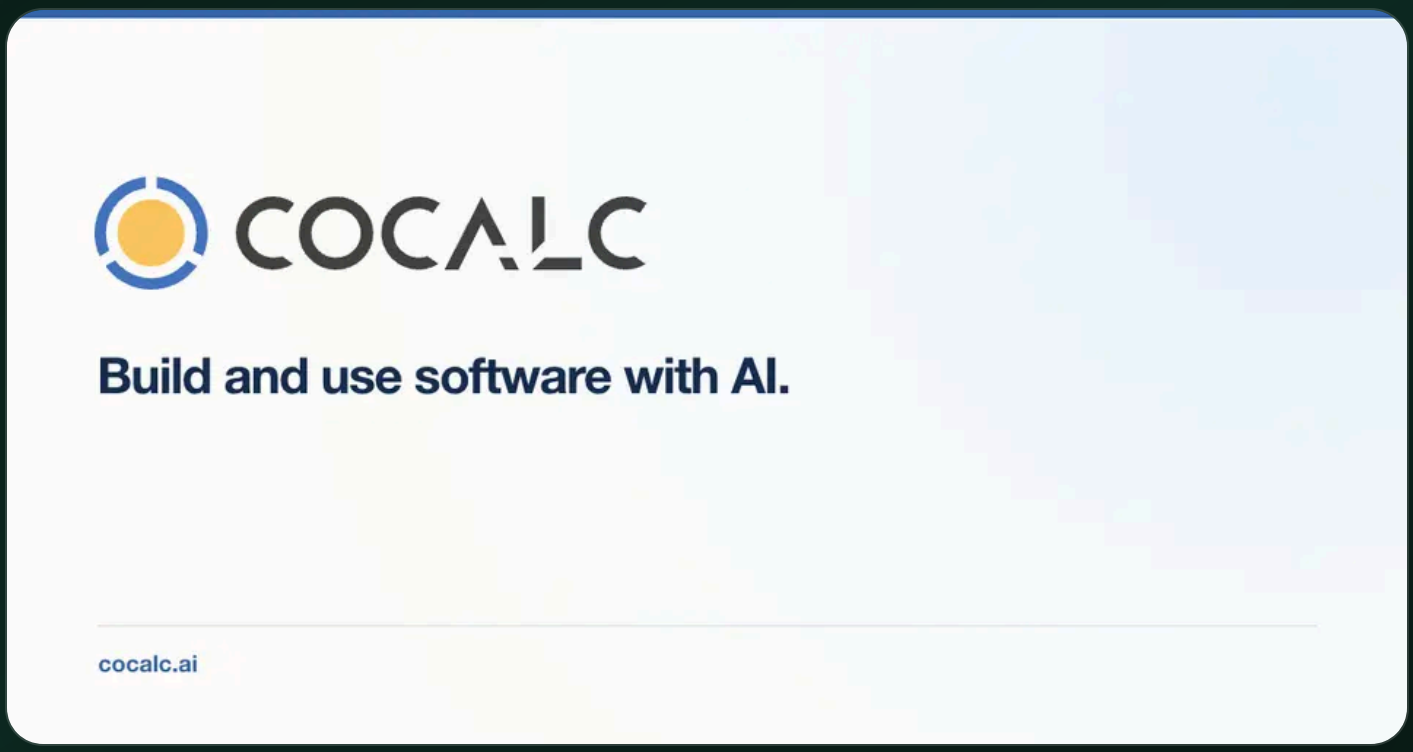
ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

# CoCalc

## The Insider's Guide

Shared online workspace for LaTeX, Jupyter notebooks and code




**Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among writing tools, read from CoCalc's own pages.**

Made by SageMath, Inc. · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

2.0
GPA

COCALC

Build and use software with AI.

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

**2.0**

GPA, above 18 of the 136 other writing tools we grade

CoCalc is a hosted workspace where collaborators share projects containing a Linux terminal, Jupyter notebooks and an online LaTeX editor with PDF preview. It also runs AI coding agents inside projects. A free tier and paid memberships are offered.

> "
>
> **A workspace this broad has a learning curve.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

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

**1** **Best for LaTeX and notebooks in one online workspace**

CoCalc is an online computing platform with a LaTeX editor, Jupyter notebooks, a Linux terminal and AI agents.

**2** **Paid plans start at $6 a month**

As its pricing page puts it: $6 per month, billed annually ($8 billed monthly).

**3** **There is a free plan**

Free membership with basic shared resources, enough to explore the platform and do basic work.

**4** **It runs on Web**

Web.

