ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Sol

The Insider's Guide

Open-source macOS launcher and command palette



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among window managers and launchers, read from Sol's own pages.

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

2.8

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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 Sol's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Sol'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 35 of the 48 other window managers and launchers we grade

Sol is a launcher for macOS that opens apps, searches files, and runs small utilities from one keyboard-driven window. Its source is published on GitHub under the MIT license. The project site lists window resizing, a clipboard history and a calculator among its built-in tools.

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

> **Window management is one feature of a launcher, not a dedicated tiling tool, and it runs on Mac only.**
>
> From our report card of Sol

1 **Best for a free keyboard launcher for Mac**

Sol is a free, open-source Mac launcher that opens apps, searches files and bundles a clipboard history, a calculator and window resizing.

2 **It is free**

Sol has no paid plan at all.

3 **It runs on macOS**

macOS.

4 **App and file search**

Finds apps, files and folders from a single launcher window opened with a keyboard shortcut.

5 **Window manager**

Resizes and moves windows with keyboard shortcuts, such as the Control-Option-Return example shown on the site.

6 **Clipboard manager**

Keeps a history of copied items that can be searched and pasted back through a shortcut.

7 **A 2.8 GPA, above 35 of 48**

That is against the other window managers and launchers we grade, on value, the free plan, features, ease of use and platforms.

8 **Keep it**

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

Sol at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN It is free
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON macOS
MADE BY ospfranco	CATEGORY Window Managers & Launchers
OUR GRADE 2.8 GPA, good	

The report card

Best for a free keyboard launcher for Mac

Sol is a free, open-source Mac launcher that opens apps, searches files and bundles a clipboard history, a calculator and window resizing. Window

management is one feature of a launcher, not a dedicated tiling tool, and it runs on Mac only.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	Sol	Graded Nov 13, 2026
SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	A	The whole app is free and open source under the MIT license.
Free plan and trial	A	Free outright, with no plan to buy and no cap.
Features	C	App and file search, window resizing, clipboard, calculator, emoji, calendar and notes. It is a launcher first, so its window management is a smaller part than in a dedicated manager.
Ease of use	B	No store rating is on record, but you install it and press a shortcut to start.
Platforms and integrations	D	macOS only. The site lists no Windows or Linux version.
Grade point average		Good, out of 4.0 **2.8**

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 Sol is for

- ✓ Fits if you want one free keyboard window for launching apps on a Mac
- ✓ Works for developers who like open source and extra commands

Who it is not for

- ✕ Not for you if you use Windows or Linux, as the site lists neither
- ✕ Too light for tiling and window snapping, where a dedicated manager does more
- ✕ Skip it if you want support, since the listing names no company behind it
- ✕ Watch out: the site gives few details on what each built-in tool does

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Mac users who want a free launcher with window snapping built in
- ✓ People who prefer software whose source they can read

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Runs on macOS only; the site lists no Windows or Linux version.
- ⓘ Window management is one feature of a launcher, not a dedicated tiling tool.

What it costs

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

Free

No paid plan at all

Sol is free to use.

> **The whole app is free and open source under the MIT license.**
>
> From our grade for value for money

FREE

$0

The whole app is free; the site calls it free and open source.

Read from sol.ospfranco.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: macOS

Open-source macOS launcher and command palette. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, keyboard-first, launcher, clipboard manager, window management, calculator.

> **App and file search, window resizing, clipboard, calculator, emoji, calendar and notes.**
>
> From our grade for features

App and file search

Finds apps, files and folders from a single launcher window opened with a keyboard shortcut.

Window manager

Resizes and moves windows with keyboard shortcuts, such as the Control-Option-Return example shown on the site.

Clipboard manager

Keeps a history of copied items that can be searched and pasted back through a shortcut.

Calculator and emoji picker

Does quick math in the launcher and offers an emoji picker the site presents as an alternative to the system one.

Calendar, bookmarks and notes

Shows calendar events, searches browser bookmarks and takes quick notes from the same window.

Developer commands

Includes commands such as cleaning Xcode derived data and launching scripts.

Where it runs

macOS

What it works with

Spotify Xcode

Sol is made by ospfranco.

Where it stands

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

35/48

Other window managers and launchers it is graded above

Sol's GPA of 2.8 is higher than 35 of the 48 other window managers and launchers we grade, and level with 11.

