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ADVISOR BUSINESS BEST FREE PROJECT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

20 Best Free Project Management Software Of 2025

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Contributor

[& 2 others](#) 

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- 31 providers considered
- Narrowed down to the top 20 best free project management software
- Six weighted categories applied
- 52 metrics considered for each provider

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The Best Free Project Management Software Of 2025

BEST API ACCESS

Notion



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Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Yes

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR MILESTONES

Teamwork.com



Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes, though limited
Collaboration Tools	Yes

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR UNLIMITED FREE PLAN MEMBERS

ClickUp



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On ClickUp's Website

Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Yes

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR WORKFLOW AUTOMATION

Smartsheet



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Mobile App	Yes
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Collaboration Tools

Comments, conversations, Office 365, Slack and Google Workspace integrations

Editor's Take

Pros & Cons

BEST FOR DEV TEAMS

Jira



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On Jira's Website

Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Via integrations

Editor's Take

Pros & Cons

BEST FOR TRACKING DATA

Airtable



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Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Yes

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR PERSONAL PRODUCTIVITY

Todoist



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Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Yes

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR BRAINSTORMING

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Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Yes

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Trello



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Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Yes

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[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR VISUALIZING PROJECT TIMELINES

TeamGantt



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Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Yes

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR CUSTOM WORK VIEWS

Wrike



Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Collaborator access, comments

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR UNLIMITED FEATURES

Asana



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Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Messages, comments

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR IN-DEPTH REPORTING

Zoho Projects



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Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR JIRA USERS

Confluence



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On Confluence's Website

Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Real-time page editing, comments

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR FREE TIME TRACKING

MeisterTask



Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Notes, projects, comments, @mentions

[Editor's Take](#)

BEST FOR AI FEATURES

Height



Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Real-time chat, @mentions, lists, free guest access

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR PROJECT SCHEDULING

Hive



Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Comments, @mentions, group messaging, direct messaging

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR MIND MAPPING

Miro



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Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Editable boards, voice and video recording, interactive presentations
Editor's Take	
Pros & Cons	

BEST FOR SIMPLE TASK MANAGEMENT

Nifty



Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Real-time chat, project discussions, collaborative documents

[Editor's Take](#)

[Pros & Cons](#)

BEST FOR MICROSOFT 365 USERS

Microsoft Planner



Microsoft Planner

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Mobile App	Yes
Software Integrations	Yes
Collaboration Tools	Chat, documents and comments via Microsoft 365

[Pros & Cons](#)**Forbes Advisor Ratings**

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 teamwork.com Teamwork.com	Yes	Yes ,though limited	Yes	Learn More Read Forbes' Review
 ClickUp ClickUp	Yes	Yes	Yes	Learn More On ClickUp's Website
 smartsheet Smartsheet	Yes	Yes	Comments, conversations, Office 365, Slack and Google Workspace integrations	Learn More Read Forbes' Review
 Jira Jira	Yes	Yes	Via integrations	Learn More On Jira's Website
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How To Choose the Best Free Project Management Software

There are a few things to consider when choosing free project management software. The first is to decide which features are most important for your business. Another thing to consider is ease of use. Some project management software can be complex, so it's important to choose a product that is simple to use. Additionally, consider the integrations available and the compatibility with your devices.

Essential Features

Most free project management software offer the following features:

Task management: Manage multiple projects and team members efficiently with the ability to create, assign and track tasks.

Collaboration tools: Real-time communication and collaboration between team members, regardless of location, are facilitated with tools such as messaging and commenting.

Project timelines: To keep projects on schedule and track progress, visually represent project milestones and deadlines with [project timelines](#).

Calendars: Scheduling and monitoring appointments, meetings and other significant events are made more manageable for team members with calendar tools.

Reporting: Create insightful reports on project progress, resource utilization and other key metrics with reporting features that allow for analysis of project data.

File sharing: Simplify the process of working on project deliverables with the ability to share and collaborate on project-related documents and files.

Mobile access: Stay connected and work on projects while on the move with mobile access via smartphones or tablets.

Customization: Customization options allow tailoring of the software to specific project management needs, such as customizing fields, workflows and notifications.

Integrations: Streamline workflows and increase productivity with integrations with other productivity tools such as email, messaging, and document management tools.

Security: Ensure data security and privacy with access control, authentication protocols and data encryption.

Ease of Use

Look for project management software that's convenient for the whole team. Your software should help them keep everything in order, communicate properly and not miss project deadlines. Consider these features to simplify your projects:

Easy task creation and assignment: A simple and streamlined process for creating and assigning tasks can save time and reduce confusion.

Automated alerts and reminders: Automated notifications can help keep everyone informed and on track with project deadlines.

Real-time collaboration: Make sure the software supports real-time collaboration so team members can work together in one place, making it easier to coordinate a project's progress.

Drag-and-drop functionality: Look for software that offers drag-and-drop functionality to help quickly organize tasks and projects.

Time tracking: Time tracking features can help team members monitor their own productivity and ensure they are meeting project deadlines.

Search functionality: A robust search function makes it easy to find specific tasks, files or team members quickly.