**5** **Online LaTeX editor**

Write LaTeX with collaboration, PDF preview, source synchronization, anchored discussions and edit history.

**6** **Jupyter notebooks**

Collaborative notebooks with cell chat, TimeTravel history and local or remote kernels.

**7** **AI agents in projects**

An integrated Codex agent works with project files, and Claude Code where a site enables it.

**8** **A 2.0 GPA, above 18 of 136**

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

**9** **Keep it**

To replace CoCalc you would be making an AI agent, with the models and the safeguards behind it. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

### CoCalc at a glance

| | |
|---|---|
| PRICING<br>Free plan, from $6 per month, billed annually ($8 billed monthly) | FREE PLAN<br>Yes |
| FREE TRIAL<br>None stated | RUNS ON<br>Web |
| MADE BY<br>SageMath, Inc. | CATEGORY<br>Writing Tools |
| OUR GRADE<br>2.0 GPA, fair | |

## The report card

### Best for LaTeX and notebooks in one online workspace

CoCalc is an online computing platform with a LaTeX editor, Jupyter notebooks, a Linux terminal and AI agents. LaTeX is one of many tools in it,

and network access and larger resources need a paid membership starting at $6 a month.

| TOOLGPA REPORT CARD | CoCalc | Graded Nov 13, 2026 |
|---|---|---|
| SUBJECT | GRADE | COMMENT |
| **Value for money** | C | Basic is $6 a month billed annually, $8 monthly. Standard is $18 and Pro $150, with dedicated VMs priced separately. |
| **Free plan and trial** | C | Free membership gives basic shared resources, enough to explore the platform and do basic work. Network access needs a paid plan. |
| **Features** | C | Online LaTeX, Jupyter, a terminal, course tools and AI. The listing says LaTeX is one of many tools, so it is a broad computing platform rather than a writing tool. |
| **Ease of use** | C | No store rating on record. A workspace this broad has a learning curve. |
| **Platforms and integrations** | C | Web only, with no integrations listed. CoCalc Plus and Star are separate customer-run versions. |
| **Grade point average** | | Fair, out of 4.0 **2.0** |

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 CoCalc is for

- ✓ Fits if you write LaTeX and run Jupyter notebooks in the same project
- ✓ Works for teachers who set up courses and student projects online

### Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you only want a LaTeX editor: it is a whole computing platform
- ✗ Tight if you stay free: shared resources and no network access
- ✗ Pricey if you need more power, as Pro is $150 a month and dedicated VMs cost extra
- ✗ Not for you if you want an app: only a browser version is listed

## Good to know

### Good for

- ✓ Researchers who mix LaTeX papers with notebooks and code
- ✓ Instructors running technical courses

### Worth knowing

- ⓘ It is a general computing platform, so LaTeX writing is one of many tools in it.
- ⓘ Network access and larger resources need paid memberships; dedicated VMs are priced separately.
- ⓘ CoCalc Plus and CoCalc Star are customer-operated versions; the pricing page says Star is free.

PART 02 · PRICING

# What it costs

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

**$6**

A month to start. There is a free plan too

CoCalc has a free plan. Paid plans start at $6 per month, billed annually ($8 billed monthly).

> **Free membership gives basic shared resources, enough to explore the platform and do basic work.**
>
> From our grade for free plan and trial

FREE

## $0

Basic shared resources to explore the platform.

BASIC

## $6

per month, billed annually ($8 billed monthly)

More shared resources and better shared hosts; for occasional light use.

STANDARD

## $18

per month, billed annually ($24 billed monthly)

Higher priority, more backups, snapshots, projects and collaborators.

PRO

## $150

per month, billed annually ($200 billed monthly)

Best shared resources, many projects running at once; for advanced users and researchers.

### The free plan

Free membership with basic shared resources, enough to explore the platform and do basic work.

Read from cocalc.ai on Nov 13, 2026.

## Ways to pay less

ANNUAL DISCOUNT

### Save 25% with annual billing

The pricing page states a 25% saving on Basic, Standard and Pro when billed annually.

Stated on cocalc.ai

# What it does

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

**1**

Place it runs: Web

Shared online workspace for LaTeX, Jupyter notebooks and code. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: real-time collaboration, whiteboard, AI agents, documents.

> **Online LaTeX, Jupyter, a terminal, course tools and AI.**

From our grade for features

### Online LaTeX editor

Write LaTeX with collaboration, PDF preview, source synchronization, anchored discussions and edit history.

### Jupyter notebooks

Collaborative notebooks with cell chat, TimeTravel history and local or remote kernels.

### AI agents in projects

An integrated Codex agent works with project files, and Claude Code where a site enables it.

