# License

Most files in FFmpeg are under the GNU Lesser General Public License version 2.1

or later (LGPL v2.1+). Read the file `COPYING.LGPLv2.1` for details. Some other

files have MIT/X11/BSD-style licenses. In combination the LGPL v2.1+ applies to

FFmpeg.

Some optional parts of FFmpeg are licensed under the GNU General Public License

version 2 or later (GPL v2+). See the file `COPYING.GPLv2` for details. None of

these parts are used by default, you have to explicitly pass `--enable-gpl` to

configure to activate them. In this case, FFmpeg's license changes to GPL v2+.

Specifically, the GPL parts of FFmpeg are:

- libpostproc

- optional x86 optimization in the files

- `libavcodec/x86/flac\_dsp\_gpl.asm`

- `libavcodec/x86/idct\_mmx.c`

- `libavfilter/x86/vf\_removegrain.asm`

- the following building and testing tools

- `compat/solaris/make\_sunver.pl`

- `doc/t2h.pm`

- `doc/texi2pod.pl`

- `libswresample/tests/swresample.c`

- `tests/checkasm/\*`

- `tests/tiny\_ssim.c`

- the following filters in libavfilter:

- `signature\_lookup.c`

- `vf\_blackframe.c`

- `vf\_boxblur.c`

- `vf\_colormatrix.c`

- `vf\_cover\_rect.c`

- `vf\_cropdetect.c`

- `vf\_delogo.c`

- `vf\_eq.c`

- `vf\_find\_rect.c`

- `vf\_fspp.c`

- `vf\_histeq.c`

- `vf\_hqdn3d.c`

- `vf\_kerndeint.c`

- `vf\_lensfun.c` (GPL version 3 or later)

- `vf\_mcdeint.c`

- `vf\_mpdecimate.c`

- `vf\_nnedi.c`

- `vf\_owdenoise.c`

- `vf\_perspective.c`

- `vf\_phase.c`

- `vf\_pp.c`

- `vf\_pp7.c`

- `vf\_pullup.c`

- `vf\_repeatfields.c`

- `vf\_sab.c`

- `vf\_signature.c`

- `vf\_smartblur.c`

- `vf\_spp.c`

- `vf\_stereo3d.c`

- `vf\_super2xsai.c`

- `vf\_tinterlace.c`

- `vf\_uspp.c`

- `vf\_vaguedenoiser.c`

- `vsrc\_mptestsrc.c`

Should you, for whatever reason, prefer to use version 3 of the (L)GPL, then

the configure parameter `--enable-version3` will activate this licensing option

for you. Read the file `COPYING.LGPLv3` or, if you have enabled GPL parts,

`COPYING.GPLv3` to learn the exact legal terms that apply in this case.

There are a handful of files under other licensing terms, namely:

\* The files `libavcodec/jfdctfst.c`, `libavcodec/jfdctint\_template.c` and

`libavcodec/jrevdct.c` are taken from libjpeg, see the top of the files for

licensing details. Specifically note that you must credit the IJG in the

documentation accompanying your program if you only distribute executables.

You must also indicate any changes including additions and deletions to

those three files in the documentation.

\* `tests/reference.pnm` is under the expat license.

## External libraries

FFmpeg can be combined with a number of external libraries, which sometimes

affect the licensing of binaries resulting from the combination.

### Compatible libraries

The following libraries are under GPL version 2:

- avisynth

- frei0r

- libcdio

- libdavs2

- librubberband

- libvidstab

- libx264

- libx265

- libxavs

- libxavs2

- libxvid

When combining them with FFmpeg, FFmpeg needs to be licensed as GPL as well by

passing `--enable-gpl` to configure.

The following libraries are under LGPL version 3:

- gmp

- libaribb24

- liblensfun

When combining them with FFmpeg, use the configure option `--enable-version3` to

upgrade FFmpeg to the LGPL v3.

The VMAF, mbedTLS, RK MPI, OpenCORE and VisualOn libraries are under the Apache License

2.0. That license is incompatible with the LGPL v2.1 and the GPL v2, but not with

version 3 of those licenses. So to combine these libraries with FFmpeg, the

license version needs to be upgraded by passing `--enable-version3` to configure.

The smbclient library is under the GPL v3, to combine it with FFmpeg,

the options `--enable-gpl` and `--enable-version3` have to be passed to

configure to upgrade FFmpeg to the GPL v3.

### Incompatible libraries

There are certain libraries you can combine with FFmpeg whose licenses are not

compatible with the GPL and/or the LGPL. If you wish to enable these

libraries, even in circumstances that their license may be incompatible, pass

`--enable-nonfree` to configure. This will cause the resulting binary to be

unredistributable.

The Fraunhofer FDK AAC and OpenSSL libraries are under licenses which are

incompatible with the GPLv2 and v3. To the best of our knowledge, they are

compatible with the LGPL.