

[Subscribe](#)

[Advertiser Disclosure](#)

We independently select all products and services. If you click through links we provide, we may earn a commission. [Learn More.](#)

ADVISOR BUSINESS BEST PROJECT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Best Project Management Software Of 2025

Updated: Nov 27, 2024, 11:02am



Written By Amy Nichol Smith
Former Product Review Editor

[& 2 others](#) ✓

Editorial Note: We earn a commission from partner links on Forbes Advisor. Commissions do not affect our editors' opinions or evaluations.

[Read more](#) ▼

Table of Contents

Featured Partners

Advertisement ⓘ

1 monday.com  Learn More On monday.com's Website Free version available Yes Starting price From \$8 monthly per user Integrations Zoom, LinkedIn, Adobe, Salesforce and more	2 ClickUp  Learn More On ClickUp's Website Free version available Yes, for unlimited members Starting price \$7 per month Integrations Slack, Microsoft Outlook, HubSpot, Salesforce, Timely, Google	3 Wrike  Learn More On Wrike's Website Free version available Yes Starting price \$10 per user per month Integrations Salesforce, Adobe, Miro, Netsuite, QuickBooks, SAP	4 Motion  Learn More On Motion's Website Free Version Available Yes Starting Price \$12 per user per month Integrations Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Slack, Google Calendar, Asana, Jira, Trello, Monday.com, Wrike, ClickUp, and more
---	---	---	---

F Why You Can Trust Forbes Advisor Small Business

- 22 providers evaluated
- 34 metrics applied to each provider
- 7 weighted categories for scoring
- 680 data points collected
- 130-plus hours testing software

The Forbes Advisor Small Business team is committed to bringing you unbiased rankings and information with full editorial independence. We use product data, hands-on testing, strategic methodologies and expert insights to inform all of our content to guide you in making the best decisions for your business journey.

Learn More: [How We Test Project Management Software](#)

What Is Project Management Software?

Project management software is a digital platform/tool that businesses or individuals use to plan projects, allocate and track project resources, [schedule project timelines](#) and tasks, assign tasks, track progress, capture and implement knowledge and ideas. It further helps companies stay organized via document storage, search and organizational features.

Additionally, many pieces of project management software include real-time collaboration tools, such as live chat, whiteboards, document creators, mind maps and proofing systems, that allow distributed teams to work together seamlessly. Artificial intelligence is also making its way into the field and can help project managers summarize projects for stakeholders, create tasks and automations, and even write project scopes.

Best Project Management Software

BEST FOR AGILE DEVELOPMENT TEAMS

ClickUp



4.9Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

On ClickUp's Website

Starting price	\$10 per member per month (billed monthly)
Integrations	Slack, Microsoft Outlook, HubSpot, Salesforce, Timely, Google Drive and more
Collaboration tools	Comments, @mentions, real-time edits

ClickUp is best for teams that use Agile frameworks. While it includes all the features you would expect from a great project management app, it goes further with templates and features that allow for an Agile software development process. Plans with these features start at free for startup teams and increase to \$10 per member per month (if billed monthly) for multiple teams.

Brett Day, our Forbes Advisor project management expert, says: “If you need a do-it-all project management platform that can not only help you track tasks and manage resources, but that can also help you collaborate with distributed teams on documents, brainstorming sessions and creating mind maps, ClickUp is hard to beat.”

General Features

ClickUp's feature offering is robust. It offers collaboration tools (such as real-time editing, mentions, calendar sync, and role creation and permissions), preset and custom automation recipes, reporting dashboards, project-tracking tools (such as checklists, timelines, [Gantt charts](#), Kanban boards and dependencies) and over 1,000 integrations. Use templates or customize dashboards so your team works on its own terms.

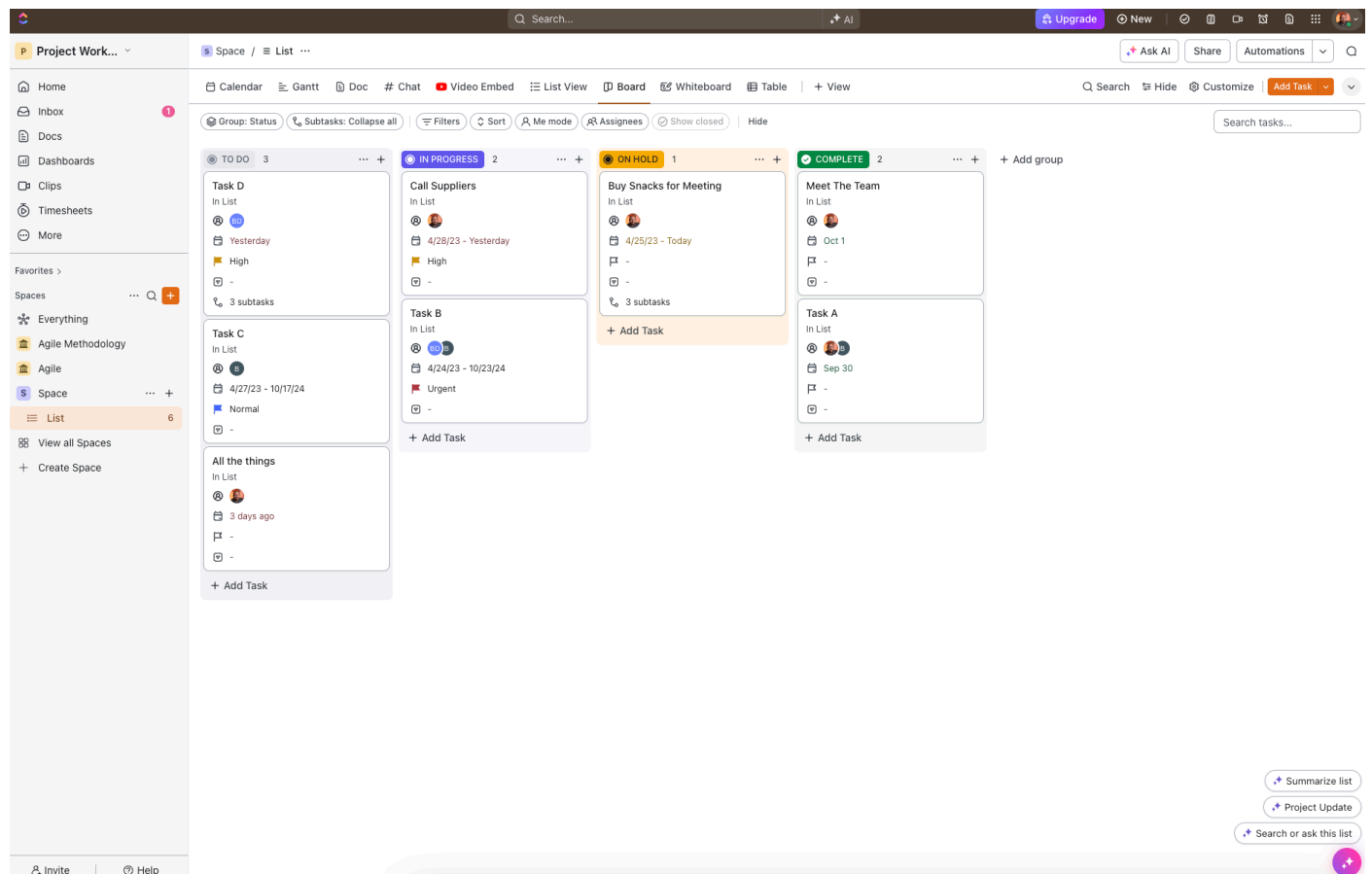
It also offers advanced task management, making it one of the [best task management software](#) options on the market. In my opinion, because of its advanced features. When testing ClickUp, I appreciated the clean layout of the dashboard. It was easy for me to find tasks I needed to complete, comments I'd been tagged in and which to-dos were most important to other people (in the Trending section).

