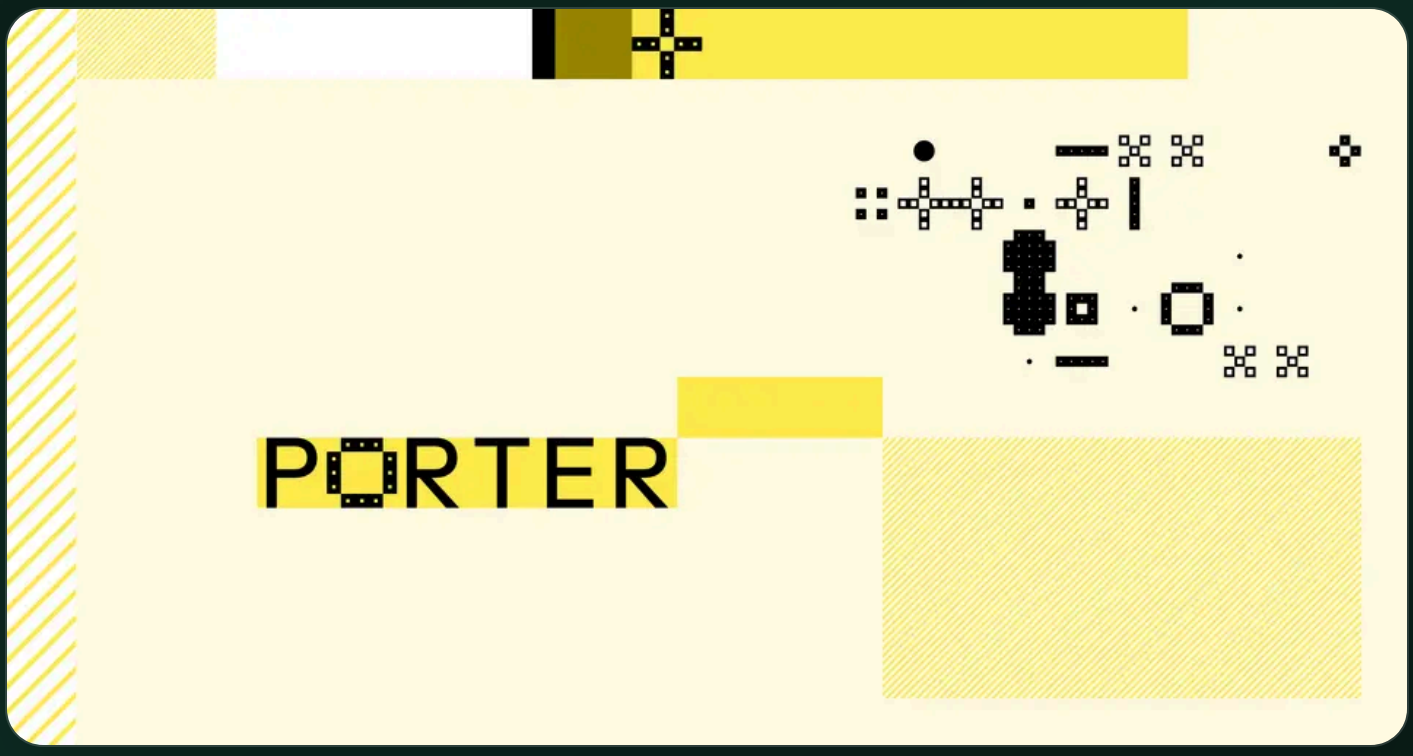
ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Porter

The Insider's Guide

App deployment into your own AWS, Azure or Google Cloud



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among web hosts, read from Porter's own pages.

Made by Porter · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

1.6
GPA



Contents

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

02 What it costs
Every plan, the free plan, ways to pay less and how prices have moved

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

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

05 The alternatives
The tools it is most often weighed against, side by side

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

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

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

1.6

GPA, above 5 of the 122 other web hosts we grade

Porter deploys applications into the customer's own AWS, Azure or Google Cloud account without hands-on DevOps work. It bills for the CPU and memory an app requests, and the cloud provider's charges for the underlying infrastructure are billed separately by that provider. An Enterprise tier adds volume discounts, advanced roles, SSO and on-premise installation.

> "
>
> **Its fee comes on top of your cloud bill, and there is no free plan.**
>
> From our report card of Porter

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

1 **Best for Heroku-style deploys on your own cloud**

Porter deploys from GitHub into your own AWS, Azure or Google Cloud account, billed on the memory and CPU you request.

2 **Paid plans start at $13 a month**

As its pricing page puts it: Metered: $6 per GB of RAM and $13 per vCPU, per month, plus your cloud bill.

