ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

SmarterMail

The Insider's Guide

Business mail server for Windows and Linux with webmail



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among email apps, read from SmarterMail's own pages.

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

2.2
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 SmarterMail's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on SmarterMail'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 29 of the 122 other email apps we grade

SmarterMail is a mail server from SmarterTools for Windows and Linux, with webmail, calendars, contacts, tasks and file storage. It comes in Free, Professional, Enterprise and High Availability editions, and licenses are priced by number of mailboxes.

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

> "
>
> **It is a server to install and administer, so a D.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

1 **Best for a mail server for Windows or Linux priced by mailbox**

The pages don't say if licences are one-time or yearly, and ActiveSync, MAPI/EWS and the antispam and antivirus engines cost extra.

2 **What it costs**

Paid plans start at $550 for Professional with 50 mailboxes; license term not stated.

3 **There is a free plan**

SmarterMail Free: one domain with up to 10 mailboxes, on Windows or Linux.

4 **It runs on 3 platforms**

Windows, Linux and Web.

5 **Webmail**

A browser interface the vendor compares to Outlook on the web, with calendars, contacts, notes and tasks.

6 **Shared collaboration**

Shared calendars, contacts, tasks and notes, plus file storage under your own control.

7 **Meetings and chat**

Enterprise adds online meetings with screen sharing, scheduling and voice and video chat.

8 **A 2.2 GPA, above 29 of 122**

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

9 **Keep it**

To replace SmarterMail you would be making an email client: sending, receiving, threading and searching years of mail. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

SmarterMail at a glance

PRICING Free plan, from $550 for Professional with 50 mailboxes; license term not stated	FREE PLAN Yes
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON Web, Windows, Linux
MADE BY SmarterTools	CATEGORY Email Apps
OUR GRADE 2.2 GPA, fair	

The report card

Best for a mail server for Windows or Linux priced by mailbox

SmarterMail has a free edition for one domain with 10 mailboxes, and paid editions priced by mailbox count. The pages don't say if licences are one-time or yearly, and ActiveSync, MAPI/EWS and the antispam and antivirus engines cost extra.

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

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	Professional is $550 for 50 mailboxes and Enterprise $700, with the billing term not shown. A price that unclear is a C, and the add-ons are extra.
Free plan and trial	B	SmarterMail Free covers one domain and up to 10 mailboxes on Windows or Linux. No trial is listed for paid editions.
Features	C	Webmail, shared calendars, contacts, tasks, files, and Enterprise adds meetings, chat and archiving. ActiveSync from $325 for 25 mailboxes, MAPI/EWS and antispam are extra.
Ease of use	D	No store rating on record. It is a server to install and administer, so a D.
Platforms and integrations	B	Windows, Linux and web, with Outlook, Active Directory and LDAP, plus mobile sync as a paid add-on.

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 SmarterMail is for

- ✓ Fits if you run up to 10 mailboxes on one domain and want a free server
- ✓ Works for small hosts who need webmail and shared calendars

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you need to know the licence term, as the pricing page doesn't say one-time or annual
- ✗ Pricey if you add ActiveSync, MAPI/EWS or the antispam and antivirus engines
- ✗ Tight if you need meetings, chat or archiving, which are Enterprise only
- ✗ Watch out: antispam and antivirus add-ons need an annual licence with active maintenance

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ SMBs and ISPs replacing Exchange with a cheaper server
- ✓ Small setups that fit the free 10-mailbox edition

Worth knowing

- ⓘ ActiveSync (from $325 for 25 mailboxes), MAPI/EWS and the antispam and antivirus engines are paid add-ons.
- ⓘ The pricing page does not say whether base licenses are one-time or annual.
- ⓘ Antispam and antivirus add-ons need an annual license with active maintenance and support.

PART 02 · PRICING

What it costs

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

$550

To start. There is a free plan too

SmarterMail has a free plan. Paid plans start at $550 for Professional with 50 mailboxes; license term not stated.

> **A price that unclear is a C, and the add-ons are extra.**

From our grade for value for money

FREE

$0

One domain, up to 10 mailboxes; the vendor says it has 99% of Enterprise functionality.