The screenshot displays the ClickUp web interface for a project workspace. The top navigation bar includes a search bar, an 'Upgrade' button, and icons for 'New', 'Share', 'Automations', and a user profile. The left sidebar shows a navigation menu with options like Home, Inbox, Docs, Dashboards, Clips, Timesheets, and Favorites. The main content area is titled 'Project Work...' and shows a 'List View' of tasks. The tasks are organized into four sections: 'TO DO' (3 tasks), 'IN PROGRESS' (2 tasks), 'ON HOLD' (1 task), and 'COMPLETE' (2 tasks). Each task row includes columns for Name, Assignee, Due date, Priority, FUN, Comments, and Actions. The 'TO DO' section includes tasks like 'Task D', 'Task C', and 'All the things'. The 'IN PROGRESS' section includes 'Call Suppliers' and 'Task B'. The 'ON HOLD' section includes 'Buy Snacks for Meeting'. The 'COMPLETE' section includes 'Meet The Team' and 'Task A'. At the bottom right, there are buttons for 'Summarize list', 'Project Update', and 'Search or ask this list'.

Category	Name	Assignee	Due date	Priority	FUN	Comments	Actions
TO DO	Task D	BU	Yesterday	High	-	Q	...
	Task C	B	Oct 17	Normal	-	Q	...
	All the things		3 days ago		-	Q	...
IN PROGRESS	Call Suppliers		Yesterday	High	-	Q	...
	Task B	BU	Oct 23	Urgent	-	Q	...
ON HOLD	Buy Snacks for Meeting		Today		-	Q	...
COMPLETE	Meet The Team		Oct 1		-	Q	...
	Task A		Sep 30		-	Q	...

Additional Features

playing in an open field because there are still boundaries in ClickUp). I also really liked ClickUp's reporting section because it caters to almost everyone: It includes charts, graphs and numbers.



Cost

As an individual user, the free plan from ClickUp was serviceable for my needs. With that said, \$10 per user per month for the Unlimited plan might be worth it for the unlimited integrations and custom fields. The \$19 per user per month Business plan seems better for a more established and bigger team that needs timesheets and workload management.

Customer Service

If you're like me and you work at odd hours of the day or night (sometimes the wee hours are the most creative), 24/7 support is handy. However, ClickUp's promise of 24/7 support is a little misleading in my opinion. You have 24/7 access to the ClickUp help center, but not to support agents. Plus, live chat support (there is no phone support) is only available to paid plan users. The chatbot is helpful but it isn't perfect; still it can redirect you to helpful knowledge base articles and offer suggestions in the chat application.

I also tested how quickly ClickUp responds to email requests. At present, ClickUp only provides email support for billing and technical support. I asked the chatbot a question it deemed to be worthy of email support and I completed the help request. It took a representative roughly nine hours to get back to me. Help through live chat was rapid. The help received was high-quality and the representative was friendly.

Mobile App

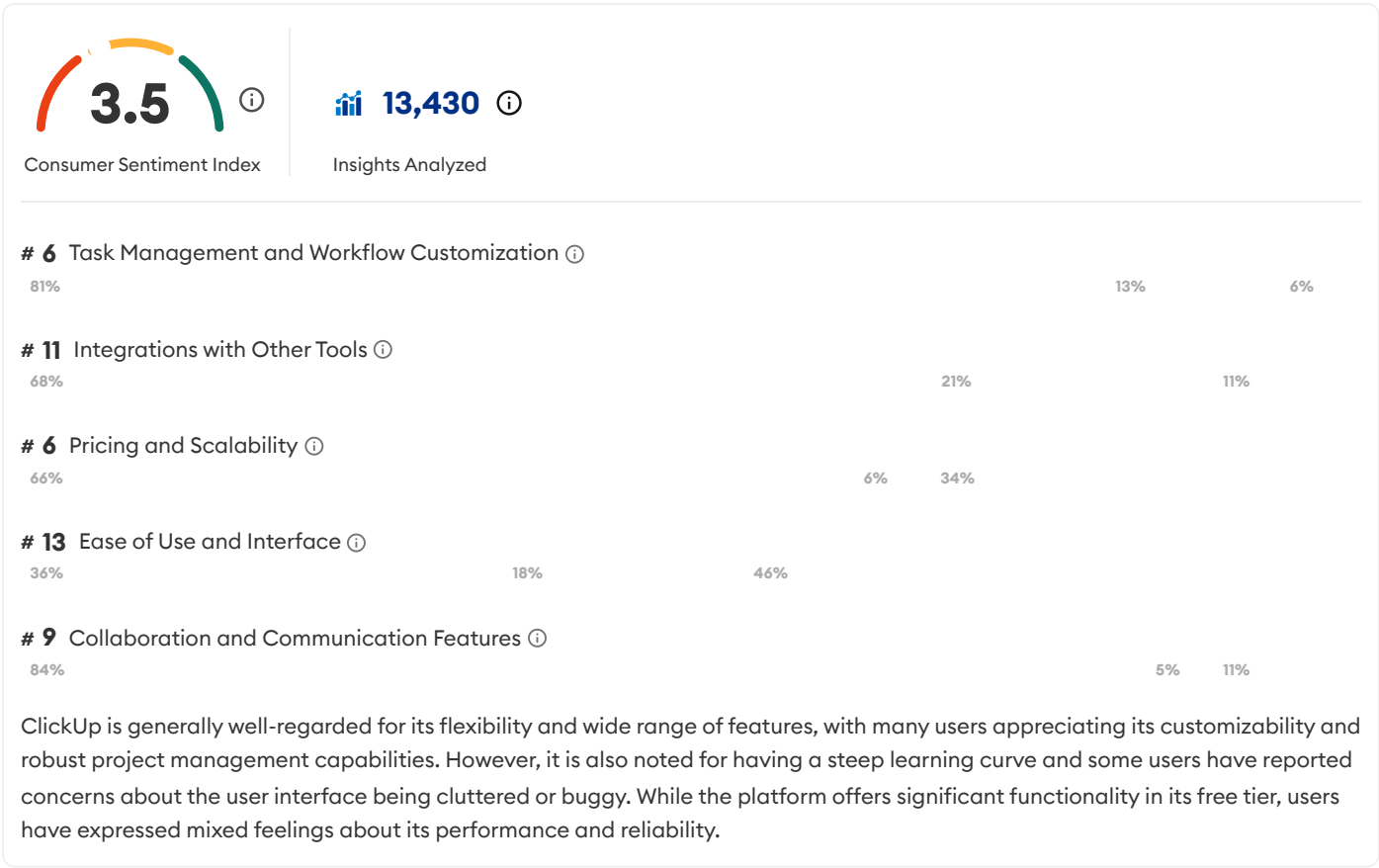
on the browser or desktop app are mirrored on the mobile app, but I doubt I’d want to use a whiteboard feature or Gantt chart from my phone.

