

## Packages - Freedom Issue #2548

### [unarchiver] Might be non-free software

2019-11-15 01:49 PM - Anonymous

<b>Status:</b> unconfirmed	<b>% Done:</b> 0%
<b>Priority:</b> bug	
<b>Assignee:</b>	
<b>Category:</b>	
<b>Description</b> It looks like The Unarchiver is now non-free software. At least Wikipedia says so.	

#### History

##### #1 - 2019-11-15 06:33 PM - bill-auger

[citation needed]

##### #2 - 2019-11-24 08:36 PM - Anonymous

[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=The\\_Unarchiver&oldid=920202335#cite\\_note-eula-2](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=The_Unarchiver&oldid=920202335#cite_note-eula-2)

##### #3 - 2019-11-24 09:06 PM - freemor

Interesting.

As I do not see the source from which the package is compiled. And since that source carries an GPL 2.1 License.txt

So either that EULA applies to only that binaries available at the referenced site. (My reading of the situation) or it was a careless use of a boiler plate EULA not realizing the conflict.

I'm not a licensing wonk so I don't fully understand how all that would fit together. But the source is not pulled from the site with the ELUA and thus may be Exempt.

##### #4 - 2019-11-24 09:13 PM - freemor

For reference the current source is pulled from:

<https://bitbucket.org/kosovan/theunarchiver/get/unar1.10.1.tar.gz>

##### #5 - 2019-11-24 09:44 PM - eschwartz

"This software used to be free software, but isn't free anymore" is such an oxymoronic concept. This seems like a non-issue to me.

Any current or future releases of the proprietary freeware aren't being released as non-free source code as far as I can tell, so at worst this would be a rationale to fork the last GPLed code and carry on the torch yourself. Do you know anyone who is interested?

##### #6 - 2019-11-24 10:21 PM - bill-auger

im not sure that unarchiver is needed - it was added to replace unar, which was itself a replacement for unrar - i have heard that bsd-tar can also open rar archives - if the only reason to fork the project is so that parabola users can open rar archives; then it may not be necessary

i.e. does this program do anything that other programs can not?

##### #7 - 2019-11-24 10:37 PM - eschwartz

What precisely did you add? It's in [community] and synced from archlinux.

You should ask whether you have any reason to explicitly blacklist it. Other than the website pointing to some commercial continuation.

##### #8 - 2019-11-24 11:15 PM - bill-auger

before arch added 'unarchiver', there was an 'unar' package in [libre] that was exactly the same program with a confusingly

different name - after arch added 'unarchiver', the confusing 'unar' was removed

<https://labs.parabola.nu/issues/1769>

**#9 - 2021-01-08 05:36 PM - GNUtoo**

As I understand it only the package name is misleading so it probably needs to be fixed.

Wikipedia says that:

The Unarchiver is a proprietary freeware<sup>2</sup> data decompression utility [...].

But it also says that:

The corresponding command line utilities unar and lsar is free (libre) software licensed under the LGPL<sup>6</sup> run on Microsoft Windows, Linux, and macOS.[7]

So both aren't incompatible. We just need to make sure that the command line utilities are indeed free software and check from time to time if it's still the case, and if not probably keep an old package or look for forks or remove it.

**#10 - 2021-01-27 04:16 PM - bill-auger**

all i know off-hand, is that unarchiver replaced unar about 2 years ago - unar then later unarchiver, have been included on every parabola LiveISO for many years - the blacklist entry does not mention them; because those was not added specifically as a libre replacement; but the "other packages" was probably referring to unar and bsdtar originally

libunar:::[nonfree] part of nonfree unrar, Issue442  
unar:::fsf:unar:[nonfree] no replacement necessary - other packages already provide the same functionality