Customizable dashboard: A customizable dashboard can help team members access the features and information they need most frequently.

Integrations and Device Compatibility

Integrations and device compatibility are essential factors to consider when choosing project management software. Some key questions to ask include:

Integrations: Does the software integrate with other applications that you use in your work? For example, can it integrate with email, messaging or document management tools? Some common integrations that project managers might be interested in include Google Drive, Microsoft 365, Trello, Slack and Asana.

Desktop and mobile versions: Is the software compatible with both desktop and mobile devices? This way you can access the software in-office and on the go.

Device compatibility: Is the software compatible with the devices and operating systems used by your team members?

Free vs. Paid Project Management Software

Free solutions often provide basic features such as task management, file sharing and [free project plan templates](#), but may lack more advanced capabilities such as customizable reporting or integrations with other tools. In contrast, paid solutions typically offer more advanced features, dedicated support and better security, making them more suitable for larger teams or more complex projects.

Free solutions work great for small teams or simple projects with limited scope, while paid solutions are better for larger teams or projects that need more advanced features. Paid solutions offer greater predictability and reliability due to their more robust support and security features.

If a company has outgrown the capabilities of its free solution or needs more advanced features or integrations, upgrading to a paid solution may be necessary.

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Free version available		Free version available		Free version available		Free Version Available	
Yes		Yes, for unlimited members		Yes		Yes	
Starting price		Starting price		Starting price		Starting Price	
From \$8 monthly per user		\$7 per month		\$10 per user per month		\$12 per user per month	
Integrations		Integrations		Integrations		Integrations	
Zoom, LinkedIn, Adobe, Salesforce and more		Slack, Microsoft Outlook, HubSpot, Salesforce, Timely, Google Drive and more		Salesforce, Adobe, Miro, Netsuite, QuickBooks, SAP		Zapier, Slack, Microsoft, Google, and more	

Benefits of Project Management Software

Project management software can help businesses improve all aspects of the project life cycle. From [creating a project management plan](#) and organizing and scheduling tasks to tracking progress, project management software can provide teams with the tools they need to successfully manage projects and increase efficiency. Advanced features needed for [effective project management](#) include budgeting, resource allocation, task integration, reporting and analysis, which allow even complex projects to be managed more easily.

- Improved organization:** Project management software provides a centralized location for organizing tasks, deadlines, files and communication related to a project.
- Enhanced collaboration:** Collaboration tools within project management software facilitate communication and collaboration among team members, allowing for improved teamwork and project outcomes.
- Increased productivity:** Project management software can help streamline workflows and automate repetitive tasks, freeing up team members to focus on higher-value work.
- Better time management:** Calendars, timelines and task management features within project management software help team members stay on top of deadlines and prioritize tasks effectively.
- Improved project transparency:** Project management software provides a transparent view of project progress, allowing stakeholders to stay informed and make better decisions.
- Improved communication:** Communication tools within project management software help ensure that everyone on the team is on the same page, reducing miscommunication and errors.
- Real-time project tracking:** With project management software, team members can monitor progress in real time and identify potential issues before they become major problems.
- Enhanced reporting:** Project management software provides the ability to create reports that offer valuable insights into project progress, resource utilization and other key metrics to help you stick to your [project cost management plan](#).
- Remote work capabilities:** Project management software can be accessed remotely, allowing team members to work from anywhere, increasing flexibility and productivity.

Methodology

When evaluating the best free project management software available, we considered a variety of factors such as pricing, general features, additional features, reviews and recognition, and expert opinion.

Pricing: Pricing is usually an essential factor when selecting project management software, but in this case we're comparing free plans, so we gave this category a weight of 10%. We didn't include software that doesn't offer a free plan, but we did look at the starting price and the most expensive plans to ensure you're getting an affordable option if you decide to upgrade from free.

General Features: We assigned a weight of 20% to this category, which includes important project management features such as role assignment, timelines, Gantt charts, software integrations, dependencies and mobile app support.

Free Features: One of the most important considerations is which features are actually available on the free plans. So we assigned a weight of 30% to this category with more than 20 sub-factors. We looked at unlimited versus limited features, availability of automation, guest access and in-app chat messaging, to name a few.

Reviews and Recognition: Reviews and recognition are valuable indicators of a product's quality and customer satisfaction. We assigned a weight of 10% to this category, considering the ratings on platforms such as Capterra and Trustpilot.

Expert Score: Finally, we evaluated the expert score, which includes features, value for money, popularity and ease of use. We gave this category a weight of 30% to ensure we were taking into account both user and expert opinions on each product.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- + **Do I need project management software?**
 - + **Is free project management software really free?**
 - + **What is the best project management software for small businesses?**
 - + **What is the best free project management software for Mac?**
 - + **What is the best self-hosted free project management software?**
-

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Former Product Review Editor

Amy Nichol Smith spent more than 20 years working as a journalist for TV and newspapers before transitioning to software and hardware product reviews for consumers and small businesses. She has been featured in publications such as L.A. Times, Tom's Guide, Investopedia and various newspapers across the U.S.



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