ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Horde

The Insider's Guide

Free open-source webmail, calendar, contacts and tasks suite



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among email apps, read from Horde's own pages.

Made by Horde Project · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

2.4
GPA



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ToolGPA put this guide together from Horde's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Horde'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

2.4

GPA, above 54 of the 122 other email apps we grade

Horde is a free, community-maintained groupware suite you install on your own server. Its Webmail Edition bundles an IMAP and POP3 client with calendars, contacts, tasks, notes and files, and it syncs with CalDAV, CardDAV and ActiveSync clients. The project is licensed under LGPL and GPL terms and is not backed by a paid enterprise tier.

> "
>
> **You install and maintain it yourself, on top of a mail server.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

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

1 **Best for free webmail and groupware you host yourself**

Horde is a free webmail, calendar, contacts and tasks suite that you install yourself.

2 **It is free**

Horde has no paid plan at all. The whole suite is free to download and run yourself; the project sells no paid tier.

3 **It runs on Web**

Web.

4 **Webmail client**

IMAP and POP3 mail with 3-pane and 3-column layouts, conversation view, filtering, searching and a WYSIWYG composer.

5 **Message security**

Encrypting and signing messages with S/MIME and PGP, plus quota support and shared IMAP folders.

6 **Calendars, contacts and tasks**

Shared calendars, address books, task lists and notepads, with unlimited resources per user.

7 **A 2.4 GPA, above 54 of 122**

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

8 **Keep it**

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

Horde at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN Yes
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON Web
MADE BY Horde Project	CATEGORY Email Apps
OUR GRADE 2.4 GPA, fair	

The report card

Best for free webmail and groupware you host yourself

Horde is a free webmail, calendar, contacts and tasks suite that you install yourself. It needs your own mail server, there's no vendor behind it, and the project's blog describes recent releases as rough with a security fix soon after.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	Horde	Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	Free, but only if you host it yourself, so there's a server to pay for.
Free plan and trial	B	The whole suite is free under open-source licences, with no paid tier. You supply the server.
Features	B	Webmail, calendar, contacts, tasks, CalDAV, CardDAV and ActiveSync. Nothing in the listing shows a gap in the groupware job.
Ease of use	D	You install and maintain it yourself, on top of a mail server.
Platforms and integrations	B	A web interface with sync to other clients over CalDAV, CardDAV and ActiveSync. No apps of its own.
Grade point average		Fair, out of 4.0 **2.4**

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 Horde is for

- ✓ Fits if you already run a mail server and want webmail in front of it
- ✓ Works for people who like open-source suites and don't need a company behind it

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you don't want to run and update a server
- ✗ Skip it if you want a support contract, as support is the community or a third-party sponsor
- ✗ Watch out: Horde 6 and IMP 7 shipped with rough edges and a security fix soon after
- ✗ Watch out: no vendor means no service-level guarantee

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Admins who want a free groupware suite with webmail on their own server
- ✓ Organizations that need shared calendars and address books without licensing fees
- ✓ Developers who want to reuse Horde's PHP libraries

Worth knowing

- ⓘ You install and maintain it yourself; it is a client and groupware layer that needs your own mail server.
- ⓘ Support is community-based; the project points to B1 Systems for paid hosting and support.
- ⓘ The project blog describes recent releases (Horde 6, IMP 7) with rough edges and a security fix shortly after launch.
- ⓘ It is community-maintained with no vendor behind it, so there is no service-level guarantee.

What it costs

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

Free

No paid plan at all

Horde is free to use.

> **Free, but only if you host it yourself, so there's a server to pay for.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

HORDE GROUPWARE

$0

Free LGPL and GPL software you host yourself. Paid support comes from third-party sponsors such as B1 Systems.

The free plan

The whole suite is free to download and run yourself; the project sells no paid tier.

Read from horde.org 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: Web

Free open-source webmail, calendar, contacts and tasks suite. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, self-hostable, notes, tasks, calendar, email client.

"

Webmail, calendar, contacts, tasks, CalDAV, CardDAV and ActiveSync.

From our grade for features

Webmail client

IMAP and POP3 mail with 3-pane and 3-column layouts, conversation view, filtering, searching and a WYSIWYG composer.

Message security

Encrypting and signing messages with S/MIME and PGP, plus quota support and shared IMAP folders.

