ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

NetSurf

The Insider's Guide

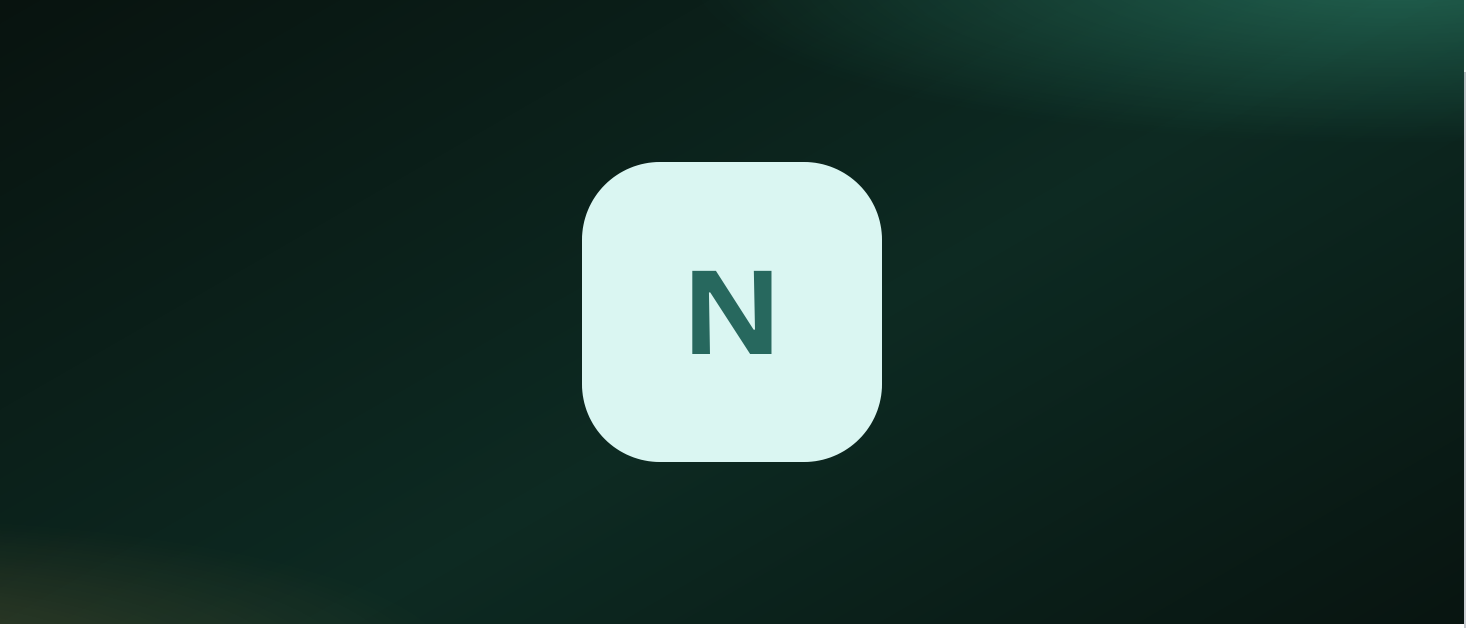
Lightweight open-source browser with its own layout engine



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among browsers, read from NetSurf's own pages.

Made by The NetSurf Developers · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

3.0
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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 NetSurf's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on NetSurf'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 34 of the 60 other browsers we grade

NetSurf is a small, free web browser written in C with its own layout engine. It runs on RISC OS, Linux and other Unix-like systems, Haiku, AmigaOS, Windows and Atari, and is licensed under GPL version 2. It is built to work on old and low-powered computers, so its web standards support is narrower than mainstream browsers.

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

> **Its web standards support is narrower than mainstream browsers, and some features are RISC OS only.**
>
> From our report card of NetSurf

1 **Best for browsing on old or low-powered computers**

NetSurf is a small, free browser with its own layout engine, made for old and low-powered machines.