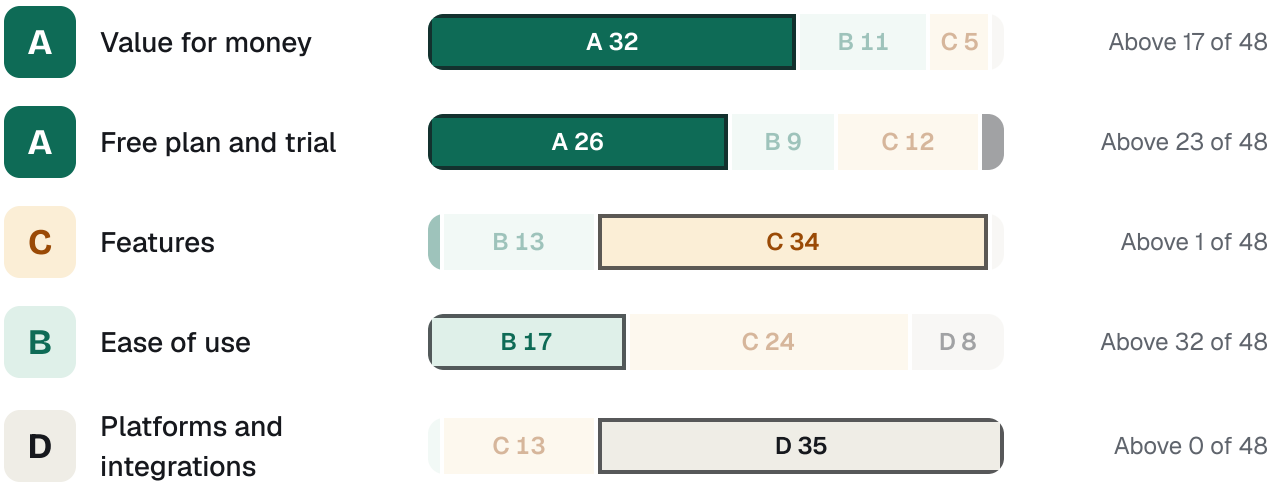
It stands best on free plan and trial (A, above 23 of 48) and worst on platforms and integrations (D, above 0).

Sol has no paid plan.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 2.0 out of 4. Nothing scores higher for less, though at least one tool matches that score at a lower price.

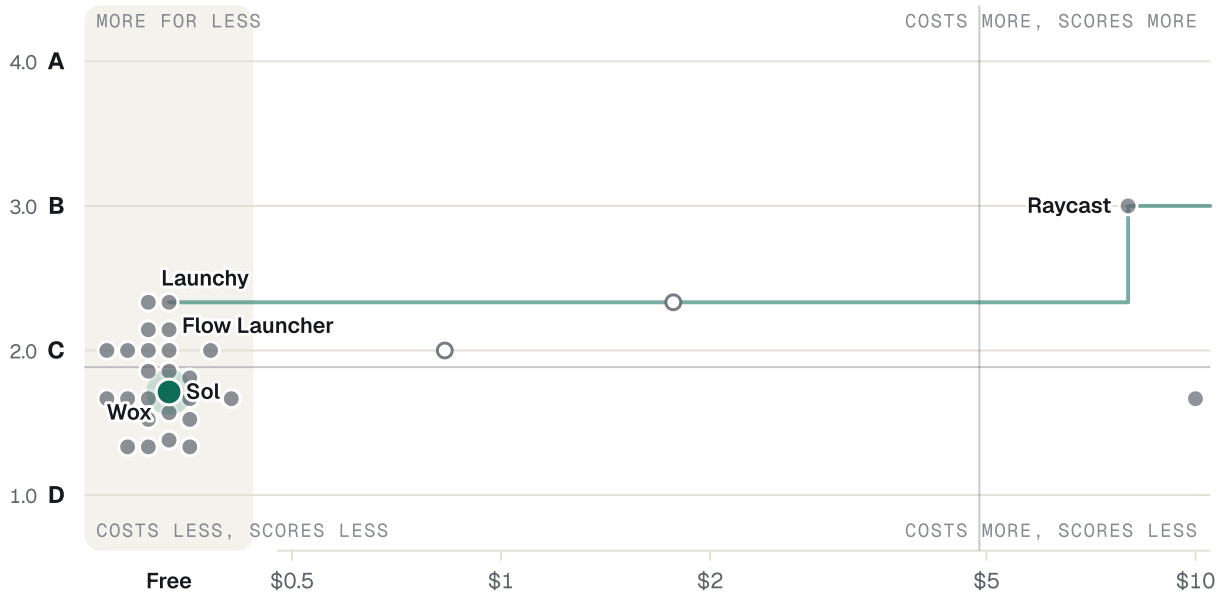
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 49 window managers and launchers we grade, cut by the letter each got. Sol's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 29 window managers and launchers. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Sol 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

