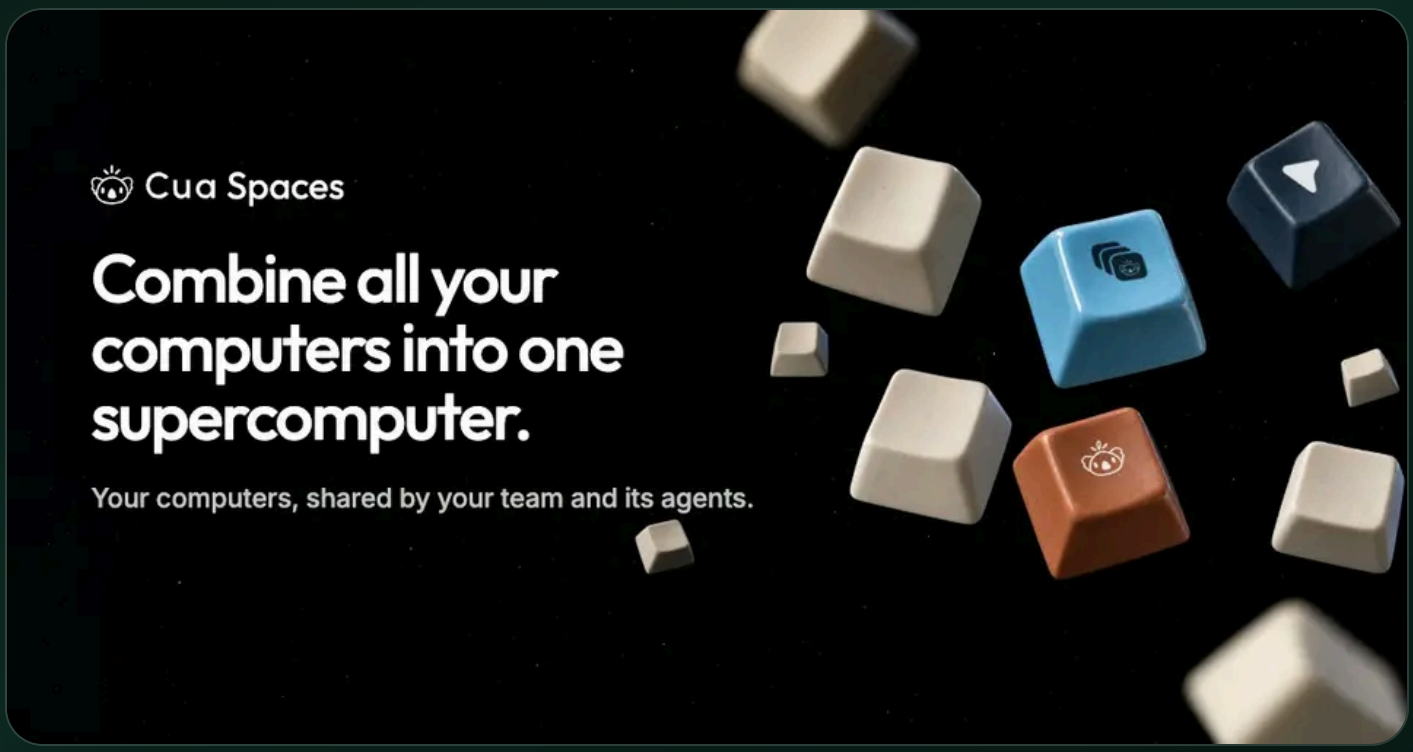
ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Cua

