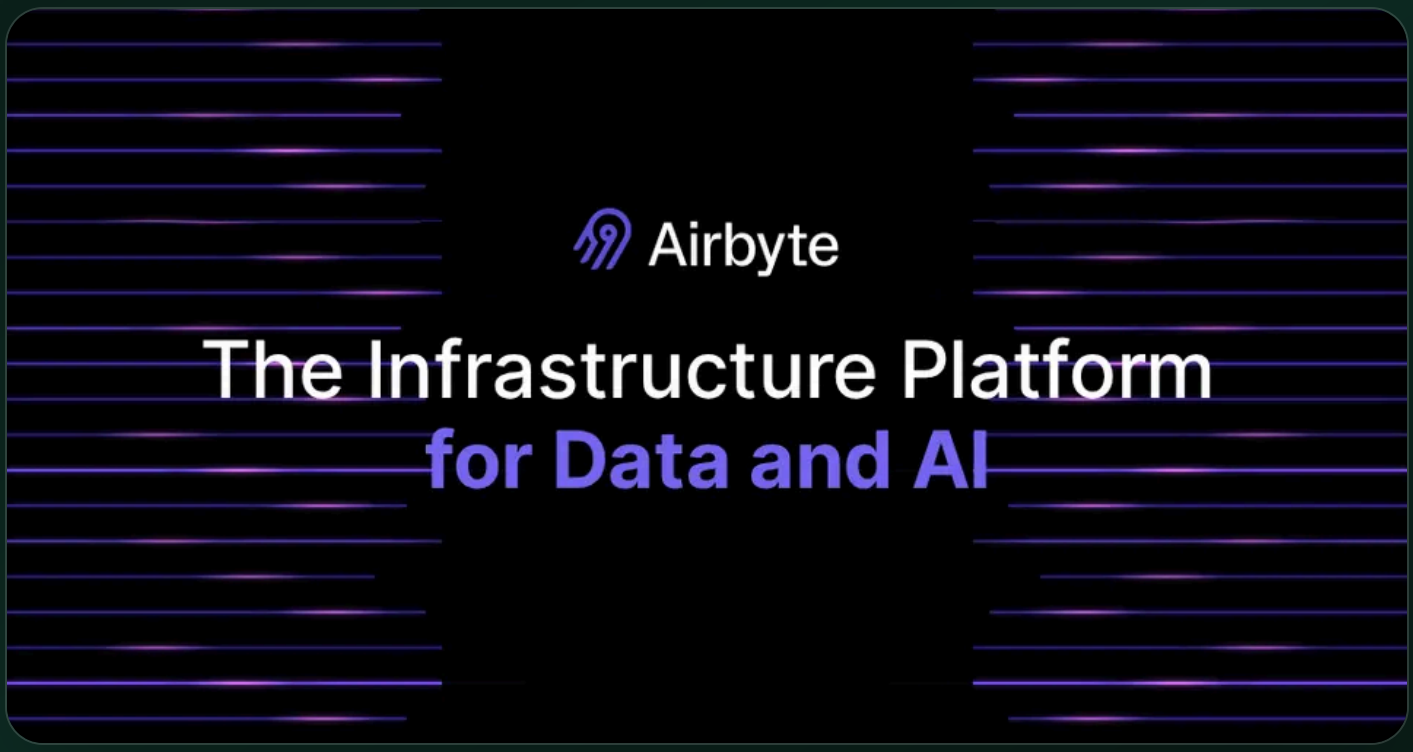
ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Airbyte

The Insider's Guide

Data integration with a free self-hosted core and a managed cloud



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among automation tools, read from Airbyte's own pages.

Made by Airbyte · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

2.2
GPA



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Who made this guide, what else is on the site, and how to cite it

ToolGPA put this guide together from Airbyte's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Airbyte's page too, where it is kept up to date. Checked Nov 13, 2026.

Welcome

What it is, who it suits, its grades and the ten things to know first

2.2

GPA, above 54 of the 134 other automation tools we grade

Airbyte moves data from applications, databases and files into warehouses and other destinations using 700+ connectors. Airbyte Core is free to self-host, and the paid plans add hosting, upgrades and support in the cloud. Standard and Plus are billed by volume in credits; Pro and Enterprise Flex are priced on compute capacity.

To get you started, here are **9 things to know about Airbyte**, taken from its own pages and our grades.