2 **It is free**

NetSurf has no paid plan at all. Free and open source under GPL version 2, with no paid plans.

3 **It runs on 2 platforms**

Linux and Windows.

4 **Own layout engine**

Written in C with its own rendering engine, aimed at speed and low resource use.

5 **Runs on small systems**

The site says it keeps working from a modern PC down to a 30MHz ARM 6 computer with 16MB of RAM.

6 **Many platforms**

Downloads are listed for RISC OS, GTK on Linux and Unix-likes, Haiku and BeOS, AmigaOS, Windows and Atari.

7 **A 3.0 GPA, above 34 of 60**

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

8 **Keep it**

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

NetSurf at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN Yes
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON Windows, Linux
MADE BY The NetSurf Developers	CATEGORY Browsers
OUR GRADE 3.0 GPA, very good	

The report card

Best for browsing on old or low-powered computers

NetSurf is a small, free browser with its own layout engine, made for old and low-powered machines. Its web standards support is narrower than mainstream browsers, and some features are RISC OS only.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD | **NetSurf** | Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	A	Free under GPL v2 with no paid plans, so under 60% of this category's cheapest quarter.
Free plan and trial	A	The whole browser downloads at no charge, with no paid tier or caps.
Features	C	A browser with history and page tools on its own engine, but the site says it only strives for standards compliance.
Ease of use	B	No rating on record. It installs as a small program, built for small systems.
Platforms and integrations	C	Many systems on the site, but our listing counts Linux and Windows, and the downloads page lists no Mac build.

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 NetSurf is for

- ✓ Fits if you have an old or low-powered computer
- ✓ Makes sense if you want a small program on RISC OS, Haiku or Linux

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you rely on modern web apps, since standards support is narrower than mainstream browsers
- ✗ Not for you if you want a Mac build: the overview names Mac OS X but the downloads page lists none
- ✗ Watch out: Drawfile export and ArtWorks images are RISC OS only
- ✗ Too light for phones: no mobile version is listed
- ✗ Tight if you need a settled engine: its own engine is still in active development

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Old or low-powered computers
- ✓ RISC OS, Haiku and AmigaOS users
- ✓ Anyone wanting a small, independent browser engine

Worth knowing

- ⓘ The site says NetSurf only strives for standards compliance, and its own engine is still in active development.
- ⓘ Some features such as Drawfile export and ArtWorks images are RISC OS only.
- ⓘ The overview page names Mac OS X, but the downloads page lists no Mac build.

What it costs

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

Free

No paid plan at all

NetSurf is free to use.

> **The whole browser downloads at no charge, with no paid tier or caps.**

From our grade for free plan and trial

FREE

$0

The full browser, free to download under GPL version 2.

The free plan

Free and open source under GPL version 2, with no paid plans.

Read from netsurf-browser.org on Nov 13, 2026.

What it does

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

2

Places it runs: Windows and Linux

Lightweight open-source browser with its own layout engine. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, bookmarks, web browser.

> **A browser with history and page tools on its own engine, but the site says it only strives for standards compliance.**
>
> From our grade for features

Own layout engine

Written in C with its own rendering engine, aimed at speed and low resource use.

Runs on small systems

The site says it keeps working from a modern PC down to a 30MHz ARM 6 computer with 16MB of RAM.

Many platforms

Downloads are listed for RISC OS, GTK on Linux and Unix-likes, Haiku and BeOS, AmigaOS, Windows and Atari.

History and page tools

Includes web page thumbnailing, local and global history, a hotlist for bookmarks, a cookie manager and search-as-you-type.

Where it runs

Windows Linux

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

NetSurf is made by The NetSurf Developers.

Where it stands

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

34/60

Other browsers it is graded above

NetSurf's GPA of 3.0 is higher than 34 of the 60 other browsers we grade, and level with 9.