### Linux terminal and software

Each project has a terminal, project storage and installed software such as Python, R, Julia and SageMath.

### Course tools

Distribute assignments, collect work and grade notebooks or other project files.

### Where it runs

Web

### What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

CoCalc is made by SageMath, Inc.

PART 04 · STANDING

# Where it stands

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

**18**/136

Other writing tools it is graded above

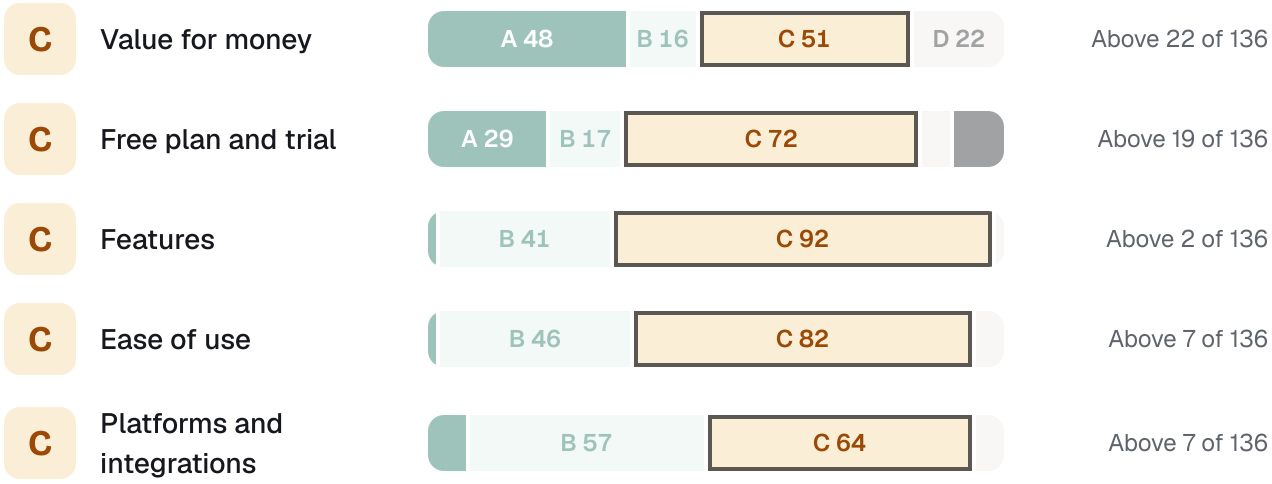
CoCalc's GPA of 2.0 is higher than 18 of the 136 other writing tools we grade, and level with 16.

Its paid plans start at $6 a month, against a middle price of $8.66 for the category: 23 of the 81 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.

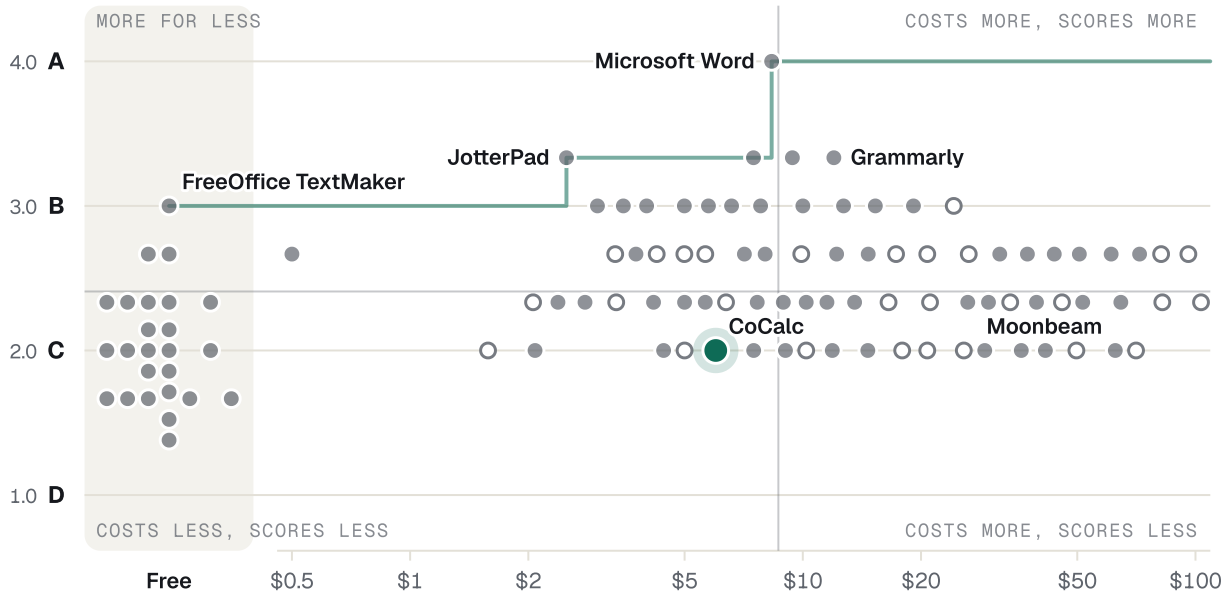
## Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 137 writing tools we grade, cut by the letter each got. CoCalc's own letter is outlined.



## Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 107 writing tools. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. CoCalc 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 CoCalc you would be making an AI agent, with the models and the safeguards behind it. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

That makes this kind of software worth paying for, not this one in particular: 102 of the 136 other writing tools grade higher. It costs $72 a year.

**What you could make**

- Documents: an app builder makes this well.

**What you could not**

- An AI agent, with the models and the safeguards behind it.

- ✕ An endless canvas that stays smooth with hundreds of things on it.
- ✕ Several people working in it at the same moment.

**What this rests on.** CoCalc'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



Overleaf, Papeeria, TeXPage and Typst

The 4 tools CoCalc is most often weighed against, with where each one differs from it.

2.4 GPA

## Overleaf

Free plan · from $16.75/mo

Collaborative online LaTeX editor for papers and theses.

- Overleaf is self-hostable, according to its own site.
- CoCalc also covers whiteboard, AI agents and documents.
- Overleaf also covers templates, citations and long-form writing.

CoCalc and Overleaf compared in full

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P

2.2 GPA

## Papeeria

Free plan · from $5/mo

Online LaTeX and Markdown editor with real-time collaboration.

- CoCalc also covers whiteboard and AI agents.
- Papeeria also covers Markdown and templates.

CoCalc and Papeeria compared in full



2.2
GPA

## TeXPage

Free plan · from $5/mo

Online LaTeX editor with cloud compilation and AI proofreading.

- CoCalc also covers whiteboard and AI agents.
- TeXPage also covers templates and citations.

CoCalc and TeXPage compared in full



3.2
GPA

## Typst

Free plan · from $7.99/mo

Markup-based typesetting system with a collaborative web app.

- Only Typst lists macOS, Windows and Linux apps.
- Typst is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.
- CoCalc also covers whiteboard, AI agents and documents.

CoCalc and Typst compared in full

PART 06 · QUESTIONS

# Quick answers

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

**12**

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 CoCalc free?

CoCalc has a free plan. Free membership with basic shared resources, enough to explore the platform and do basic work.

### How much does CoCalc cost?

CoCalc lists 4 plans. Free: $0.

### What platforms does CoCalc work on?

CoCalc is available on Web.

### Does CoCalc offer any discounts?

CoCalc publicly lists the following: Save 25% with annual billing.

### Does CoCalc have an Android app?

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

### Does CoCalc have an iPhone app?

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

### Is CoCalc open source?

CoCalc is not described as open source on its own site, as read on Nov 13, 2026.

### Who makes CoCalc?

CoCalc is made by SageMath, Inc.

### What are the alternatives to CoCalc?

The closest alternatives to CoCalc in our directory are Overleaf, Papeeria, TeXPage and Typst.

### How does CoCalc compare with other writing tools?

CoCalc's GPA of 2.0 is higher than 18 of the 136 other writing tools we grade, and level with 16.

### Is CoCalc good value for money?

ToolGPA grades CoCalc C for value for money. On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 2.0 out of 4.

### Could I make my own version of CoCalc?

To replace CoCalc you would be making an AI agent, with the models and the safeguards behind it.

## Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from CoCalc'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 CoCalc'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 SageMath, Inc. Prices change, so check cocalc.ai before you buy.

cocalc.ai/pricing
cocalc.ai/features
cocalc.ai/about

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](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

### CoCalc, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/cocalc

### 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, "CoCalc: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/cocalc
```

### Know someone choosing between writing tools?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

# See our other guides

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

### Writing Tools Insider's Guide

Every one of the 137 writing tools we grade, compared

### FreeOffice TextMaker Insider's Guide

Free word processor that opens and saves Microsoft Word files

3.4 GPA

### Microsoft Word Insider's Guide

Word processor sold with Microsoft 365, free in the browser

3.4 GPA

### Apache OpenOffice Insider's Guide

Free open-source office suite with the Writer word processor

3.2 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 CoCalc'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. CoCalc is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by SageMath, Inc. Prices and plans change: check cocalc.ai before you buy.