ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Shorthand

The Insider’s Guide

Scrolling web story and report publisher



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among presentation tools, read from Shorthand’s own pages.

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

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

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GPA, above 37 of the 89 other presentation tools we grade

Shorthand is a platform for building scrolling, visual web stories such as annual reports, feature articles and digital magazines. Stories are built in a browser editor and published to Shorthand's hosting or to the customer's own site or CMS. Publishing is sold through plans arranged with the vendor.

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

> "
>
> **No store rating is on record, and designing a story page by page takes learning.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

1 **Best for scrolling web stories like annual reports**

Creating is free but publishing needs a paid plan, and no plan price is published.

2 **There is a free plan**

Creating stories is free; a paid plan is needed to publish or export them.

3 **It runs on Web**

Web.

4 **Story editor**

Stories are built from sections and layouts in a browser editor, and can be embedded into existing pages.

5 **Publishing options**

Shorthand-hosted publishing on annual plans, or self-hosted through S3, WordPress, Drupal plugins or API.

6 **Branding**

Themes carry a team's logos, colors and fonts across stories.

7 **A 2.2 GPA, above 37 of 89**

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

8 **Keep it**

The plain part of Shorthand you could make: templates and documents. What surrounds it you could not. The 4 things listed below take a company, not a weekend.

Shorthand at a glance

PRICING Free plan	FREE PLAN Yes
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON Web
MADE BY Shorthand	CATEGORY Presentations
OUR GRADE 2.2 GPA, fair	

The report card

Best for scrolling web stories like annual reports

Shorthand builds scrolling, visual web stories such as annual reports and digital magazines, then publishes them on its hosting or your own site. Creating is free but publishing needs a paid plan, and no plan price is published.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD **Shorthand** Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	No plan price is published; Core, Unlimited and Enterprise are arranged with sales, so it sits at C.
Free plan and trial	C	Building stories is free, but a paid plan is needed to publish or export them, so you cannot ship anything on the free plan.
Features	C	A story editor, publishing, branding, collaboration and analytics. Core includes only 12 new stories a year, and publishing a story spends a credit that is not returned.
Ease of use	C	No store rating is on record, and designing a story page by page takes learning.
Platforms and integrations	B	Web, with WordPress, Drupal, Sitecore, Contentful and Adobe Experience Manager listed. No desktop or phone app.
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 Shorthand is for

- ✓ Fits if you make long visual stories for a communications team
- ✓ Works for publishers who want stories on their own CMS

Who it is not for

- ✗ Not for you if you want a price, because none is published
- ✗ Tight if you publish a lot, as Core includes 12 new stories a year
- ✗ Watch out: a published story uses a credit that is not returned if you unpublish it
- ✗ Watch out: unused publishing credits expire at the end of each yearly cycle

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Communications teams producing annual or impact reports
- ✓ Newsrooms and universities publishing long feature stories
- ✓ Organizations that need stories on their own domain or CMS

Worth knowing

- ⓘ No plan prices are published: Core, Unlimited and Enterprise are arranged through the sales team, so pricing is recorded as unverified.
- ⓘ Core includes 12 new stories per year, and publishing a story uses one credit that is not returned if you unpublish.
- ⓘ Unused publishing credits expire at the end of each yearly cycle.
- ⓘ Shorthand says it is SOC 2 Type II compliant and ISO 27001 certified.

What it costs

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

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

> **No plan price is published; Core, Unlimited and Enterprise are arranged with sales, so it sits at C.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

We could not confirm Shorthand’s current prices from its own site, so this guide lists no plans. shorthand.com has them.

Ways to pay less

NONPROFIT

Discounts for charities and NGOs

Shorthand says it offers discounted plans for registered charities and NGOs, and free educational plans for universities and colleges.

Stated on shorthand.com

What it does

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

1

Place it runs: Web

Scrolling web story and report publisher. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: AI features, real-time collaboration, templates, documents, presentations.

"

A story editor, publishing, branding, collaboration and analytics.

From our grade for features

Story editor

Stories are built from sections and layouts in a browser editor, and can be embedded into existing pages.

Publishing options

Shorthand-hosted publishing on annual plans, or self-hosted through S3, WordPress, Drupal plugins or API.

Branding

Themes carry a team's logos, colors and fonts across stories.

Collaboration

Editors, designers and developers work in one shared workspace.

Analytics

Built-in cookieless analytics, plus Google Analytics, Tag Manager and other trackers.

AI Creative Companion

An AI feature the site describes as turning a rough draft into a designed story.

Where it runs

Web

What it works with

WordPress
Drupal
Sitecore
Contentful
Adobe Experience Manager
Google Analytics
Google Tag Manager
Unsplash

Shorthand is made by Shorthand.

