ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Lightshot

The Insider’s Guide

Screenshot tool for selecting an area and sharing a link



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

Made by Skillbrains · checked Nov 12, 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 Lightshot's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Lightshot's page too, where it is kept up to date. Checked Nov 12, 2026.

Welcome

What it is, who it suits, its grades and the ten things to know first

3.0

GPA, above 83 of the 96 other desktop utilities we grade

Lightshot is a screenshot app for Windows and Mac, with browser extensions for Chrome and Firefox. You select any area of the screen, edit the capture, and upload it to get a short link. It also offers a similar-image search for a selected region. The site lists the download as free.

> **You press a key, drag, and save or share.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

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

1 **Best for quick area screenshots shared as a link**

Lightshot grabs a chosen area of the screen and can upload it for a short link.

2 **It is free**

Lightshot has no paid plan at all.

3 **It runs on 2 platforms**

Windows and macOS, with a browser extension too.

4 **Area capture**

Select any region of the desktop and capture it in two clicks.

5 **Instant edit**

Edit a capture while taking it, or later in the online editor.

6 **Upload and short link**

Uploads the image to the vendor's server and returns a short link right away.

7 **A 3.0 GPA, above 83 of 96**

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

8 **Keep it**

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

Lightshot at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN It is free
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON macOS, Windows, Browser extension
MADE BY Skillbrains	CATEGORY Desktop Utilities
OUR GRADE 3.0 GPA, very good	

The report card

Best for quick area screenshots shared as a link

Lightshot grabs a chosen area of the screen and can upload it for a short link. It is free, but sharing sends your image to the vendor's server, and the site's footer stops at 2022.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	Lightshot	Graded Nov 12, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	A	Free on Windows and Mac, under 60% of the category's cheaper quarter.
Free plan and trial	A	Free outright with no cap listed and nothing locked.
Features	C	Area capture, quick edit, upload with a short link and similar-image search. There is no listed scrolling capture or screen recording, so it covers a narrow job.
Ease of use	B	No rating on record. You press a key, drag, and save or share.
Platforms and integrations	C	Windows, Mac and browser extensions. All computers, with no phone app and no listed integrations.
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 Lightshot is for

- ✓ Fits if you want a free screenshot tool that makes a link
- ✓ Works for people who take a screenshot a few times a day

Who it is not for

- ✗ Watch out: sharing uploads your image to the vendor's server
- ✗ Not for you if you want screen recording, as none is listed
- ✗ Skip it if you use Linux, as no app is listed
- ✗ Watch out: the footer shows 2009 to 2022, which suggests updates are rare

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ People who want a simple, no-cost screenshot tool
- ✓ Sharing a quick screenshot as a link

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Sharing uploads the image to the vendor's server.
- ⓘ The site's footer shows a 2009-2022 copyright, which suggests updates are infrequent.
- ⓘ No Linux app is listed on the page.

What it costs

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

Free

No paid plan at all

Lightshot is free to use.

> **Free outright with no cap listed and nothing locked.**
>
> From our grade for free plan and trial

LIGHTSHOT

$0

The download page offers the app for free on Windows and Mac.

Read from app.prntscr.com on Nov 12, 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 Browser extension

Screenshot tool for selecting an area and sharing a link. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: screenshots, file sharing.

> **Area capture, quick edit, upload with a short link and similar-image search.**

From our grade for features

Area capture

Select any region of the desktop and capture it in two clicks.

Instant edit

Edit a capture while taking it, or later in the online editor.

Upload and short link

Uploads the image to the vendor's server and returns a short link right away.

Similar image search

Select an image on screen to find similar images.

Gallery

A signed-in My Gallery page keeps your uploaded screenshots.

Browser extensions

Extensions for Chrome and Firefox are linked from the site, alongside the desktop apps.

Where it runs

macOS

Windows

Browser extension

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

Lightshot is made by Skillbrains.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

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

83/96

Other desktop utilities it is graded above

Lightshot's GPA of 3.0 is higher than 83 of the 96 other desktop utilities we grade, and level with 10.

