ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

PDF Architect

The Insider’s Guide

Windows PDF editor with a free viewer and yearly Pro and Business



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among PDF editors, read from PDF Architect’s own pages.

Made by Avanquest pdfforge GmbH · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

2.2
GPA



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ToolGPA put this guide together from PDF Architect's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on PDF Architect'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

2.2

GPA, above 5 of the 45 other PDF editors we grade

PDF Architect is a Windows PDF editor that edits text and images, merges and organizes pages, converts to and from Office formats, builds forms, adds comments, signs and runs OCR. The free edition covers viewing, creating, merging and page management for personal use, while the Pro and Business plans are priced per user per year.

> "
>
> **It installs on Windows and works with nothing to set up.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

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

1 **Best for Windows PDF editing, paid by the year**

The free edition is for personal use and leaves out most of that, and there is no Mac, phone or browser version.

2 **Paid plans start at $10.58 a month when paid by the year for each person**

As its pricing page puts it: $127 per user / year, billed annually.

3 **There is a free plan**

Free edition for personal use: view PDFs, create from Word, Excel and PowerPoint, merge, and rotate, delete or rearrange pages.

4 **It runs on Windows**

Windows.

5 **Edit text, images and pages**

Edits PDF content directly, merges files and inserts or reorganizes pages without exporting to another format.

6 **Convert**

Converts PDFs to Word, Excel, HTML, text and image formats, and creates PDFs from printable files.

7 **Forms**

Builds fillable forms such as invoices and surveys and fills in existing ones.

8 **A 2.2 GPA, above 5 of 45**

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

9 **Keep it**

The plain part of PDF Architect you could make: forms. What surrounds it you could not. The 5 things listed below take a company, not a weekend.

PDF Architect at a glance

PRICING Free plan, from $127 per user / year, billed annually	FREE PLAN Yes
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON Windows
MADE BY Avanquest pdfforge GmbH	CATEGORY PDF Editors
OUR GRADE 2.2 GPA, fair	

The report card

Best for Windows PDF editing, paid by the year

PDF Architect is a Windows PDF editor from $127 a year for Pro, covering editing, conversion, forms, redaction, OCR and signing. The free edition is for

personal use and leaves out most of that, and there is no Mac, phone or browser version.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	PDF Architect	Graded Nov 13, 2026
SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	Pro is $127 a year, about $10.58 a month, just under the $10.83 dearer-quarter mark for PDF editors. Business is $197.
Free plan and trial	C	The free edition covers viewing, creating, merging and page management for personal use only; conversion, forms, OCR and security are left out.
Features	B	Pro edits text and images, converts, builds forms, redacts, runs OCR and signs. The listing names no gap in the core job.
Ease of use	B	No usable store rating is on record. It installs on Windows and works with nothing to set up.
Platforms and integrations	D	Windows only; no Mac, mobile or browser edition.
Grade point average		Fair, out of 4.0 **2.2**

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 PDF Architect is for

- ✓ Fits if you work on Windows and want editing, OCR and forms in one program
- ✓ Makes sense if your firm wants admin tools and SSO on the Business plan

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you use a Mac, phone or browser, as it is Windows only
- ✗ Tight if you stay on the free edition, which is personal use only and has no conversion, forms or OCR
- ✗ Pricey if you only edit now and then, at $127 a year
- ✗ Watch out: prices were filled in by a script, so confirm them at checkout
- ✗ Watch out: Pro and Business are billed yearly, with sales contact above 10 licenses

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Windows teams that want published volume pricing and invoice billing
- ✓ Individuals who need a free viewer and basic page tools for personal use
- ✓ Offices that deploy software through MSI packages and group policy

Worth knowing

- ⓘ The vendor's pages list Windows only; there is no Mac, mobile or browser edition.
- ⓘ The free edition is for personal use and leaves out conversion, forms, OCR and security tools.
- ⓘ Pro and Business are billed yearly; the page says to contact sales above 10 licenses.
- ⓘ The shown prices were read from a page that fills them in with a script, so confirm them at checkout.

