ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Hostbuddy

The Insider's Guide

AI guest messaging for vacation rental hosts, connected to your PMS



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among vacation rental tools, read from Hostbuddy's own pages.

Made by HostBuddy AI · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

2.0

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

2.0

GPA, above 14 of the 53 other vacation rental tools we grade

Hostbuddy is a conversational AI assistant that answers guest messages for short-term rental hosts and property managers. It connects to a property management system, reads a knowledge base you maintain, and replies in many languages. Plans are priced per property, with each tier raising conversation history and team limits.

> "
>
> **You connect your PMS and fill in its knowledge base.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

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

1 **Best for AI replies to guest messages**

Hostbuddy answers guest messages with AI, connected to your property management system, from $7 a property a month.

2 **Paid plans start at $7 a month**

As its pricing page puts it: $7 per property / month, billed monthly.

3 **You can try it first**

2 weeks free on every plan

4 **It runs on Web**

Web.

5 **AI-powered guest messaging**

Answers guest questions through conversational AI connected to your property management system, with support for many languages.

6 **Knowledge base and tone**

Higher tiers let you customize the knowledge base the AI draws on, plus its tone of voice and reply delay.

7 **Past conversation learning**

The assistant can learn from earlier host and guest conversations, and it sends action-item notifications when staff must step in.

8 **A 2.0 GPA, above 14 of 53**

That is against the other vacation rental tools we grade, on value, the free plan, features, ease of use and platforms.

9 **Keep it**

To replace Hostbuddy you would be making an AI model, which you can rent by the request but not make. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

Hostbuddy at a glance

PRICING
Free trial, from $7 per property / month, billed monthly

FREE PLAN
No

FREE TRIAL
2 weeks free on every plan

RUNS ON
Web

MADE BY
HostBuddy AI

CATEGORY
Vacation Rental Software

OUR GRADE
2.0 GPA, fair

The report card

Best for AI replies to guest messages

Hostbuddy answers guest messages with AI, connected to your property management system, from $7 a property a month. It only does messaging, it needs a PMS to work, and the Pro plan keeps just 30 days of history.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD

Hostbuddy

Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	B	$7 a property a month on monthly billing, under the $10 cheaper quarter of rental tools. The price multiplies with each property.
Free plan and trial	C	2 weeks free on every plan. The listing doesn't say whether a card is needed, and there's no free plan.
Features	D	One narrow job, guest messaging, and it needs a PMS for the rest. No bookings, calendar or channels.
Ease of use	C	No store rating on record. You connect your PMS and fill in its knowledge base.
Platforms and integrations	C	Web only. The listing names no integrations.

Grade point average — Fair, out of 4.0 **2.0**

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 Hostbuddy is for

- ✓ Fits if you already run a PMS and want guest questions answered for you
- ✓ Works for hosts who get the same questions again and again

Who it is not for

- ✕ Skip it if you need bookings or a calendar, since it only handles messages
- ✕ Not for you if you have no PMS, as it connects to one
- ✕ Tight if you have many properties, because the price is per property
- ✕ Watch out: Pro keeps 30 days of history and 2 guest journeys, and the annual price isn't shown

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Hosts who want guest questions answered around the clock
- ✓ Small managers adding AI replies on top of an existing PMS
- ✓ Portfolios that need per-property pricing instead of a flat fee

Worth knowing

- ⓘ It handles guest messaging, not bookings, calendars or channel distribution; a property management system is needed.
- ⓘ Price is per property, so a large portfolio multiplies the monthly cost.
- ⓘ Conversation history, guest journeys, team seats and webhooks vary by tier, and Pro limits history to 30 days.
- ⓘ The pricing page shows an annual option described as two months free but the annual price was not displayed.

What it costs

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

$7
A month to start

Hostbuddy is a paid product with a free trial, starting at $7 per property / month, billed monthly.

> **The price multiplies with each property.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

PRO

$7

per property / month, billed monthly

AI guest messaging, PMS integration and smart inbox for individual hosts; 30 days of history, 2 guest journeys and 3 team members.

ELITE

$10

per property / month, billed monthly

For growing managers: 60 days of conversation history, up to 5 guest journeys and unlimited team members.

ULTIMATE

$12

per property / month, billed monthly

For large portfolios: unlimited guest journeys and business insights, with Slack notifications, webhooks and early feature access.

Trying it first

2 weeks free on every plan

Read from hostbuddy.ai on Nov 13, 2026.

Ways to pay less

ANNUAL DISCOUNT

Two months free with annual billing

The pricing page toggle labels annual billing as 2 months free; the annual price per property was not displayed on the page.

Stated on hostbuddy.ai

What it does

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

1

Place it runs: Web

AI guest messaging for vacation rental hosts, connected to your PMS. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: AI features, chat assistant, shared inbox, chatbots.

> **One narrow job, guest messaging, and it needs a PMS for the rest.**

From our grade for features

AI-powered guest messaging

Answers guest questions through conversational AI connected to your property management system, with support for many languages.