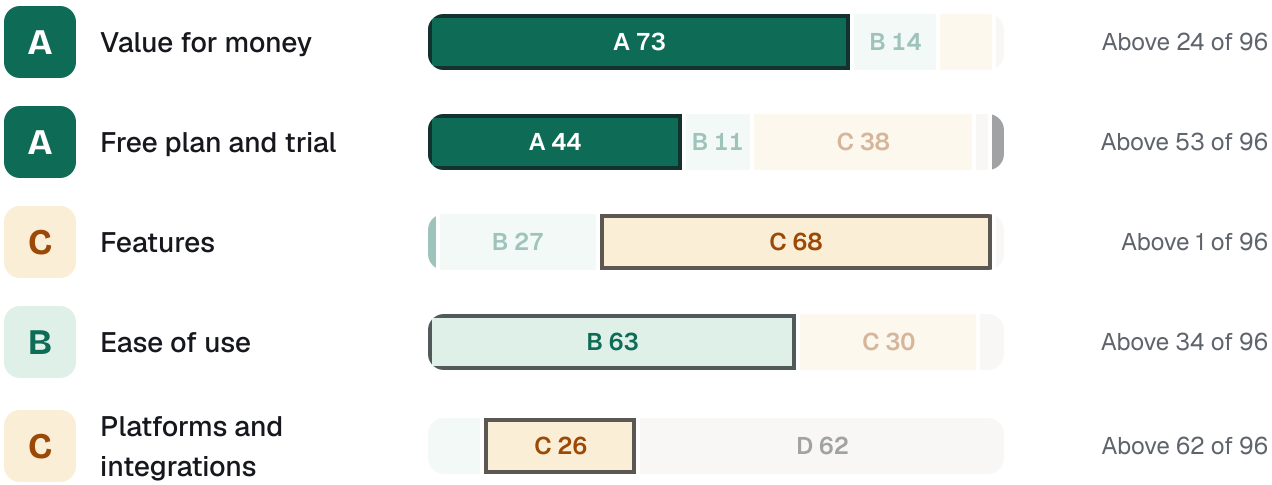
It stands best on free plan and trial (A, above 53 of 96) and worst on features (C, above 1).

Lightshot 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.

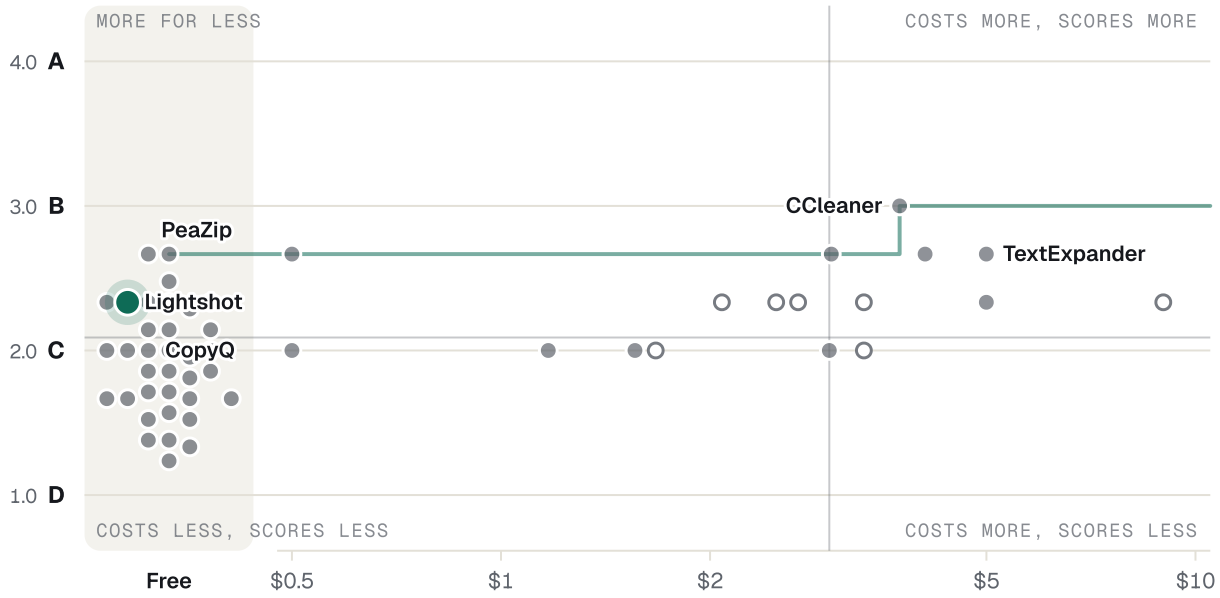
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 97 desktop utilities we grade, cut by the letter each got. Lightshot's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 52 desktop utilities. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Lightshot 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

Lightshot 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 83 of the 96 other desktop utilities we grade.