PROFESSIONAL

$550

for 50 mailboxes; billing term not shown

Webmail, shared calendars, contacts, tasks, notes, file storage. $2,500 for unlimited.

ENTERPRISE

$700

for 50 mailboxes; billing term not shown

Adds meetings, scheduling, chat and archiving. $1,500 at 500 mailboxes.

ENTERPRISE, UNLIMITED

$3,200

for unlimited mailboxes; billing term not shown

Enterprise edition with no mailbox cap.

HIGH AVAILABILITY

$250

per hub / month; nodes $300 per month

Clustered hubs and nodes for unlimited users and domains; first 30 days free.

The free plan

SmarterMail Free: one domain with up to 10 mailboxes, on Windows or Linux.

Read from smartertools.com on Nov 13, 2026.

What it does

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

3

Places it runs: Web, Windows and Linux

Business mail server for Windows and Linux with webmail. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: self-hostable, calendar, email client, file sharing.

> **Webmail, shared calendars, contacts, tasks, files, and Enterprise adds meetings, chat and archiving.**
>
> From our grade for features

Webmail

A browser interface the vendor compares to Outlook on the web, with calendars, contacts, notes and tasks.

Shared collaboration

Shared calendars, contacts, tasks and notes, plus file storage under your own control.

Meetings and chat

Enterprise adds online meetings with screen sharing, scheduling and voice and video chat.

Archiving

Built-in archiving of email and chats for regulatory needs such as SOX and HIPAA.

Outlook and mobile sync

Enterprise can add MAPI and EWS for Outlook and Exchange ActiveSync for phones, both priced separately.

High availability

A clustered edition with hubs, nodes and centralized storage for fault tolerance.

Where it runs

Web · Windows · Linux

What it works with

Microsoft Outlook · Active Directory · LDAP

SmarterMail is made by SmarterTools.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

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

29/122

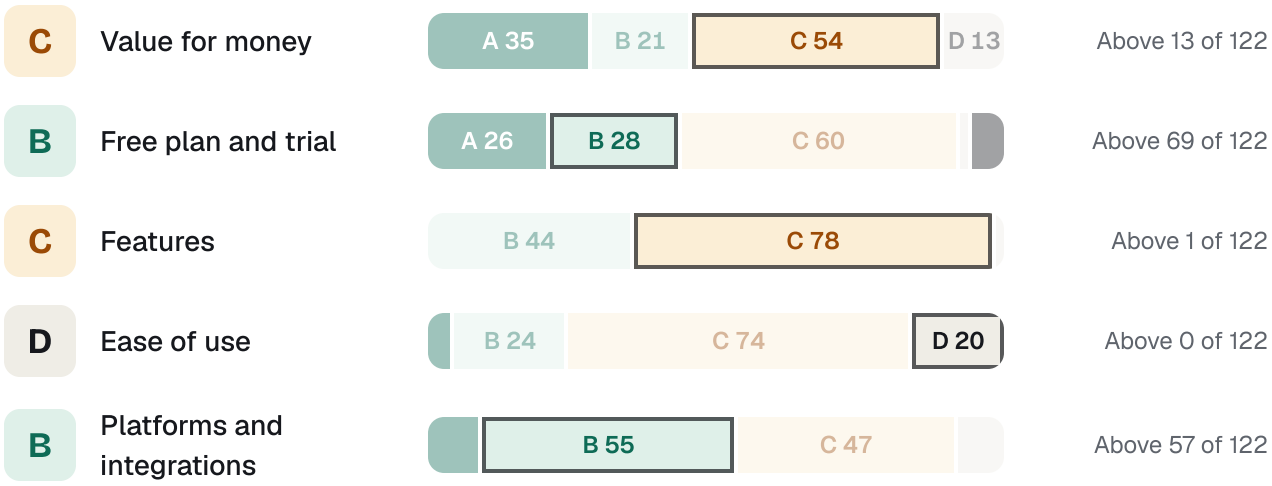
Other email apps it is graded above

SmarterMail's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 29 of the 122 other email apps we grade, and level with 24.