The Insider's Guide

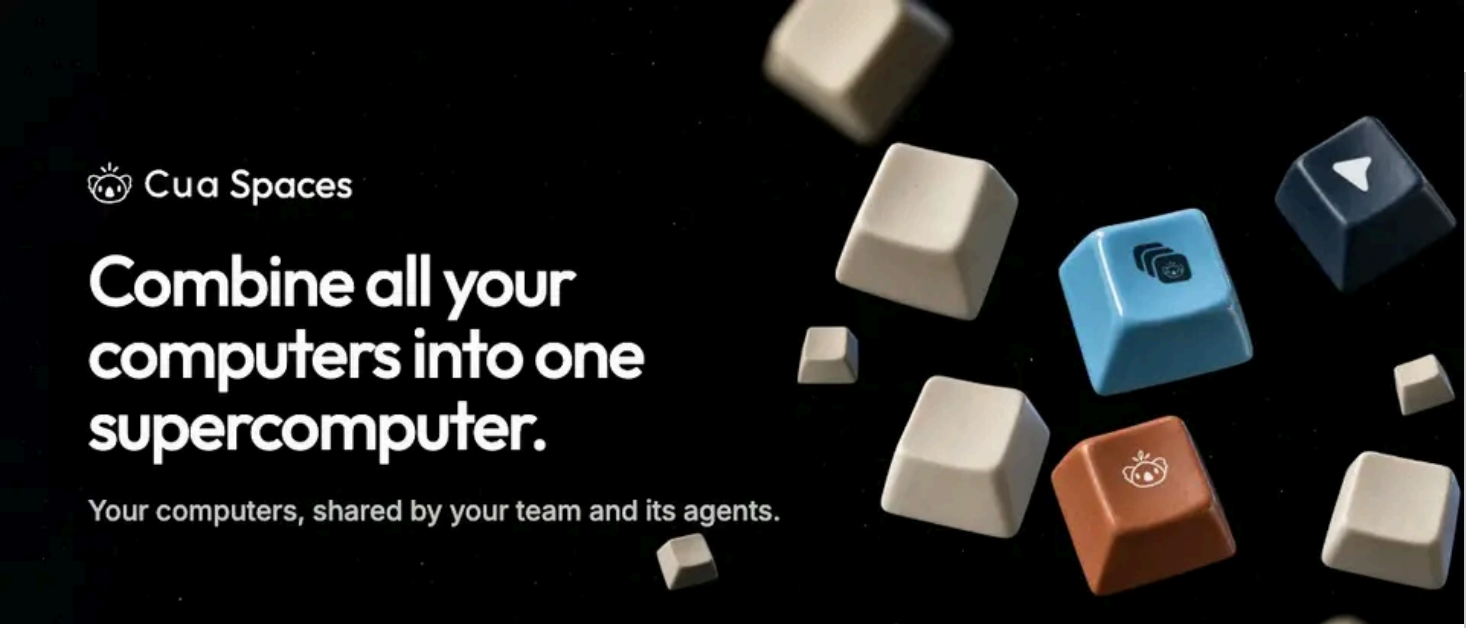
Shared desktops on your own computers for you and your AI agents



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among AI agents, read from Cua's own pages.

Made by Cua AI, Inc. · 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 Cua's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Cua'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 81 of the 178 other AI agents we grade

Cua Spaces turns Macs, Linux machines and cloud VMs that you own or rent into desktops that AI agents can operate and people can watch or share. Cua does not host the computers; it supplies the app, sharing and a relay for reaching them. The open-source Cua Driver lets agents use native desktop apps on macOS, Windows and Linux.

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

1 **Best for sandboxed computers for AI agents**

Cua gives AI agents their own computers, called Spaces, and lets you hand control back and forth.

2 **Paid plans start at $15 a month**

As its pricing page puts it: $15 per month, billed annually ($18 billed monthly).

3 **There is a free plan**

Free: Spaces on every computer you connect, Teleport, sharing with named people, and the relay for up to 2 computers at once and 20 remote hours a month.

4 **It runs on 3 platforms**

macOS, Windows and Linux.

5 Spaces

A Space is a full desktop, a virtual machine or container, that agents can use and people can watch, running on your Mac, your own computers or your own cloud.

6 Teleport

Packs an app's session (open tabs, profile, sign-ins) into a bundle and moves it into a Space after the user approves it on a consent screen.

7 Shared control

Share a Space with named people as viewer or editor. Each person and each agent gets its own cursor, so someone can step in and hand the desktop back.

8 A 2.2 GPA, above 81 of 178

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

9 Keep it

To replace Cua 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.

Cua at a glance

PRICING
Free plan, from $15 per month, billed annually ($18 billed monthly)

FREE PLAN
Yes

FREE TRIAL
None stated

RUNS ON
macOS, Windows, Linux

MADE BY
Cua AI, Inc.

CATEGORY
AI Agents

OUR GRADE
2.2 GPA, fair

The report card

Best for sandboxed computers for AI agents

Cua gives AI agents their own computers, called Spaces, and lets you hand control back and forth. Pro is $15 a month on yearly billing and Free covers 2 computers and 20 remote hours. It does not rent the machines, a Mac Space needs macOS 26, and several security features are still marked as coming.

