ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

DATEV

The Insider's Guide

German payroll and accounting software used with tax advisors

Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among payroll services, read from DATEV's own pages.

Made by DATEV eG · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

1.8
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 DATEV's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on DATEV'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

1.8

GPA, above 10 of the 61 other payroll services we grade

DATEV is a German cooperative that makes accounting and payroll software, used by tax advisors and by companies working with them. Its payroll offering lets companies run Lohn und Gehalt themselves or hand it to their tax firm, in the cloud or on-premises. HR modules for recruiting, time and travel costs sit beside it.

To get you started, here are **7 things to know about DATEV**, taken from its own pages and our grades.

> "
>
> **No price was found, it is built for German rules and the site is in German.**
>
> From our report card of DATEV

1 **Best for German payroll through your tax advisor**

DATEV is a German cooperative whose payroll runs in the cloud or on-premises and is shared with your tax firm.

2 **It runs on Web**

Web.

3 Payroll software

Lohn- und Gehaltsabrechnung programs, with versions for social institutions and the public sector. The site says about 14.5 million employees are paid with them each month.

4 Cloud or on-premises

Companies can choose a cloud solution or an on-premises one, and combine modules as needed.

5 Shared work with the tax firm

The payroll pages describe exchanging data with the company's tax firm, for example when it prepares the payroll.

6 A 1.8 GPA, above 10 of 61

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

7 Keep it

To replace DATEV you would be making payroll taxes worked out and filed with the government for you. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

DATEV at a glance

PRICING Paid	FREE PLAN No
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON Web
MADE BY DATEV eG	CATEGORY Payroll
OUR GRADE 1.8 GPA, weak	

The report card

Best for German payroll through your tax advisor

DATEV is a German cooperative whose payroll runs in the cloud or on-premises and is shared with your tax firm. No price was found, it is built for German rules and the site is in German.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	DATEV	Graded Nov 13, 2026
SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	No price was found; it is sold through a shop and tax advisors, so it sits in the middle of payroll tools.
Free plan and trial	F	No free plan or trial on the pages read.
Features	B	Payroll, cloud or on-premises, shared work with the tax firm, HR modules and an employee portal. The listing names no gap in the job.
Ease of use	C	No store rating on record. Sign-in needs a SmartCard, mIDentity or SmartLogin, which is extra setup.
Platforms and integrations	C	Web on the listing, with no mobile app or integrations list.
Grade point average		Weak, out of 4.0 **1.8**

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 DATEV is for

- ✓ Fits if your tax advisor already works in DATEV
- ✓ Works for German employers paying staff under German rules

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you do not read German, as the site is German
- ✗ Not for you if you pay staff outside Germany
- ✗ Watch out: sign-in now requires a SmartCard, mIDentity or SmartLogin
- ✗ Watch out: no prices were found, and it is aimed first at tax, audit and legal professions

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ German companies that work with a tax advisor who already uses DATEV
- ✓ Public-sector and social-sector employers that need sector-specific payroll
- ✓ Firms that want modular payroll with a choice of cloud or on-premises

Worth knowing

- ⓘ No prices were found on the pages read, so pricing is unverified; it is sold through a shop and through tax advisors.
- ⓘ Built for German payroll rules, and the site is in German.
- ⓘ The company describes itself as serving tax, audit and legal professions first, with companies as a second audience.
- ⓘ Sign-in now requires a DATEV SmartCard, mIDentity or SmartLogin, per a notice on the home page.

What it costs

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

DATEV's current pricing could not be confirmed from its own site.

> **No price was found; it is sold through a shop and tax advisors, so it sits in the middle of payroll tools.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

We could not confirm DATEV's current prices from its own site, so this guide lists no plans. datev.de has them.

What it does

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

1

Place it runs: Web

German payroll and accounting software used with tax advisors. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: reports, expense tracking, payroll, time clock, employee records.

> **Payroll, cloud or on-premises, shared work with the tax firm, HR modules and an employee portal.**
>
> From our grade for features

Payroll software

Lohn- und Gehaltsabrechnung programs, with versions for social institutions and the public sector. The site says about 14.5 million employees are paid with them each month.

Cloud or on-premises

Companies can choose a cloud solution or an on-premises one, and combine modules as needed.

Shared work with the tax firm

The payroll pages describe exchanging data with the company's tax firm, for example when it prepares the payroll.

HR modules

Related solutions cover recruiting, personnel management, time recording, HR controlling, staff development and travel expenses.

Employee portal

DATEV Arbeitnehmer online is listed as a way for employees to get their payroll documents.

Where it runs

Web

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

DATEV is made by DATEV eG.

