ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Chromium

The Insider’s Guide

Open-source browser project, with builds for testing and development



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among browsers, read from Chromium’s own pages.

Made by The Chromium Projects · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

2.8
GPA



Contents

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

02 What it costs
Every plan, the free plan, ways to pay less and how prices have moved

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

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

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

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

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

ToolGPA put this guide together from Chromium's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Chromium'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

2.8

GPA, above 23 of the 60 other browsers we grade

Chromium is the open-source browser project run by The Chromium Projects. Its site is aimed at people who build, test or contribute to the code, and it points testers to Chrome for Testing builds or to Chromium snapshot builds for Windows, Mac, Linux and ChromiumOS. The builds do not update themselves.

To get you started, here are **8 things to know about Chromium**, taken from its own pages and our grades.

> "
>
> **Those builds do not update themselves and come from arbitrary revisions.**
>
> From our report card of Chromium

1 **Best for building or testing the Chromium source**

Chromium is the open-source project behind many browsers, and its site points you to builds for testing.

2 **It is free**

Chromium has no paid plan at all. Chromium builds are free. The project site lists no paid plans.

3 **It runs on 3 platforms**

Windows, macOS and Linux.

4 **Open-source code**

The site describes Chromium as an open-source browser project and links to the source tree, build instructions and contribution guides.

5 **Chromium snapshot builds**

Builds are made on a best-effort basis from arbitrary revisions for Mac, Windows, Linux and ChromiumOS, with a point-and-click download page.

6 **Chrome for Testing**

A flavor of Chrome made for testing, released for every Chrome release across channels and downloadable with the @puppeteer/browsers command-line tool.

7 **A 2.8 GPA, above 23 of 60**

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

8 **Keep it**

Chromium is free, so making your own would save you nothing.

Chromium at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN Yes
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON macOS, Windows, Linux
MADE BY The Chromium Projects	CATEGORY Browsers
OUR GRADE 2.8 GPA, good	

The report card

Best for building or testing the Chromium source

Chromium is the open-source project behind many browsers, and its site points you to builds for testing. Those builds do not update themselves and come from arbitrary revisions. If you just want to browse, look elsewhere.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	Chromium	Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	A	Free to download, with no paid edition listed anywhere on the project site, so nothing here costs money.
Free plan and trial	A	Snapshot builds and Chrome for Testing builds cost nothing and have no usage cap.
Features	C	Source, build docs and an issue tracker, but the builds are aimed at testers and the site says they suit checking a fix.
Ease of use	C	No rating on record. Builds do not auto-update and come from arbitrary revisions, so you fetch each new one by hand.
Platforms and integrations	C	Windows, Mac and Linux builds only. The page offers no installer for Android or iOS.
Grade point average		Good, out of 4.0 **2.8**

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 Chromium is for

- ✓ Fits if you build or study the browser source
- ✓ Makes sense if you need one specific build to check a bug fix

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you want a browser that updates itself, since Chromium builds do not
- ✗ Not for you if you want a build that matches a Chrome release, as snapshots come from arbitrary revisions
- ✗ Watch out: the download page offers no Android or iOS installer
- ✗ Too light for everyday use: the site says Chrome builds suit most users

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Developers who want to build or study the browser source
- ✓ Testers who need a specific build to check a bug fix
- ✓ People who want a Chromium build without Google Chrome's packaging

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Chromium builds do not auto-update, so users have to fetch new builds themselves.
- ⓘ The download page says Chrome builds auto-update and suit most users; Chromium builds suit checking a fix.
- ⓘ Builds come from arbitrary revisions and do not necessarily match a user-facing Chrome release.
- ⓘ The page offers no installer for Android or iOS.

What it costs

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

Free

No paid plan at all

Chromium is free to use.

> **Free to download, with no paid edition listed anywhere on the project site, so nothing here costs money.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

FREE

$0

Chromium snapshot builds and Chrome for Testing builds, with no paid edition listed.

The free plan

Chromium builds are free. The project site lists no paid plans.

Read from chromium.org on Nov 13, 2026.

What it does

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

3

Places it runs: macOS, Windows and Linux

Open-source browser project, with builds for testing and development. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, web browser.

> **Source, build docs and an issue tracker, but the builds are aimed at testers and the site says they suit checking a fix.**
>
> From our grade for features

Open-source code

The site describes Chromium as an open-source browser project and links to the source tree, build instructions and contribution guides.