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

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	B	$15 a month billed yearly ($18 monthly) is under the category's cheaper quarter of $19. Your cloud provider bills the VMs on top, because Cua does not rent computers.
Free plan and trial	B	The free plan has Spaces, Teleport and sharing, for up to 2 computers at once and 20 remote hours a month. No trial, but a person can live on it.
Features	C	Spaces, Teleport, shared control and a driver for agents. The listing shows gaps: expiring share links and audit history are coming soon, and SSO and audit export are not included.
Ease of use	D	No store rating on record. It is a developer tool with a driver, agent connections and your own machines to set up; Mac Spaces need macOS 26 on Apple silicon.
Platforms and integrations	C	Mac, Windows (a preview) and Linux only, with Claude Code, Codex, Cursor and Docker connections. Nothing for phones.

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 Cua is for

- ✓ Fits if you want to watch and take over what a coding agent does on a computer
- ✓ Works for developers who already own or rent the machines to run it on

Who it is not for

- ✗ Watch out: Cua does not rent computers, so the VMs are billed by your cloud provider
- ✗ Skip it if you are not on Apple silicon with macOS 26 and want a Mac Space
- ✗ Not for you if you need audit history or SSO today, which are listed as coming soon or not included
- ✗ Too light for phones, as there is no mobile app
- ✗ Watch out: anonymous usage data is collected by default, per the vendor's FAQ

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Developers who want coding agents to work on a separate desktop, not their own
- ✓ Teams that already own spare Macs or Linux machines and want to share them
- ✓ People who need an open-source driver for computer-use agents

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Cua does not rent computers: Spaces run on machines you own or rent, and your cloud provider bills those VMs.
- ⓘ Running a Mac Space needs macOS 26 or later on Apple silicon; the Windows app is a preview.
- ⓘ Share links that expire and 90-day audit history are listed as coming soon, and SSO and audit export as not yet included.
- ⓘ There is no trial. Anonymous usage data is collected by default, per the vendor's FAQ.

What it costs

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

$15

A month to start. There is a free plan too

Cua has a free plan. Paid plans start at $15 per month, billed annually ($18 billed monthly).

> **Your cloud provider bills the VMs on top, because Cua does not rent computers.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

FREE

$0

No account needed to start. Up to 2 computers in use at once and 20 remote hours a month through the relay.

PRO

$15

per month, billed annually ($18 billed monthly)

For one person: up to 5 computers in use at once and 200 remote hours a month. Billed $180 a year.

TEAMS

$25

per seat / month, billed annually ($30 billed monthly)

1 to 100 seats. Each seat adds 5 computers at once and 200 remote hours to a shared pool, plus shared team computers, roles and device approval.

The free plan

Free: Spaces on every computer you connect, Teleport, sharing with named people, and the relay for up to 2 computers at once and 20 remote hours a month.

Read from cua.ai on Nov 13, 2026.

Ways to pay less

ANNUAL DISCOUNT

Two months free on yearly billing

Pro is $180 a year ($15 a month) against $18 a month; Teams is $300 per seat a year against $30 per seat a month.

Stated on cua.ai

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

Shared desktops on your own computers for you and your AI agents. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, AI agents, remote desktop.

> **Spaces, Teleport, shared control and a driver for agents.**

From our grade for features

Spaces

A Space is a full desktop, a virtual machine or container, that agents can use and people can watch, running on your Mac, your own computers or your own cloud.

Teleport

Packs an app's session (open tabs, profile, sign-ins) into a bundle and moves it into a Space after the user approves it on a consent screen.

Shared control

Share a Space with named people as viewer or editor. Each person and each agent gets its own cursor, so someone can step in and hand the desktop back.

Cua Driver

An MIT-licensed driver that lets an agent operate native apps on macOS, Windows and Linux without taking over the user's cursor or keyboard.

Agent connections

Claude Code, Codex, Cursor, Gemini CLI, Cline, Kiro and OpenClaw connect through the Cua MCP server.

Where it runs

macOS · Windows · Linux

What it works with

Claude Code · Codex · Cursor · Gemini CLI · Cline · Kiro · OpenClaw · Docker

Cua is made by Cua AI, Inc.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

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

81/178

Other AI agents it is graded above

Cua's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 81 of the 178 other AI agents we grade, and level with 41.

