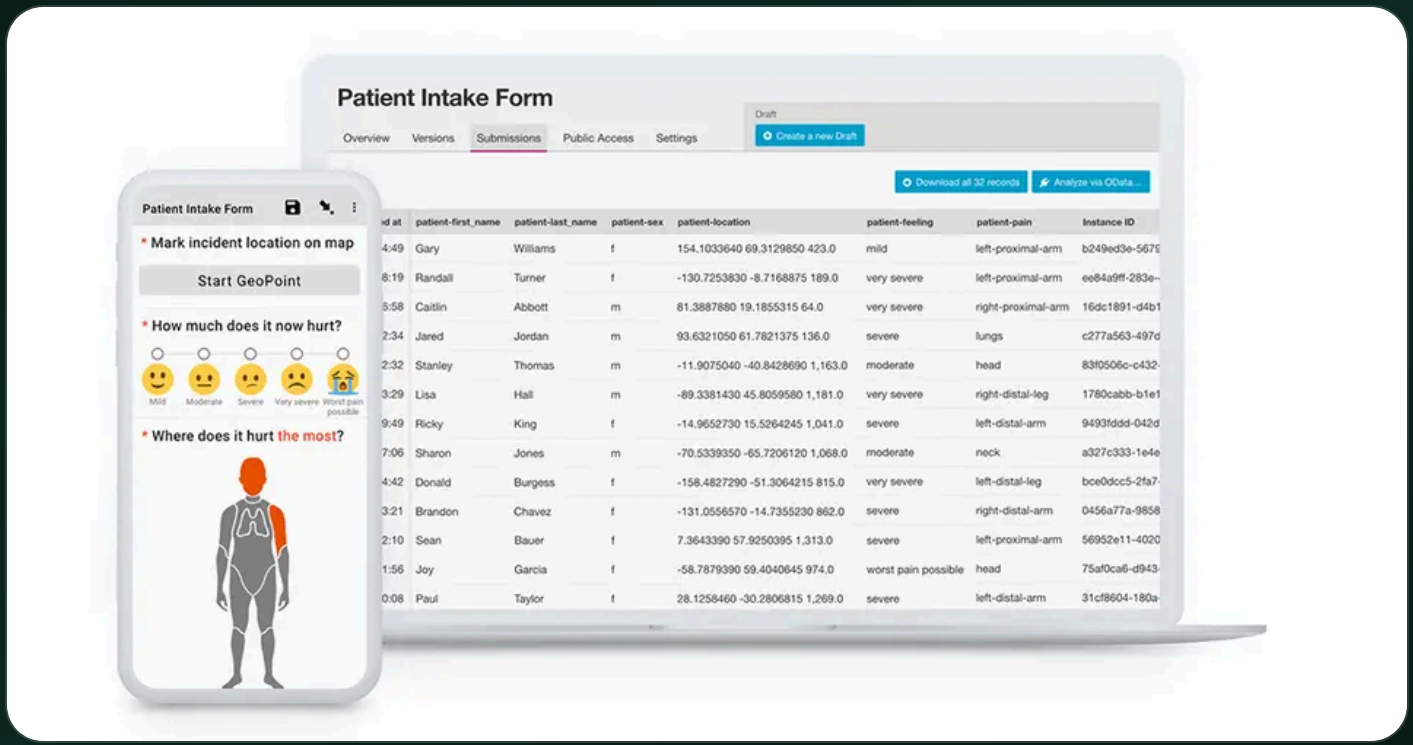
ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Open Data Kit

