



## FAIR Principles for Research Software (FAIR4RS Principles)

### The Challenge:

Improving the sharing and reuse of research software

### What is the Solution?

The RDA/FORCE11/ReSA FAIR4RS working group brought together existing and new community efforts to revise and extend the FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship to apply to research software. While many of the FAIR Guiding Principles can be directly applied to research software by treating software and data as similar digital research objects, the specific characteristics of software – such as its executability, composite nature, and continuous evolution and versioning – make it necessary to redefine the remaining principles.



Produced by: **FAIR for Research Software (FAIR4RS) WG**  
<https://rd-alliance.org/groups/fair-research-software-fair4rs-wg>

## What is the impact?

Using the FAIR4RS principles will increase the transparency, reproducibility, and reusability of research. They require software to be well-described (by metadata), inspectable, documented and appropriately structured so that it can be executed, replicated, built-upon, combined, reinterpreted, reimplemented, and/or used in different settings. The FAIR4RS Principles aim to guide software creators and owners on how to make their software FAIR. The FAIR4RS Principles are also relevant to the larger ecosystem and various stakeholders that support research software (e.g., publishers, scholarly repositories and registries).

## What is next?

Now it is up to individual communities to adopt the FAIR4RS principles in their own communities. The SSC IG will provide opportunities for adopters to report back on progress.

Find out more about the  
Recommendation from the FAIR for  
Research Software (FAIR4RS) WG



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