3 **It runs on Web**

Web.

4 **Your own cloud account**

Applications run in your AWS, Azure or Google Cloud account, and the servers keep running if you stop paying Porter, according to the pricing FAQ.

5 **Deploy from GitHub**

Unlimited applications can be deployed from GitHub with preview environments, jobs and cron jobs.

6 **Autoscaling**

Applications autoscale, including custom autoscaling rules.

7 **A 1.6 GPA, above 5 of 122**

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

8 **Keep it**

To replace Porter you would be making connections to other products, each kept working as those products change. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

Porter at a glance

PRICING
Paid, from Metered: $6 per GB of RAM and $13 per vCPU, per month, plus your cloud bill

FREE PLAN
No

FREE TRIAL
None stated

RUNS ON
Web

MADE BY
Porter

CATEGORY
Web Hosting

OUR GRADE
1.6 GPA, weak

The report card

Best for Heroku-style deploys on your own cloud

Porter deploys from GitHub into your own AWS, Azure or Google Cloud account, billed on the memory and CPU you request. Its fee comes on top of your cloud bill, and there is no free plan.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	Porter	Graded Nov 13, 2026
SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	D	$6 per GB of RAM and $13 per vCPU a month, so 1 vCPU with 2 GB is $25 before the cloud bill, above the ordinary range.
Free plan and trial	F	No free plan and no trial on record, so you pay from the start.
Features	C	GitHub deploys, autoscaling, monitoring, logs, alerts and a Heroku migration path. It relies on a cloud account you supply.
Ease of use	C	You connect a cloud account and configure apps, with no store rating.
Platforms and integrations	B	Web dashboard with a few integrations, built on GitHub.
Grade point average		Weak, out of 4.0 **1.6**

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 Porter is for

- ✓ Fits if you want Heroku-style deploys on your own cloud account
- ✓ Works for startups moving off Heroku

Who it is not for

- ✗ Pricey if you add it up: the fee comes on top of your cloud provider's bill
- ✗ Skip it if you want a free tier, as none is listed
- ✗ Tight if you need SSO, advanced roles or volume discounts, which need Enterprise and a sales call
- ✗ Watch out: billing is on requested resources, not cloud instance capacity

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Startups that want Heroku-like deploys inside their own cloud account
- ✓ Teams using cloud credits to pay for infrastructure
- ✓ Companies with growing usage that want a volume discount

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Porter's metered fee does not include the underlying AWS, Azure or Google Cloud cost, which is billed separately by the provider.
- ⓘ Rates are $6 per GB of RAM and $13 per vCPU a month, billed on requested resources rather than cloud instance capacity.
- ⓘ Volume discounts, SSO and advanced roles are Enterprise features that require talking to sales.
- ⓘ The pricing FAQ mentions startup deals through some accelerators and investors, and a 50% discount for non-profits.

What it costs

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

$13
A month to start

Porter is a paid product, starting at Metered: $6 per GB of RAM and $13 per vCPU, per month, plus your cloud bill.

> **No free plan and no trial on record, so you pay from the start.**
>
> From our grade for free plan and trial

STANDARD

Custom

Pay as you go for requested app resources: $6 per GB RAM and $13 per vCPU per month ($0.009 and $0.019 per hour). Unlimited apps, preview environments, autoscaling and cron jobs.

ENTERPRISE

Custom

Volume discounts above 40 vCPU or 80 GB RAM, premium support, advanced RBAC, SAML SSO, custom alerts and on-prem installation. Sold through sales.

Read from porter.run on Nov 13, 2026.

Ways to pay less

NONPROFIT

50% discount for non-profits

The pricing FAQ states Porter offers non-profits a 50% discount.

Stated on porter.run

STARTUPS

Startup deal through accelerators and investors

The pricing FAQ says funded startups often have access to a deal through investors such as Y Combinator and a16z speedrun, and others can apply for the startup deal.

Stated on porter.run

What it does

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

1

Place it runs: Web

App deployment into your own AWS, Azure or Google Cloud. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: workflow automation, job scheduling.

> **GitHub deploys, autoscaling, monitoring, logs, alerts and a Heroku migration path.**
>
> From our grade for features

Your own cloud account

Applications run in your AWS, Azure or Google Cloud account, and the servers keep running if you stop paying Porter, according to the pricing FAQ.

Deploy from GitHub

Unlimited applications can be deployed from GitHub with preview environments, jobs and cron jobs.

Autoscaling

Applications autoscale, including custom autoscaling rules.