The Insider's Guide

Open-source mobile and web data collection

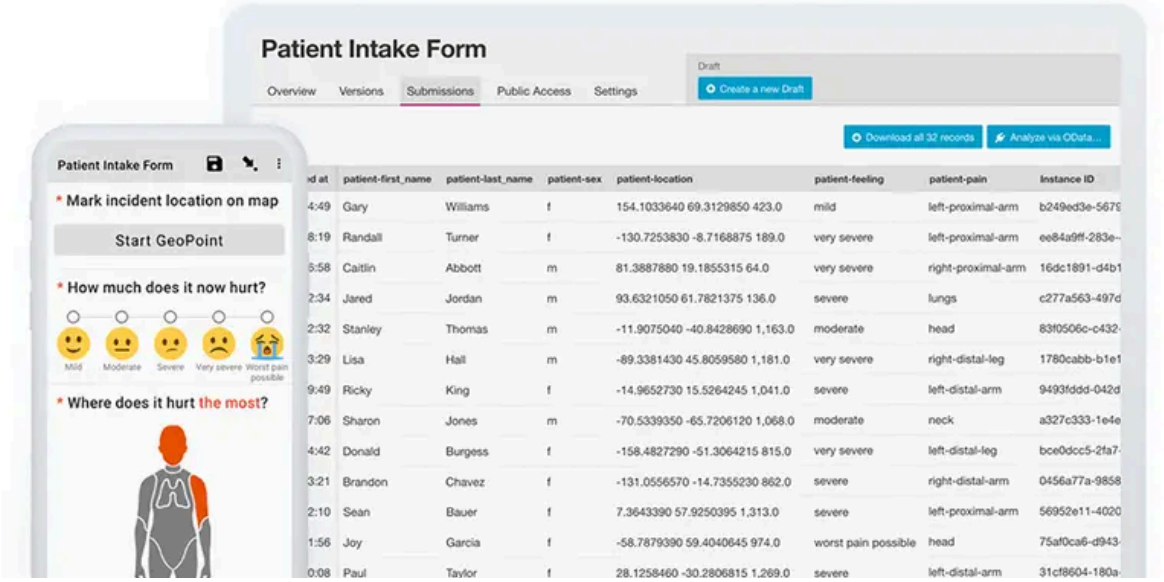


Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among form and survey tools, read from Open Data Kit's own pages.

Made by Get ODK Inc. · 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 Open Data Kit's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Open Data Kit'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 26 of the 148 other form and survey tools we grade

Open Data Kit (ODK) is open-source software for building forms and collecting data online and offline, with an Android app and a web app. The software is free to self-host, and ODK Cloud is a paid, fully hosted version run by its creators. Forms support photos, GPS locations, skip logic, calculations and multiple languages.

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

> **Self-hosting means installing and running a server, and forms are written in a spreadsheet format.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

1 **Best for free self-hosted field data collection**

Open Data Kit is open source: you can host it yourself for free or pay for ODK Cloud.

2 **Paid plans start at $199 a month**

As its pricing page puts it: $199 per month, billed yearly ($249 billed monthly).

3 There is a free plan

ODK is open-source software you can self-host and support yourself for free; hosted ODK Cloud is paid.

4 It runs on 2 platforms

Web and Android.

5 Forms with rich questions

Include photos, GPS locations, skip logic, calculations, external datasets and multiple languages.

6 Online and offline

Use the Android app or the web app; data syncs automatically when an internet connection is found.

7 Analysis connections

Download data or connect Excel, Power BI, Python and R to build dashboards and automations.

8 A 2.0 GPA, above 26 of 148

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

9 Your call

A form at its plainest is questions, a button and a table of answers.

Open Data Kit at a glance

PRICING
Free plan, from $199 per month, billed yearly ($249 billed monthly)

FREE PLAN
Yes

FREE TRIAL
None stated

RUNS ON
Web, Android

MADE BY
Get ODK Inc.

CATEGORY
Forms & Surveys

OUR GRADE
2.0 GPA, fair

The report card

Best for free self-hosted field data collection

Open Data Kit is open source: you can host it yourself for free or pay for ODK Cloud. The mobile app is Android only. ODK Cloud starts at $199 a month, and API access and Entities need Professional.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD — **Open Data Kit** — Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	The software is free only if you host it yourself, which needs a server. ODK Cloud starts at $199 a month on yearly billing.
Free plan and trial	B	Self-hosted ODK is free with no response caps, and you support yourself. It needs a server and technical setup.
Features	C	Varied question types, offline use, analysis links and Entities. The Collect app is Android only, and API access and Entities need Professional.
Ease of use	D	No store rating on record. Self-hosting means installing and running a server, and forms are written in a spreadsheet format.
Platforms and integrations	C	Web app plus an Android app (Android 5 or above), with Excel, Power BI, Python and R links. No iPhone app.

