

Daniel Deleon
Class of Works: 3, 4, 5

I am writing in support of an exemption for all “personal computing devices” including smartphones, tablets, and video game consoles. I am not a developer but I am a frequent user and hobbyist who has, on multiple occasions, installed custom, independent software on my smartphone. I do this because the software that comes preinstalled with the device is often lacking many features and abilities of which the device is capable but are for one reason or another not included. I am glad that I currently can legally install this software to take full advantage of the device which I have full ownership rights to. I also advocate for the exemption being extended to tablets, game consoles and personal computers because the industry is increasingly moving toward a trend of restriction in regards to the software we, the users, are able to use on our devices. This can already be seen with personal computers such as the Mac which has debuted an “app store” though which only apple approved software can be purchased and installed. As an owner of many personal computers, smartphones, and tablets in the past it is my first-hand experience that much of the best software available is independent software that can only be used on “jailbroken” devices. If it were ever to become illegal to jailbreak a device or to install independent software on a device much of the developing industry’s most creative individuals would be stifled. So please permanently extend the DCMA exemption to smart phones, video game consoles, tablets, and personal computing devices so that the creativity currently flourishing in the industry can continue to drive innovation.