Monitoring, logging and alerts

Monitoring, logging and alerting are part of the Standard offering, along with certificate management.

Heroku migration path

The site has a dedicated guide for moving apps off Heroku.

Enterprise controls

Advanced role-based access control, SAML-based SSO and on-premise installation are offered on the Enterprise tier.

Where it runs

Web

What it works with

AWS

Azure

Google Cloud

GitHub

Porter is made by Porter.

Where it stands

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

5/122

Other web hosts it is graded above

Porter's GPA of 1.6 is higher than 5 of the 122 other web hosts we grade, and level with 23.

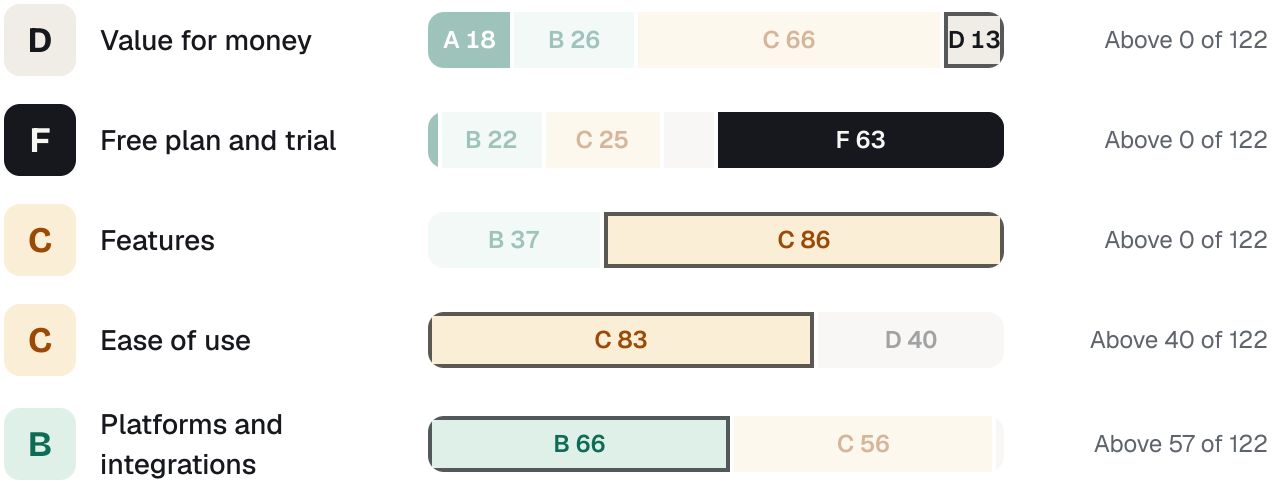
It stands best on platforms and integrations (B, above 57 of 122) and worst on free plan and trial (F, above 0).

Its paid plans start at $13 a month, against a middle price of $9.69 for the category: 67 of the 107 others that charge start lower.

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

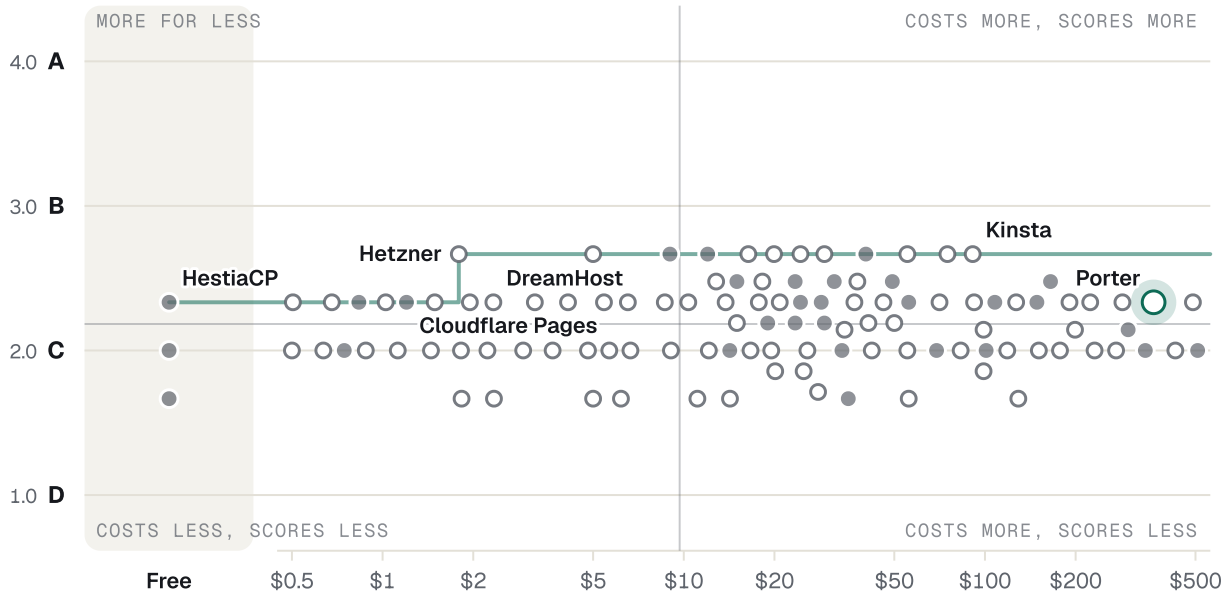
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 123 web hosts we grade, cut by the letter each got. Porter's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 111 web hosts. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Porter 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