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 Open Data Kit is for

- ✓ Fits if you can run your own server and want free software
- ✓ Works for field teams that all carry Android phones

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you have no one to run a server, as the free route is self-hosted
- ✗ Not for you if your team uses iPhones, because the Collect app is Android only
- ✗ Pricey if you want ODK Cloud: $199 a month on yearly billing for Standard
- ✗ Watch out: API access and Entities need Professional at $499 a month

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Field teams and researchers who need forms that work offline
- ✓ Technical teams that want to self-host for free
- ✓ Organizations that want a hosted option from the software's creators

Worth knowing

- ⓘ ODK Collect is an Android app; the docs list Android 5 or above as the minimum.
- ⓘ ODK Cloud limits active projects and monthly submissions; extra capacity is a Basic add-on at $199 a month yearly or $249 monthly.
- ⓘ API access and Entities need Professional or higher.
- ⓘ ODK Cloud lists a full refund if you are unhappy within 14 days of payment.

PART 02 · PRICING

What it costs

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

$199

A month to start. There is a free plan too

Open Data Kit has a free plan. Paid plans start at $199 per month, billed yearly ($249 billed monthly).

> **The software is free only if you host it yourself, which needs a server.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

SELF-HOSTED ODK

$0

Open-source software you install, host and support yourself; the hosted version is ODK Cloud.

STANDARD

$199

per month, billed yearly ($249 billed monthly)

1 active project, unlimited forms and users, 10K monthly submissions, email support within 3 business days.

PROFESSIONAL

$499

per month, billed yearly ($599 billed monthly)

25K monthly submissions, Entities to flow data between forms, API access, email support within 1 business day.

ENTERPRISE

Custom

10+ active projects, 100K+ monthly submissions, single sign-on, custom domain, uptime SLA, phone support.

The free plan

ODK is open-source software you can self-host and support yourself for free; hosted ODK Cloud is paid.

Read from getodk.org on Nov 13, 2026.

Ways to pay less

ANNUAL DISCOUNT

Save up to 20% when paying yearly

ODK Cloud's page offers up to 20% off when paying yearly: Standard is $199 a month yearly against $249 monthly.

Stated on getodk.org

What it does

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

2

Places it runs: Web and Android

Open-source mobile and web data collection. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, self-hostable, works offline, public API, forms, surveys.

"

Varied question types, offline use, analysis links and Entities.

From our grade for features

Forms with rich questions

Include photos, GPS locations, skip logic, calculations, external datasets and multiple languages.

Online and offline

Use the Android app or the web app; data syncs automatically when an internet connection is found.

Analysis connections

Download data or connect Excel, Power BI, Python and R to build dashboards and automations.

Hosted or self-hosted

Run the open-source software yourself, or pick ODK Cloud with storage in the US, Europe or India.

Entities

Entities, on Professional and above, carry data between forms and users for follow-up workflows.

Where it runs

Web · Android

What it works with

Excel · Power BI · Python · R

Open Data Kit is made by Get ODK Inc.

Where it stands

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

26/148

Other form and survey tools it is graded above

Open Data Kit's GPA of 2.0 is higher than 26 of the 148 other form and survey tools we grade, and level with 29.

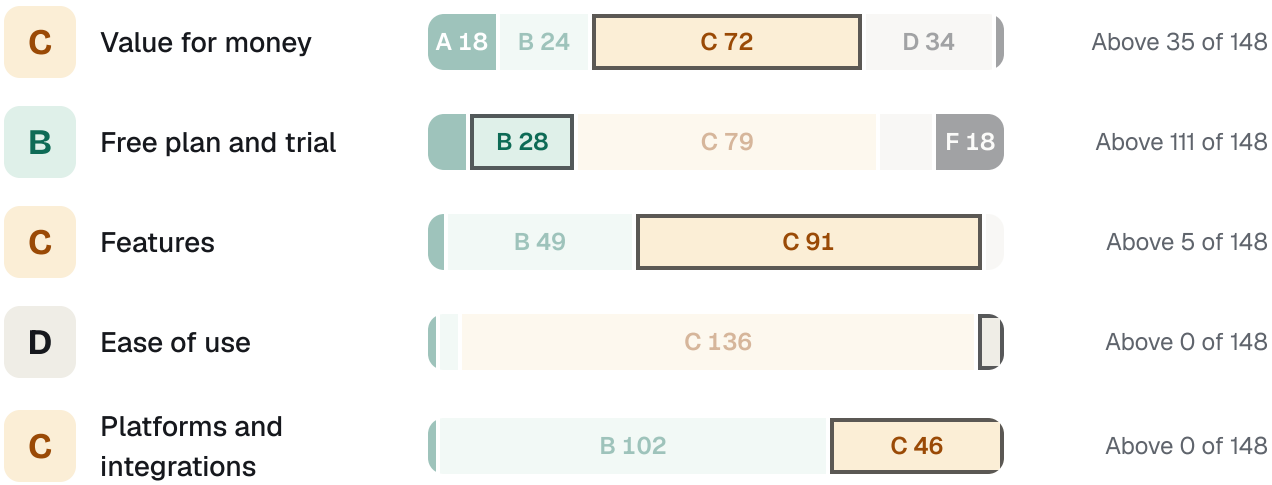
It stands best on free plan and trial (B, above 111 of 148) and worst on ease of use (D, above 0).

