Tech Latte

FREE GUIDE

9 GitHub repos that can replace paid software

The nine free, open-source projects from our video, with the link to each one and a plain note on what it does, what it can replace, and what it still costs to run.

INSIDE	Nine links, one note for each, and the costs and limits to know first.
COST	The software is free. Some of it needs a paid key, a server, or a hosted plan to run the way you want.
FROM	Tech Latte · techlatte.ai

Each project checked on its GitHub page on 22 November 2026

1 Before you start

"Open source" means the code is public and free to use. You can download it, run it yourself, and in most cases use it in your business.

Free code is not always free to run. Here is what to watch for:

- **Some need a paid key.** An app may be free, but the AI model or data service behind it charges you for each use.
- **Some need a server.** "Self-host" means you run it on your own computer or a server you rent. That takes some technical setup.
- **Some have a hosted version.** Several of these teams also sell a ready-to-use online version, if you'd rather not run it yourself.
- **Read the license.** A few use licenses (AGPL) with conditions if you change the code and offer it to others. Using the app as it is is usually fine.

> **Our suggestion.** Pick the one tool you pay the most for today. Try its free replacement for a week next to what you already use, before you cancel anything.

2 The nine

1 OpenHiggsfield

INSTEAD OF HIGGSFIELD

One studio for AI image and video generation: one prompt bar, each model's own settings, and every finished run in one gallery.

github.com/wide-trace/open-higgsfield

Costs and limits: the studio is free, but every image or video runs on your own key from the AI generation service it connects to. You pay that service for each run.

2 Voice Studio

INSTEAD OF ELEVENLABS

Voice cloning, voice design, video dubbing, transcription and audiobooks, all running on your own computer.

github.com/debpalash/VoiceStudio

Costs and limits: the desktop app is free. It runs on your machine, so a stronger computer works faster. The default voice model is licensed for non-commercial use only, so check each model's license in the app before client work.

3 OpenSEO

INSTEAD OF SEMRUSH

Keyword research, rank tracking, backlinks and site audits.

github.com/every-app/open-seo

Costs and limits: the SEO data is metered. You need a DataForSEO account and pay them for what you look up. The team also offers a hosted version for $10 a month, plus the data you use.

4 AppFlowy

INSTEAD OF NOTION

Notes, wikis and project boards in one workspace, with AI built in and your data kept under your control.

github.com/AppFlowy-IO/AppFlowy

Costs and limits: free to download for desktop and phone. Running your own server for a team takes technical setup.

5 OpenWhispr

INSTEAD OF WISPR FLOW

Press a key, speak, and your words appear wherever your cursor is. Works offline with models on your own computer, or online for speed.

github.com/OpenWhispr/openwhispr

Costs and limits: everything that runs on your computer is free, with no word limit. Their free online option covers 2,000 words a week, and paid online plans remove the limit.

6 OpenProject

INSTEAD OF ASANA

Projects, tasks, timelines, Gantt charts, time tracking and team collaboration.

github.com/opf/openproject

Costs and limits: the Community edition is free if you run it yourself, which needs a server. A paid Enterprise edition adds support, extra features and a hosted option.

7 Cal.diy

INSTEAD OF CALENDLY

A booking page people use to pick a time with you. It is the free community edition of Cal.com.

github.com/calcom/cal.diy

Costs and limits: free, but you run it yourself, and its makers recommend it for personal, non-production use. For a business booking page, they point you to Cal.com.

8 Chatwoot

INSTEAD OF INTERCOM

Website chat, email and social messages from customers, all in one shared inbox.

github.com/chatwoot/chatwoot

Costs and limits: free if you run it yourself, which needs a server. Chatwoot also sells a hosted version.

9 Cap

INSTEAD OF LOOM

Screen recordings with a simple editor and instant share links, comments and transcripts.

github.com/CapSoftware/Cap

Costs and limits: the app records and edits on your computer. Share links run on Cap's own cloud, or on storage you set up yourself.

3 Which one first?

Easiest to try	OpenWhispr, AppFlowy and Cap. Download the app and start.
Needs a paid key	OpenHiggsfield and OpenSEO. Free software, metered use.
Needs a server	OpenProject, Chatwoot and Cal.diy, unless you buy their hosted version.
Needs a good computer	Voice Studio, because it runs the voice models on your machine.

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