ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

FxSound

The Insider's Guide

Free open-source Windows equalizer and volume booster



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

Made by FxSound · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

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

FxSound is a Windows program that processes a PC's audio output with an equalizer, effects and presets, aiming to raise volume, bass and clarity on laptop speakers and other basic hardware. It was a paid product for over 20 years before becoming free in 2022 and open source in 2023. It is now funded by donations from users.

> "
>
> **It runs only on Windows and is kept going by donations and a small team.**
>
> From our report card of FxSound

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

1 **Best for a free equalizer and volume booster on Windows**

FxSound is a free Windows equalizer with volume and bass boost and presets.

2 **It is free**

FxSound has no paid plan at all. The whole app is free; the project accepts donations.

3 **It runs on Windows**

Windows.

4 **Equalizer and presets**

An equalizer with presets for tuning music, calls, games and spoken audio.

5 **Volume and bass boost**

Raises volume with controlled peaking, and a Bass effect adds low-end punch.

6 **Voice emphasis**

The vendor says it targets the frequency range of the human voice, which it presents as useful for transcription work.

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**

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

FxSound at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN Yes
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON Windows
MADE BY FxSound, since 1999	CATEGORY Desktop Utilities
OUR GRADE 3.0 GPA, very good	

The report card

Best for a free equalizer and volume booster on Windows

FxSound is a free Windows equalizer with volume and bass boost and presets. It runs only on Windows and is kept going by donations and a small team.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	FxSound	Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	A	Free with no paid tier, which is below any price the utilities category charges.
Free plan and trial	A	The whole app is free, with no cap and no trial. It asks for donations.
Features	B	Equalizer, presets, volume and bass boost, voice emphasis and audio routing. The listing shows no gap in the job.
Ease of use	B	No rating on record. You install it and pick a preset; nothing to set up.
Platforms and integrations	D	Windows only (Intel/AMD and ARM64). The vendor only hopes for Mac and Linux builds.
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 FxSound is for

- ✓ Fits if you want a free equalizer for Windows speakers or headphones
- ✓ Works for people who just want sound louder with a bass boost

Who it is not for

- ✗ Not for you if you use a Mac, Linux, Android or iOS, as it is Windows only
- ✗ Watch out: it is run by a small team of contributors and funded by donations
- ✗ Watch out: older paid versions are still on the site as legacy downloads, which can confuse which one you get
- ✗ Too light for studio work, since it is an equalizer and booster rather than a mixer

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Windows users with quiet laptop speakers or basic headphones
- ✓ People who want a free system-wide equalizer
- ✓ Anyone who prefers software with public source code

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Windows only; the vendor says it hopes to build Mac and Linux versions if contributions allow.
- ⓘ System-wide processing is not possible on Android or iOS because of operating system restrictions, the vendor says.
- ⓘ Funded by donations from users and run by a small team of contributors.
- ⓘ Older paid versions are kept on the site as legacy downloads.

What it costs

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

Free

No paid plan at all

FxSound is free to use.

> **Free with no paid tier, which is below any price the utilities category charges.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

FREE

$0

Full app with equalizer, effects and presets, funded by user contributions.

The free plan

The whole app is free; the project accepts donations.

Read from fxsound.com on Nov 13, 2026.

What it does

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

1

Place it runs: Windows

Free open-source Windows equalizer and volume booster. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, noise cancellation.

> **Equalizer, presets, volume and bass boost, voice emphasis and audio routing.**

From our grade for features

Equalizer and presets

An equalizer with presets for tuning music, calls, games and spoken audio.

Volume and bass boost

Raises volume with controlled peaking, and a Bass effect adds low-end punch.

Voice emphasis

The vendor says it targets the frequency range of the human voice, which it presents as useful for transcription work.

Audio routing and volume control

Includes audio routing and volume control for matching the sound to your headphones or speakers.