Where it stands

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

10/61

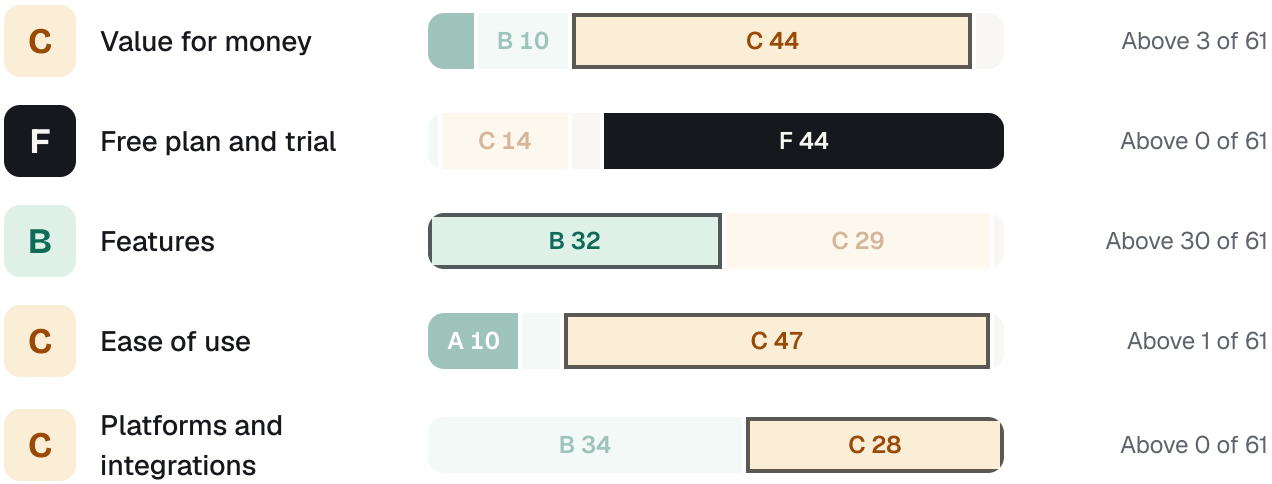
Other payroll services it is graded above

DATEV's GPA of 1.8 is higher than 10 of the 61 other payroll services we grade, and level with 15.

It stands best on features (B, above 30 of 61) and worst on free plan and trial (F, above 0).

Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 62 payroll services we grade, cut by the letter each got. DATEV's own letter is outlined.



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 DATEV you would be making payroll taxes worked out and filed with the government for you. 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: 36 of the 61 other payroll services grade higher.

What you could make

- Employee records, expense tracking and reports: an app builder makes these well.

What you could not

- Payroll taxes worked out and filed with the government for you.
- Clocking in from a phone, checked against where and when.
- The depth: we grade its features B, which means it covers the whole job.

What this rests on. DATEV'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



SD Worx, Silae, Payfit, Zellis and Azets

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

SD Worx

1.8 GPA

Paid

European HR, payroll and time provider, with managed payroll.

- DATEV also covers reports.
- SD Worx also covers shift scheduling and time off.

DATEV and SD Worx compared in full

Silae

1.8 GPA

Paid

French payroll and HR software, sold with accountants and partners.

- DATEV also covers time clock.
- Silae also covers time off.

DATEV and Silae compared in full

Payfit

2.0 GPA

Paid

Managed UK payroll and HR with an AI assistant.

- DATEV also covers reports and time clock.
- Payfit also covers time off.

DATEV and Payfit compared in full

1.8
GPA

Zellis

Paid

HR, workforce management and payroll software for UK and Ireland.

- DATEV also covers reports, expense tracking and time clock.
- Zellis also covers shift scheduling and time off.

DATEV and Zellis compared in full

1.6
GPA

Azets

Paid

Accounting firm with managed payroll services and cloud software.

- DATEV also covers expense tracking, time clock and employee records.

DATEV and Azets compared in full

PART 06 · QUESTIONS

Quick answers

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

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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 DATEV free?

No. DATEV is a paid product.

What platforms does DATEV work on?

DATEV is available on Web.

Does DATEV have an Android app?

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

Does DATEV have an iPhone app?

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

Is DATEV open source?

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

Who makes DATEV?

DATEV is made by DATEV eG.

What are the alternatives to DATEV?

The closest alternatives to DATEV in our directory are SD Worx, Silae, Payfit, Zellis and Azets.

How does DATEV compare with other payroll services?

DATEV's GPA of 1.8 is higher than 10 of the 61 other payroll services we grade, and level with 15.

Could I make my own version of DATEV?

To replace DATEV you would be making payroll taxes worked out and filed with the government for you.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from DATEV'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 DATEV'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 DATEV eG. Prices change, so check datev.de before you buy.

datev.de/web/de

datev.de/web/de/berufsgruppenuebergreifend/ue…

datev.de/web/de/unternehmen/loesungen/lohn-u…

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

DATEV, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/datev

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, "DATEV: The Insider's Guide", checked
Nov 13, 2026. https://toolgpa.com/tools/datev
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Know someone choosing between payroll services?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded payroll services after DATEV, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Payroll Insider's Guide

Every one of the 62 payroll services we grade, compared

Roll by ADP Insider's Guide

Chat-based payroll app for very small US businesses

2.8 GPA

SimplePay Insider's Guide

South African online payroll with leave and self-service

2.8 GPA

BrightPay Insider's Guide

UK cloud payroll with HMRC submissions and auto-enrolment

2.6 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 DATEV'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. DATEV is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by DATEV eG. Prices and plans change: check datev.de before you buy.