Its paid plans start at $199 a month, against a middle price of $20 for the category: 103 of the 114 others that charge start lower.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 1.7 out of 4. 105 tools score higher and cost less.

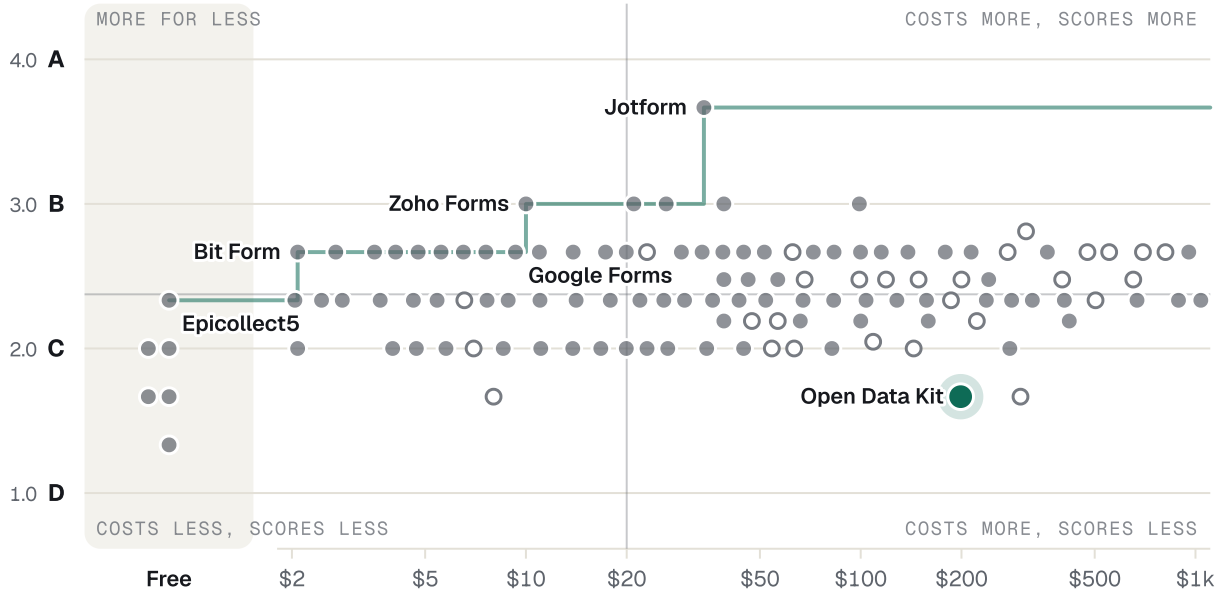
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 149 form and survey tools we grade, cut by the letter each got. Open Data Kit's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 121 form and survey tools. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Open Data Kit 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.

Your call

A form at its plainest is questions, a button and a table of answers.

You could make the core of Open Data Kit for yourself: forms and surveys. What you would give up is listed below. Whether that is worth the price is your call. It costs $2,388 a year. Open Data Kit is open source, so there is a third way: take its code and run it yourself.

What you could make

- Forms and surveys: an app builder makes these well.

What you could not

- A real app for Android. Something home-made would be a web page.

