ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Read Aloud

The Insider's Guide

Open-source browser extension that reads web pages aloud



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among AI voice generators, read from Read Aloud's own pages.

Made by LSD Software · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

3.0
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 Read Aloud's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Read Aloud'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 71 of the 72 other AI voice generators we grade

Read Aloud is a browser extension for Chrome, Edge and Firefox that reads the current web page aloud with one click. It uses the voices built into the browser and can also connect to cloud voice providers. The code is open source under an MIT license, and the extension is made by LSD Software.

> "
>
> **Install it and click the toolbar icon, with nothing to set up.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

To get you started, here are **7 things to know about Read Aloud**, taken from its own pages and our grades.

1 **Best for reading web pages aloud in the browser**

Read Aloud is a free, open-source browser extension for Chrome, Edge and Firefox that reads the current page with one click.

2 **It is free**

Read Aloud has no paid plan at all. The extension is installed from the browser stores and reads pages with the browser's own voices.

3 **One-click page reading**

Click the toolbar icon or use a keyboard shortcut to read the current article, or only the text you have selected.

4 **Browser and cloud voices**

Uses native browser voices, and the Chrome Web Store page says it can use cloud voices from Google Wavenet, Amazon Polly, IBM Watson, Microsoft Azure and OpenAI.

5 **40+ languages**

The store listing says it supports more than 40 languages.

6 **A 3.0 GPA, above 71 of 72**

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

7 **Keep it**

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

Read Aloud at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN Yes
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON Browser extension
MADE BY LSD Software	CATEGORY AI Voices & Text to Speech
OUR GRADE 3.0 GPA, very good	

The report card

Best for reading web pages aloud in the browser

Read Aloud is a free, open-source browser extension for Chrome, Edge and Firefox that reads the current page with one click. It uses your browser's own

voices, so the sound depends on your system, and nicer cloud voices need your own API key or a purchase with no price listed.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	Read Aloud	Graded Nov 13, 2026
SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	A	Free and open source under an MIT license. Anyone can install it, so it counts as free and substantial.
Free plan and trial	A	Free outright with no account. The only paid parts are optional cloud voices.
Features	C	Reads pages, selected text, PDFs, Google Docs and Kindle pages, with speed, pitch and highlighting. Cloud voices need a provider key, and EPUB depends on a separate extension.
Ease of use	B	No store rating on record. Install it and click the toolbar icon, with nothing to set up.
Platforms and integrations	C	Browser extension only: Chrome, Edge and Firefox. No phone or desktop app, though it can plug into Polly, Azure, OpenAI and other voice providers.
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 Read Aloud is for

- ✓ Fits if you want a free way to hear web articles read out in your browser
- ✓ Works for people comfortable bringing their own cloud voice key for better sound

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you want natural voices out of the box: the free setup uses whatever voices your system has
- ✗ Not for you if you read on a phone, because there is no mobile app
- ✗ Too light for books: EPUB reading depends on a separate extension from another publisher
- ✗ Watch out: cloud voices may need an in-app purchase or your own API key, and the pages state no prices

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ People who want any web page read aloud without leaving the browser
- ✓ Users who prefer an open-source tool they can inspect

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Voice quality with the free setup depends on the voices your browser and operating system provide.
- ⓘ Cloud-based voices may need an in-app purchase or your own provider API key; the pages do not state prices.
- ⓘ It runs only as a browser extension, with no mobile or desktop app.
- ⓘ EPUB reading depends on a separate extension from another publisher.

What it costs

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

Free

No paid plan at all

Read Aloud is free to use.

> **Free and open source under an MIT license.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

EXTENSION

$0

Reads pages with the browser's built-in voices. Cloud voices may need an in-app purchase or your own API key, with no prices stated.

The free plan

The extension is installed from the browser stores and reads pages with the browser's own voices.

Read from chromewebstore.google.com 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: Browser extension

Open-source browser extension that reads web pages aloud. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, AI features, text to speech.

> **Reads pages, selected text, PDFs, Google Docs and Kindle pages, with speed, pitch and highlighting.**
>
> From our grade for features

One-click page reading

Click the toolbar icon or use a keyboard shortcut to read the current article, or only the text you have selected.

Browser and cloud voices

Uses native browser voices, and the Chrome Web Store page says it can use cloud voices from Google Wavenet, Amazon Polly, IBM Watson, Microsoft Azure and OpenAI.

40+ languages

The store listing says it supports more than 40 languages.

Reading controls

Voice, speed and pitch can be changed, text highlighting can be turned on, and the popup has a dark mode.

Documents and books

Reads PDF, Google Docs, Google Play Books and Kindle pages, and EPUB through a separate extension.