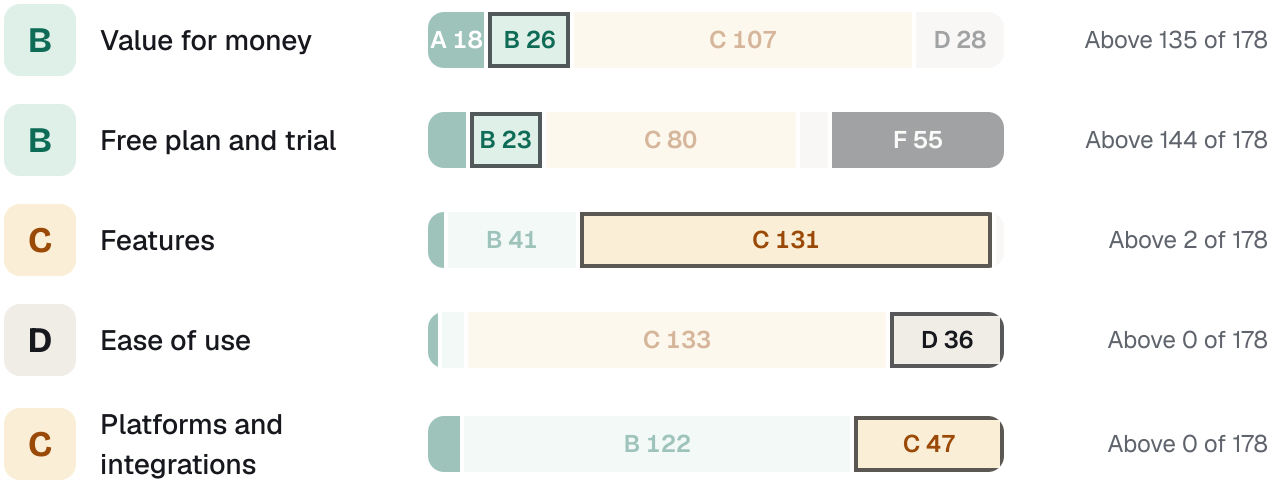
It stands best on free plan and trial (B, above 144 of 178) and worst on ease of use (D, above 0).

Its paid plans start at $15 a month, against a middle price of $25 for the category: 6 of the 98 others that charge start lower.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 1.7 out of 4. 13 tools score higher and cost less.

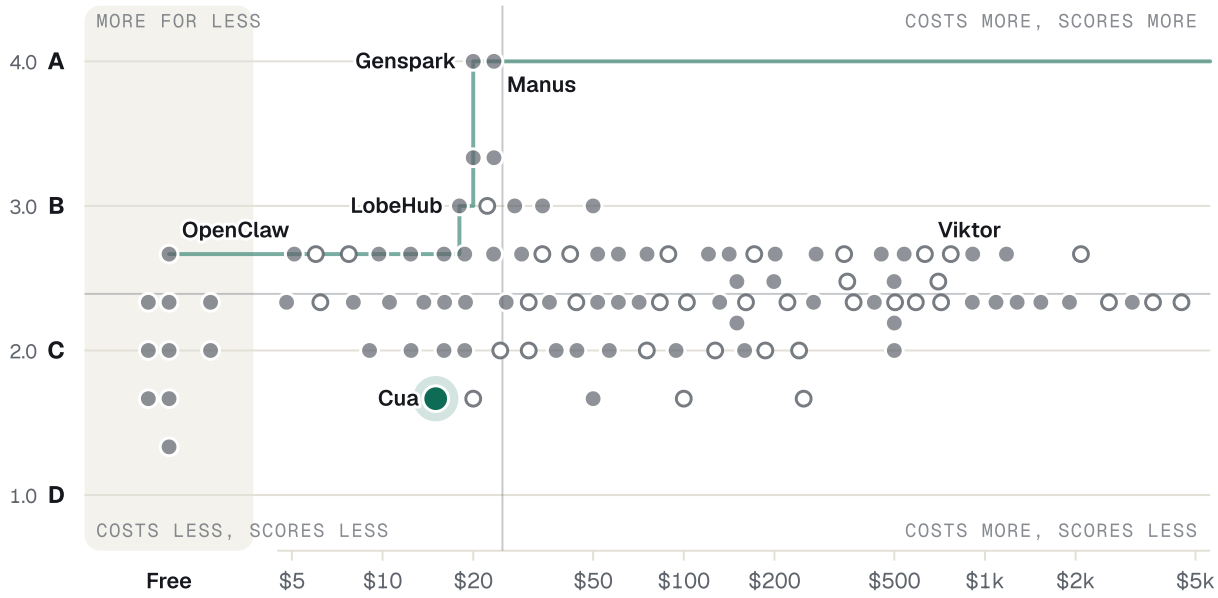
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 179 AI agents we grade, cut by the letter each got. Cua's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 109 AI agents. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Cua 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 Cua 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.