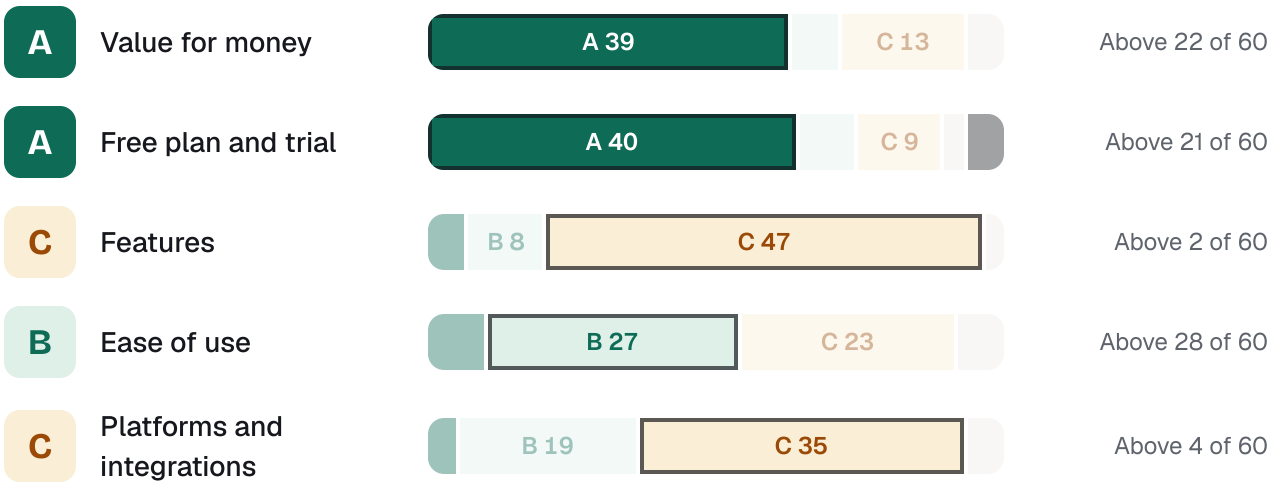
It stands best on value for money (A, above 22 of 60) and worst on features (C, above 2).

NetSurf 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.

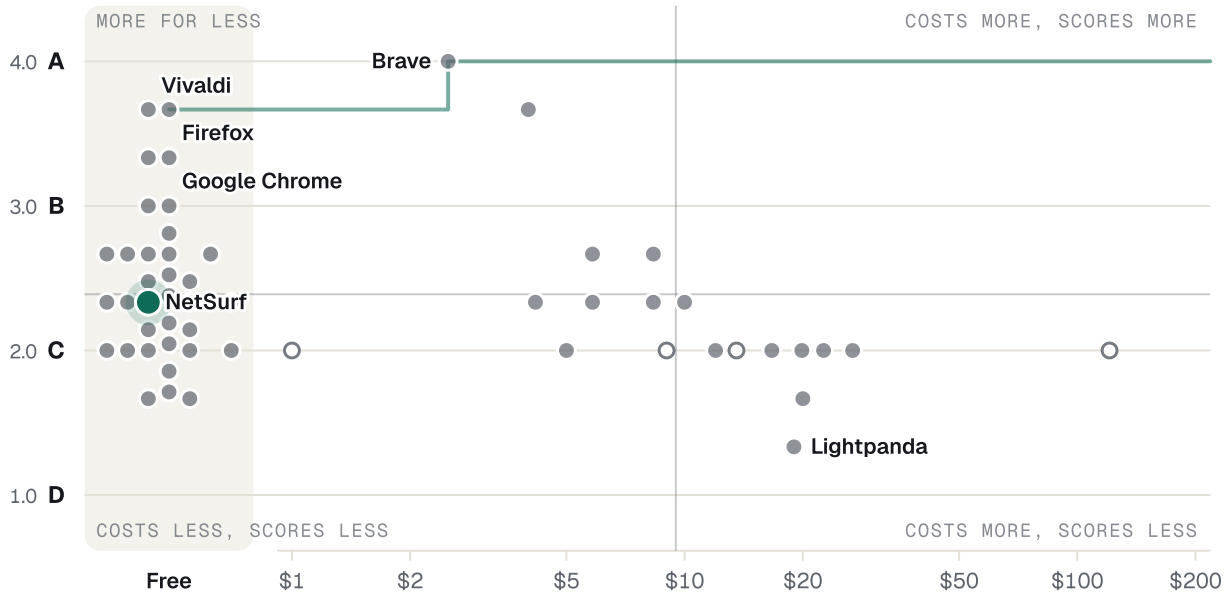
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 61 browsers we grade, cut by the letter each got. NetSurf's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 54 browsers. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. NetSurf 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