> "
>
> **Running Core means installing and maintaining it yourself.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

1 **Best for moving data into a warehouse, self-hosted or cloud**

Airbyte moves data between sources and destinations, with a free self-hosted Core and a paid cloud.

2 **Paid plans start at $20 a month**

As its pricing page puts it: $20 per month (Standard, 5 credits included).

3 **There is a free plan**

Airbyte Core is free to self-host under the Elastic License 2.0; you run and maintain it yourself.

4 **It runs on Web**

Web.

5 **700+ connectors**

Connectors cover sources and destinations, with CDC, schema propagation and column selection, and a Connector Builder for custom ones.

6 **Self-hosted or managed**

Airbyte Core runs on your own infrastructure for free; the cloud plans include hosting, upgrades and support.

7 **Credit-based usage pricing**

Standard and Plus bill by volume: 400 credits in the trial is about 100 GB of syncs, and 5 credits is about 1 GB.

8 **A 2.2 GPA, above 54 of 134**

That is against the other automation tools we grade, on value, the free plan, features, ease of use and platforms.

9 **Keep it**

To replace Airbyte you would be making connections to other products, each kept working as those products change. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

Airbyte at a glance

PRICING
Free plan, from $20 per month (Standard, 5 credits included)

FREE PLAN
Yes

FREE TRIAL
14-day Cloud trial with 400 credits, no credit card required

RUNS ON
Web

MADE BY
Airbyte

CATEGORY
Automation

OUR GRADE
2.2 GPA, fair

The report card

Best for moving data into a warehouse, self-hosted or cloud

Airbyte moves data between sources and destinations, with a free self-hosted Core and a paid cloud. Standard syncs at most hourly, 15-minute syncs and SSO need Plus at $189 a month, and Core is on the Elastic License 2.0 with community support only.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD — **Airbyte** — Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	Core is free but you host it. Cloud Standard is $20 a month with 5 credits included, then Plus is $189.
Free plan and trial	B	Core is free to self-host, and the cloud has a 14-day trial with 400 credits and no card.
Features	C	Connectors and syncs. Standard is hourly at most; 15-minute syncs and SSO need Plus, and enterprise connectors are an add-on.
Ease of use	D	No store rating on record. Running Core means installing and maintaining it yourself.
Platforms and integrations	B	Web console with connections to Airflow, Dagster, Prefect and Terraform. No desktop or phone apps.

Grade point average — Fair, out of 4.0 **2.2**

An A is worth 4 points, a B 3, a C 2, a D 1 and an F nothing. The GPA is the average of the five.

Who Airbyte is for

- ✓ Fits if you can host Core and want no per-row fees
- ✓ Works for small teams that start on a $20 cloud plan

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you can't run and maintain a self-hosted install
- ✗ Tight if you need syncs faster than hourly on Standard
- ✗ Pricey if you want 15-minute syncs or SSO, which need Plus at $189
- ✗ Watch out: Core is under the Elastic License 2.0, with community support only

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Engineering teams that want to self-host a data integration tool for free
- ✓ Small teams starting with a few pipelines at a low monthly fee
- ✓ Organizations with data that must stay inside their own environment

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Standard syncs at most hourly; 15-minute syncs and SSO need Plus at $189 a month or more.
- ⓘ Enterprise connectors are an add-on on Standard and Plus, and AWS PrivateLink is an add-on on those plans.
- ⓘ Core is licensed under the Elastic License 2.0 and you maintain it yourself, with community support only.
- ⓘ Pro and Enterprise Flex prices are not published and need a quote.

PART 02 · PRICING

What it costs

Every plan, the free plan, ways to pay less and how prices have moved

$20

A month to start. There is a free plan too

Airbyte has a free plan. Paid plans start at $20 per month (Standard, 5 credits included).

CORE

$0

Self-hosted edition you run and maintain yourself, under the Elastic License 2.0.

STANDARD

$20

per month, 5 credits included

Managed cloud with syncs as often as hourly; 5 credits is about 1 GB of syncs. Pay for the data you sync.

PLUS

$189

per month for 40 credits

Adds SSO, 15-minute syncs, a 24-hour support SLA and 2 workspaces; packages run to 2,000 credits at $4,999 a month.

PRO

Custom

Flat annual capacity pricing on Data Workers, 5-minute syncs, RBAC, premium support and a dedicated Solutions Architect.

ENTERPRISE FLEX

Custom

Everything in Pro with hybrid deployment in your own VPC, on-prem or multi-region.

The free plan

Airbyte Core is free to self-host under the Elastic License 2.0; you run and maintain it yourself.