Chromium snapshot builds

Builds are made on a best-effort basis from arbitrary revisions for Mac, Windows, Linux and ChromiumOS, with a point-and-click download page.

Chrome for Testing

A flavor of Chrome made for testing, released for every Chrome release across channels and downloadable with the @puppeteer/browsers command-line tool.

Developer documentation

Design documents, architecture overviews, testing information and debugging guides for Windows, OS X, Linux and Android.

Bug reporting and release calendar

The site links an issue tracker, discussion groups, a release calendar and security contact details for people who work on the code.

Where it runs

macOS Windows Linux

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

Chromium is made by The Chromium Projects.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

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

23/60

Other browsers it is graded above

Chromium's GPA of 2.8 is higher than 23 of the 60 other browsers we grade, and level with 10.

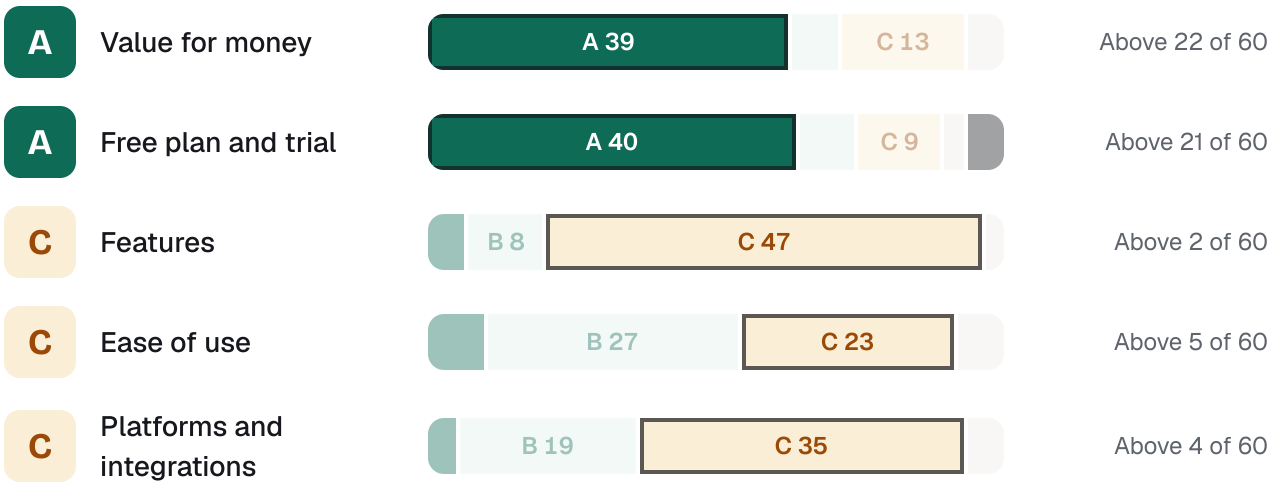
It stands best on value for money (A, above 22 of 60) and worst on features (C, above 2).

Chromium has no paid plan.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 2.0 out of 4. Nothing scores higher for less, though at least one tool matches that score at a lower price.

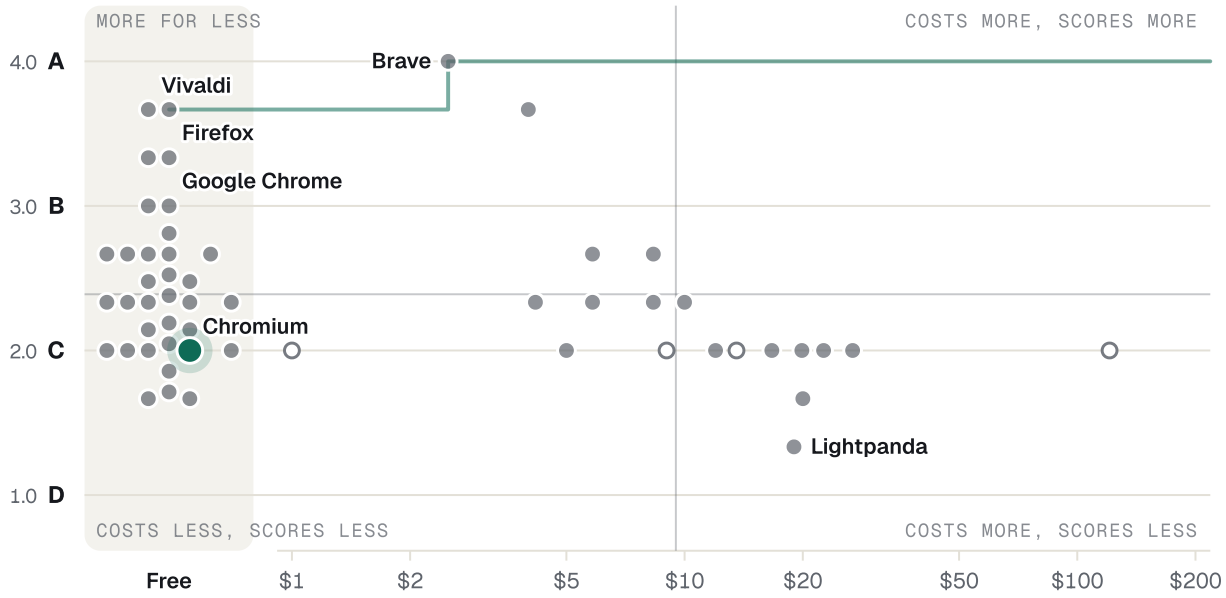
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 61 browsers we grade, cut by the letter each got. Chromium's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 54 browsers. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Chromium 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

