ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Groups.io

The Insider's Guide

Email discussion groups with files, calendar and wiki



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among course and community platforms, read from Groups.io's own pages.

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

2.6
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 Groups.io's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Groups.io'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

2.6

GPA, above 83 of the 98 other course and community platforms we grade

Groups.io hosts email-based discussion groups, positioned as an alternative to listserv software. Members can post by email or on the web, and paid groups add shared files, photos, a wiki, a calendar with RSVPs, chat and databases. Small groups are free; larger ones pay by the member.

> "
>
> **You set up groups, settings and members.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

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

1 **Best for email groups with a small free plan**

Groups.io runs email groups that people can use by email or on the web.

2 **Paid plans start at $20 a month**

As its pricing page puts it: $20 per month minimum, at $0.04 per member.

3 **There is a free plan**

Core email group for up to 100 members with 1 GB of attachment storage and no files, photos, calendar, chat or wiki.

4 **It runs on Web**

Web.

5 **Email-first groups**

People can take part by email or on the web, and the site says it does not sell member data to advertisers.

6 **Files, photos and wiki**

Premium and Enterprise groups share files and photos and keep a wiki. Attachments count toward storage; messages do not.

7 **Calendar with RSVPs**

Single and recurring events with reminders, attendee limits with a wait list, guests, attendee export and printable name tags.

8 **A 2.6 GPA, above 83 of 98**

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

9 **Keep it**

To replace Groups.io you would be making chat that a whole team counts on staying up. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

Groups.io at a glance

PRICING
Free plan, from $20 per month minimum, at $0.04 per member

FREE PLAN
Yes

FREE TRIAL
30-day free trial of Premium, no card needed

RUNS ON
Web

MADE BY
Groups.io, Inc.

CATEGORY
Courses & Communities

OUR GRADE
2.6 GPA, good

The report card

Best for email groups with a small free plan

Groups.io runs email groups that people can use by email or on the web. Free stops at 100 members with no files, calendar or wiki, and Premium costs $0.04 per member with a $20 monthly minimum.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD **Groups.io** Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	B	Premium is $20 a month minimum at $0.04 per member, the cheaper-quarter line of the category.
Free plan and trial	C	Free is a core email group for 100 members with 1 GB of attachments and no files, calendar, chat or wiki, and a 30-day Premium trial without a card.
Features	B	Email-first groups, files, photos, wiki, calendar, chat and paid memberships on Premium. Paid memberships is in early access.
Ease of use	C	No store rating on record. You set up groups, settings and members.
Platforms and integrations	B	Web and email, with Stripe and Google Calendar listed.

Grade point average Good, out of 4.0 **2.6**

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 Groups.io is for

- ✓ Fits if your group already lives in email
- ✓ Works for clubs under 100 members that only need a mailing list

Who it is not for

- ✗ Tight if you have more than 100 members, as free stops there
- ✗ Pricey if the list grows, as Premium bills per member
- ✗ Watch out: Paid Memberships is in early access and must be requested from support
- ✗ Not for you if you want a phone app, as none is listed

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Clubs, user groups and projects that prefer email discussion
- ✓ Groups moving off a listserv or Google Groups

Worth knowing

- ⓘ The free plan stops at 100 members and has no files, calendar, chat or wiki.
- ⓘ After the 30-day trial a group with more than 100 members must pick a paid plan to continue.
- ⓘ Premium is billed per member, so cost grows with the list.
- ⓘ Paid Memberships is in early access and has to be requested from support.

PART 02 · PRICING

What it costs

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

$20

A month to start. There is a free plan too

Groups.io has a free plan. Paid plans start at $20 per month minimum, at $0.04 per member.

FREE

$0

Core email group for up to 100 members, 1 GB attachment storage, no files, photos, calendar, chat, wiki or integrations.

PREMIUM

$20

per month minimum, at $0.04 per member

30 GB storage, files, photos, wiki, calendar, chat and member data. Annual: $0.44 per member, minimum $220 a year.

ENTERPRISE

$200

per month and up, commercial ($100 non-profit)

White-label web and email, single sign-on, 1 TB storage and custom home page, plus $0.10 to $0.20 per member.

The free plan

Core email group for up to 100 members with 1 GB of attachment storage and no files, photos, calendar, chat or wiki.

Trying it first

30-day free trial of Premium, no card needed

Read from groups.io on Nov 13, 2026.

Ways to pay less

ANNUAL DISCOUNT

One month free on annual Premium

Premium billed annually is $0.44 per member with a $220 minimum, and the pricing page says it includes one month free.

Stated on groups.io

NONPROFIT

50% off Enterprise for nonprofits

Legally recognized non-profits get a 50% discount on the Enterprise plan after verification.

Stated on groups.io

What it does

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

1

Place it runs: Web

Email discussion groups with files, calendar and wiki. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: wiki, calendar, team chat, community.

> **Email-first groups, files, photos, wiki, calendar, chat and paid memberships on Premium.**
>
> From our grade for features

Email-first groups

People can take part by email or on the web, and the site says it does not sell member data to advertisers.