Windows Intel/AMD and ARM64 builds

The download page offers installers for x86/x64 PCs and for ARM64, plus legacy DFX Audio Enhancer and FxSound Enhancer versions.

Where it runs

Windows

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

FxSound is made by FxSound, and has been around since 1999.

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

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

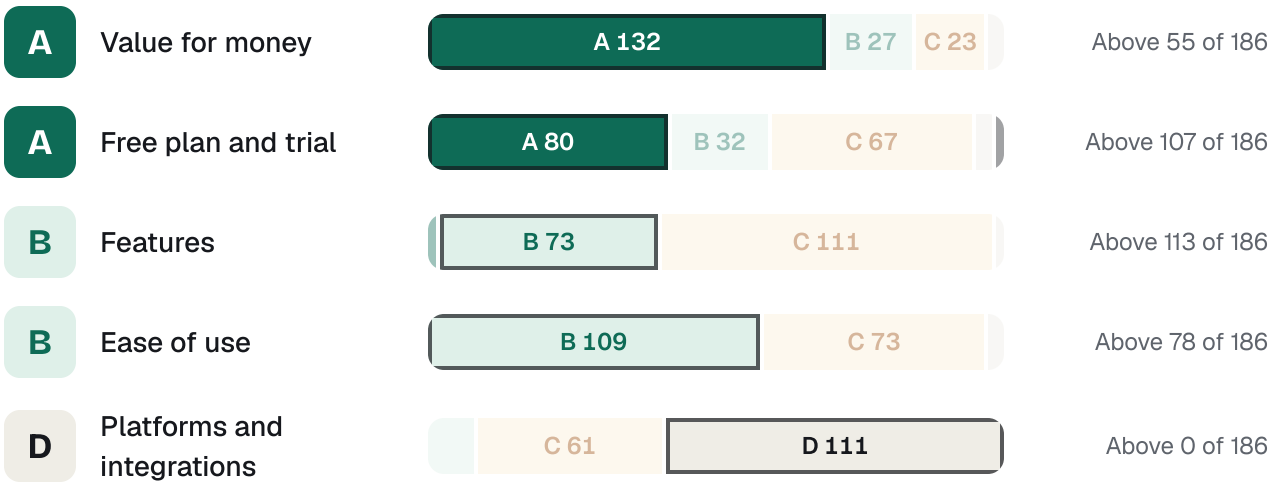
It stands best on free plan and trial (A, above 107 of 186) and worst on platforms and integrations (D, above 0).

FxSound 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.

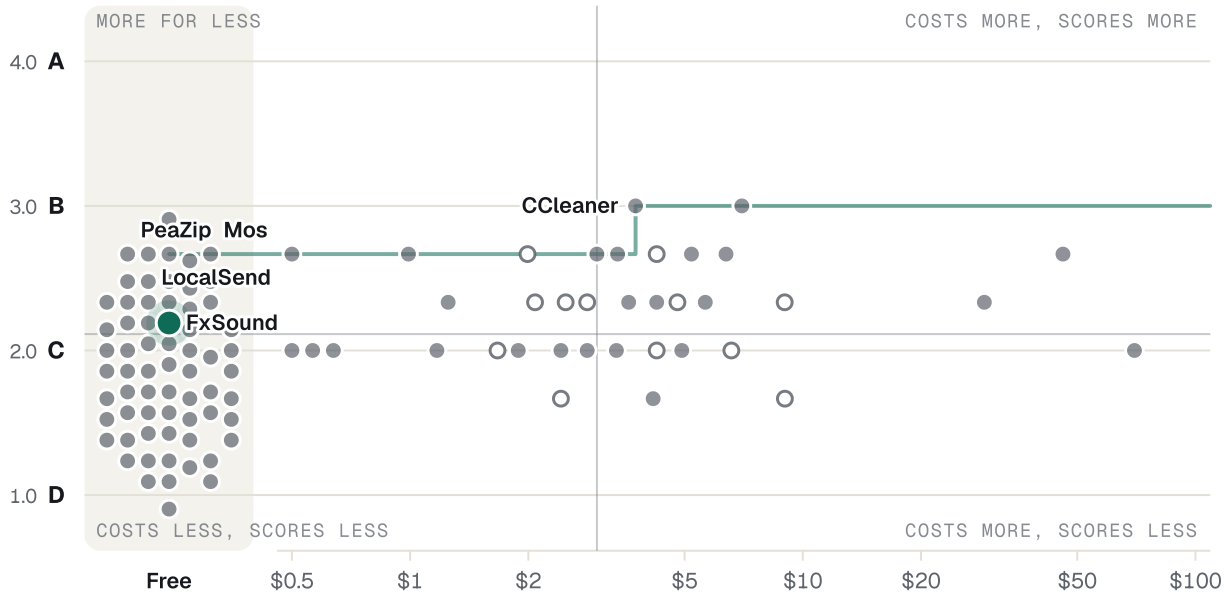
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 187 desktop utilities we grade, cut by the letter each got. FxSound'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. FxSound 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