- ✕ It plugs into other products, Excel, Power BI and Python among them, and has an API.

What this rests on. Open Data Kit'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



KoboToolbox, Enketo, Epicollect5, SurveyCTO and Ona

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

KoboToolbox

2.6 GPA

Free plan · from $21/mo

Open-source data collection for field surveys, online or offline.

- KoboToolbox also covers reports.

Open Data Kit and KoboToolbox compared in full

Enketo

1.8 GPA

Free

Open-source web forms that work offline.

- Only Open Data Kit lists an Android app.

Open Data Kit and Enketo compared in full

Epicollect5

3.0 GPA

Free

Free mobile and web data collection from Oxford University.

- Only Epicollect5 lists an iOS app.
- Open Data Kit is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.

Open Data Kit and Epicollect5 compared in full



2.2
GPA

SurveyCTO

Free plan · from $225/mo

Offline-capable data collection for field research.

- Only SurveyCTO lists an iOS app.
- Open Data Kit is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.
- SurveyCTO is end-to-end encrypted, according to its own site.

Open Data Kit and SurveyCTO compared in full

O

2.0
GPA

Ona

Free plan · from $199/mo

Mobile data collection with forms, maps and charts.

- Only Open Data Kit lists an Android app.
- Open Data Kit is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.
- Ona also covers dashboards.

Open Data Kit and Ona compared in full

Quick answers

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

15

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 Open Data Kit free?

Open Data Kit has a free plan. ODK is open-source software you can self-host and support yourself for free; hosted ODK Cloud is paid.

How much does Open Data Kit cost?

Open Data Kit lists 4 plans. Self-hosted ODK: $0.

What platforms does Open Data Kit work on?

Open Data Kit is available on Web and Android.

Does Open Data Kit offer any discounts?

Open Data Kit publicly lists the following: Save up to 20% when paying yearly.

Does Open Data Kit have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Open Data Kit is listed for Web and Android.

Does Open Data Kit have a Windows app?

No Windows app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Open Data Kit is listed for Web and Android.

Is Open Data Kit open source?

Yes. Open Data Kit is open source, according to its own site.

Does Open Data Kit work offline?

Yes, according to its own site. What works without a connection differs by plan and platform, so check the vendor's page for the detail.

Does Open Data Kit have an API?

Yes. Open Data Kit offers a public API, according to its own site.

What does Open Data Kit integrate with?

Open Data Kit's listing names Excel, Power BI, Python and R. A listing names up to eight integrations, so it may connect to more.

Who makes Open Data Kit?

Open Data Kit is made by Get ODK Inc.

What are the alternatives to Open Data Kit?

The closest alternatives to Open Data Kit in our directory are KoboToolbox, Enketo, Epicollect5, SurveyCTO and Ona.

How does Open Data Kit compare with other form and survey tools?

Open Data Kit's GPA of 2.0 is higher than 26 of the 148 other form and survey tools we grade, and level with 29.

Is Open Data Kit good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Open Data Kit C for value for money. Its paid plans start at $199 a month, against a middle price of $20 for the category: 103 of the 114 others that charge start lower.

Could I make my own version of Open Data Kit?

A form at its plainest is questions, a button and a table of answers. You could make the core of Open Data Kit for yourself: forms and surveys.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from Open Data Kit'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 Open Data Kit'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 Get ODK Inc. Prices change, so check getodk.org before you buy.

getodk.org

docs.getodk.org/collect-intro/

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

Open Data Kit, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/open-data-kit

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, "Open Data Kit: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/open-data-kit
```

Know someone choosing between form and survey tools?

Send them this guide: toolgpa.com/tools/open-data-kit/guide

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded form and survey tools after Open Data Kit, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Forms & Surveys Insider's Guide

Every one of the 149 form and survey tools we grade, compared

Formester Insider's Guide

Form builder with unlimited forms and responses on the free plan

3.2 GPA

Formgrid Insider's Guide

Form builder with unlimited forms and responses on the free plan

3.2 GPA

Google Forms Insider's Guide

Form, survey and quiz builder that comes with a Google Account

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 Open Data Kit'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. Open Data Kit is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Get ODK Inc. Prices and plans change: check getodk.org before you buy.