Knowledge base and tone

Higher tiers let you customize the knowledge base the AI draws on, plus its tone of voice and reply delay.

Past conversation learning

The assistant can learn from earlier host and guest conversations, and it sends action-item notifications when staff must step in.

Gap night upsells

The comparison table lists gap night upsells and guest journeys, which are scheduled message flows for a stay.

Smart inbox and calendar

A smart inbox with conversation history, plus a calendar view, are listed in the tier comparison.

Website chat widget

A chat widget for your own site and multi-property configuration appear in the feature comparison.

Where it runs

Web

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

Hostbuddy is made by HostBuddy AI.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

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

14/53

Other vacation rental tools it is graded above

Hostbuddy's GPA of 2.0 is higher than 14 of the 53 other vacation rental tools we grade, and level with 11.

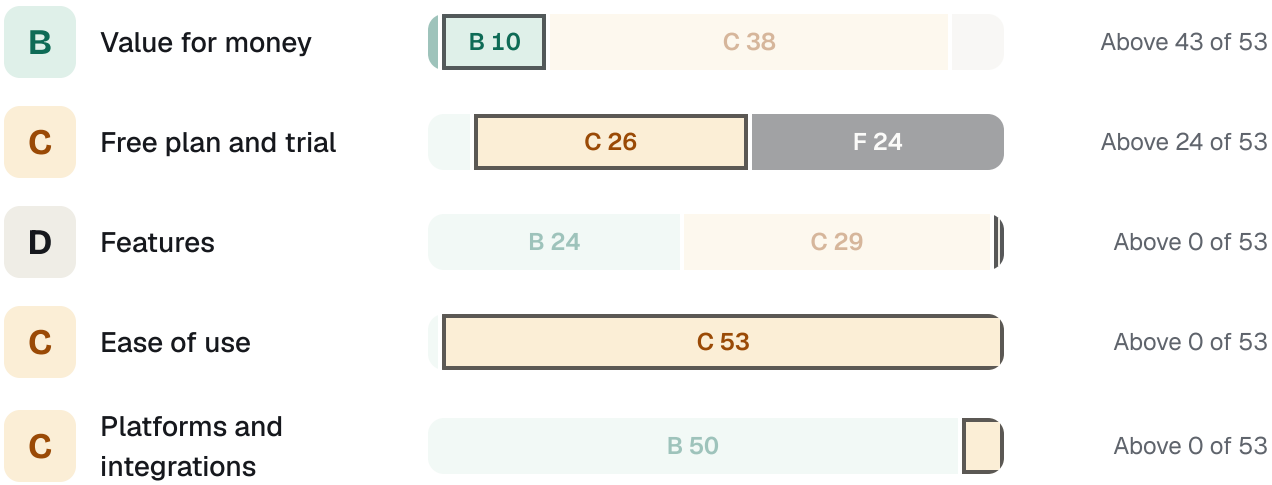
It stands best on value for money (B, above 43 of 53) and worst on features (D, above 0).

Its paid plans start at $7 a month, against a middle price of $19.99 for the category: 6 of the 35 others that charge start lower.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 1.7 out of 4. 6 tools score higher and cost less.

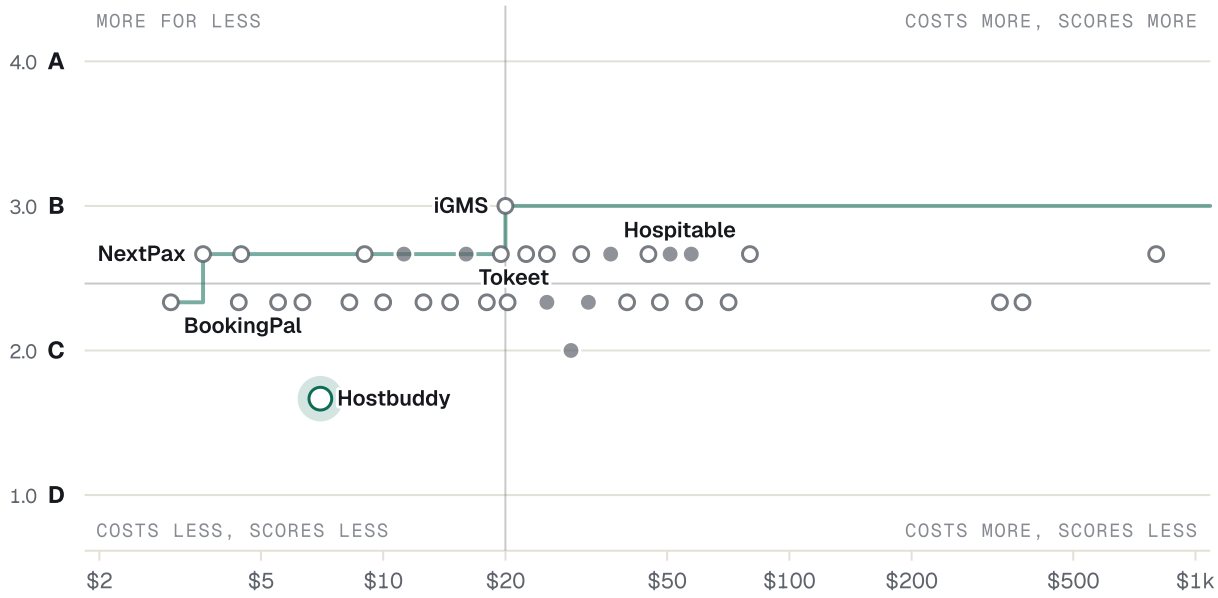
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 54 vacation rental tools we grade, cut by the letter each got. Hostbuddy's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 36 vacation rental tools. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Hostbuddy 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 Hostbuddy you would be making an AI model, which you can rent by the request but not make. 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: 28 of the 53 other vacation rental tools grade higher. It costs $84 a year.