Who should use it:

With robust features, ClickUp is great for any team looking for advanced project management capabilities. But, it is best for companies with Scrum Agile product development, marketing or sales teams.

Learn more: Read our [ClickUp review](#).

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Free forever plan for individuals
- Over 1,000 integrations
- Advanced task management
- Top tiers can get pricey for small businesses
- Time tracking can be glitchy
- Can be overwhelming for new users

monday.com



4.9

Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

On monday.com's Website

Starting price	\$12 per seat per month, billed monthly (minimum of three seats)
Integrations	Zoom, Google Docs, Salesforce, Slack and more
Collaboration tools	Document collaboration and comments

Expert Take

Regardless of budget limitation, monday.com offers something for everyone. Even if you are working on a team of two with no budget, monday.com can help you get your project done on time and with limited risk. If you are a small two-person team, you can enjoy monday.com for free. If you’re part of a growing team, use advanced project-tracking features, automations and integrations for as little as \$12 per team member per month, if billed monthly (minimum of three seats per plan).

General Features

Along with most project management software today, monday.com offers multiple project views, so it’s keeping up with its competitors. In my experience with monday.com, I found I preferred its table view for managing single projects. The color coding of statuses, customization of columns and inclusion of headshots or initials helped me know where each task stood and who was responsible—at a glance. In fact, the Kanban view was too cluttered for my taste because monday.com tries to give you all the fields in one card.

Subscribe

☆ Favorites

Main workspace

Search

Construction - 14 Evergreen...

Construction - 14 Evergreen...

New project

Search

Person

Filter

Sort

Hide

Group by

Phase 1

Project	Person	Status	Progress	Date	Phone	Last Updated	Numbers	
Meet With The Foreman		Working on it	0%	Oct 8	(555) 555-5555	3 hours ago	\$500	
Complete Survey		Done	100%	Oct 2		3 hours ago	\$250	
Set Foundation Boards		Stuck	0%	Oct 5		3 hours ago	\$750	
Pour Concrete		Being Edited	0%	Oct 13		3 hours ago	\$7,855	
Plumbing		Working on it	0%	Oct 11		3 hours ago	\$2,650	
							\$12,005	

20%

Phase 2

Project	Person	Status	Progress	Date	Phone	Last Updated	Numbers	
Start the framing		Being Edited	0%	Oct 16		Just now	\$7,000	
Place roof trusses		Being Edited	0%	Oct 19		Just now	\$1,800	
Hang OSB		Being Edited	0%	Oct 23		Just now	\$3,900	
Order Windows and Doors		Being Edited	0%	Oct 24		Just now	\$6,500	
Place weather proofing		Being Edited	0%	Oct 25		Just now	\$1,200	
							\$20,400	

Phase 3

Project	Person	Status	Progress	Date	Phone	Last Updated	Numbers	
							\$0	

New Group

No Projects

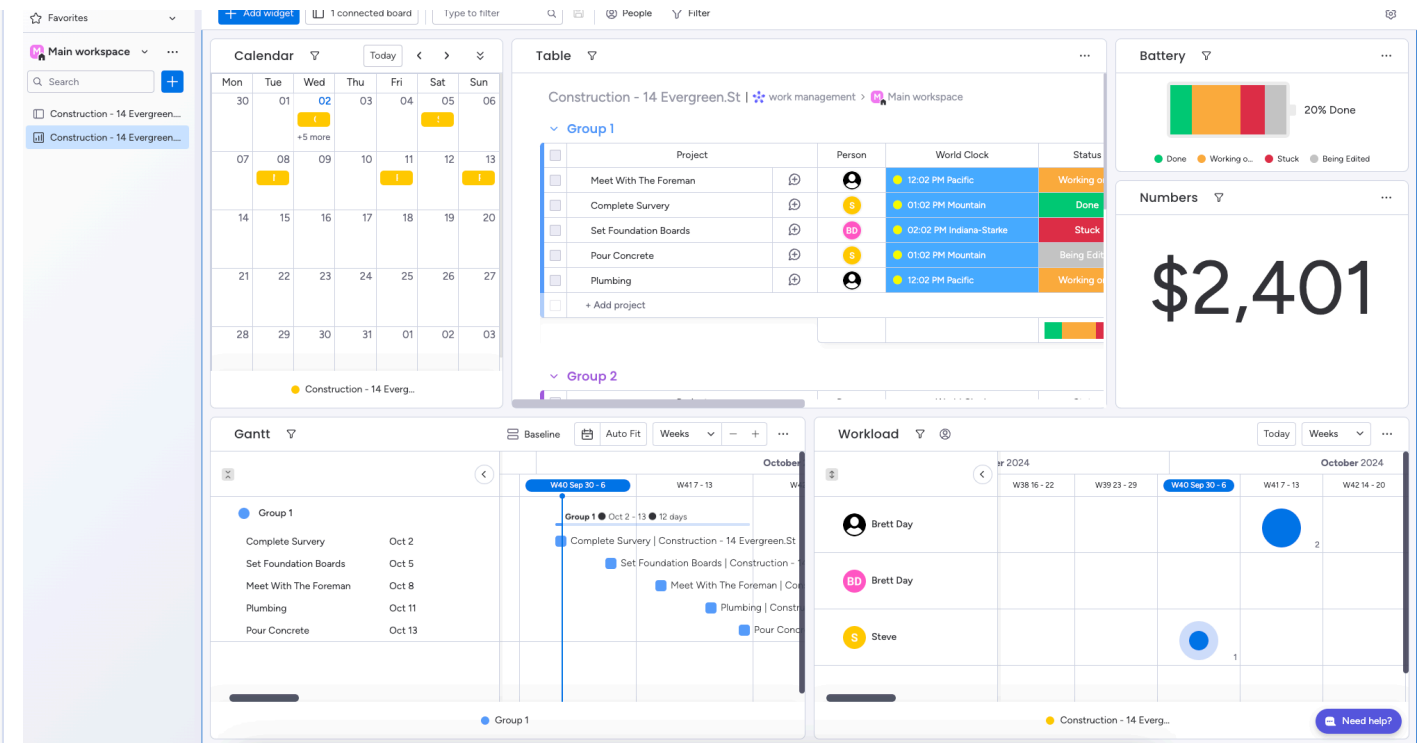
Project	Person	Status	Progress	Date	Phone	Last Updated	Numbers	
---------	--------	--------	----------	------	-------	--------------	---------	--

Jeffrey Weide, a project management expert and our advisory board member, likes the platform’s user experience: “It’s visually appealing and with UX designed for end users. It’s a flexible tool for a variety of processes and tasks for integrated teams.”

Additional Features

Creating automations was an easy task. It’s as simple as filling out fields to determine if this happens, then this happens, or condition triggers and actions. I was able to quickly create automated workflows for redundant work so I could focus on completing other work.

I also appreciated how easy it was to read reports but options are limited. The only way to see your data any way you want is to upgrade to the Enterprise plan and I don’t have the budget for that (which is fine because I don’t love creating pivot tables anyway). What I don’t love is that advanced features are mostly locked behind the higher-priced plans. In short: Love the automations; don’t love that they’re on the Standard plan and up.