What it costs

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

$10.58

A month to start, paid by the year, for each person. There is a free plan too

PDF Architect has a free plan. Paid plans start at $127 per user / year, billed annually.

FREE

$0

Personal use only: viewer, PDF creation and merging, page management; editing is partial and 50 e-signatures a year.

PRO

$127

per user / year, billed annually

Edit, convert, forms, redaction and protection, OCR, comments and signing, batch processing; 24-hour email and chat support.

BUSINESS

$197

per user / year, billed annually

Pro plus unlimited e-sign, admin dashboard, SSO / SAML, MSI and GPO deployment, Advanced OCR in 100+ languages, invoice billing.

The free plan

Free edition for personal use: view PDFs, create from Word, Excel and PowerPoint, merge, and rotate, delete or rearrange pages.

Read from pdfforge.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: Windows

Windows PDF editor with a free viewer and yearly Pro and Business. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: forms, pDF editing.

> **Pro edits text and images, converts, builds forms, redacts, runs OCR and signs.**

From our grade for features

Edit text, images and pages

Edits PDF content directly, merges files and inserts or reorganizes pages without exporting to another format.

Convert

Converts PDFs to Word, Excel, HTML, text and image formats, and creates PDFs from printable files.

Forms

Builds fillable forms such as invoices and surveys and fills in existing ones.

Secure and redact

Adds passwords and permissions, redacts content and applies digital signatures.

OCR with batch recognition

Makes scanned documents searchable, and can recognize several files at once.

E-sign

Prepares, sends and tracks documents for e-signature; the free plan allows 50 a year and Business is unlimited.

Where it runs

Windows

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

PDF Architect is made by Avanquest pdfforge GmbH.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

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

5/45

Other PDF editors it is graded above

PDF Architect's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 5 of the 45 other PDF editors we grade, and level with 8.

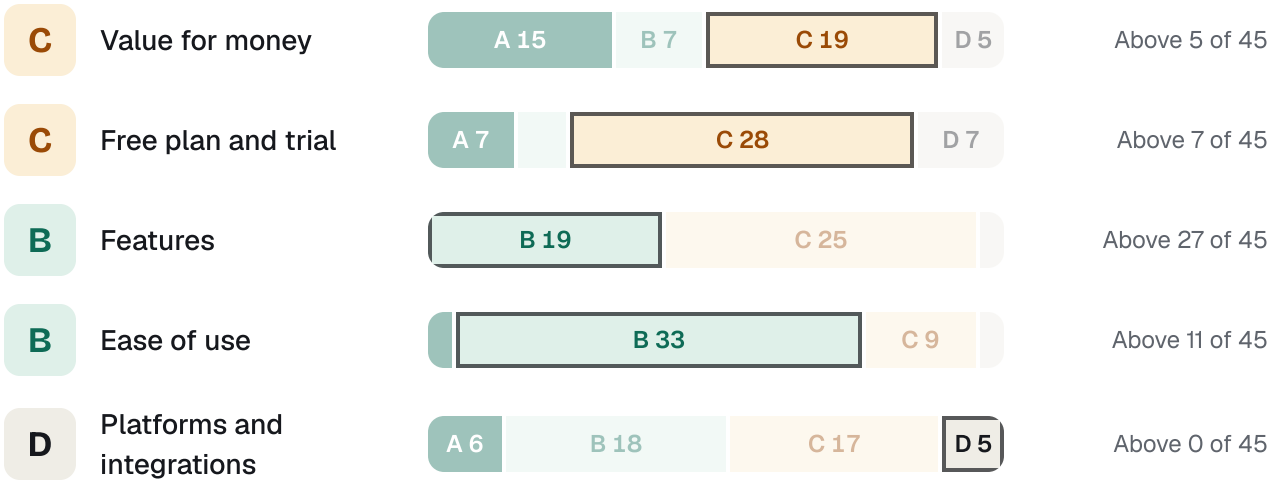
It stands best on features (B, above 27 of 45) and worst on platforms and integrations (D, above 0).

