ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

TeXShop

The Insider's Guide

Free Mac editor and previewer for TeX and LaTeX documents



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among writing tools, read from TeXShop's own pages.

Made by Richard Koch · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

2.6
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 TeXShop's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on TeXShop'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

2.6

GPA, above 76 of the 136 other writing tools we grade

TeXShop is a free Mac application for typesetting TeX and LaTeX documents. It was first released in July 2000 and is distributed under the GPL. The current version, 5.57, runs on both Intel and Apple silicon Macs.

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

1 **Best for a free LaTeX editor on a Mac**

TeXShop is a free LaTeX editor for macOS.

2 **It is free**

TeXShop has no paid plan at all.

3 **It runs on macOS**

macOS.

4 **TeX and LaTeX editing**

A Mac editor for TeX documents that works with the TeX Live distribution maintained by TUG and MacTeX.

5 **Recent macOS support**

Version 5.57, released 10/03/2025, runs on Intel and Arm Macs from High Sierra through Tahoe.

6 **Older versions**

Versions 4.79 and 4.44 are kept for older macOS releases, and 2.47 for 10.4 to 10.6.

7 **A 2.6 GPA, above 76 of 136**

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

8 **Keep it**

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

TeXShop at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN It is free
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON macOS
MADE BY Richard Koch, since 2000	CATEGORY Writing Tools
OUR GRADE 2.6 GPA, good	

The report card

Best for a free LaTeX editor on a Mac

TeXShop is a free LaTeX editor for macOS. It does not include TeX itself, so you install a TeX distribution next to it, it has no real-time collaboration, and it runs on nothing but a Mac.

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

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	A	Free to download and run, against a category median of $9.75 a month.
Free plan and trial	A	Free outright: no paid tier, limit or trial.

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Features	C	Does TeX and LaTeX editing fully, with documentation and extras. A smaller job than a full writing tool, and it needs a TeX distribution installed separately.
Ease of use	C	No store rating on record. You install TeX first and learn LaTeX.
Platforms and integrations	D	macOS only, for Intel and Arm from High Sierra through Tahoe. No other system, web or phone version.
Grade point average		Good, out of 4.0 **2.6**

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 TeXShop is for

- ✓ Fits if you write LaTeX papers on a Mac
- ✓ Works for people who already have TeX Live installed

Who it is not for

- ✕ Skip it if you use Windows or Linux: it runs on macOS only
- ✕ Not for you if you want the TeX tools included, because a distribution such as TeX Live is a separate install
- ✕ Too light for co-authors: no real-time collaboration
- ✕ Watch out: older macOS versions need an older TeXShop release

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Mac users who typeset papers or theses with a local TeX install
- ✓ Anyone who wants a free, GPL-licensed editor

Worth knowing

- ⓘ It runs on macOS only.
- ⓘ It needs a TeX distribution such as TeX Live installed separately.
- ⓘ There is no built-in real-time collaboration.

What it costs

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

Free

No paid plan at all

TeXShop is free to use.

> **Free outright: no paid tier, limit or trial.**
>
> From our grade for free plan and trial

TEXSHOP

$0

Free under the GPLv2 license.

Read from pages.uoregon.edu 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

Free Mac editor and previewer for TeX and LaTeX documents. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, works offline, documents.

> **Does TeX and LaTeX editing fully, with documentation and extras.**

From our grade for features

TeX and LaTeX editing

A Mac editor for TeX documents that works with the TeX Live distribution maintained by TUG and MacTeX.

Recent macOS support

Version 5.57, released 10/03/2025, runs on Intel and Arm Macs from High Sierra through Tahoe.

Older versions

Versions 4.79 and 4.44 are kept for older macOS releases, and 2.47 for 10.4 to 10.6.

Documentation and extras

The site carries documentation, translations, history and an extras section.

Where it runs

macOS

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

TeXShop is made by Richard Koch, and has been around since 2000.

Where it stands

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

76/136

Other writing tools it is graded above

TeXShop's GPA of 2.6 is higher than 76 of the 136 other writing tools we grade, and level with 18.