Cost

We named monday.com one of the [best free project management apps](#) available, and it's definitely a free all-in-one work management solution I'd choose for myself if all I needed were task and project management. However, its pricing structure could be frustrating for small teams that want to upgrade.

The free version is only good for two people, but paid plans have a three-person minimum, so you're looking at paying at least \$36 per month for the entry-level plan. Then, you have to purchase seats in five-seat increments up to 30 and then in 10-seat increments. So, it can get pricey.

The Standard plan costs \$42 per month with the three-seat minimum, while the Pro plan will cost \$72. I received a quote for the Enterprise plan and was told for a team of 25 the price would be \$16,000 to \$19,000 annually.

Customer Service

Similar to ClickUp, monday.com offers 24/7 support. You'll find a chatbot that can answer questions and direct you to knowledge base articles and live support if needed. You also have the option to request a call from an agent if nothing in the help center answers your question. I had no problem finding answers in the help center.

I found the chatbot to be quite helpful and the live support staff to be very courteous and knowledgeable. I also sent an email to the customer support team. I received a helpful email back from them in under an hour, which is impressive.

Mobile App

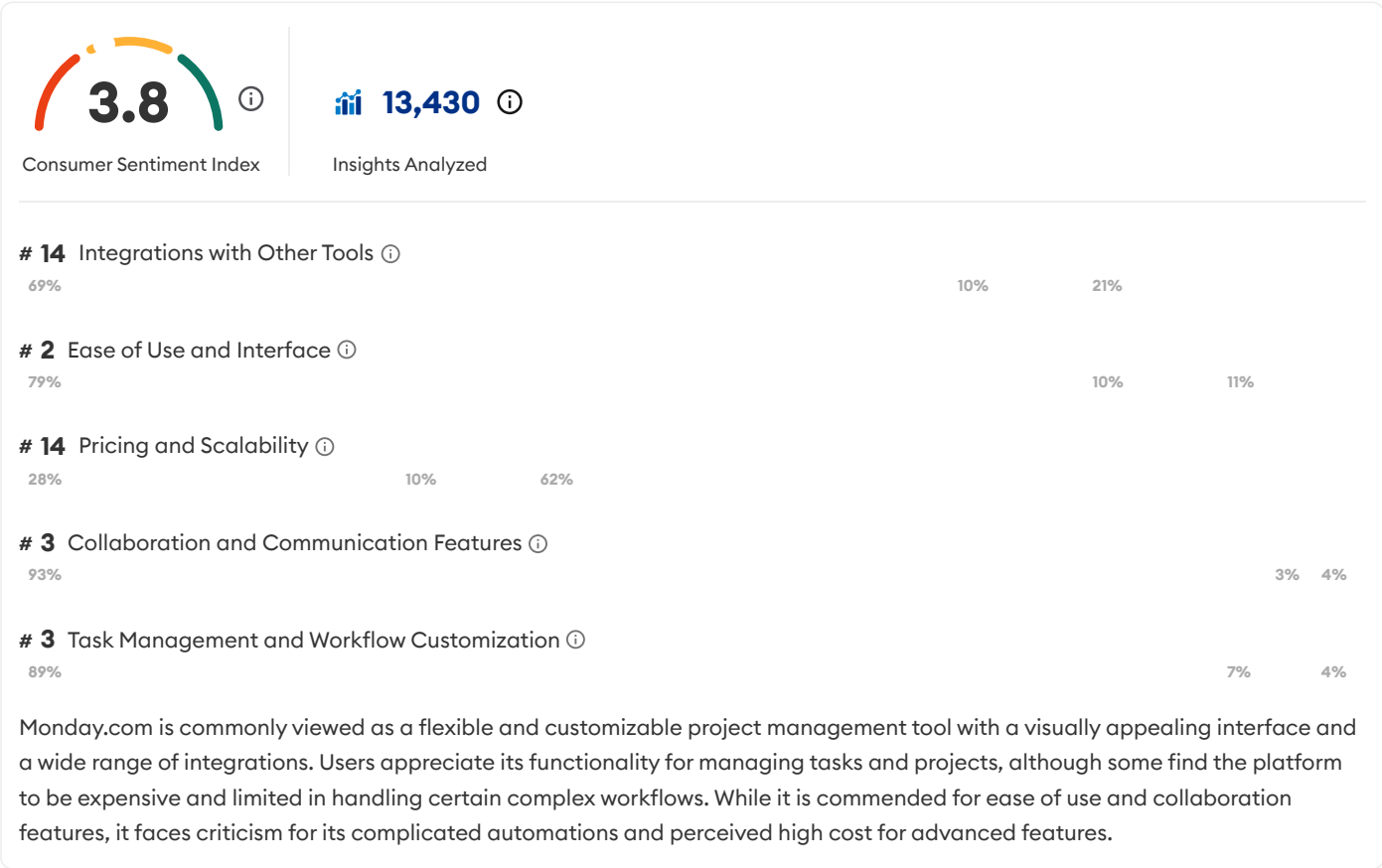
Although the mobile app theoretically allows you to create tasks and manage your work, it doesn't always work as intended. I had a few issues with the app getting out of sync with the browser version and I had to force quit a few times. When it did work, I could do the

Who should use it:

Startup businesses should consider monday.com. It offers a free version and free trials so users can test more advanced tiers as their companies can afford them.

Learn more: Read our [monday.com review](#).

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Free version available
- Attractive, easily customizable interface
- Gantt charts and Kanban boards
- Limited features in the lower tiers
- Cluttered boards for in-depth or complex projects
- Limited reporting options