Calendars, contacts and tasks

Shared calendars, address books, task lists and notepads, with unlimited resources per user.

Sync with other clients

CalDAV, CardDAV and ActiveSync support, plus responsive, basic and mobile interfaces.

Wider app suite

Applications for files, bookmarks, time tracking and more can be added, and the PHP libraries underneath are reusable.

Translations

The groupware pages say it is translated into 41 languages, including right-to-left scripts.

Where it runs

Web

What it works with

CalDAV

CardDAV

ActiveSync

Horde is made by Horde Project.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

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

54/122

Other email apps it is graded above

Horde's GPA of 2.4 is higher than 54 of the 122 other email apps we grade, and level with 19.

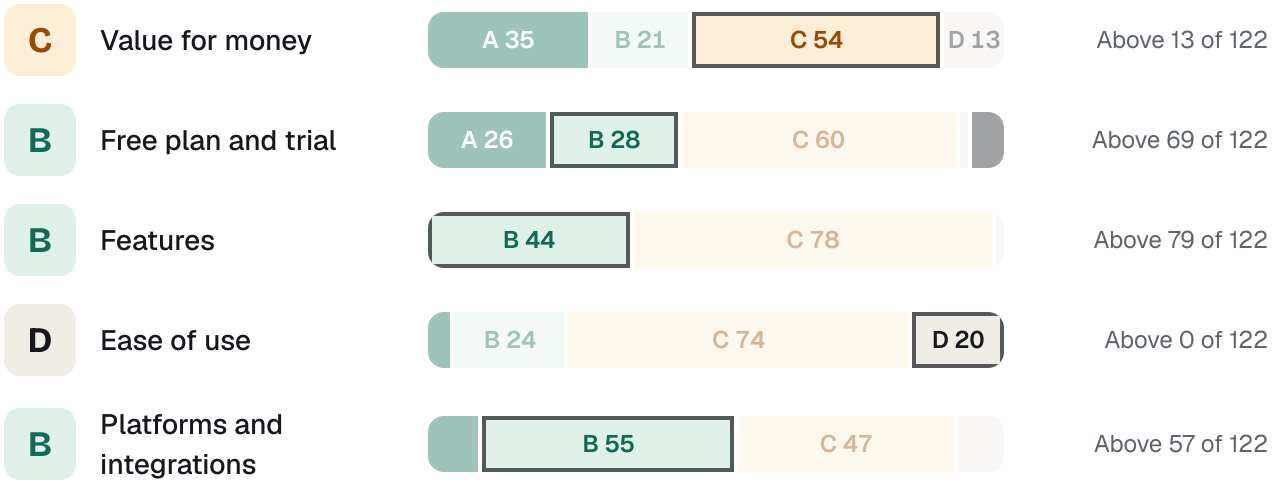
It stands best on features (B, above 79 of 122) and worst on ease of use (D, above 0).

Horde 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.

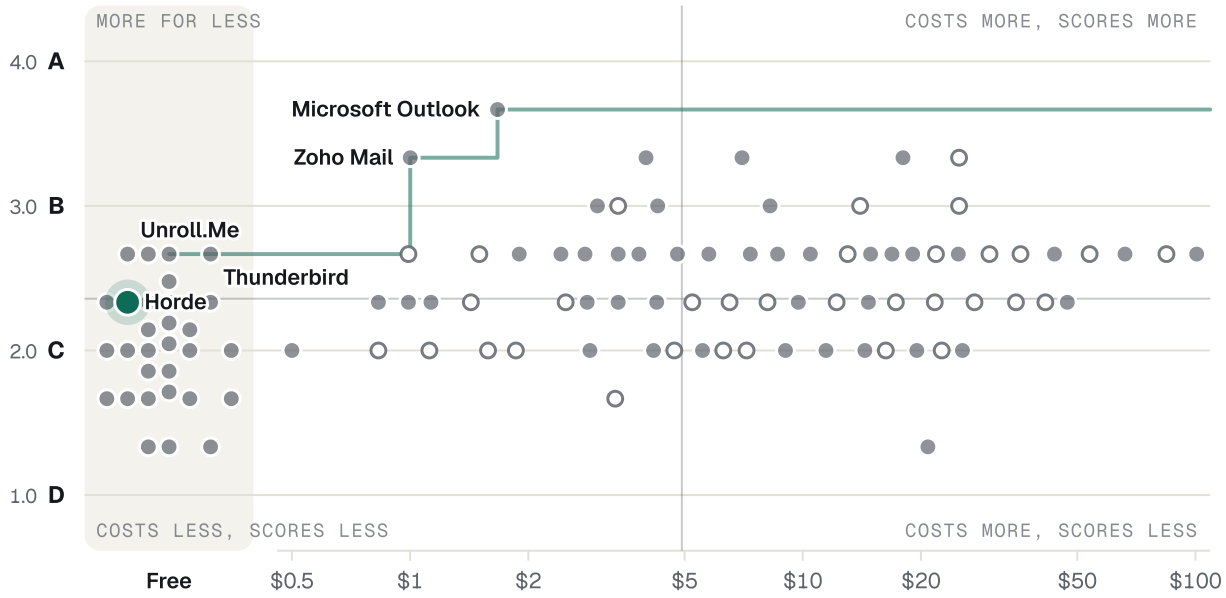
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 123 email apps we grade, cut by the letter each got. Horde's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 107 email apps. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Horde 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