It costs $180 a year. Cua is open source, so there is a third way: take its code and run it yourself.

What you could not

- ✕ An AI agent, with the models and the safeguards behind it.
- ✕ A fast, secure link to another computer through any network.

- ✕ Apps for macOS, Windows and Linux that stay in step with each other.
- ✕ It plugs into other products, Claude Code, Codex and Cursor among them.
- ✕ Sharing with other people, which means accounts and invitations.

What this rests on. Cua'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



E2B, Browserbase, Open Interpreter, Kernel and Browser Use

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

1.8 GPA

E2B

Free trial · from $150/mo

Cloud sandboxes where AI agents run code and tools.

- Cua has a free plan. E2B does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only Cua lists macOS, Windows and Linux apps.
- Only E2B lists a web app.

Cua and E2B compared in full

2.2 GPA

Browserbase

Free plan · from $20/mo

Cloud browsers and APIs for agents that use the web.

- Only Cua lists macOS, Windows and Linux apps.
- Only Browserbase lists a web app.
- Cua is open source, according to its own site.

Cua and Browserbase compared in full

2.8
GPA

Open Interpreter

Free

Open-source coding agent and desktop agent using your own model keys.

- Cua also covers remote desktop.

Cua and Open Interpreter compared in full

2.0
GPA

Kernel

Free plan · from $30/mo

Cloud browser infrastructure for web agents and automations.

- Only Cua lists macOS, Windows and Linux apps.
- Only Kernel lists a web app.
- Cua also covers remote desktop.

Cua and Kernel compared in full

2.6
GPA

Browser Use

Free plan · from $5

Browser agents and cloud browsers for AI apps.

- Only Cua lists macOS, Windows and Linux apps.
- Only Browser Use lists a web app.
- Cua also covers remote desktop.

Cua and Browser Use compared in full

PART 06 · QUESTIONS

Quick answers

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

13

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 Cua free?

Cua has a free plan. Free: Spaces on every computer you connect, Teleport, sharing with named people, and the relay for up to 2 computers at once and 20 remote hours a month.

How much does Cua cost?

Cua lists 3 plans. Free: $0.

What platforms does Cua work on?

Cua is available on macOS, Windows and Linux.

Does Cua offer any discounts?

Cua publicly lists the following: Two months free on yearly billing.

Does Cua have an Android app?

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

Does Cua have an iPhone app?

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

Is Cua open source?

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

What does Cua integrate with?

Cua's listing names Claude Code, Codex, Cursor, Gemini CLI, Cline, Kiro, OpenClaw and Docker.

Who makes Cua?

Cua is made by Cua AI, Inc.

What are the alternatives to Cua?

The closest alternatives to Cua in our directory are E2B, Browserbase, Open Interpreter, Kernel and Browser Use.

How does Cua compare with other AI agents?

Cua's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 81 of the 178 other AI agents we grade, and level with 41.

Is Cua good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Cua B for value for money. Its paid plans start at $15 a month, against a middle price of $25 for the category: 6 of the 98 others that charge start lower.

Could I make my own version of Cua?

To replace Cua 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 Cua'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 Cua'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 Cua AI, Inc. Prices change, so check cua.ai before you buy.

cua.ai/pricing

cua.ai

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

Cua, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/cua

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, "Cua: The Insider's Guide", checked
Nov 13, 2026. https://toolgpa.com/tools/cua
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Know someone choosing between AI agents?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded AI agents after Cua, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

AI Agents Insider's Guide

Every one of the 179 AI agents we grade, compared

Genspark Insider's Guide

AI workspace with an agent for research, slides, sheets and docs

3.2 GPA

Manus Insider's Guide

General AI agent for research, slides, websites and browser tasks

3.2 GPA

OpenClaw Insider's Guide

Open-source personal AI agent you run yourself and message in chat

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