BEST FOR LARGE TEAMS

Asana

asana

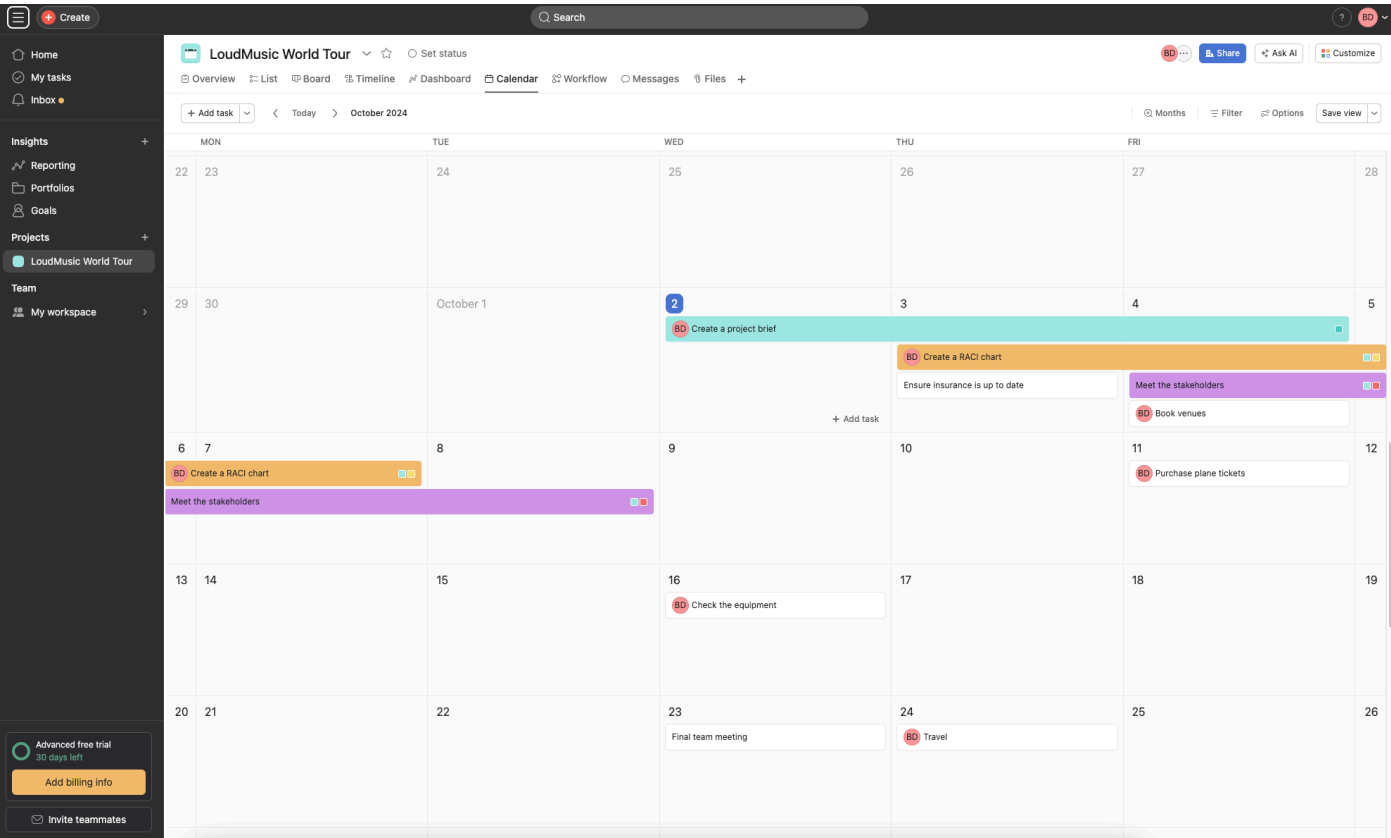
Learn More

Read Forbes' Review

Starting price	\$13.49 per user per month (billed monthly)
Integrations	Google Drive, Microsoft Teams, Outlook, Slack and DocuSign
Collaboration tools	Comments and messaging

Expert Take

One of the main selling points for choosing Asana over other project management software is its ability to bring large teams together. Along with most PM software, Asana allows you to comment on tasks and projects, but it also includes in-app chats for one-on-one conversations or even group chats. Aside from making communication easier for your team, Asana also gives you multiple project views, including Kanban-style boards, calendars, workload views and more.



General Features

I want to give Asana credit for how it handles task dependencies. I like a big-picture view but I also tend to work in the trenches of a project, so it helps to see specific call-outs when a task is blocked by another task. Asana makes this clear with its “blocked by”

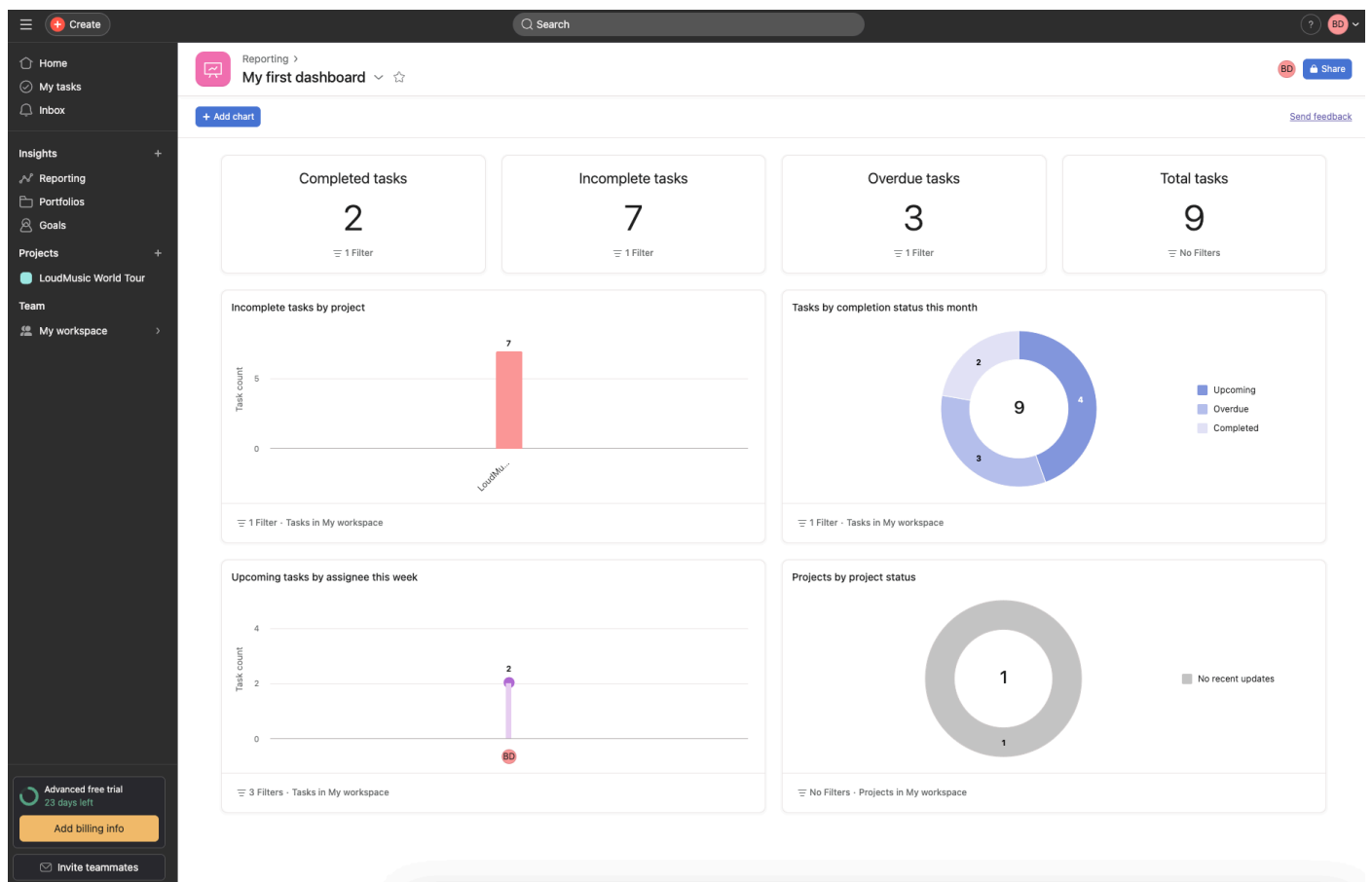
many years for personal projects.

Additional Features

When I needed more advanced features to manage multiple projects and people, I needed to upgrade to a paid plan. This was the only way to access automated workflows and timeline views with task dependencies. Asana is more customizable at this point with custom fields and project templates. If I worked with more external collaborators, I'd probably spring for the Advanced plan because I really liked the approval feature, which allowed me to accept, reject or return work to a user if I wanted changes; this saved me time because I didn't have to send an email.