Trying it first

14-day Cloud trial with 400 credits, no credit card required

Read from airbyte.com on Nov 13, 2026.

What it does

Its main features, where it runs, what it works with and who makes it

1

Place it runs: Web

Data integration with a free self-hosted core and a managed cloud. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, self-hostable, public API, workflow automation.

"

Web console with connections to Airflow, Dagster, Prefect and Terraform.

From our grade for platforms and integrations

700+ connectors

Connectors cover sources and destinations, with CDC, schema propagation and column selection, and a Connector Builder for custom ones.

Self-hosted or managed

Airbyte Core runs on your own infrastructure for free; the cloud plans include hosting, upgrades and support.

Credit-based usage pricing

Standard and Plus bill by volume: 400 credits in the trial is about 100 GB of syncs, and 5 credits is about 1 GB.

Capacity pricing

Pro and Enterprise Flex price on Data Workers, dedicated compute units, so cost stays flat when data volume spikes.

Orchestrator and developer access

An Airbyte API, Terraform provider, PyAirbyte and integrations with Airflow, Dagster and Prefect are listed on the plan comparison.

Where it runs

Web

What it works with

Airflow

Dagster

Prefect

Terraform

Airbyte is made by Airbyte.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

Its grades against its category, and whether to keep it or make your own

54/134

Other automation tools it is graded above

Airbyte's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 54 of the 134 other automation tools we grade, and level with 35.

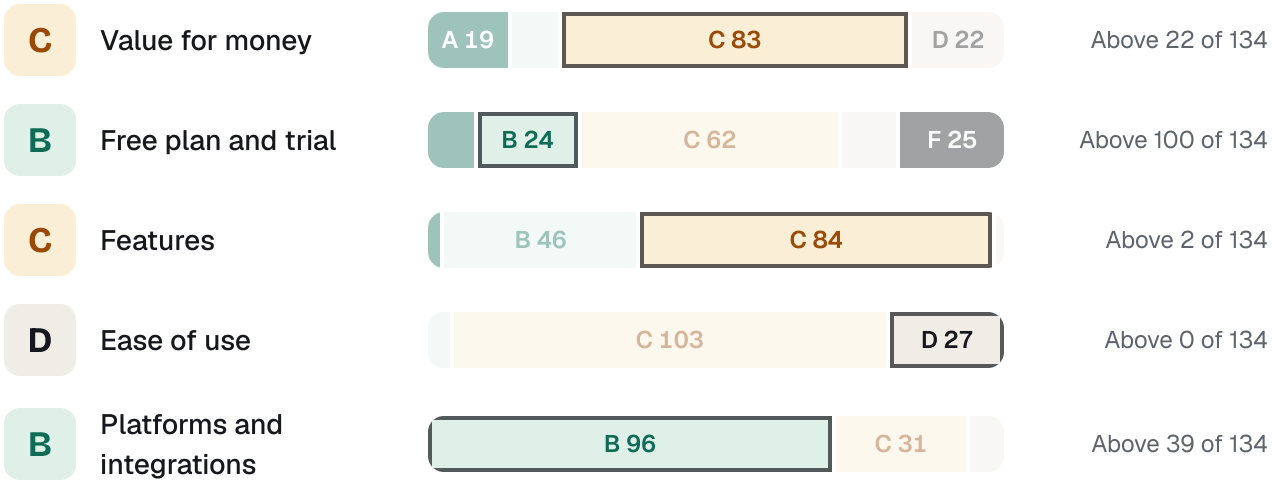
It stands best on free plan and trial (B, above 100 of 134) and worst on ease of use (D, above 0).

Its paid plans start at $20 a month, against a middle price of $22.17 for the category: 30 of the 65 others that charge start lower.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 2.0 out of 4. 27 tools score higher and cost less.