Where it runs

Browser extension

What it works with

Google Wavenet
Amazon Polly
IBM Watson
Microsoft Azure
OpenAI

Read Aloud is made by LSD Software.

Where it stands

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

71/72

Other AI voice generators it is graded above

Read Aloud's GPA of 3.0 is higher than 71 of the 72 other AI voice generators we grade, and level with 1.

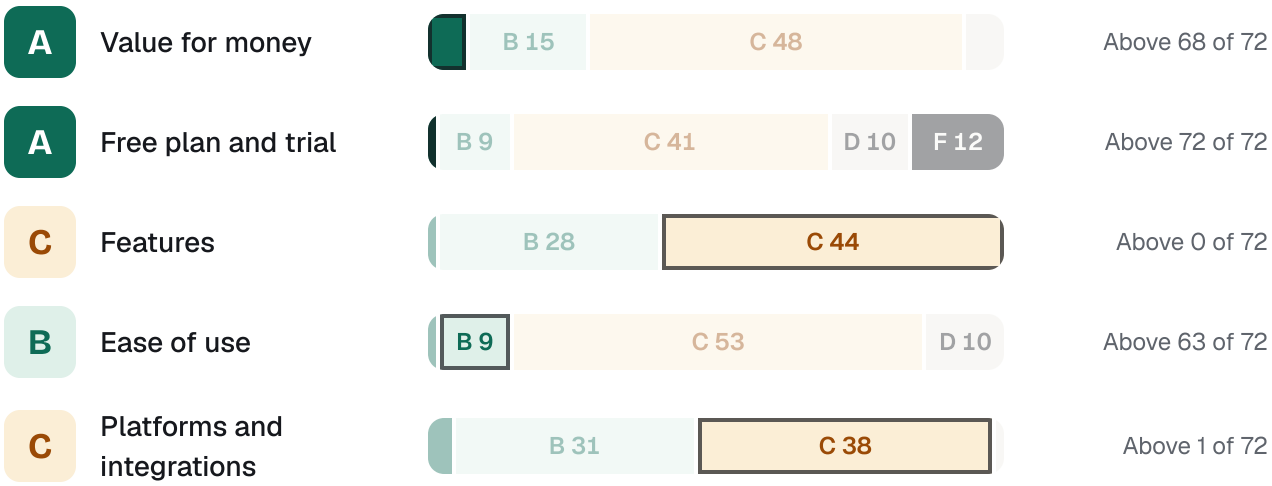
It stands best on free plan and trial (A, above 72 of 72) and worst on features (C, above 0).

Read Aloud has no paid plan.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 2.3 out of 4, and no tool on the category's chart scores higher without costing more.

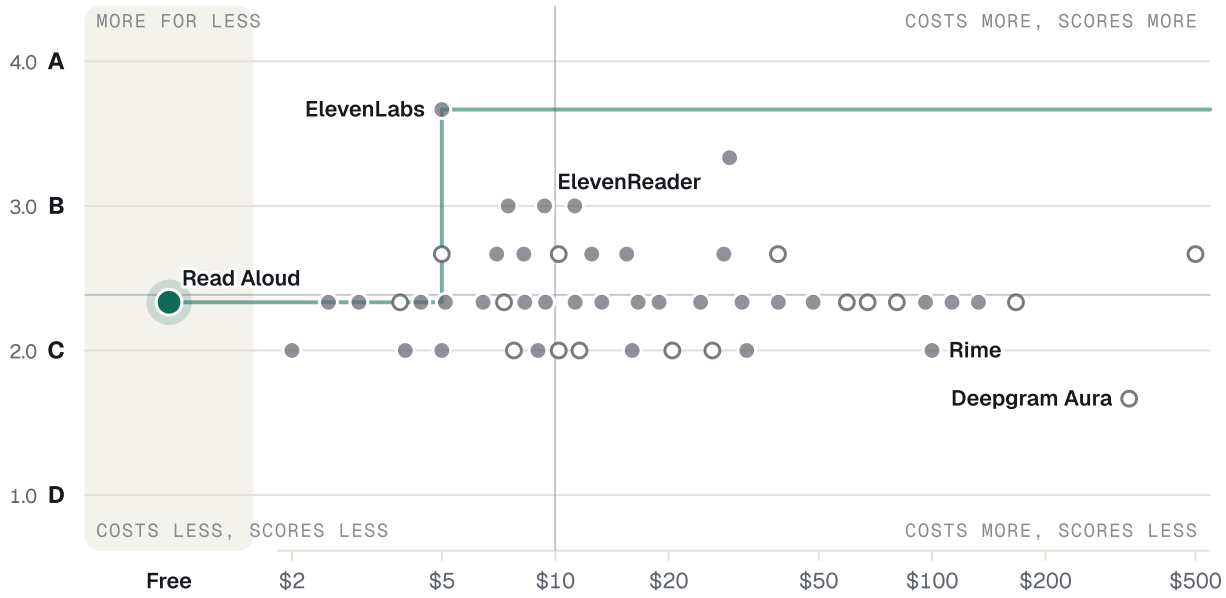
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 73 AI voice generators we grade, cut by the letter each got. Read Aloud's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 52 AI voice generators. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Read Aloud 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

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

And it is not the kind of software a weekend replaces. It is one of the better ones too: its GPA of 3.0 is higher than 71 of the 72 other AI voice generators we grade.