There are a couple of ways you could interpret collaboration in project management software and for Asana, it's all about communication. I like that I can add comments on a task, tag users or even have a chat without having to pull up a different app. Asana meets most of my collaborative needs admirably, I think, but it does so through integrations. I added Google Chat to Asana, which made the most sense for me because I tend to work in a project management app and my Google Workspace. Sure, I felt silly talking to myself in Asana via Google Chat, but this is how I test software.

Samantha. D, a medical systems trainer who is a user of Asana shared her thoughts: "I like using Asana because it makes it easy for my team to collaborate on projects and I can quickly see tasks quickly or in great detail. I also appreciate having a cloud-based service as it allows me to have up-to-date information at my fingertips whenever I need it."



Cost

only upgrade to the Advanced plan if I was running an agency and I required proofing and portfolio management.

When you opt for a paid plan, Asana automatically sets your seats at five users, which might seem a bit misleading. I was able to edit the seats and choose monthly or annual payment but there is a minimum of two users for the Starter plan, which isn't clear on Asana's pricing page. That means it would cost me nearly \$26.98 per month (billed monthly) if I opted for the Starter plan for just me (and one other seat).

The Advanced plan costs \$30.49 per user per month (billed monthly), which is a huge increase in price compared to the Starter plan.

Customer Service

Although I recognize that beggars can't be choosers, I didn't love that I had limited access to live customer support. Asana only offers 24/7 support to those on the Enterprise and Enterprise+ plans. I tried using the chatbot to get a hold of an agent but it only offers to submit a ticket to support. I submitted a ticket and it took over 24 hours to receive a response, which is not ideal when you may need help figuring out an issue that could harm your business.

Still, Asana offers 24/7 support access through its help center and chatbot. Most of my questions were answered in the help articles, anyway.

Mobile App

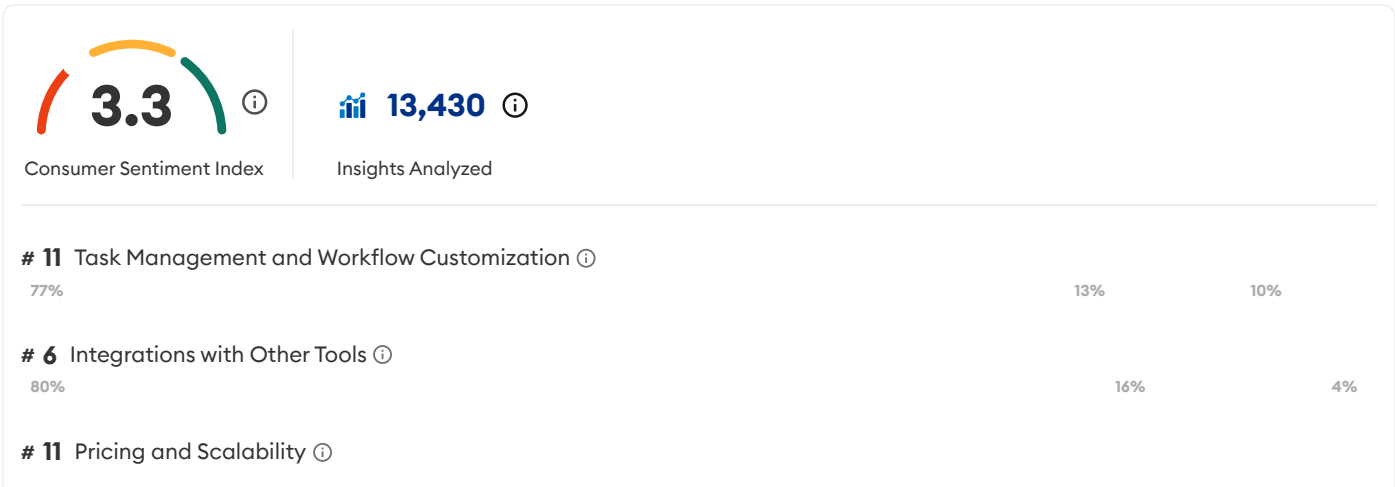
As with most project management mobile apps, everything in Asana's mobile app is smaller or there are fewer features compared to the desktop/browser version. I had a few issues with the widgets and had to refresh a few times to make them reappear. I liked that I could update a project's status or respond to a comment on the fly but that's about all I'd use Asana's mobile app for.

Who should use it:

Asana can work for any size business, but it's most ideal for midsize companies that need to collaborate with clients or across departments.

Learn more: Read our [Asana review](#).

[Consumer Sentiment Index](#)



[Subscribe](#)

66%

19%

15%

7 Collaboration and Communication Features ⓘ

84%

10%

6%

Users have a mixed view of Asana, praising its user-friendly interface, robust task management features and flexibility for managing projects and tasks. However, they also note limitations in customization and some frustrations with its complexity for more advanced needs or larger projects, along with issues in customer service and time tracking capabilities.

Pros & Cons

- Free plan available
- Cross-team collaboration task management
- Integrates with hundreds of other apps
- Pricier than industry average
- May be too complex at the start for some users
- Limited messaging tools

BEST FOR TEAMS ON A TIGHT BUDGET

Zoho Projects



4.6 Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

[Read Forbes' Review](#)

Starting price

\$5 per seat per month
(billed monthly)

Integrations

Microsoft Teams, Slack, Dropbox, Google apps, Github, Zendesk, Zapier and Zoho apps