Files, photos and wiki

Premium and Enterprise groups share files and photos and keep a wiki. Attachments count toward storage; messages do not.

Calendar with RSVPs

Single and recurring events with reminders, attendee limits with a wait list, guests, attendee export and printable name tags.

Paid memberships

Premium and Enterprise groups can charge for membership tiers through their own Stripe account. This is in early access and needs approval.

Enterprise options

White-label web and email, a custom domain, single sign-on and a customizable home page.

Where it runs

Web

What it works with

Stripe

Google Calendar

Groups.io is made by Groups.io, Inc.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

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

83/98

Other course and community platforms it is graded above

Groups.io's GPA of 2.6 is higher than 83 of the 98 other course and community platforms we grade, and level with 8.

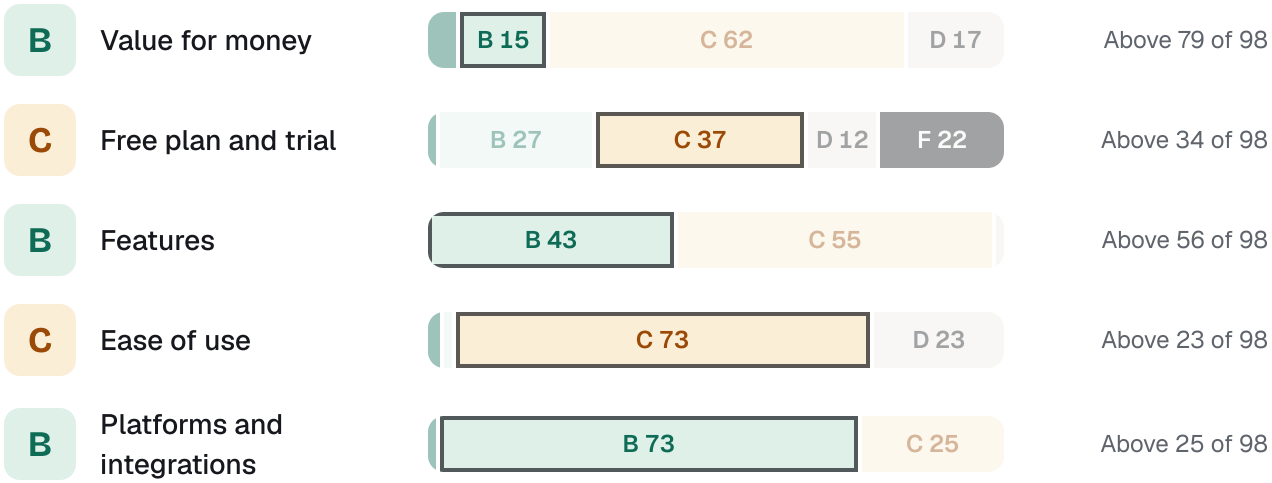
It stands best on value for money (B, above 79 of 98) and worst on ease of use (C, above 23).

Its paid plans start at $20 a month, against a middle price of $36 for the category: 16 of the 65 others that charge start lower.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 2.7 out of 4. Nothing scores higher for less, though at least one tool matches that score at a lower price.

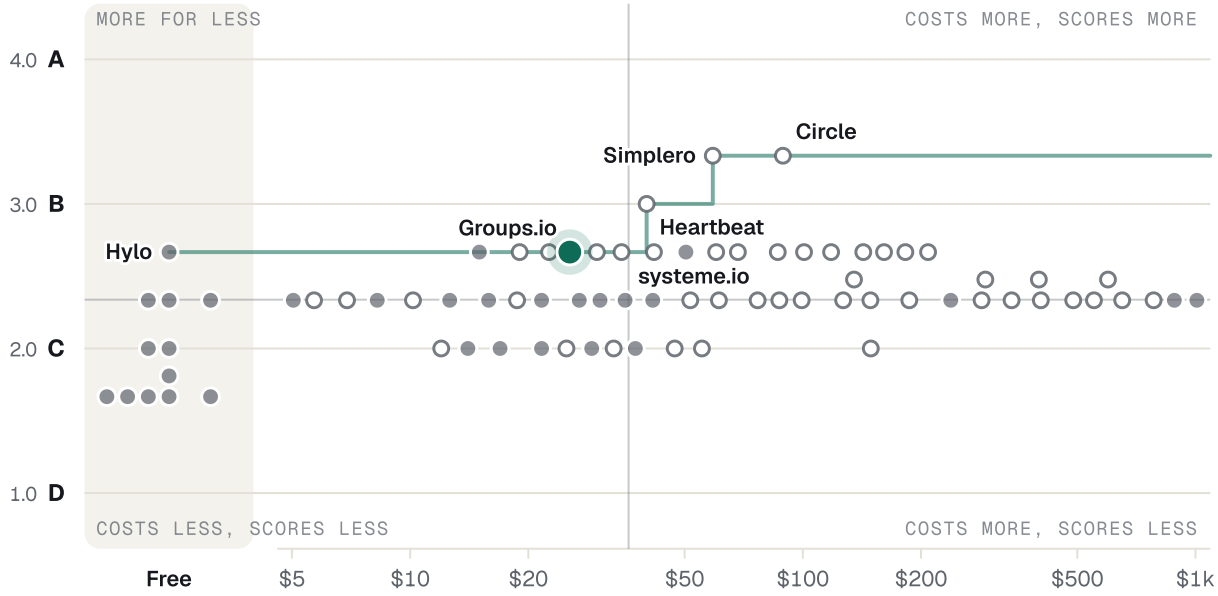
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 99 course and community platforms we grade, cut by the letter each got. Groups.io's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 78 course and community platforms. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Groups.io 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 Groups.io you would be making chat that a whole team counts on staying up. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

It is one of the better ones too: its GPA of 2.6 is higher than 83 of the 98 other course and community platforms we grade. It costs $240 a year.

