesses around ideas. His experience allows him to analyze and evaluate intellectual property in a sale, license or litigation context. Van also participates in the Open Source community. He helps businesses work with and develop Open Source software and helps developers navigate the legal system to achieve project goals. He has direct experience in digital circuit design; operating system design; application programming; networked and distributed systems; virtualization; wireless networking; high-availability systems and programming languages. Outside of the traditional IP areas, Van is particularly interested in the Open Source licensing model. He has been involved (mostly as a user, but with occasional contributions) in the Open Source community since 1994. Van's favorite computer language is Python.