ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Double Commander

The Insider's Guide

Free open-source dual-pane file manager inspired by Total Commander



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among desktop utilities, read from Double Commander's own pages.

Made by Double Commander author · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

3.0
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 Double Commander's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Double Commander'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

3.0

GPA, above 154 of the 186 other desktop utilities we grade

Double Commander is a free, open-source file manager with two panels side by side or one above the other. It runs on Windows, Linux and macOS and supports Total Commander plug-in types.

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

> **The two-pane layout takes learning if you're used to Finder or Explorer.**
>
> From our report card of Double Commander

1 **Best for a free two-pane file manager on any desktop**

Double Commander is a free two-pane file manager in the Total Commander mould, on Windows, Linux and Mac.

2 **It is free**

Double Commander has no paid plan at all. Free; the source is released under the GPL-2.0 license.

3 **It runs on 3 platforms**

Windows, Linux and macOS.

4 **Two-panel layout**

Panels sit side by side or one above the other, with a tabbed interface and custom columns.

5 **Archives as folders**

Archives are handled like subdirectories. The site lists ZIP, TAR, GZ, BZ2, XZ, LZMA, 7Z, RPM, CPIO, DEB, RAR and ZIPX.

6 **Built-in viewer and editor**

F3 opens a viewer for text, binary or hex, and F4 opens an internal text editor with syntax highlighting.

7 **A 3.0 GPA, above 154 of 186**

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

8 **Keep it**

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

Double Commander at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN Yes
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON macOS, Windows, Linux
MADE BY Double Commander author	CATEGORY Desktop Utilities
OUR GRADE 3.0 GPA, very good	

The report card

Best for a free two-pane file manager on any desktop

Double Commander is a free two-pane file manager in the Total Commander mould, on Windows, Linux and Mac. The two-pane layout takes learning if you're used to Finder or Explorer.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	Double Commander	Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	A	Free under GPL-2.0. It costs nothing, under the $1.45 mark the category's cheapest quarter is 60% of.
Free plan and trial	A	Free outright with no cap and no paid edition.
Features	B	Two panels, archives as folders, built-in viewer and editor, plug-ins and remote connections. No gap shown in a file manager's job.
Ease of use	C	No rating on record. The two-pane interface needs some learning, and Linux users must pick a GTK2, Qt5 or Qt6 build.
Platforms and integrations	C	Windows, Linux and Mac, desktops only. No phone or web version.
Grade point average		Very good, out of 4.0 **3.0**

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 Double Commander is for

- ✓ Fits if you move files between folders all day
- ✓ Works for people who already know Total Commander keys

Who it is not for

- ✗ Not for you if you want something that looks like Finder or Explorer, since the layout is different
- ✗ Watch out: Linux builds come in GTK2, Qt5 and Qt6, and you pick one
- ✗ Skip it if you want paid support, as the site lists none
- ✗ Too light for cloud-drive browsing, as only remote connections are listed

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Total Commander users who want a free option on Linux or macOS
- ✓ People who prefer a two-panel layout and keyboard shortcuts

Worth knowing

- ⓘ The two-panel interface differs from Finder or Explorer and takes some learning.
- ⓘ Linux builds come in GTK2, Qt5 and Qt6 variants, so users must pick one.
- ⓘ The vendor site lists no paid support or paid edition.

What it costs

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

Free

No paid plan at all

Double Commander is free to use.

> **Free outright with no cap and no paid edition.**
>
> From our grade for free plan and trial

FREE

$0

Free to download and use.

The free plan

Free; the source is released under the GPL-2.0 license.

Read from doublecmd.sourceforge.io 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

Free open-source dual-pane file manager inspired by Total Commander. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, file management, file compression.

> **Two panels, archives as folders, built-in viewer and editor, plug-ins and remote connections.**
>
> From our grade for features

Two-panel layout

Panels sit side by side or one above the other, with a tabbed interface and custom columns.

Archives as folders

Archives are handled like subdirectories. The site lists ZIP, TAR, GZ, BZ2, XZ, LZMA, 7Z, RPM, CPIO, DEB, RAR and ZIPX.

Built-in viewer and editor

F3 opens a viewer for text, binary or hex, and F4 opens an internal text editor with syntax highlighting.

Plug-in support

Total Commander WCX, WDX, WFX and WLX plug-ins are supported.

Remote connections

FTP, FTPS, FTPES, SSH+SCP and SFTP are supported, with a multi-rename tool and full-text file search.

