ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Qbserve

The Insider's Guide

Automatic time and productivity tracker for the Mac



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among time tracking apps, read from Qbserve's own pages.

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

1.8
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 Qbserve's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Qbserve'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

1.8

GPA, above 4 of the 98 other time tracking apps we grade

Qbserve is a macOS app that watches the frontmost window and records time automatically against project rules based on document paths and web addresses. It scores productivity per site and app, builds timesheets and generates invoices in 18 languages. Tracked data stays on the Mac, and the vendor describes the license as perpetual with no subscription.

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

> **The price isn't shown until checkout, it only runs on macOS, and it tracks one person's Mac, not a team.**
>
> From our report card of Qbserve

1 **Best for automatic time tracking on one Mac**

Qbserve logs your Mac activity by itself and sorts it into projects and a productivity score, with the data kept on your machine.

2 **You can try it first**

15-day free trial

3 **It runs on macOS**

macOS.

4 **Automatic project tracking**

Rules match strings in document paths or browser addresses to a project, and undetected time can be assigned in the timesheet at day's end.

5 **Productivity scoring**

Sites, apps and games are scored against a built-in list of over 8,100, with a productivity score in the menu bar and alerts at goals.

6 **Timesheets and invoices**

Timesheets show an activity summary, timeline and notes per hour, and invoice items are created from recorded time in 18 languages.

7 **A 1.8 GPA, above 4 of 98**

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

8 **Keep it**

The plain part of Qbserve you could make: time tracking, invoicing and reports. What surrounds it you could not. The 3 things listed below take a company, not a weekend.

Qbserve at a glance

PRICING Free trial	FREE PLAN No
FREE TRIAL 15-day free trial	RUNS ON macOS
MADE BY QotoQot	CATEGORY Time Tracking
OUR GRADE 1.8 GPA, weak	

The report card

Best for automatic time tracking on one Mac

Qbserve logs your Mac activity by itself and sorts it into projects and a productivity score, with the data kept on your machine. The price isn't shown until checkout, it only runs on macOS, and it tracks one person's Mac, not a team.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD — **Qbserve** — Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	No price on the product page: it shows only at checkout, so we can't place it against the $4.50 to $10 monthly range. It says there's no subscription.
Free plan and trial	C	A 15-day trial. The listing doesn't say whether a card is needed, and there's no free plan.
Features	C	Rules that match files and sites to projects, productivity scoring, timesheets and invoice items. It's one person's tool, with no team dashboard.
Ease of use	C	No store rating on record. You write rules to match projects, and leftover time is assigned by hand at day's end.
Platforms and integrations	D	macOS only. It exports to JSON and CSV and links to Zapier, IFTTT and AppleScript, but there's no Windows, web or phone version.

Grade point average — Weak, out of 4.0 **1.8**

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 Qbserve is for

- ✓ Fits if you are a freelancer on a Mac who wants hours filled in without a timer
- ✓ Makes sense if you want tracked data to stay on your own computer

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you use Windows or Linux, as it runs on macOS only
- ✗ Not for you if you want a team dashboard, because it tracks one person's own Mac
- ✗ Watch out: no price is shown before checkout, and a business needs one licence per seat
- ✗ Too light for client billing across a team, with invoice items made one person at a time

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Mac-based freelancers who bill by project
- ✓ People who want automatic tracking with data kept on their own computer
- ✓ Buyers who prefer a one-time license to a subscription

Worth knowing

- ⓘ The price is not shown on the product page; it appears only in the checkout, which could not be read.
- ⓘ It runs on macOS only, and a business needs one license per seat.
- ⓘ Personal licenses can be shared across five machines belonging to the owner or family.
- ⓘ It tracks one person's own Mac; it is not a team dashboard.

What it costs

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

Qbserve's current pricing could not be confirmed from its own site.