What you could make

- Wiki and calendar: an app builder makes these well.

What you could not

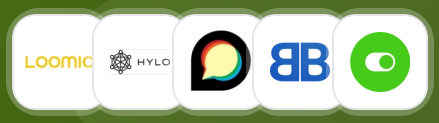
- Chat that a whole team counts on staying up.

- A members' space with posts, chat and events that people keep coming back to.
- What a company asks for before it lets staff use something: single sign-on.
- The depth: we grade its features B, which means it covers the whole job.

What this rests on. Groups.io'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



Loomio, Hylo, Discourse, NodeBB and Bettermode

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

2.0 GPA

Loomio

Free trial · from $33/mo

Group decision-making software for organizations and co-ops.

- Groups.io has a free plan. Loomio does not, though it has a free trial.
- Loomio is open source, according to its own site.
- Groups.io also covers wiki, calendar and team chat.

Groups.io and Loomio compared in full

3.2 GPA

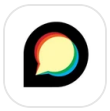
Hylo

Free

Free open-source platform for community groups and coordination.

- Only Hylo lists iOS and Android apps.
- Hylo is open source, according to its own site.
- Groups.io also covers wiki.

Groups.io and Hylo compared in full



2.6
GPA

Discourse

Free plan · from $100/mo

Open-source discussion forum software with hosted plans.

- Only Discourse lists iOS and Android apps.
- Discourse is open source, according to its own site.
- Groups.io also covers wiki and calendar.

Groups.io and Discourse compared in full



2.4
GPA

NodeBB

Free plan · from $20/mo

Open-source forum software with managed hosting plans.

- NodeBB is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.
- Groups.io also covers wiki, calendar and team chat.

Groups.io and NodeBB compared in full



1.8
GPA

Bettermode

Free trial · from $149/mo

Branded community platform with Q&A, events and AI search.

- Groups.io has a free plan. Bettermode does not, though it has a free trial.
- Groups.io also covers wiki and calendar.
- Bettermode also covers AI search.

Groups.io and Bettermode compared in full

Quick answers

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

14

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 Groups.io free?

Groups.io has a free plan. Core email group for up to 100 members with 1 GB of attachment storage and no files, photos, calendar, chat or wiki.

How much does Groups.io cost?

Groups.io lists 3 plans. Free: $0.

What platforms does Groups.io work on?

Groups.io is available on Web.

Does Groups.io offer any discounts?

Groups.io publicly lists the following: One month free on annual Premium; 50% off Enterprise for nonprofits.

Does Groups.io have an Android app?

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

Does Groups.io have an iPhone app?

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

Is Groups.io open source?

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

What does Groups.io integrate with?

Groups.io's listing names Stripe and Google Calendar. A listing names up to eight integrations, so it may connect to more.

Does Groups.io have a free trial?

Yes. 30-day free trial of Premium, no card needed.

Who makes Groups.io?

Groups.io is made by Groups.io, Inc.

What are the alternatives to Groups.io?

The closest alternatives to Groups.io in our directory are Loomio, Hylo, Discourse, NodeBB and Bettermode.

How does Groups.io compare with other course and community platforms?

Groups.io's GPA of 2.6 is higher than 83 of the 98 other course and community platforms we grade, and level with 8.

Is Groups.io good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Groups.io B for value for money. Its paid plans start at $20 a month, against a middle price of $36 for the category: 16 of the 65 others that charge start lower.

Could I make my own version of Groups.io?

To replace Groups.io you would be making chat that a whole team counts on staying up.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from Groups.io'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 Groups.io'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 Groups.io, Inc. Prices change, so check groups.io before you buy.

groups.io/

groups.io/static/pricing

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

Groups.io, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/groups-io

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, "Groups.io: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/groups-io
```

Know someone choosing between course and community platforms?

Send them this guide:
toolgpa.com/tools/groups-io/guide

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded course and community platforms after Groups.io, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Courses & Communities Insider's Guide

Every one of the 99 course and community platforms we grade, compared

Hylo Insider's Guide

Free open-source platform for community groups and coordination

3.2 GPA

Academy LMS Insider's Guide

WordPress LMS plugin with a free core and Pro licenses by site count

2.8 GPA

Circle Insider's Guide

Community platform with courses, events, payments and branded apps

2.8 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 Groups.io'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. Groups.io is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Groups.io, Inc. Prices and plans change: check groups.io before you buy.