To replace Porter you would be making connections to other products, each kept working as those products change. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

That makes this kind of software worth paying for, not this one in particular: 94 of the 122 other web hosts grade higher. It costs $156 a year.

What you could make

- Job scheduling: an app builder makes this well.

What you could not

- Connections to other products, each kept working as those products change.
- What a company asks for before it lets staff use something: single sign-on and roles and permissions.

What this rests on. Porter'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



Qovery, Render, Heroku, Railway and Northflank

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

2.0 GPA

Qovery

Free plan · from $299/mo

Self-service deployment onto your own cloud or Kubernetes.

- Qovery has a free plan. Porter does not.
- Porter also covers workflow automation and job scheduling.
- Qovery also covers databases.

Porter and Qovery compared in full

R

2.4 GPA

Render

Free plan · from $25/mo

Cloud hosting for web services, databases and workers.

- Render has a free plan. Porter does not.
- Porter also covers job scheduling.
- Render also covers databases.

Porter and Render compared in full



1.8
GPA

Heroku

From $5/mo

Platform for deploying apps in containers called dynos.

- Porter also covers workflow automation and job scheduling.
- Heroku also covers databases.

Porter and Heroku compared in full



2.6
GPA

Railway

Free trial · from $5/mo

App and database hosting billed by the second for usage.

- Only Railway lists iOS and Android apps.
- Porter also covers workflow automation and job scheduling.
- Railway also covers databases and AI agents.

Porter and Railway compared in full



2.6
GPA

Northflank

Free plan · from $12/mo

Container platform for services, jobs, databases and GPUs.

- Northflank has a free plan. Porter does not.
- Porter also covers workflow automation and job scheduling.

Porter and Northflank compared in full

PART 06 · QUESTIONS

Quick answers

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

13

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 Porter free?

No. Porter is a paid product, starting at Metered: $6 per GB of RAM and $13 per vCPU, per month, plus your cloud bill.

How much does Porter cost?

Porter lists 2 plans. Standard: custom pricing.

What platforms does Porter work on?

Porter is available on Web.

Does Porter offer any discounts?

Porter publicly lists the following: 50% discount for non-profits; Startup deal through accelerators and investors.

Does Porter have an Android app?

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

Does Porter have an iPhone app?

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

Is Porter open source?

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

What does Porter integrate with?

Porter's listing names AWS, Azure, Google Cloud and GitHub. A listing names up to eight integrations, so it may connect to more.

Who makes Porter?

Porter is made by a company of the same name.

What are the alternatives to Porter?

The closest alternatives to Porter in our directory are Qovery, Render, Heroku, Railway and Northflank.

How does Porter compare with other web hosts?

Porter's GPA of 1.6 is higher than 5 of the 122 other web hosts we grade, and level with 23.

Is Porter good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Porter D for value for money. Its paid plans start at $13 a month, against a middle price of $9.69 for the category: 67 of the 107 others that charge start lower.

Could I make my own version of Porter?

To replace Porter you would be making connections to other products, each kept working as those products change.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from Porter'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 Porter'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 Porter. Prices change, so check porter.run before you buy.

porter.run/pricing

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

Porter, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/porter

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:

```
ToolGPA, "Porter: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/porter
```

Know someone choosing between web hosts?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded web hosts after Porter, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Web Hosting Insider's Guide

Every one of the 123 web hosts we grade, compared

Cloudflare Pages Insider's Guide

Git-based hosting for static sites and full-stack apps

2.8 GPA

GitHub Pages Insider's Guide

Static site hosting built into GitHub repositories

2.8 GPA

Netlify Insider's Guide

Git-based hosting for sites and web apps, priced by monthly credits

2.8 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 Porter'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. Porter is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Porter. Prices and plans change: check porter.run before you buy.