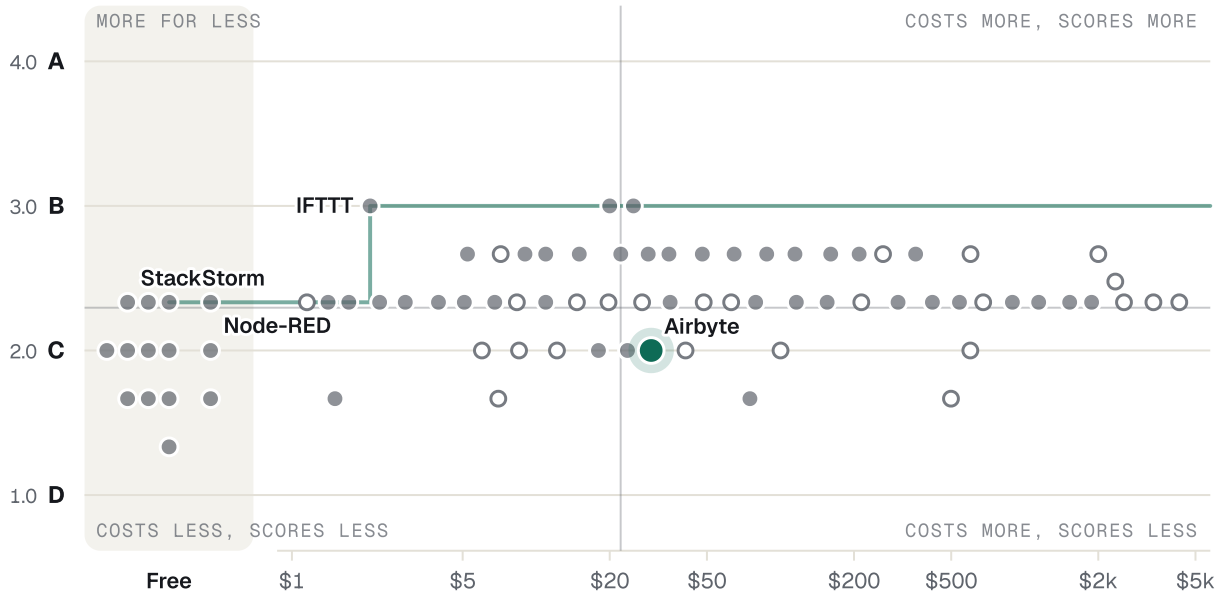
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 135 automation tools we grade, cut by the letter each got. Airbyte's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 80 automation tools. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Airbyte is the marked dot.



What paid plans start at, a month (each step along is roughly double)

Keep it, or make your own?

Whether this is something you could build for yourself with an AI app builder, and what you would give up.

Keep it

To replace Airbyte you would be making connections to other products, each kept working as those products change. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

It costs $240 a year. Airbyte is open source, so there is a third way: take its code and run it yourself.

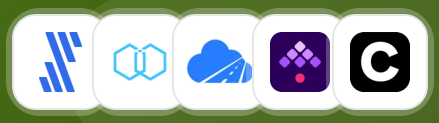
What you could not

- ✕ Connections to other products, each kept working as those products change.

What this rests on. Airbyte's listing: what it does, where it runs, what it plugs into and what it costs. It is a judgement about the kind of software this is. We have not built a replacement for it, and making your own means looking after it too. How we decide, and every tool's verdict.

The alternatives

The tools it is most often weighed against, side by side



Fivetran, Integrate.io, Skyvia, Kestra and Celigo

The 5 tools Airbyte is most often weighed against, with where each one differs from it.

2.4 GPA

Fivetran

Free plan

Managed data movement with a free plan and usage-based pricing.

- Airbyte is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.

Airbyte and Fivetran compared in full

2.2 GPA

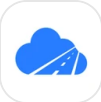
Integrate.io

Free trial · from $1,999/mo

Low-code data pipelines for ETL, ELT and reverse ETL.

- Airbyte has a free plan. Integrate.io does not, though it has a free trial.
- Airbyte is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.
- Integrate.io also covers no-code.

Airbyte and Integrate.io compared in full



2.2 GPA

Skyvia

Free plan · from $79/mo

No-code cloud data integration, sync and workflow automation.

- Airbyte is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.
- Skyvia also covers templates and no-code.

Airbyte and Skyvia compared in full



2.4 GPA

Kestra

Free plan

Open-source workflow orchestration platform defined in YAML.

Airbyte and Kestra compared in full



2.4 GPA

Celigo

Free trial

Integration platform with AI agents, EDI and API management.

- Airbyte has a free plan. Celigo does not, though it has a free trial.
- Airbyte is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.
- Celigo also covers AI agents.

Airbyte and Celigo compared in full

PART 06 · QUESTIONS

Quick answers

The questions people ask about it, each answered in a line or two

14

Questions, each answered in a line or two

The short version of everything above, for when you only need the answer. Each one is told in full in its part of the guide.

Is Airbyte free?

Airbyte has a free plan. Airbyte Core is free to self-host under the Elastic License 2.0; you run and maintain it yourself.