What you could not

- A voice model, which you can rent by the minute but not make.
- It plugs into other products, Google Wavenet, Amazon Polly and IBM Watson among them.
- AI features, unless you pay a model provider for each request yourself.

What this rests on. Read Aloud'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



Speaktor, TTSReader, NaturalReader, Speechify and ElevenReader

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

2.4 GPA

Speaktor

Free plan · from $4.99/mo

Text-to-speech reader and voiceover tool for documents and video.

- Only Speaktor lists a web app.
- Only Speaktor lists iOS and Android apps.
- Read Aloud is open source, according to its own site.

Read Aloud and Speaktor compared in full

2.6 GPA

TTSReader

Free plan · from $8.25/mo

Online text reader with free voices, premium AI voices and MP3 export.

- Only TTSReader lists a web app.
- Only TTSReader lists iOS and Android apps.
- Read Aloud is open source, according to its own site.

Read Aloud and TTSReader compared in full

2.8 GPA

NaturalReader

Free plan · from $9.92/mo

Text-to-speech reader for listening to documents, with a voiceover app.

- Only NaturalReader lists a web app.
- Only NaturalReader lists iOS, Android, Windows and macOS apps.
- Read Aloud is open source, according to its own site.

Read Aloud and NaturalReader compared in full

2.8 GPA

Speechify

Free plan · from $29/mo

Text-to-speech reader for listening to documents and web pages.

- Only Speechify lists a web app.
- Only Speechify lists iOS, Android, macOS and Windows apps.
- Read Aloud is open source, according to its own site.

Read Aloud and Speechify compared in full

2.8 GPA

ElevenReader

Free plan · from $8.25/mo

Reader app that reads your files and audiobooks aloud in AI voices.

- Only ElevenReader lists a web app.
- Only ElevenReader lists iOS and Android apps.
- Read Aloud is open source, according to its own site.

Read Aloud and ElevenReader 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 Read Aloud free?

Yes. Read Aloud is free to use.

How much does Read Aloud cost?

Read Aloud lists one plan. Extension: $0.

Does Read Aloud have an Android app?

No Android app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Read Aloud is listed for no platform we could confirm.

Does Read Aloud have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Read Aloud is listed for no platform we could confirm.

Is Read Aloud open source?

Yes. Read Aloud is open source, according to its own site.

What does Read Aloud integrate with?

Read Aloud's listing names Google Wavenet, Amazon Polly, IBM Watson, Microsoft Azure and OpenAI.

Who makes Read Aloud?

Read Aloud is made by LSD Software.

What are the alternatives to Read Aloud?

The closest alternatives to Read Aloud in our directory are Speaktor, TTSReader, NaturalReader, Speechify and ElevenReader.

How does Read Aloud compare with other AI voice generators?

Read Aloud's GPA of 3.0 is higher than 71 of the 72 other AI voice generators we grade, and level with 1.

Is Read Aloud good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Read Aloud A for value for money. Read Aloud has no paid plan.

Could I make my own version of Read Aloud?

Read Aloud 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 Read Aloud'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 LSD Software'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 LSD Software. Prices change, so check readaloud.app before you buy.

readaloud.app/

chromewebstore.google.com/detail/read-aloud-a-...

github.com/Read-Aloud/read-aloud

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
tools graded

95
categories

739
price changes on record

579
apps priced in 12 countries

What else is on toolgpa.com

Read Aloud, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/read-aloud

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, "Read Aloud: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/read-aloud
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Know someone choosing between AI voice generators?

Send them this guide:
toolgpa.com/tools/read-aloud/guide

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded AI voice generators after Read Aloud, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

AI Voices & Text to Speech Insider's Guide

Every one of the 73 AI voice generators we grade, compared

ElevenLabs Insider's Guide

AI voice platform for speech, voice cloning, dubbing and voice agents

3.0 GPA

ElevenReader Insider's Guide

Reader app that reads your files and audiobooks aloud in AI voices

2.8 GPA

Google Cloud Text-to-Speech Insider's Guide

Pay-per-character speech API with Gemini, Chirp and WaveNet voices

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 Read Aloud'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. Read Aloud is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by LSD Software. Prices and plans change: check readaloud.app before you buy.