What you could not

- ✕ An AI model, which you can rent by the request but not make.
- ✕ One mailbox that several people work at once.

- ✕ A chatbot builder hooked into the messaging apps.
- ✕ Hooks into the device itself: widgets.

What this rests on. Hostbuddy'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



Hospitable, Enso Connect, Host Tools, Hostaway and Hosthub

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

2.6 GPA

Hospitable

Free plan · from $25.52/mo

Guest messaging, channel sync and operations for short-term rentals.

- Hospitable has a free plan. Hostbuddy does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only Hospitable lists iOS and Android apps.
- Hostbuddy also covers chat assistant and chatbots.

Hostbuddy and Hospitable compared in full

1.8 GPA

Enso Connect

From $16/mo

AI guest messaging, check-in and upsells for rentals and hotels.

- Hostbuddy also covers chat assistant.
- Enso Connect also covers AI support agent and whatsApp messaging.

Hostbuddy and Enso Connect compared in full



2.2 GPA

Host Tools

Free trial · from $28/mo

Guest messaging, calendar sync and direct booking for short-term hosts.

- Only Host Tools lists iOS and Android apps.
- Hostbuddy also covers chat assistant and chatbots.
- Host Tools also covers workflow automation and channel manager.

Hostbuddy and Host Tools compared in full



2.0 GPA

Hostaway

Paid

Vacation rental PMS and channel manager for property managers.

- Only Hostaway lists iOS and Android apps.
- Hostbuddy also covers chat assistant and chatbots.
- Hostaway also covers reports, channel manager and whatsApp messaging.

Hostbuddy and Hostaway compared in full



2.4 GPA

Hosthub

Free trial · from $21.6/mo

Channel manager and PMS for vacation rentals, priced per rental.

- Hostbuddy also covers chat assistant and chatbots.
- Hosthub also covers channel manager.

Hostbuddy and Hosthub 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 Hostbuddy free?

No, Hostbuddy is a paid product, but you can try it first. 2 weeks free on every plan.

How much does Hostbuddy cost?

Hostbuddy lists 3 plans. Pro: $7 per property / month, billed monthly.

What platforms does Hostbuddy work on?

Hostbuddy is available on Web.

Does Hostbuddy offer any discounts?

Hostbuddy publicly lists the following: Two months free with annual billing.

Does Hostbuddy have an Android app?

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

Does Hostbuddy have an iPhone app?

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

Is Hostbuddy open source?

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

Who makes Hostbuddy?

Hostbuddy is made by HostBuddy AI.

What are the alternatives to Hostbuddy?

The closest alternatives to Hostbuddy in our directory are Hospitable, Enso Connect, Host Tools, Hostaway and Hosthub.

How does Hostbuddy compare with other vacation rental tools?

Hostbuddy's GPA of 2.0 is higher than 14 of the 53 other vacation rental tools we grade, and level with 11.

Is Hostbuddy good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Hostbuddy B for value for money. Its paid plans start at $7 a month, against a middle price of $19.99 for the category: 6 of the 35 others that charge start lower.

Could I make my own version of Hostbuddy?

To replace Hostbuddy you would be making an AI model, which you can rent by the request but not make.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from Hostbuddy'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 Hostbuddy'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 HostBuddy AI. Prices change, so check hostbuddy.ai before you buy.

hostbuddy.ai/pricing

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

Hostbuddy, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/hostbuddy

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, "Hostbuddy: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/hostbuddy
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Know someone choosing between vacation rental tools?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded vacation rental tools after Hostbuddy, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Vacation Rental Software Insider's Guide

Every one of the 54 vacation rental tools we grade, compared

CiiRUS Insider's Guide

Vacation rental PMS with trust accounting for professional managers

2.8 GPA

Hospitable Insider's Guide

Guest messaging, channel sync and operations for short-term rentals

2.6 GPA

Hostex Insider's Guide

Low-cost channel manager and PMS for short-term rentals

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 Hostbuddy'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. Hostbuddy is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by HostBuddy AI. Prices and plans change: check hostbuddy.ai before you buy.