Where it runs

macOS Windows Linux

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

Double Commander is made by Double Commander author.

Where it stands

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

154/186

Other desktop utilities it is graded above

Double Commander's GPA of 3.0 is higher than 154 of the 186 other desktop utilities we grade, and level with 27.

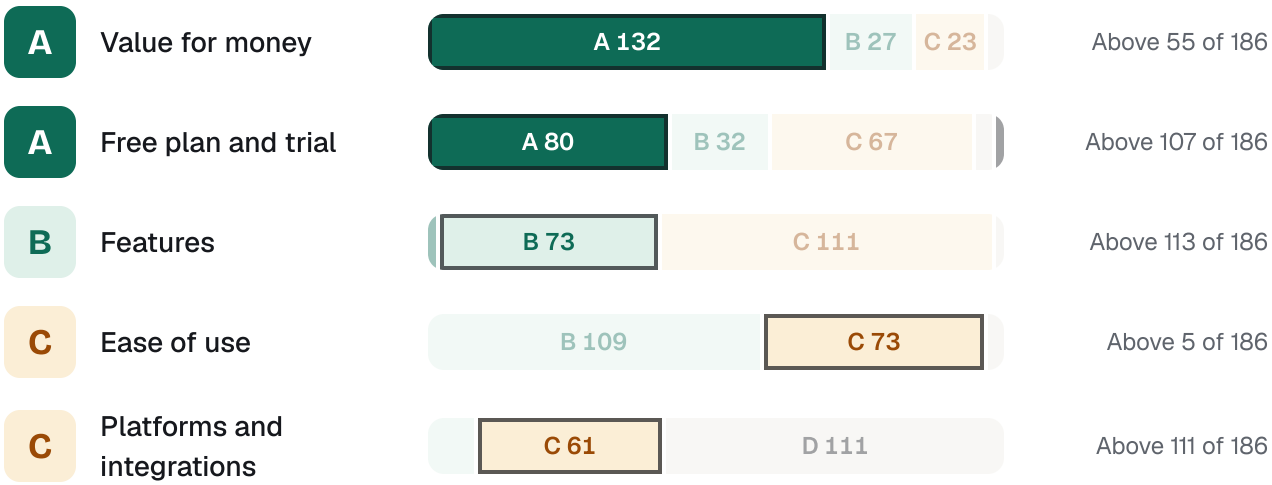
It stands best on free plan and trial (A, above 107 of 186) and worst on ease of use (C, above 5).

Double Commander has no paid plan.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 2.3 out of 4. Nothing scores higher for less, though at least one tool matches that score at a lower price.

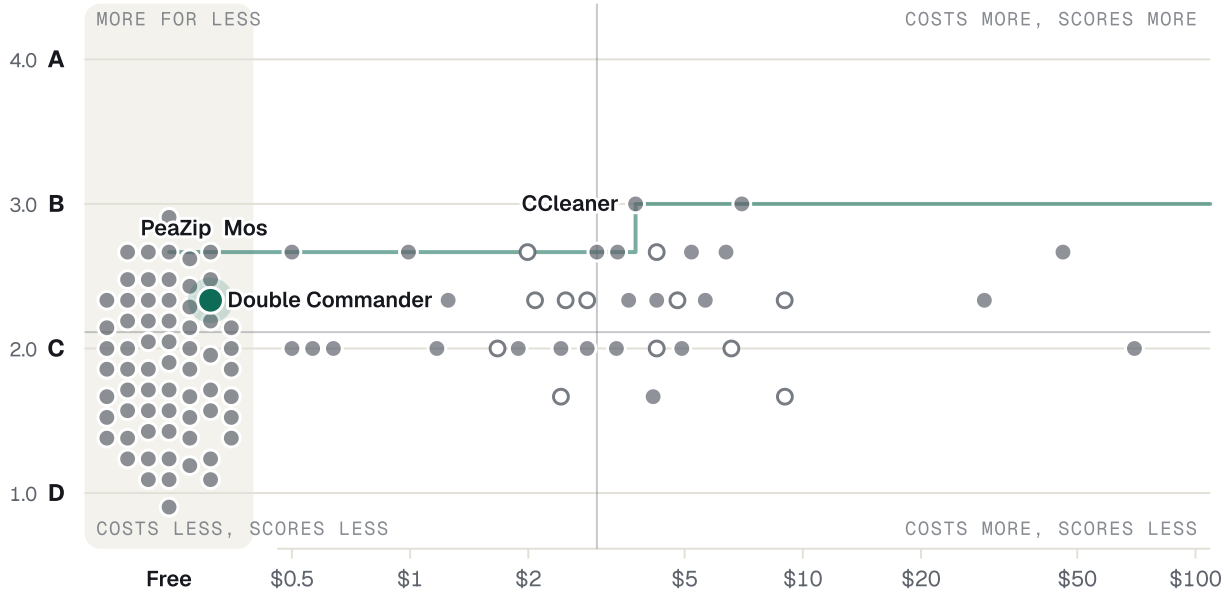
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 187 desktop utilities we grade, cut by the letter each got. Double Commander's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 103 desktop utilities. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Double Commander 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

