ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Markmap

The Insider's Guide

Free open-source tool that turns Markdown outlines into mind maps



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among whiteboard and mind map tools, read from Markmap's own pages.

Made by gera2ld · 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 Markmap's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Markmap'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 85 of the 98 other whiteboard and mind map tools we grade

Markmap renders a Markdown outline as an interactive mind map that can be folded, zoomed and exported. It runs as an online editor, a script or web component for your own pages, a command-line tool and a VS Code extension. The code is open source under the MIT license.

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

> "
>
> **You need to write Markdown, and some uses involve scripts or the command line.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

1 **Best for turning Markdown notes into mind maps**

Markmap turns a Markdown outline into a mind map you can fold, zoom and export, and it's open source under the MIT license.

2 **It is free**

Markmap has no paid plan at all.

3 **It runs on Web**

Web.

4 **Markdown in, map out**

Write an outline the way you already do and the editor draws it as a mind map, with bold text, links, code, task lists, images and math on the nodes.

5 **Layouts and themes**

Choose a tree, two-sided or org-chart layout and a classic, cards or minimal theme, in light and dark.

6 **Notes on branches**

Paragraphs, tables and code stay attached to their branch and open in a popover.

7 **A 3.0 GPA, above 85 of 98**

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

8 **Keep it**

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

Markmap at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN It is free
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON Web
MADE BY gera2ld	CATEGORY Whiteboards & Mind Maps
OUR GRADE 3.0 GPA, very good	

The report card

Best for turning Markdown notes into mind maps

Markmap turns a Markdown outline into a mind map you can fold, zoom and export, and it's open source under the MIT license. The map comes from text, so there's no drag-and-drop editing or live collaboration on the page we read, and it's a renderer rather than a whiteboard.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	Markmap	Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	A	Free and open source under the MIT license, and anyone can run it. Nothing to set against the category's $8 middle.
Free plan and trial	A	Free outright, with an online editor, a script, a command-line tool and a VS Code extension. No account or cap.
Features	C	Layouts, themes, notes on branches, export, share links and embedding. It does the Markdown-to-map job fully, but it's a smaller job and has no freeform canvas or collaboration.
Ease of use	C	No store rating on record. You need to write Markdown, and some uses involve scripts or the command line.
Platforms and integrations	B	Web editor, VS Code extension, command-line tool and an embeddable script.
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 Markmap is for

- ✓ Fits if you already keep notes in Markdown
- ✓ Works for putting mind maps into documentation or blog posts

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you want to drag nodes around, as maps come from text
- ✗ Not for you if you need real-time collaboration, which the page doesn't describe
- ✗ Too light for a whiteboard: there's no freeform canvas
- ✗ Watch out: very large maps need the canvas renderer to stay smooth

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Developers and writers who already keep notes in Markdown
- ✓ Embedding mind maps in documentation or blog posts
- ✓ People who want a free, open-source mapping tool

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Maps are generated from text; the page does not describe drag-and-drop editing or real-time collaboration.
- ⓘ It is a viewer and renderer, not a whiteboard: there is no freeform canvas.
- ⓘ Large maps need the canvas renderer to stay smooth with thousands of nodes.

What it costs

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

Free

No paid plan at all

Markmap is free to use.

> **Free and open source under the MIT license, and anyone can run it.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

FREE

$0

Open-source project with no paid plans; the editor, libraries and command-line tool are free to use.

Read from markmap.js.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 tool that turns Markdown outlines into mind maps. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, Markdown, mind mapping, diagrams.

> "
>
> **Layouts, themes, notes on branches, export, share links and embedding.**
>
> From our grade for features

Markdown in, map out

Write an outline the way you already do and the editor draws it as a mind map, with bold text, links, code, task lists, images and math on the nodes.

Layouts and themes

Choose a tree, two-sided or org-chart layout and a classic, cards or minimal theme, in light and dark.

Notes on branches

Paragraphs, tables and code stay attached to their branch and open in a popover.

Export

Export SVG and PNG images, or one offline HTML file that opens in any browser.

Share links without a server

A share link carries the document and the view inside the address, so nothing is stored on a server.

Embed and script

Add maps to a web page with an autoloader script, a web component for any framework, or a command-line tool for scripts and CI.

