

# Free Software: Do you get what you pay for?

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?You get what you pay for? is a familiar maxim. I know people who live by it. If you want quality, you have to pay for it. Invest to get the best.

When it comes to computer programs, [Linus Torvalds](#) [2] would disagree. ?Software is like sex: it?s better when it?s free.?

I started to explore the range of computer that is free of cost in the year 2000. We had moved nearly 1000 kilometres from the Blue Mountains to Queensland?s Gold Coast, and I was playing Mr. Mum for three years while my wife Sonya completed her university degree.

[I had more time on my hands than I was used to](#) [3]

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[1] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/68>

[2] [http://www.businessreviewonline.com/os/archives/2008/06/the\\_10\\_best\\_lin.html](http://www.businessreviewonline.com/os/archives/2008/06/the_10_best_lin.html)

[3] <http://www.adriantry.com/free-software-do-you-get-what-you-pay-for/>