Its paid plans start at $10.58 a month when paid by the year for each person, against a middle price of $7.99 for the category: 19 of the 26 others that charge start lower.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 2.3 out of 4. 13 tools score higher and cost less.

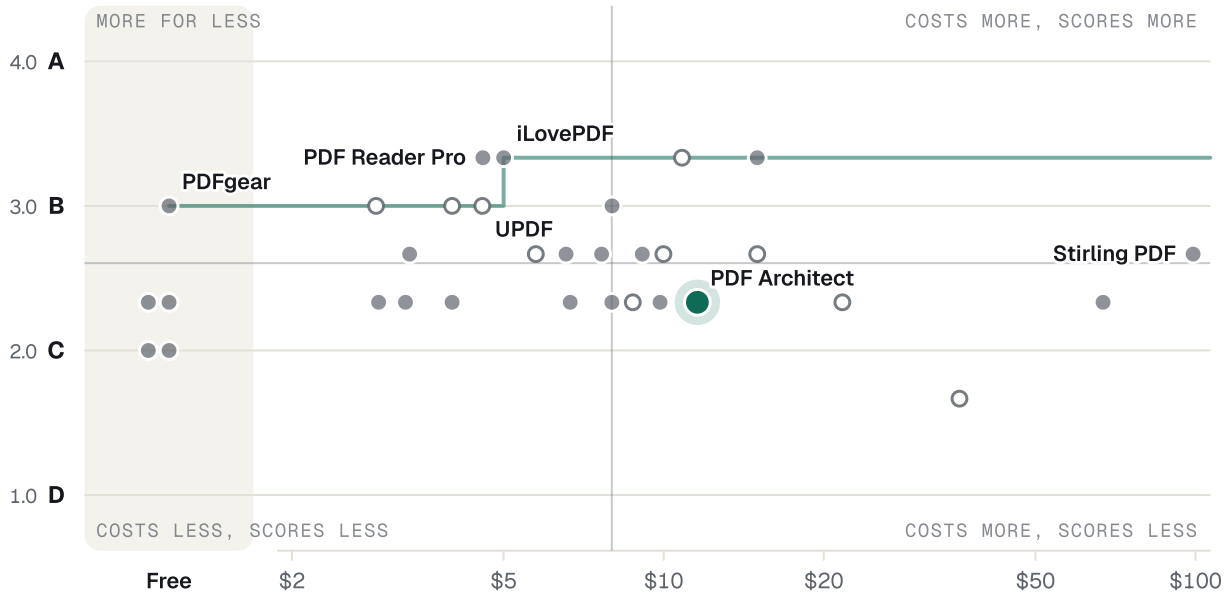
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 46 PDF editors we grade, cut by the letter each got. PDF Architect's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 32 PDF editors. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. PDF Architect 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

The plain part of PDF Architect you could make: forms. What surrounds it you could not. The 5 things listed below take a company, not a weekend.

That makes this kind of software worth paying for, not this one in particular: 32 of the 45 other PDF editors grade higher. It costs $127 a year.

What you could make

- Forms: an app builder makes this well.

What you could not

- Editing the text inside a PDF without breaking its layout.

- A real app for Windows. Something home-made would be a web page.
- It is priced for each person, which means accounts and billing for a team.
- What a company asks for before it lets staff use something: roles and permissions.
- The depth: we grade its features B, which means it covers the whole job.

What this rests on. PDF Architect'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



Foxit PDF Editor, Nitro PDF Pro, PDF-XChange Editor, Soda PDF and PDFelement

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

2.8 GPA

Foxit PDF Editor

Free trial · from $129.99/yr

PDF editor for Windows, Mac and web, yearly or as a one-time license.