What you could not

- ✕ Capture tools hooked into the operating system.
- ✕ Storing and serving files for other people.
- ✕ A real app for macOS and Windows. Something home-made would be a web page.

- ✕ Sharing with other people, which means accounts and invitations.

What this rests on. Lightshot'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



Shottr, ShareX, Greenshot and Flameshot

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

2.6 GPA

Shottr

Free plan · from $12 one-time

Small Mac screenshot tool with annotation, OCR and a ruler.

- Only Lightshot lists a Windows app.
- Only Lightshot lists a browser extension.
- Shottr can be bought with a one-time purchase.

Lightshot and Shottr compared in full

2.6 GPA

ShareX

Free

Free, open-source screenshot and screen recording for Windows.

- Only Lightshot lists a macOS app.
- Only Lightshot lists a browser extension.
- ShareX is open source, according to its own site.

Lightshot and ShareX compared in full



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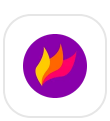
Greenshot

Free plan · from $1.99 one-time

Free, open-source screenshot tool for Windows with an editor.

- Only Lightshot lists a browser extension.
- Greenshot is open source, according to its own site.
- Lightshot also covers file sharing.

Lightshot and Greenshot compared in full



3.0
GPA

Flameshot

Free

Free, open-source screenshot tool with on-screen annotation.

- Only Lightshot lists a browser extension.
- Only Flameshot lists a Linux app.
- Flameshot is open source, according to its own site.

Lightshot and Flameshot 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 Lightshot free?

Yes. Lightshot is free to use.

How much does Lightshot cost?

Lightshot lists one plan. Lightshot: $0.

What platforms does Lightshot work on?

Lightshot is available on Windows and macOS. It also has a browser extension.

Does Lightshot have an Android app?

No Android app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 12, 2026. Lightshot is listed for Windows and macOS.

Does Lightshot have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 12, 2026. Lightshot is listed for Windows and macOS.

Is Lightshot open source?

Lightshot is not described as open source on its own site, as read on Nov 12, 2026.

Who makes Lightshot?

Lightshot is made by Skillbrains.

What are the alternatives to Lightshot?

The closest alternatives to Lightshot in our directory are Shottr, ShareX, Greenshot and Flameshot.

How does Lightshot compare with other desktop utilities?

Lightshot's GPA of 3.0 is higher than 83 of the 96 other desktop utilities we grade, and level with 10.

Is Lightshot good value for money?

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

Could I make my own version of Lightshot?

Lightshot 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 Lightshot's own pages on Nov 12, 2026, and the grades were given on Nov 12, 2026. Graded from this listing, whose facts were read from Skillbrains's own pages on 12 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 Skillbrains. Prices change, so check app.prntscr.com before you buy.

app.prntscr.com/en/index.html

PART 07 · ABOUT

About ToolGPA

Who made this guide, what else is on the site, and how to cite it

5,038

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**.

5,038	95	739	579
tools graded	categories	price changes on record	apps priced in 12 countries

What else is on toolgpa.com

Lightshot, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/lightshot

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, "Lightshot: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 12, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/lightshot
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Know someone choosing between desktop utilities?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

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

Desktop Utilities Insider's Guide

Every one of the 97 desktop utilities we grade, compared

LocalSend Insider's Guide

Open-source file sharing between nearby devices, no cloud

3.2 GPA

Ninite Insider's Guide

Installs and updates many Windows apps at once

3.2 GPA

PeaZip Insider's Guide

Free file archiver for Linux, macOS and Windows

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 Lightshot'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. Lightshot is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Skillbrains. Prices and plans change: check app.prntscr.com before you buy.