Chromium is free, so making your own would save you nothing.

And it is not the kind of software a weekend replaces.

What you could not

- A web browser.
- Apps for macOS, Windows and Linux that stay in step with each other.

What this rests on. Chromium'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



Google Chrome, Thorium Browser, Iridium Browser, Brave and Vivaldi

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

3.6 GPA

Google Chrome

Free

Google's free browser for desktop and mobile, with Gemini built in.

- Only Google Chrome lists iOS and Android apps.
- Chromium is open source, according to its own site.
- Google Chrome also covers password manager and passkeys.

Chromium and Google Chrome compared in full

3.0 GPA

Thorium Browser

Free

Chromium fork tuned with compiler optimizations.

- Only Thorium Browser lists an Android app.

Chromium and Thorium Browser compared in full



2.8 GPA

Iridium Browser

Free

Privacy-hardened desktop browser built on Chromium.

Chromium and Iridium Browser compared in full



3.8 GPA

Brave

Free plan · from $3.00/mo

Open-source browser that blocks ads and trackers by default.

- Only Brave lists Android and iOS apps.
- Brave also covers password manager and video calls.

Chromium and Brave compared in full



3.8 GPA

Vivaldi

Free

Customizable browser with built-in mail, calendar and feed reader.

- Only Vivaldi lists Android and iOS apps.
- Chromium is open source, according to its own site.
- Vivaldi is end-to-end encrypted, according to its own site.

Chromium and Vivaldi compared in full

PART 06 · QUESTIONS

Quick answers

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

11

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 Chromium free?

Yes. Chromium is free to use.

How much does Chromium cost?

Chromium lists one plan. Free: $0.

What platforms does Chromium work on?

Chromium is available on Windows, macOS and Linux.

Does Chromium have an Android app?

No Android app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Chromium is listed for Windows, macOS and Linux.

Does Chromium have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Chromium is listed for Windows, macOS and Linux.

Is Chromium open source?

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

Who makes Chromium?

Chromium is made by The Chromium Projects.

What are the alternatives to Chromium?

The closest alternatives to Chromium in our directory are Google Chrome, Thorium Browser, Iridium Browser, Brave and Vivaldi.

How does Chromium compare with other browsers?

Chromium's GPA of 2.8 is higher than 23 of the 60 other browsers we grade, and level with 10.

Is Chromium good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Chromium A for value for money. Chromium has no paid plan.

Could I make my own version of Chromium?

Chromium is free, so making your own would save you nothing. And it is not the kind of software a weekend replaces.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from Chromium'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 The Chromium Projects'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 The Chromium Projects. Prices change, so check chromium.org before you buy.

chromium.org/Home/ chromium.org/getting-involved/download-chromiu…

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

Chromium, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/chromium

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:

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

Know someone choosing between browsers?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded browsers after Chromium, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Browsers Insider's Guide

Every one of the 61 browsers we grade, compared

Brave Insider's Guide

Open-source browser that blocks ads and trackers by default

3.8 GPA

Firefox Insider's Guide

Free, open-source browser from Mozilla with tracker blocking built in

3.8 GPA

Vivaldi Insider's Guide

Customizable browser with built-in mail, calendar and feed reader

3.8 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 Chromium'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. Chromium is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by The Chromium Projects. Prices and plans change: check chromium.org before you buy.