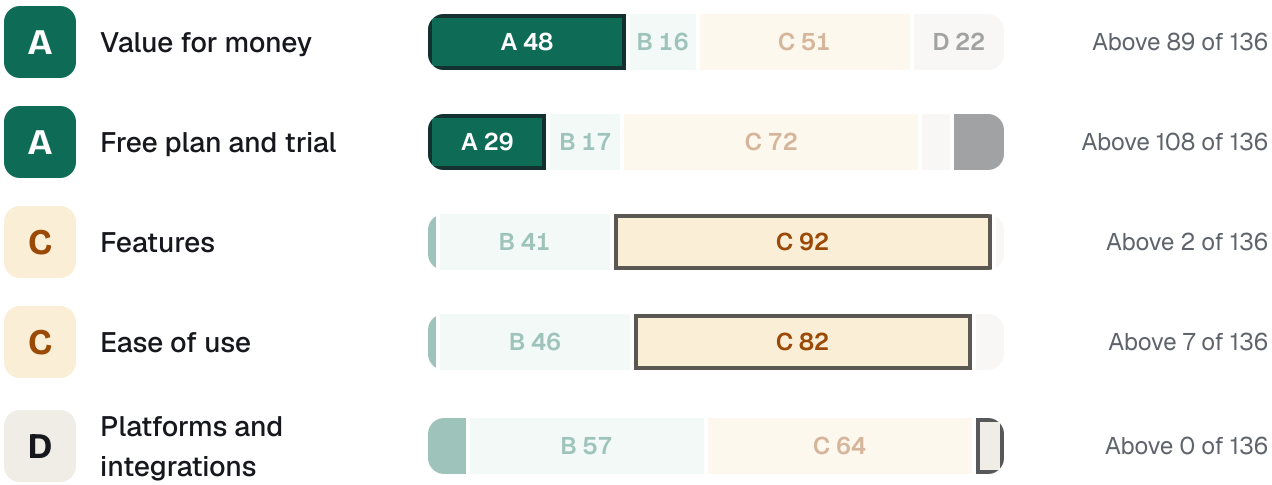
It stands best on free plan and trial (A, above 108 of 136) and worst on platforms and integrations (D, above 0).

TeXShop has no paid plan.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 1.7 out of 4. Nothing scores higher for less, though at least one tool matches that score at a lower price.

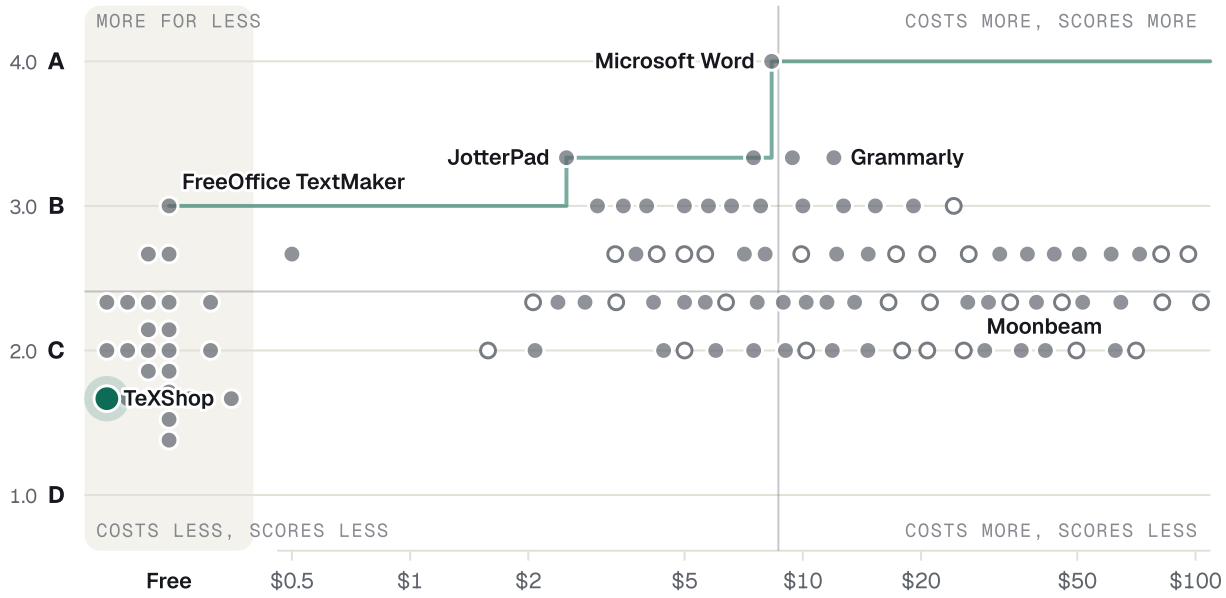
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 137 writing tools we grade, cut by the letter each got. TeXShop's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 107 writing tools. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. TeXShop 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