Sol 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 2.8 is higher than 35 of the 48 other window managers and launchers we grade.

What you could make

- Calculator: an app builder makes this well.

What you could not

- A launcher wired into the operating system.
- Control over other apps' windows.

- A clipboard history running in the background of your computer.
- A real app for macOS. Something home-made would be a web page.

What this rests on. Sol'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



Hyperkey, Divvy, SizeUp, Contexts and Mosaic

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



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Hyperkey

Free

Free Mac utility that turns a key into the Hyper modifier.

- Sol is open source, according to its own site.
- Sol also covers launcher, clipboard manager, window management and calculator.
- Hyperkey also covers keyboard and mouse remapping.

Sol and Hyperkey compared in full



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Divvy

Free trial · from $13.99

Window resizing by dragging across a grid, for Mac and Windows.

- Sol has a free plan. Divvy does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only Divvy lists a Windows app.
- Sol is open source, according to its own site.

Sol and Divvy compared in full



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SizeUp

Free trial · from $12.99

Keyboard-driven window resizing for the Mac.

- Sol has a free plan. SizeUp does not, though it has a free trial.
- Sol is open source, according to its own site.
- Sol also covers launcher, clipboard manager and calculator.

Sol and SizeUp compared in full



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Contexts

Free trial · from $9.99

Mac window switcher with search, a sidebar and a better Command-Tab.

- Sol has a free plan. Contexts does not, though it has a free trial.
- Sol is open source, according to its own site.
- Sol also covers launcher, clipboard manager and calculator.

Sol and Contexts compared in full

M

2.2
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Mosaic

Free trial · from £14.99 one-time

Drag-and-drop window layouts for the Mac.

- Sol has a free plan. Mosaic does not, though it has a free trial.
- Sol is open source, according to its own site.
- Mosaic can be bought with a one-time purchase.

Sol and Mosaic compared in full

PART 06 · QUESTIONS

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 Sol free?

Yes. Sol is free to use.

How much does Sol cost?

Sol lists one plan. Free: $0.

What platforms does Sol work on?

Sol is available on macOS.

Does Sol have an Android app?

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

Does Sol have an iPhone app?

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

Is Sol open source?

Yes. Sol is open source, according to its own site.

What does Sol integrate with?

Sol's listing names Spotify and Xcode. A listing names up to eight integrations, so it may connect to more.

Who makes Sol?

Sol is made by ospfranco.

What are the alternatives to Sol?

The closest alternatives to Sol in our directory are Hyperkey, Divvy, SizeUp, Contexts and Mosaic.

How does Sol compare with other window managers and launchers?

Sol's GPA of 2.8 is higher than 35 of the 48 other window managers and launchers we grade, and level with 11.

Is Sol good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Sol A for value for money. Sol has no paid plan.

Could I make my own version of Sol?

Sol 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 Sol'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 ospfranco'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 ospfranco. Prices change, so check sol.ospfranco.com before you buy.

sol.ospfranco.com/

github.com/ospfranco/sol

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	95	739	579
tools graded	categories	price changes on record	apps priced in 12 countries

What else is on toolgpa.com

Sol, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/sol

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, "Sol: The Insider's Guide", checked
Nov 13, 2026. https://toolgpa.com/tools/sol
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Know someone choosing between window managers and launchers?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded window managers and launchers after Sol, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Window Managers & Launchers Insider's Guide

Every one of the 49 window managers and launchers we grade, compared

Flow Launcher Insider's Guide

Free, open-source app launcher and file search for Windows

3.0 GPA

Launchy Insider's Guide

Open-source keystroke launcher with plugins and skins

3.0 GPA

Cerebro Insider's Guide

Free open-source Electron launcher for Windows, Mac and Linux

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