Collaboration tools

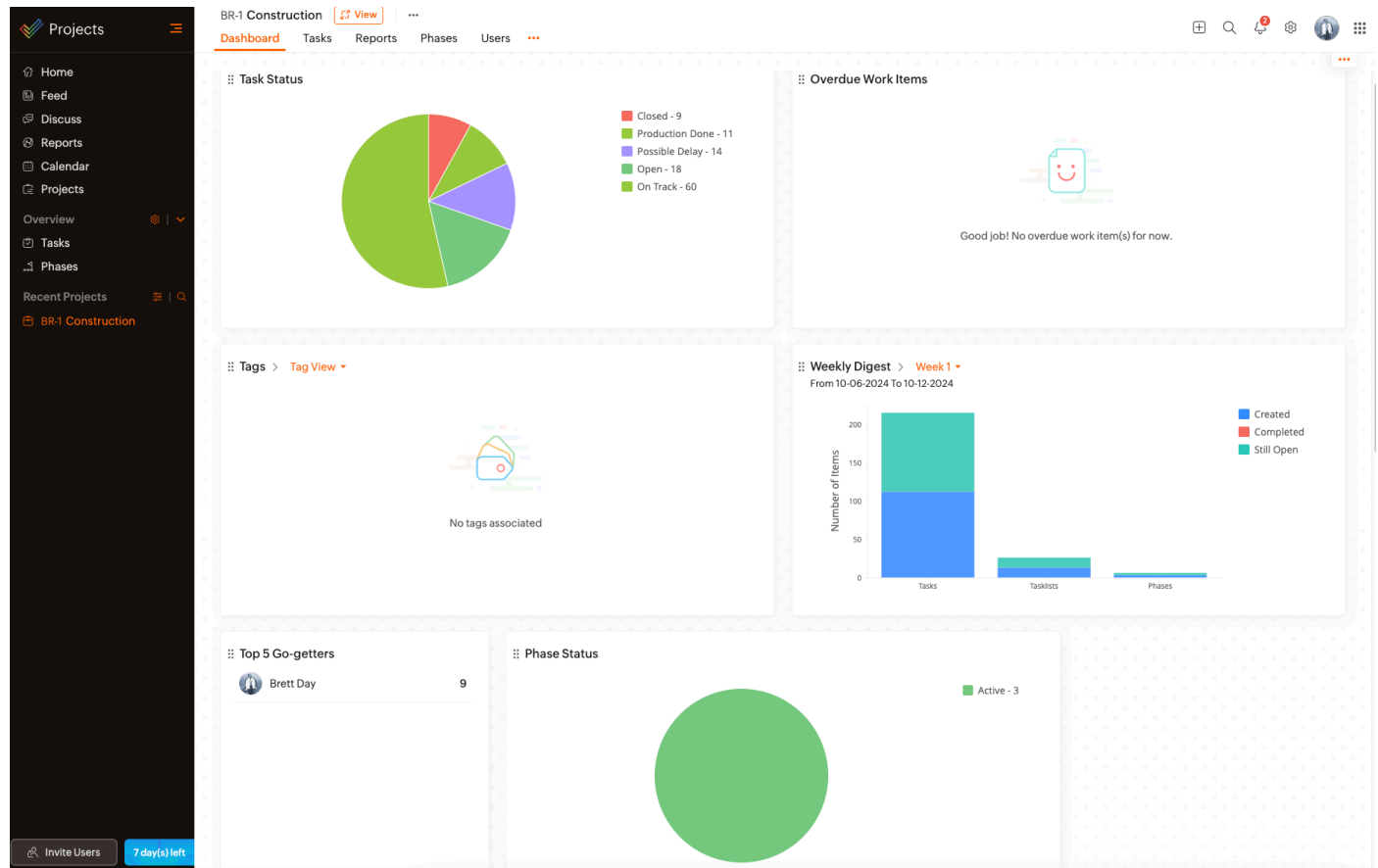
Real-time chat, comments and @mentions

Expert Take

If you consider the list of third-party app integrations Zoho Projects allows, it may seem short, but if you add on the whole of the Zoho software ecosystem, you'll likely find all the tools you need. Businesses that are starting out may prefer to choose Zoho for all of its apps to round out their tech stack for easy integration. Plus, Zoho Projects (and its complementary apps) are typically priced below the industry average, so it's affordable for all business sizes.

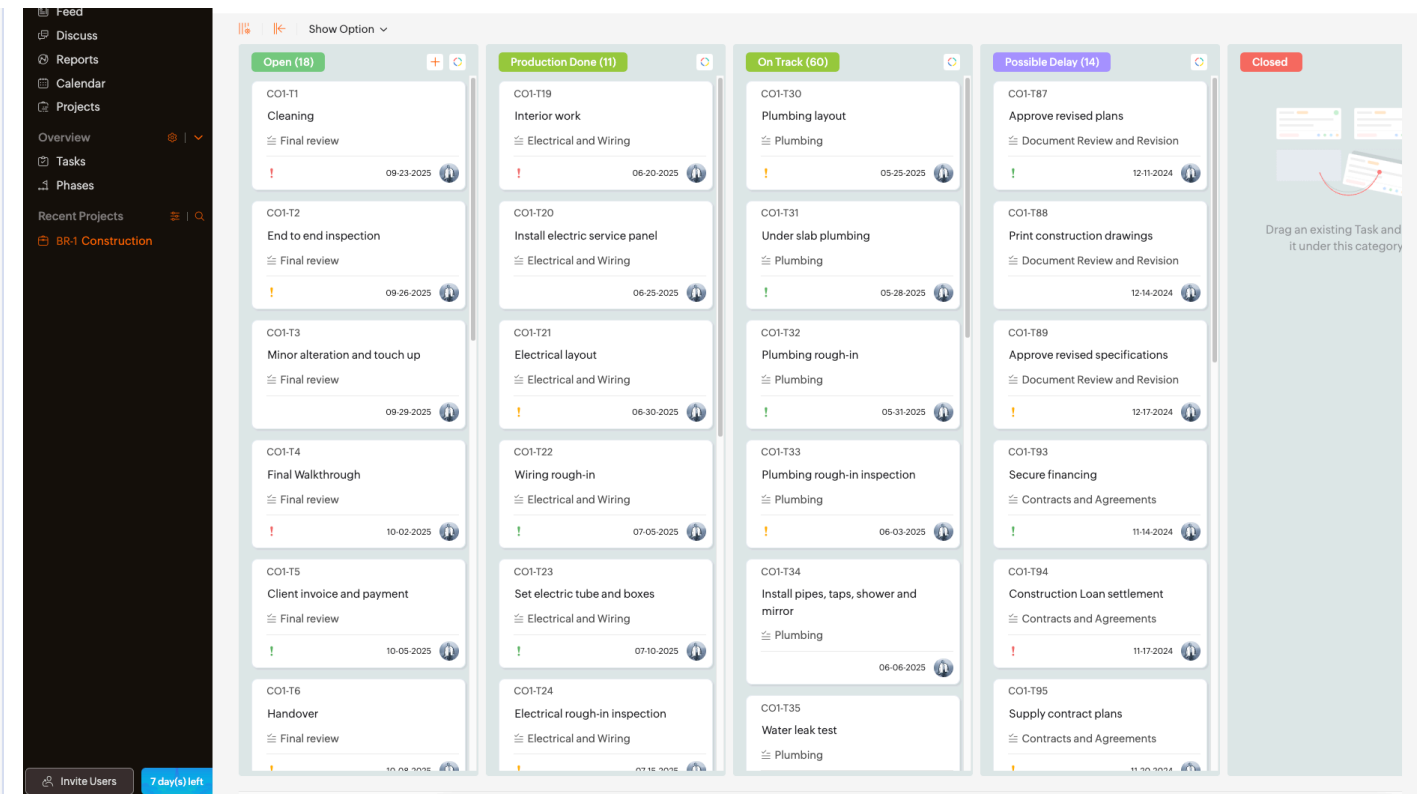
General Features

Beyond the affordability and native ecosystem of apps, I found Zoho Projects to be one of the easiest project management tools I've used. The dashboard had all my tasks listed at the top, with more granular views of what needed my attention below. Rather than show me how I screwed up a project plan (it's been known to happen; please, no judgment), it didn't even allow me to create conflicting task dependencies. I know Zoho Projects doesn't offer a ton of integrations but I also use Zoho Invoice, so I was able to easily create invoices for work I'd done in my project management platform.



I'm a big fan of the shortcuts Zoho Projects offers such as the time tracking feature that you can access from the Kanban board—I didn't even have to click into a task to start a timer. In fact, the only things I didn't love about this project management software were the few bugs I came across (I had an issue with assigning a task to a user that appeared as an option but the platform told me there were no matches) and customer support (more on that below).