> **The listing doesn't say whether a card is needed, and there's no free plan.**
>
> From our grade for free plan and trial

We could not confirm Qbserve's current prices from its own site, so this guide lists no plans. qotoqot.com has them.

Ways to pay less

EDUCATION

Student discount on request

The support page says a student discount exists and tells students to contact the vendor. No amount is stated.

Stated on qotoqot.com

What it does

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

1

Place it runs: macOS

Automatic time and productivity tracker for the Mac. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: local-first, one-time purchase, time tracking, invoicing, reports, menu bar app.

> **Rules that match files and sites to projects, productivity scoring, timesheets and invoice items.**
>
> From our grade for features

Automatic project tracking

Rules match strings in document paths or browser addresses to a project, and undetected time can be assigned in the timesheet at day's end.

Productivity scoring

Sites, apps and games are scored against a built-in list of over 8,100, with a productivity score in the menu bar and alerts at goals.

Timesheets and invoices

Timesheets show an activity summary, timeline and notes per hour, and invoice items are created from recorded time in 18 languages.

Local data storage

The vendor says all tracked data is stored on the Mac and never sent anywhere, with options to ignore private browser tabs or pause.

Exports and automation

Timesheets export to JSON and CSV on a schedule, and alerts connect to AppleScript, IFTTT and Zapier.

Where it runs

macOS

What it works with

Slack
Zapier
IFTTT
Google Chrome
Safari
Firefox

Qbserve is made by QotoQot.

Where it stands

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

4/98

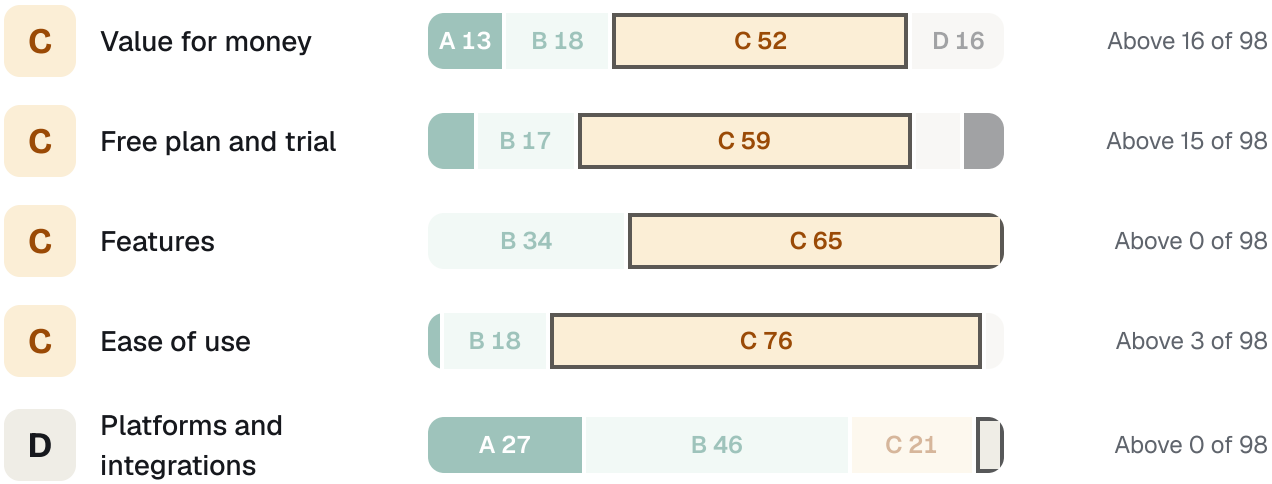
Other time tracking apps it is graded above

Qbserve's GPA of 1.8 is higher than 4 of the 98 other time tracking apps we grade, and level with 3.

It stands best on value for money (C, above 16 of 98) and worst on platforms and integrations (D, above 0).

Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 99 time tracking apps we grade, cut by the letter each got. Qbserve's own letter is outlined.