Where it runs

Web

What it works with

VS Code

Markmap is made by gera2ld.

Where it stands

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

85/98

Other whiteboard and mind map tools it is graded above

Markmap's GPA of 3.0 is higher than 85 of the 98 other whiteboard and mind map tools we grade, and level with 10.

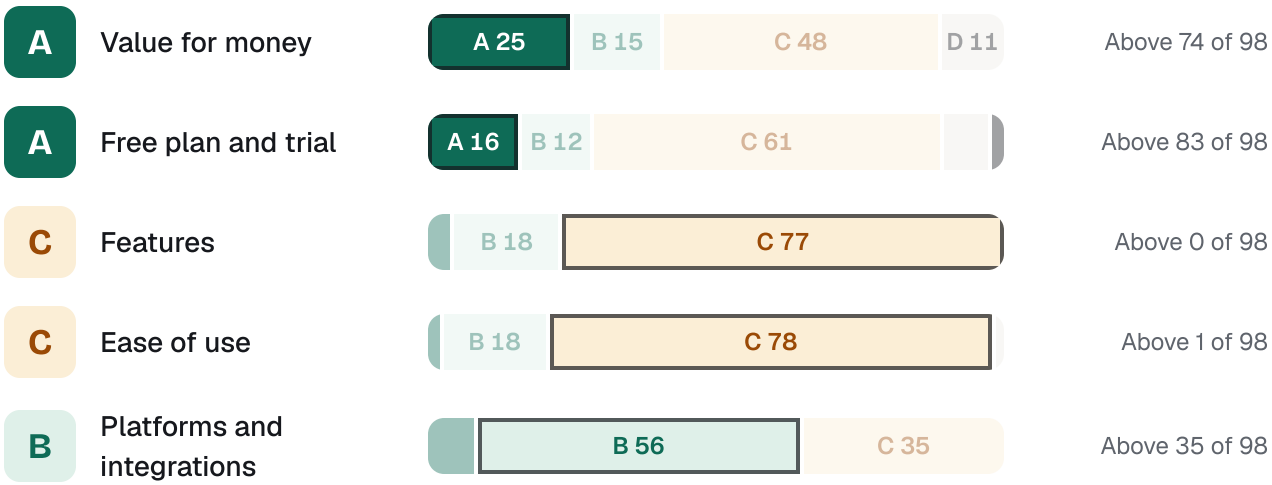
It stands best on free plan and trial (A, above 83 of 98) and worst on features (C, above 0).

Markmap 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.

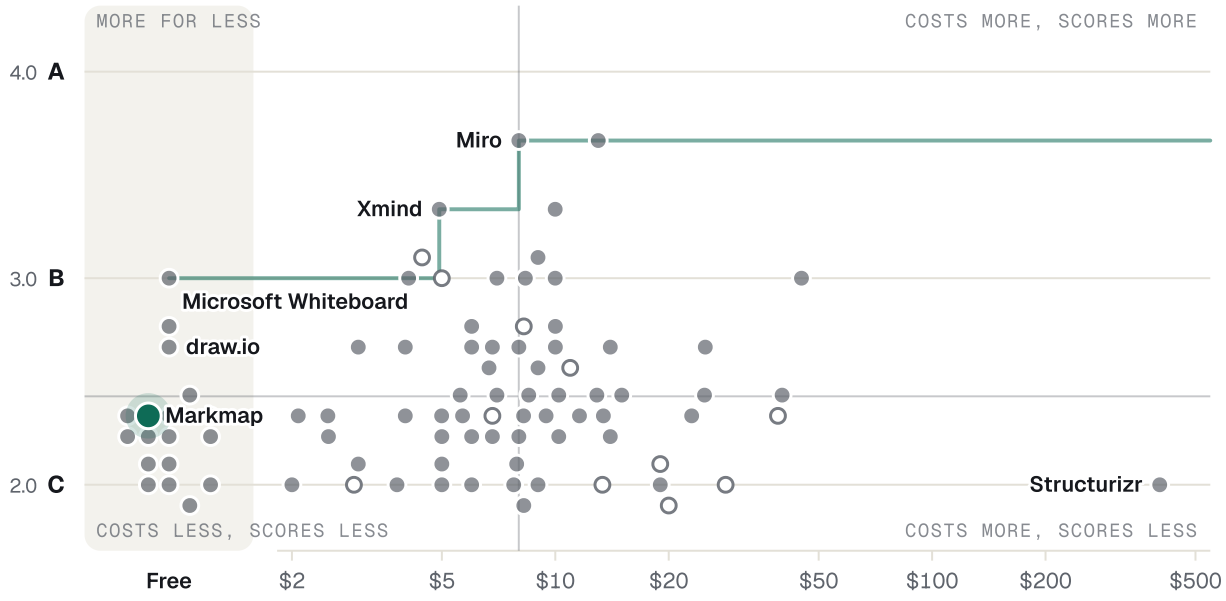
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 99 whiteboard and mind map tools we grade, cut by the letter each got. Markmap's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 88 whiteboard and mind map tools. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Markmap 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