FxSound 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 not

- ✕ Audio cleaned up live as you speak.
- ✕ A real app for Windows. Something home-made would be a web page.
- ✕ The depth: we grade its features B, which means it covers the whole job.

What this rests on. FxSound'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



eqMac, Voicemeeter, SoundSource and EarTrumpet

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

eqMac

2.4 GPA

Free plan · from $3/mo

System-wide equalizer and per-app volume mixer for macOS.

- Only FxSound lists a Windows app.
- Only eqMac lists a macOS app.
- FxSound is open source, according to its own site.

FxSound and eqMac compared in full

Voicemeeter

2.6 GPA

Free plan · from $15 one-time

Virtual audio mixer for Windows, sold as donationware.

- FxSound is open source, according to its own site.
- Voicemeeter can be bought with a one-time purchase.
- FxSound also covers noise cancellation.

FxSound and Voicemeeter compared in full



2.2
GPA

SoundSource

Free trial · from $49 one-time

Per-app volume, output routing and audio effects for the Mac.

- FxSound has a free plan. SoundSource does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only FxSound lists a Windows app.
- Only SoundSource lists a macOS app.

FxSound and SoundSource compared in full

E

2.8
GPA

EarTrumpet

Free

Per-app volume mixer for the Windows system tray.

- FxSound also covers noise cancellation.
- EarTrumpet also covers menu bar app.

FxSound and EarTrumpet compared in full

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 FxSound free?

Yes. FxSound is free to use.

How much does FxSound cost?

FxSound lists one plan. Free: $0.

What platforms does FxSound work on?

FxSound is available on Windows.

Does FxSound have an Android app?

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

Does FxSound have an iPhone app?

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

Is FxSound open source?

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

Who makes FxSound?

FxSound is made by a company of the same name. It dates from 1999.

What are the alternatives to FxSound?

The closest alternatives to FxSound in our directory are eqMac, Voicemeeter, SoundSource and EarTrumpet.

How does FxSound compare with other desktop utilities?

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

Is FxSound good value for money?

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

Could I make my own version of FxSound?

FxSound 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 FxSound’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 FxSound'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 FxSound. Prices change, so check fxsound.com before you buy.

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fxsound.com/download
fxsound.com/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**.

7,721	95	739	579
tools graded	categories	price changes on record	apps priced in 12 countries

What else is on toolgpa.com

FxSound, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/fxsound

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, "FxSound: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/fxsound
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Know someone choosing between desktop utilities?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded desktop utilities after FxSound, 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

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Choosing software? Every tool graded, every price dated.

Compare tools at toolgpa.com ›

Everything in this guide is ToolGPA's own summary of what FxSound'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. FxSound is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by FxSound. Prices and plans change: check fxsound.com before you buy.