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

What you could make

- Documents: an app builder makes this well.

What you could not

- A real app for macOS. Something home-made would be a web page.

What this rests on. TeXShop'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



TeXworks, Kile, Overleaf and Typst

The 4 tools TeXShop is most often weighed against, with where each one differs from it.

TeXworks

2.8 GPA

Free

Simple cross-platform front end for writing TeX and LaTeX.

- Only TeXworks lists Windows and Linux apps.

TeXShop and TeXworks compared in full

Kile

2.6 GPA

Free

KDE's LaTeX editor with one-click compile and preview.

- Only TeXShop lists a macOS app.
- Only Kile lists Linux and Windows apps.
- Kile also covers templates.

TeXShop and Kile compared in full



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Overleaf

Free plan · from $16.75/mo

Collaborative online LaTeX editor for papers and theses.

- Only TeXShop lists a macOS app.
- Only Overleaf lists a web app.
- TeXShop is open source, according to its own site.

TeXShop and Overleaf compared in full



3.2
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Typst

Free plan · from $7.99/mo

Markup-based typesetting system with a collaborative web app.

- Only Typst lists a web app.
- Only Typst lists Windows and Linux apps.
- Typst is self-hostable, according to its own site.

TeXShop and Typst 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 TeXShop free?

Yes. TeXShop is free to use.

How much does TeXShop cost?

TeXShop lists one plan. TeXShop: $0.

What platforms does TeXShop work on?

TeXShop is available on macOS.

Does TeXShop have an Android app?

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

Does TeXShop have an iPhone app?

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

Is TeXShop open source?

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

Does TeXShop work offline?

Yes, according to its own site. What works without a connection differs by plan and platform, so check the vendor's page for the detail.

Who makes TeXShop?

TeXShop is made by Richard Koch. It dates from 2000.

What are the alternatives to TeXShop?

The closest alternatives to TeXShop in our directory are TeXworks, Kile, Overleaf and Typst.

How does TeXShop compare with other writing tools?

TeXShop's GPA of 2.6 is higher than 76 of the 136 other writing tools we grade, and level with 18.

Is TeXShop good value for money?

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

Could I make my own version of TeXShop?

TeXShop is free, so making your own would save you nothing. What you could not make: A real app for macOS.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from TeXShop'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 TeXShop'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 Richard Koch. Prices change, so check pages.uoregon.edu before you buy.

pages.uoregon.edu/koch/texshop/

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

TeXShop, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/texshop

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, "TeXShop: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/texshop
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Know someone choosing between writing tools?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

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

Writing Tools Insider's Guide

Every one of the 137 writing tools we grade, compared

FreeOffice TextMaker Insider's Guide

Free word processor that opens and saves Microsoft Word files

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Microsoft Word Insider's Guide

Word processor sold with Microsoft 365, free in the browser

3.4 GPA

Apache OpenOffice Insider's Guide

Free open-source office suite with the Writer word processor

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 TeXShop'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. TeXShop is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Richard Koch. Prices and plans change: check pages.uoregon.edu before you buy.