Where it stands

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

37/89

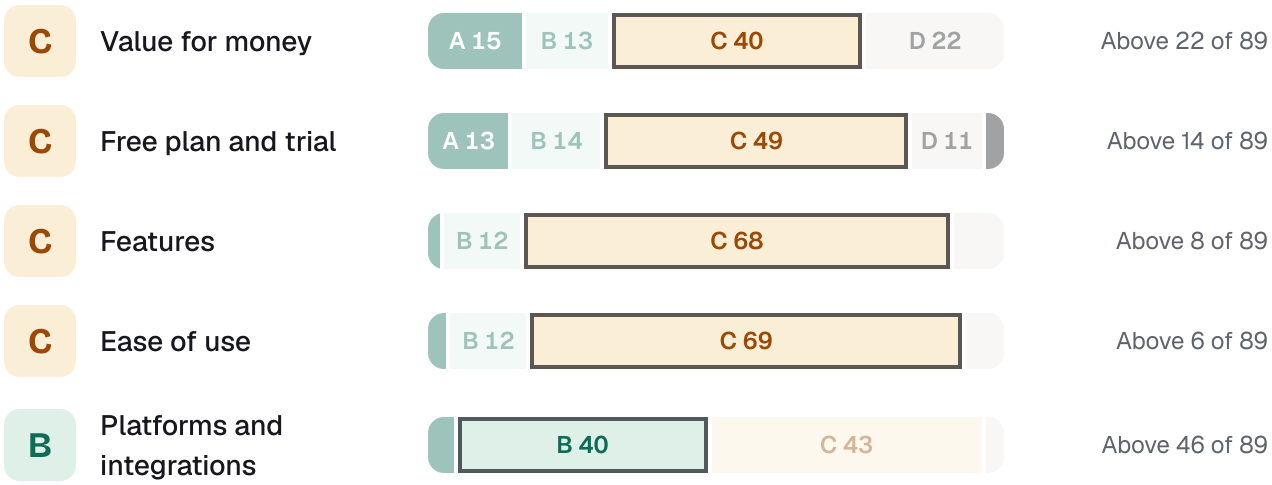
Other presentation tools it is graded above

Shorthand's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 37 of the 89 other presentation tools we grade, and level with 15.

It stands best on platforms and integrations (B, above 46 of 89) and worst on ease of use (C, above 6).

Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 90 presentation tools we grade, cut by the letter each got. Shorthand'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 Shorthand you could make: templates and documents. What surrounds it you could not. The 4 things listed below take a company, not a weekend.

What you could make

- Templates and documents: an app builder makes these well.

What you could not

- A slide editor.
- Several people working in it at the same moment.
- It plugs into other products, WordPress, Drupal and Sitecore among them.
- AI features, unless you pay a model provider for each request yourself.

What this rests on. Shorthand'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



Storydoc, Genially, Visme, Slides and Prezi

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

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Storydoc

From $19.80/mo

Interactive scrolling decks with view analytics.

- Shorthand has a free plan. Storydoc does not.
- Shorthand also covers documents.
- Storydoc also covers sales pipeline and web analytics.

Shorthand and Storydoc compared in full

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Genially

Free plan · from €6/mo

Interactive presentations, quizzes, games and learning content.

- Shorthand also covers documents.
- Genially also covers surveys.

Shorthand and Genially compared in full



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Visme

Free plan · from $12.25/mo

Template-based design tool for presentations and infographics.

- Only Visme lists macOS, Windows and iOS apps.
- Visme also covers whiteboard and forms.

Shorthand and Visme compared in full



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Slides

Free plan · from $5/mo

Browser-based presentation editor with HTML, CSS and code support.

- Shorthand also covers documents.

Shorthand and Slides compared in full



2.2
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Prezi

Free plan · from $7/mo

Presentation platform with AI drafts, live polls and quizzes.

- Shorthand also covers documents.

Shorthand and Prezi compared in full

Quick answers

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

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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 Shorthand free?

Shorthand has a free plan. Creating stories is free; a paid plan is needed to publish or export them.

What platforms does Shorthand work on?

Shorthand is available on Web.

Does Shorthand offer any discounts?

Shorthand publicly lists the following: Discounts for charities and NGOs.

Does Shorthand have an Android app?

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

Does Shorthand have an iPhone app?

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

Is Shorthand open source?

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

What does Shorthand integrate with?

Shorthand's listing names WordPress, Drupal, Sitecore, Contentful, Adobe Experience Manager, Google Analytics, Google Tag Manager and Unsplash.

Who makes Shorthand?

Shorthand is made by a company of the same name.

What are the alternatives to Shorthand?

The closest alternatives to Shorthand in our directory are Storydoc, Genially, Visme, Slides and Prezi.

How does Shorthand compare with other presentation tools?

Shorthand's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 37 of the 89 other presentation tools we grade, and level with 15.

Could I make my own version of Shorthand?

The plain part of Shorthand you could make: templates and documents. What surrounds it you could not.

Where this guide comes from

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

shorthand.com/pricing/
shorthand.com/features/integrations/
shorthand.com/

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

Shorthand, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/shorthand

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, "Shorthand: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/shorthand
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Know someone choosing between presentation tools?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded presentation tools after Shorthand, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Presentations Insider's Guide

Every one of the 90 presentation tools we grade, compared

Microsoft PowerPoint Insider's Guide

Slide presentation app sold with Microsoft 365, free in the browser

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Zoho Show Insider's Guide

Online presentation software, free for individuals

3.4 GPA

Canva Insider's Guide

Template-based design platform for slides, graphics and video

3.2 GPA

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Choosing software? Every tool graded, every price dated.

Compare tools at toolgpa.com ›

Everything in this guide is ToolGPA's own summary of what Shorthand'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. Shorthand is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Shorthand. Prices and plans change: check shorthand.com before you buy.