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

And it is not the kind of software a weekend replaces.

What you could make

- Calendar, tasks and notes: an app builder makes these well.

What you could not

- ✕ An email client: sending, receiving, threading and searching years of mail.
- ✕ Sharing with other people, which means accounts and invitations.

- The depth: we grade its features B, which means it covers the whole job.

What this rests on. Horde'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



Roundcube, SOGo, Zimbra, SnappyMail and Kopano

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

Roundcube

2.0 GPA

Free

Free open-source webmail client you host yourself.

- Horde also covers notes, tasks and calendar.

Horde and Roundcube compared in full

SOGo

2.2 GPA

Free

Open-source groupware with webmail, calendars and contacts.

- Horde also covers notes and tasks.

Horde and SOGo compared in full

Zimbra

Paid

Self-hosted email, calendar and file sharing for organizations.

- Horde has a free plan. Zimbra does not.
- Only Zimbra lists Windows, macOS, Linux, iOS and Android apps.
- Horde also covers notes.

Horde and Zimbra compared in full

SnappyMail

1.8 GPA

Free

Open-source webmail client you install on your own server.

- Horde also covers notes, tasks and calendar.

Horde and SnappyMail compared in full

Kopano

2.2 GPA

Free trial

Container-based business email and calendar for hosting providers.

- Horde has a free plan. Kopano does not, though it has a free trial.
- Horde is open source, according to its own site.
- Horde also covers notes.

Horde and Kopano compared in full

PART 06 · QUESTIONS

Quick answers

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

12

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 Horde free?

Yes. Horde is free to use.

How much does Horde cost?

Horde lists one plan. Horde Groupware: $0.

What platforms does Horde work on?

Horde is available on Web.

Does Horde have an Android app?

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

Does Horde have an iPhone app?

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

Is Horde open source?

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

What does Horde integrate with?

Horde's listing names CalDAV, CardDAV and ActiveSync. A listing names up to eight integrations, so it may connect to more.

Who makes Horde?

Horde is made by Horde Project.

What are the alternatives to Horde?

The closest alternatives to Horde in our directory are Roundcube, SOGo, Zimbra, SnappyMail and Kopano.

How does Horde compare with other email apps?

Horde's GPA of 2.4 is higher than 54 of the 122 other email apps we grade, and level with 19.

Is Horde good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Horde C for value for money. Horde has no paid plan.

Could I make my own version of Horde?

Horde 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 Horde'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 the Horde project'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 Horde Project. Prices change, so check horde.org before you buy.

horde.org/
horde.org/apps/groupware/
horde.org/apps/webmail/
horde.org/community/support/

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

Horde, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/horde

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, "Horde: The Insider's Guide", checked
Nov 13, 2026. https://toolgpa.com/tools/horde
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Know someone choosing between email apps?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded email apps after Horde, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Email Apps Insider's Guide

Every one of the 126 email apps we grade, compared

Microsoft Outlook Insider's Guide

Microsoft's email and calendar app for desktop, mobile and web

3.6 GPA

AOL Mail Insider's Guide

Free webmail with news and weather in a companion mobile app

3.2 GPA

BlueMail Insider's Guide

Cross-platform email client with a unified inbox and built-in AI

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 Horde'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. Horde is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Horde Project. Prices and plans change: check horde.org before you buy.