It stands best on free plan and trial (B, above 69 of 122) and worst on ease of use (D, above 0).

Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 123 email apps we grade, cut by the letter each got. SmarterMail'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

To replace SmarterMail you would be making an email client: sending, receiving, threading and searching years of mail. 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: 69 of the 122 other email apps grade higher.

What you could make

- Calendar: an app builder makes this well.

What you could not

- An email client: sending, receiving, threading and searching years of mail.
- Storing and serving files for other people.
- A real app for Windows and Linux. Something home-made would be a web page.
- What a company asks for before it lets staff use something: HIPAA.
- Sharing with other people, which means accounts and invitations.

What this rests on. SmarterMail'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



Axigen, MDaemon, IceWarp, Zimbra and GFI KerioConnect

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

Axigen

2.2 GPA

Free plan

Mail server with calendars and webmail for Windows and Linux.

- SmarterMail also covers file sharing.

SmarterMail and Axigen compared in full

MDaemon

2.0 GPA

Free trial

Email server for Windows with webmail and Outlook connector.

- SmarterMail has a free plan. MDaemon does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only SmarterMail lists a Linux app.
- Only MDaemon lists a macOS app.

SmarterMail and MDaemon compared in full



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IceWarp

Free trial · from $1.50/mo

Business email, chat, files and meetings, cloud or self-hosted.

- SmarterMail has a free plan. IceWarp does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only SmarterMail lists a Linux app.
- Only IceWarp lists macOS, iOS and Android apps.

SmarterMail and IceWarp compared in full



Zimbra

Paid

Self-hosted email, calendar and file sharing for organizations.

- SmarterMail has a free plan. Zimbra does not.
- Only Zimbra lists macOS, iOS and Android apps.
- Zimbra is open source, according to its own site.

SmarterMail and Zimbra compared in full



2.2 GPA

GFI KerioConnect

Free trial

Self-hosted business mail server with calendar, chat and local AI.

- SmarterMail has a free plan. GFI KerioConnect does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only SmarterMail lists a web app.
- Only GFI KerioConnect lists a macOS app.

SmarterMail and GFI KerioConnect 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 SmarterMail free?

SmarterMail has a free plan. SmarterMail Free: one domain with up to 10 mailboxes, on Windows or Linux.

How much does SmarterMail cost?

SmarterMail lists 5 plans. Free: $0.

What platforms does SmarterMail work on?

SmarterMail is available on Windows, Linux and Web.

Does SmarterMail have an Android app?

No Android app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. SmarterMail is listed for Windows, Linux and Web.

Does SmarterMail have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. SmarterMail is listed for Windows, Linux and Web.

Is SmarterMail open source?

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

Can SmarterMail be self-hosted?

Yes. SmarterMail's own site says it can be run on a server of your own.

What does SmarterMail integrate with?

SmarterMail's listing names Microsoft Outlook, Active Directory and LDAP.

Who makes SmarterMail?

SmarterMail is made by SmarterTools.

What are the alternatives to SmarterMail?

The closest alternatives to SmarterMail in our directory are Axigen, MDaemon, IceWarp, Zimbra and GFI KerioConnect.

How does SmarterMail compare with other email apps?

SmarterMail's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 29 of the 122 other email apps we grade, and level with 24.

Could I make my own version of SmarterMail?

To replace SmarterMail you would be making an email client: sending, receiving, threading and searching years of mail.

Where this guide comes from

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

smartertools.com/smartermail/pricing
smartertools.com/smartermail
smartertools.com/smartermail/edition-comparison

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

SmarterMail, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/smartermail

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, "SmarterMail: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/smartermail
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Know someone choosing between email apps?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded email apps after SmarterMail, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Email Apps Insider's Guide

Every one of the 126 email apps we grade, compared

Microsoft Outlook Insider's Guide

Microsoft's email and calendar app for desktop, mobile and web

3.6 GPA

AOL Mail Insider's Guide

Free webmail with news and weather in a companion mobile app

3.2 GPA

BlueMail Insider's Guide

Cross-platform email client with a unified inbox and built-in AI

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