How much does Airbyte cost?

Airbyte lists 5 plans. Core: $0.

What platforms does Airbyte work on?

Airbyte is available on Web.

Does Airbyte have an Android app?

No Android app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Airbyte is listed for Web.

Does Airbyte have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Airbyte is listed for Web.

Is Airbyte open source?

Yes. Airbyte is open source, according to its own site.

Does Airbyte have an API?

Yes. Airbyte offers a public API, according to its own site.

What does Airbyte integrate with?

Airbyte's listing names Airflow, Dagster, Prefect and Terraform. A listing names up to eight integrations, so it may connect to more.

Does Airbyte have a free trial?

Yes. 14-day Cloud trial with 400 credits, no credit card required.

Who makes Airbyte?

Airbyte is made by a company of the same name.

What are the alternatives to Airbyte?

The closest alternatives to Airbyte in our directory are Fivetran, Integrate.io, Skyvia, Kestra and Celigo.

How does Airbyte compare with other automation tools?

Airbyte's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 54 of the 134 other automation tools we grade, and level with 35.

Is Airbyte good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Airbyte C for value for money. Its paid plans start at $20 a month, against a middle price of $22.17 for the category: 30 of the 65 others that charge start lower.

Could I make my own version of Airbyte?

To replace Airbyte you would be making connections to other products, each kept working as those products change.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from Airbyte's own pages on Nov 13, 2026, and the grades were given on Nov 13, 2026. Graded from this listing, whose facts were read from Airbyte's own pages on 13 November 2026. Not based on using the product, and shorter than our full reviews.

Every tool we list gets five grades, A to F, each with its reason, and a GPA that averages them. How each is decided is at toolgpa.com/grades. This guide is ToolGPA's own work; it is not made, paid for or approved by Airbyte. Prices change, so check airbyte.com before you buy.

airbyte.com/pricing

PART 07 · ABOUT

About ToolGPA

Who made this guide, what else is on the site, and how to cite it

7,721

Tools graded, in 95 categories

ToolGPA grades software the way a school report grades a pupil: five subjects, a letter for each with the reason written beside it, and a GPA that averages them. Prices, plans and platforms are read from each maker's own pages and dated, so you always know how fresh a figure is.

Every grade, review and ranking on ToolGPA is our own judgement. No company can pay for a grade or change one. Every tool on the site has a guide like this one, free to download and pass on. It all lives at toolgpa.com.

7,721	95	739	579
tools graded	categories	price changes on record	apps priced in 12 countries

What else is on toolgpa.com

Airbyte, kept up to date

Everything in this guide, with prices and grades as they are today

toolgpa.com/tools/airbyte

How grades are given

The rules behind every letter and every GPA

toolgpa.com/grades

Value charts

What each tool costs against what it scores, for every category

toolgpa.com/charts

Compare

Any two tools side by side, plan by plan

toolgpa.com/compare

Price changes

Every price rise and cut on record, each with its source

toolgpa.com/price-changes

Prices by country

What apps cost on the App Store in 12 countries

toolgpa.com/prices-by-country

Pay less

Every public discount: yearly billing, students, nonprofits

toolgpa.com/save

Keep or make

Which tools are worth paying for, and which you could build yourself

toolgpa.com/keep-or-make

Scan for the live page

Prices and grades as they are today

Quoting this guide?

Please name ToolGPA and link to the live page, so readers can check the figures for themselves:

```
ToolGPA, "Airbyte: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/airbyte
```

Know someone choosing between automation tools?

Send them this guide: toolgpa.com/tools/airbyte/guide

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded automation tools after Airbyte, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Automation Insider's Guide

Every one of the 135 automation tools we grade, compared

Knime Insider's Guide

Open-source visual workflows for data analysis and automation

3.2 GPA

IFTTT Insider's Guide

Simple trigger-and-action automations for apps and smart devices

3.0 GPA

Node-RED Insider's Guide

Open-source, flow-based programming tool for event-driven apps

3.0 GPA

ToolGPA

Choosing software? Every tool graded, every price dated.

Compare tools at toolgpa.com ›

Everything in this guide is ToolGPA's own summary of what Airbyte's pages, its app-store listings and public reviews said on the dates shown. Grades are our judgement under the rules at toolgpa.com/grades. Every grade, review and ranking on ToolGPA is our own judgement. No company can pay for a grade or change one. Airbyte is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Airbyte. Prices and plans change: check airbyte.com before you buy.