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

And it is not the kind of software a weekend replaces. It is one of the better ones too: its GPA of 3.0 is higher than 154 of the 186 other desktop utilities we grade.

What you could make

- File compression: an app builder makes this well.

What you could not

- A file manager working directly on your disk.

- Apps for macOS, Windows and Linux that stay in step with each other.
- The depth: we grade its features B, which means it covers the whole job.

What this rests on. Double Commander’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



Total Commander, FreeCommander, Commander One, muCommander and XYplorer

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

T

2.8 GPA

Total Commander

Free trial · from €42 one-time

Two-pane file manager for Windows with FTP and archive tools.

- Double Commander has a free plan. Total Commander does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only Double Commander lists Linux and macOS apps.
- Only Total Commander lists an Android app.

Double Commander and Total Commander compared in full

F

2.6 GPA

FreeCommander

Free plan · from €10 one-time

Dual-pane Windows file manager, free 32-bit and paid 64-bit.

- Only Double Commander lists Linux and macOS apps.
- Double Commander is open source, according to its own site.
- FreeCommander can be bought with a one-time purchase.

Double Commander and FreeCommander compared in full



2.4
GPA

Commander One

Free plan · from $29.99 one-time

Dual-panel file manager and FTP client for Mac.

- Only Double Commander lists Windows and Linux apps.
- Double Commander is open source, according to its own site.
- Commander One can be bought with a one-time purchase.

Double Commander and Commander One compared in full



3.0
GPA

muCommander

Free

Open-source Java dual-pane file manager for Windows, macOS and Linux.

Double Commander and muCommander compared in full



2.4
GPA

XYplorer

Free trial · from $34.95 one-time

Portable tabbed file manager for Windows with scripting.

- Double Commander has a free plan. XYplorer does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only Double Commander lists Linux and macOS apps.
- Double Commander is open source, according to its own site.

Double Commander and XYplorer 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 Double Commander free?

Yes. Double Commander is free to use.

How much does Double Commander cost?

Double Commander lists one plan. Free: $0.

What platforms does Double Commander work on?

Double Commander is available on Windows, Linux and macOS.

Does Double Commander have an Android app?

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

Does Double Commander have an iPhone app?

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

Is Double Commander open source?

Yes. Double Commander is open source, according to its own site.

Who makes Double Commander?

Double Commander is made by Double Commander author.

What are the alternatives to Double Commander?

The closest alternatives to Double Commander in our directory are Total Commander, FreeCommander, Commander One, muCommander and XYplorer.

How does Double Commander compare with other desktop utilities?

Double Commander's GPA of 3.0 is higher than 154 of the 186 other desktop utilities we grade, and level with 27.

Is Double Commander good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Double Commander A for value for money. Double Commander has no paid plan.

Could I make my own version of Double Commander?

Double Commander 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 Double Commander'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 Double Commander author'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 Double Commander author. Prices change, so check doublecmd.sourceforge.io before you buy.

doublecmd.sourceforge.io/

github.com/doublecmd/doublecmd

sourceforge.net/p/doublecmd/wiki/Download/

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

Double Commander, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/double-commander

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, "Double Commander: The Insider's Guide", checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/double-commander
```

Know someone choosing between desktop utilities?

Send them this guide:
toolgpa.com/tools/double-commander/guide

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded desktop utilities after Double Commander, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Desktop Utilities Insider's Guide

Every one of the 187 desktop utilities we grade, compared

Just Color Picker Insider's Guide

Free portable color picker and editor for Windows and macOS

3.2 GPA

LocalSend Insider's Guide

Open-source file sharing between nearby devices, no cloud

3.2 GPA

Mos Insider's Guide

Free Mac menu bar utility for smooth mouse wheel scrolling

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 Double Commander'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. Double Commander is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Double Commander author. Prices and plans change: check doublecmd.sourceforge.io before you buy.