NetSurf 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

- Bookmarks: an app builder makes this well.

What you could not

- A web browser.
- A real app for Windows and Linux. Something home-made would be a web page.

What this rests on. NetSurf'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



Falkon, Min, Pale Moon, Otter Browser and Qutebrowser

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

2.8 GPA

Falkon

Free

Lightweight KDE web browser with a built-in ad blocker.

- Only NetSurf lists a Windows app.
- NetSurf also covers bookmarks.
- Falkon also covers password manager and ad and tracker blocking.

NetSurf and Falkon compared in full

3.2 GPA

Min

Free

Free, open-source minimal browser with tasks and history search.

- Only Min lists a macOS app.
- NetSurf also covers bookmarks.
- Min also covers ad and tracker blocking.

NetSurf and Min compared in full



3.0
GPA

Pale Moon

Free

Free open-source browser on its own Goanna engine, with legacy add-ons.

- Only Pale Moon lists a macOS app.
- NetSurf also covers bookmarks.

NetSurf and Pale Moon compared in full



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Otter Browser

Free

Open-source Qt browser that revives the classic Opera 12 interface.

- NetSurf also covers bookmarks.

NetSurf and Otter Browser compared in full



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GPA

Qutebrowser

Free

Keyboard-driven browser with a minimal interface.

- Only Qutebrowser lists a macOS app.
- NetSurf also covers bookmarks.
- Qutebrowser also covers ad and tracker blocking.

NetSurf and Qutebrowser 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 NetSurf free?

Yes. NetSurf is free to use.

How much does NetSurf cost?

NetSurf lists one plan. Free: $0.

What platforms does NetSurf work on?

NetSurf is available on Linux and Windows.

Does NetSurf have an Android app?

No Android app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. NetSurf is listed for Linux and Windows.

Does NetSurf have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. NetSurf is listed for Linux and Windows.

Is NetSurf open source?

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

Who makes NetSurf?

NetSurf is made by The NetSurf Developers.

What are the alternatives to NetSurf?

The closest alternatives to NetSurf in our directory are Falkon, Min, Pale Moon, Otter Browser and Qutebrowser.

How does NetSurf compare with other browsers?

NetSurf's GPA of 3.0 is higher than 34 of the 60 other browsers we grade, and level with 9.

Is NetSurf good value for money?

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

Could I make my own version of NetSurf?

NetSurf 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 NetSurf'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 NetSurf Developers'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 The NetSurf Developers. Prices change, so check netsurf-browser.org before you buy.

netsurf-browser.org/

netsurf-browser.org/downloads/

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

NetSurf, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/netsurf

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, "NetSurf: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/netsurf
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Know someone choosing between browsers?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded browsers after NetSurf, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Browsers Insider's Guide

Every one of the 61 browsers we grade, compared

Brave Insider's Guide

Open-source browser that blocks ads and trackers by default

3.8 GPA

Firefox Insider's Guide

Free, open-source browser from Mozilla with tracker blocking built in

3.8 GPA

Vivaldi Insider's Guide

Customizable browser with built-in mail, calendar and feed reader

3.8 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 NetSurf'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. NetSurf is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by The NetSurf Developers. Prices and plans change: check netsurf-browser.org before you buy.