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 Qbserve you could make: time tracking, invoicing and reports. What surrounds it you could not. The 3 things listed below take a company, not a weekend.

That makes this kind of software worth paying for, not this one in particular: 91 of the 98 other time tracking apps grade higher.

What you could make

- Time tracking, invoicing and reports: an app builder makes these well.

What you could not

- A native app living in the menu bar.
- A real app for macOS. Something home-made would be a web page.
- It plugs into other products, Slack, Zapier and IFTTT among them.

What this rests on. Qbserve'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



Timing, RescueTime, ManicTime, Memtime and Timemator

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

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Timing

Free trial · from $9/mo

Automatic time tracking for Mac with no timers to start.

- Only Timing lists a web app.
- Qbserve can be bought with a one-time purchase.
- Qbserve also covers invoicing and menu bar app.

Qbserve and Timing compared in full

2.8 GPA

RescueTime

Free plan · from $7/mo

Automatic time tracking with distraction blocking and timesheets.

- RescueTime has a free plan. Qbserve does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only RescueTime lists a web app.
- Only RescueTime lists Windows, iOS and Android apps.

Qbserve and RescueTime compared in full



2.4
GPA

ManicTime

Free plan · from $7/mo

Automatic time tracker, in the cloud or on your own server.

- ManicTime has a free plan. Qbserve does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only ManicTime lists Windows, Linux, iOS and Android apps.
- ManicTime is self-hostable, according to its own site.

Qbserve and ManicTime compared in full



2.0
GPA

Memtime

Free trial · from $14/mo

Automatic desktop time tracker that keeps activity data offline.

- Only Memtime lists a web app.
- Only Memtime lists Windows and Linux apps.
- Qbserve can be bought with a one-time purchase.

Qbserve and Memtime compared in full



2.4
GPA

Timemator

Free trial · from $39 one-time

Automatic time tracking for Mac with a one-time license.

- Only Timemator lists an iOS app.
- Qbserve also covers invoicing and menu bar app.

Qbserve and Timemator 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 Qbserve free?

No, Qbserve is a paid product, but you can try it first. 15-day free trial.

What platforms does Qbserve work on?

Qbserve is available on macOS.

Does Qbserve offer any discounts?

Qbserve publicly lists the following: Student discount on request.

Does Qbserve have an Android app?

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

Does Qbserve have an iPhone app?

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

Is Qbserve open source?

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

What does Qbserve integrate with?

Qbserve's listing names Slack, Zapier, IFTTT, Google Chrome, Safari and Firefox.

Does Qbserve have a student discount?

Student discount on request. The support page says a student discount exists and tells students to contact the vendor.

Who makes Qbserve?

Qbserve is made by QotoQot.

What are the alternatives to Qbserve?

The closest alternatives to Qbserve in our directory are Timing, RescueTime, ManicTime, Memtime and Timemator.

How does Qbserve compare with other time tracking apps?

Qbserve's GPA of 1.8 is higher than 4 of the 98 other time tracking apps we grade, and level with 3.

Could I make my own version of Qbserve?

The plain part of Qbserve you could make: time tracking, invoicing and reports.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from Qbserve'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 Qbserve'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 QotoQot. Prices change, so check qotoqot.com before you buy.

qotoqot.com/qbserve

qotoqot.com/qbserve/support

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

Qbserve, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/qbserve

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, "Qbserve: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/qbserve
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Know someone choosing between time tracking apps?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded time tracking apps after Qbserve, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Time Tracking Insider's Guide

Every one of the 99 time tracking apps we grade, compared

Jibble Insider's Guide

Free time clock and attendance tracker with GPS and face recognition

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Clockify Insider's Guide

Team time tracker and timesheets with a free plan for 5 users

3.2 GPA

TimeCamp Insider's Guide

Time tracking with attendance, billing and a free plan for any team

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 Qbserve'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. Qbserve is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by QotoQot. Prices and plans change: check qotoqot.com before you buy.