- PDF Architect has a free plan. Foxit PDF Editor does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only Foxit PDF Editor lists a web app.
- Only Foxit PDF Editor lists macOS, iOS and Android apps.

PDF Architect and Foxit PDF Editor compared in full

2.2 GPA

Nitro PDF Pro

Free trial · from $15/mo

Desktop PDF editor for Windows and Mac with AI tools, billed yearly.

- PDF Architect has a free plan. Nitro PDF Pro does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only Nitro PDF Pro lists a web app.
- Only Nitro PDF Pro lists macOS and iOS apps.

PDF Architect and Nitro PDF Pro compared in full



2.6 GPA

PDF-XChange Editor

Free plan · from $62 one-time

Windows PDF editor with a free edition and perpetual licenses.

- PDF-XChange Editor can be bought with a one-time purchase.
- PDF Architect also covers forms.

PDF Architect and PDF-XChange Editor compared in full



2.6 GPA

Soda PDF

Free plan

Windows PDF editor with an online version, sold by subscription.

- Only Soda PDF lists a web app.

PDF Architect and Soda PDF compared in full



2.8 GPA

PDFelement

Free trial · from $11.99

Wondershare's PDF editor, by subscription or a one-time license.

- PDF Architect has a free plan. PDFelement does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only PDFelement lists a web app.
- Only PDFelement lists macOS, iOS and Android apps.

PDF Architect and PDFelement compared in full

PART 06 · QUESTIONS

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 PDF Architect free?

PDF Architect has a free plan. Free edition for personal use: view PDFs, create from Word, Excel and PowerPoint, merge, and rotate, delete or rearrange pages.

How much does PDF Architect cost?

PDF Architect lists 3 plans. Free: $0.

What platforms does PDF Architect work on?

PDF Architect is available on Windows.

Does PDF Architect have an Android app?

No Android app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. PDF Architect is listed for Windows.

Does PDF Architect have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. PDF Architect is listed for Windows.

Is PDF Architect open source?

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

Who makes PDF Architect?

PDF Architect is made by Avanquest pdfforge GmbH.

What are the alternatives to PDF Architect?

The closest alternatives to PDF Architect in our directory are Foxit PDF Editor, Nitro PDF Pro, PDF-XChange Editor, Soda PDF and PDFelement.

How does PDF Architect compare with other PDF editors?

PDF Architect's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 5 of the 45 other PDF editors we grade, and level with 8.

Is PDF Architect good value for money?

ToolGPA grades PDF Architect C for value for money. Its paid plans start at $10.58 a month when paid by the year for each person, against a middle price of $7.99 for the category: 19 of the 26 others that charge start lower.

Could I make my own version of PDF Architect?

The plain part of PDF Architect you could make: forms. What surrounds it you could not.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from PDF Architect'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 PDF Architect'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 Avanquest pdfforge GmbH. Prices change, so check pdfarchitect.org before you buy.

pdfforge.org/pdfarchitect/pricing
pdfarchitect.org/
pdfforge.org/pdfarchitect
pdfforge.org/about-us

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

PDF Architect, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/pdf-architect

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, "PDF Architect: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/pdf-architect
```

Know someone choosing between PDF editors?

Send them this guide:
toolgpa.com/tools/pdf-architect/guide

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded PDF editors after PDF Architect, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

PDF Editors Insider's Guide

Every one of the 46 PDF editors we grade, compared

PDFgear Insider's Guide

Free PDF editor for desktop, mobile and web with an AI copilot

3.4 GPA

Stirling PDF Insider's Guide

Open-source PDF editor you can run on your own machine or server

3.2 GPA

Online2PDF Insider's Guide

Free browser tool to convert, merge, edit, compress and unlock PDFs

3.0 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 PDF Architect'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. PDF Architect is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Avanquest pdfforge GmbH. Prices and plans change: check pdfarchitect.org before you buy.