Markmap 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 85 of the 98 other whiteboard and mind map tools we grade.

What you could make

- Mind mapping and Markdown: an app builder makes these well.

What you could not

- A diagram editor.

What this rests on. Markmap'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



Mermaid, Freeplane, MindMup, MindMap AI and Xmind

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

Mermaid

2.4 GPA

Free plan · from $10/mo

Text-based diagramming platform with AI and a visual editor.

- Markmap is open source, according to its own site.
- Markmap also covers Markdown and mind mapping.
- Mermaid also covers presentations.

Markmap and Mermaid compared in full

Freeplane

2.8 GPA

Free

Free, open source mind mapping app for the desktop.

- Only Markmap lists a web app.
- Only Freeplane lists Windows, macOS and Linux apps.
- Markmap also covers Markdown and diagrams.

Markmap and Freeplane compared in full



2.2 GPA

MindMup

Free plan · from $6/mo

Web mind mapping with a free tier and simple paid plans.

- Markmap is open source, according to its own site.
- Markmap also covers Markdown.
- MindMup also covers notes and presentations.

Markmap and MindMup compared in full



2.8 GPA

MindMap AI

Free plan · from $4.99/mo

AI mind map generator from text, PDFs, audio and video.

- Only MindMap AI lists iOS and Android apps.
- Only MindMap AI lists a browser extension.
- Markmap is open source, according to its own site.

Markmap and MindMap AI compared in full



3.0 GPA

Xmind

Free plan · from $4.92/mo

Mind mapping app with AI, Gantt charts and a presentation mode.

- Only Xmind lists macOS, Windows, Linux, iOS and Android apps.
- Markmap is open source, according to its own site.
- Markmap also covers Markdown and diagrams.

Markmap and Xmind compared in full

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 Markmap free?

Yes. Markmap is free to use.

How much does Markmap cost?

Markmap lists one plan. Free: $0.

What platforms does Markmap work on?

Markmap is available on Web.

Does Markmap have an Android app?

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

Does Markmap have an iPhone app?

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

Is Markmap open source?

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

What does Markmap integrate with?

Markmap's listing names VS Code. A listing names up to eight integrations, so it may connect to more.

Who makes Markmap?

Markmap is made by gera2ld.

What are the alternatives to Markmap?

The closest alternatives to Markmap in our directory are Mermaid, Freeplane, MindMup, MindMap AI and Xmind.

How does Markmap compare with other whiteboard and mind map tools?

Markmap's GPA of 3.0 is higher than 85 of the 98 other whiteboard and mind map tools we grade, and level with 10.

Is Markmap good value for money?

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

Could I make my own version of Markmap?

Markmap 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 Markmap'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 Markmap'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 gera2ld. Prices change, so check markmap.js.org before you buy.

markmap.js.org/

github.com/markmap/markmap

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

Markmap, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/markmap

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, "Markmap: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/markmap
```

Know someone choosing between whiteboard and mind map tools?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded whiteboard and mind map tools after Markmap, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Whiteboards & Mind Maps Insider's Guide

Every one of the 99 whiteboard and mind map tools we grade, compared

Microsoft Whiteboard Insider's Guide

Free collaborative canvas built into Microsoft 365 and Teams

3.4 GPA

draw.io Insider's Guide

Free diagram editor that saves files to storage you choose

3.2 GPA

tldraw Insider's Guide

Free online whiteboard with a local desktop app

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 Markmap'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. Markmap is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by gera2ld. Prices and plans change: check markmap.js.org before you buy.