Subscribe



Additional Features

As useful as the free plan is, Zoho Projects is much better if you upgrade because you gain access to so many more features. The templates and recurring tasks saved me so much time setting up projects but I tend to create projects similar to each other, so this made sense for me. Time tracking helps with figuring out billable hours, and I was able to use Zia, the AI chatbot. Zia was a bit like a virtual assistant for me by retrieving data when I asked for it.

Cost

As much as I like Zoho Projects' free plan, I'd say its Premium plan offers one of the best value-to-cost ratios. For \$5 per user per month (billed monthly), I'd happily subscribe to it to unlock a lot of advanced features, though I was disappointed to see workflow rules are only available on the Enterprise plan. That said, the Enterprise plan only costs \$10 per user per month (billed monthly), which is even cheaper than Asana's entry-level plan.

Customer Service

During my Premium plan trial, I contacted customer support in various ways. Zoho Projects offers 24/5 live support (Monday through Friday). I was connected to a live agent quickly and received the help I needed. If you're on a free plan, you can still use live chat, but support is only available eight hours per day, Monday through Friday. There's no phone support, but you can email. I sent a help request through email and received a response in just under 24 hours.

Keep in mind that there is also a knowledge base with articles that can help you out of sticky situations, and there are community forums where you can post questions and get answers.

Mobile App

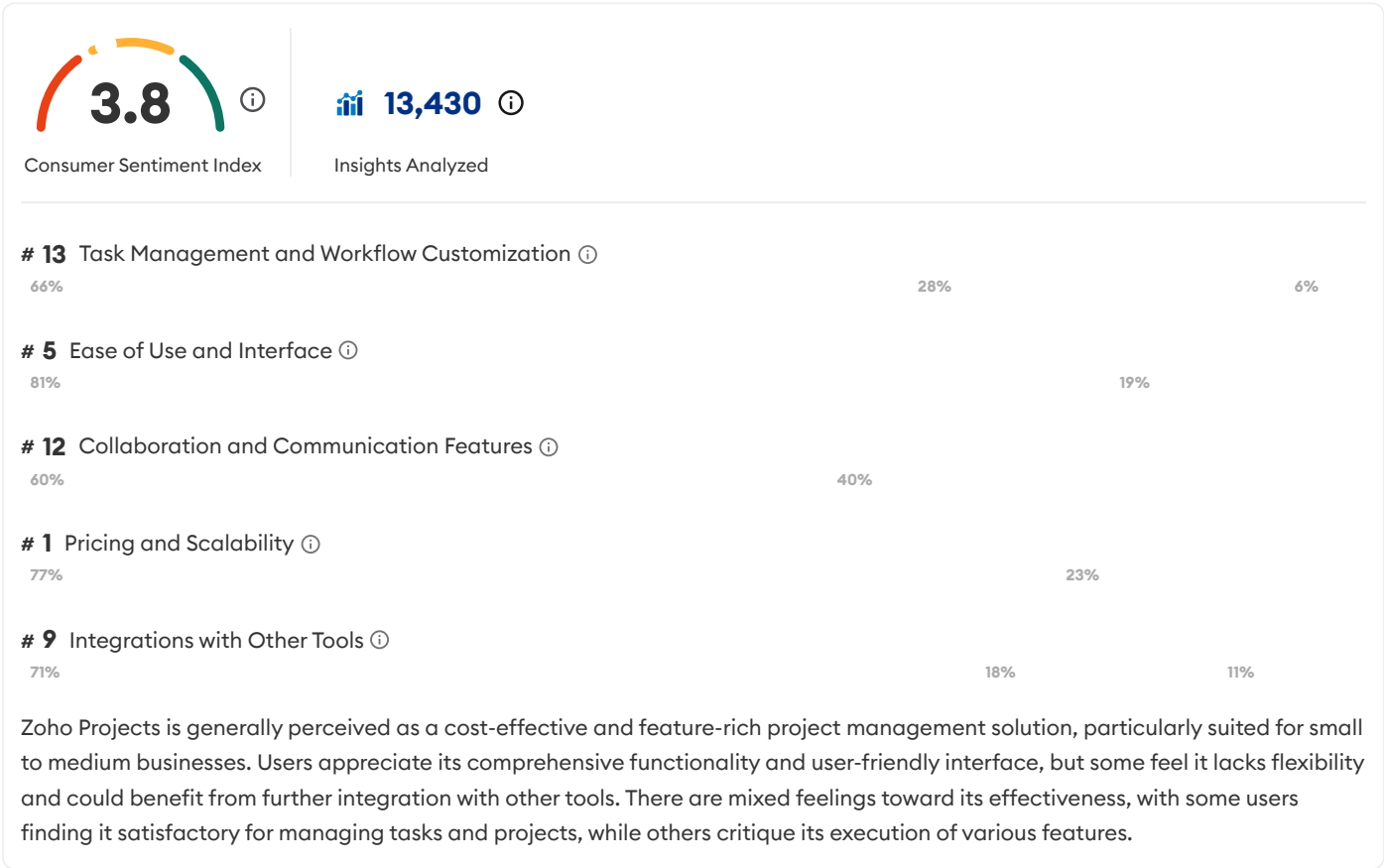
so keeping that in mind, it’s fine for quick updates to tasks. I wouldn’t use it as my primary project management tool though.

Who should use it:

Zoho Projects is affordable and is a great pick for small businesses that want to integrate other Zoho apps. It’s especially useful if you’re just starting out and you want to stick to the Zoho ecosystem, as the integrations will be seamless.

Learn more: Read our [Zoho Projects review](#).

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Connects to all Zoho apps and big-name software
- Offers a free plan
- Includes built-in chat
- Customer support is limited
- Must create project templates
- Storage space is limited (may require integration)

Smartsheet

 **4.5** Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

Read Forbes' Review

Starting price	\$12 per user per month (billed monthly)
Integrations	Google Drive, Slack, Tableau, Miro, and Zapier
Collaboration tools	Real-time doc collaboration

Expert Take

Smartsheet is similar to Airtable in that it’s primarily a spreadsheet project management tool, but it comes with features to enhance it. It’s a highly customizable application, so you can use premade templates to create the type of project you need and then tweak the details to better suit your needs. Its workflow automation is available to all plan users and includes triggers, alerts, reminders and assignments.

General Features

Given that Smartsheet is essentially an enhanced spreadsheet application, it’s the automations that would sell me on signing up for it. One of the things that drives me crazy about collaborative spreadsheets is that I have no idea when someone’s changed something. With Smartsheet, I was able to create an automated alert for whenever someone added or changed a row. In hindsight, this isn’t the best idea unless you love constant alerts. But hey, I got what I wanted. And it was easy to create that automation.

A lot of my work requires me to do repetitive tasks, so I use copy and paste often. With Smartsheet though, I could set up rows with conditional formatting so I could apply the same format to each row. This cut down so much on the manual work I was doing so I could focus my attention on, well, other manual work that no project management tool can help with.

Another thing I liked about Smartsheet was its project dashboard. When I have to show stakeholders where I am with a project and how much work is left, I don’t want to create a new report every time. The dashboard shows automatically calculated completions and it’s easy to read, whether your stakeholders prefer pie charts or bar graphs.

Subscribe

1. Task Sheet

2. Task Summary Report

3. Overdue Tasks Report

4. Project Dashboard

Copy of Project A

Project Launch Plan A

Project A

Project Launch Plan

Team Project Task Board

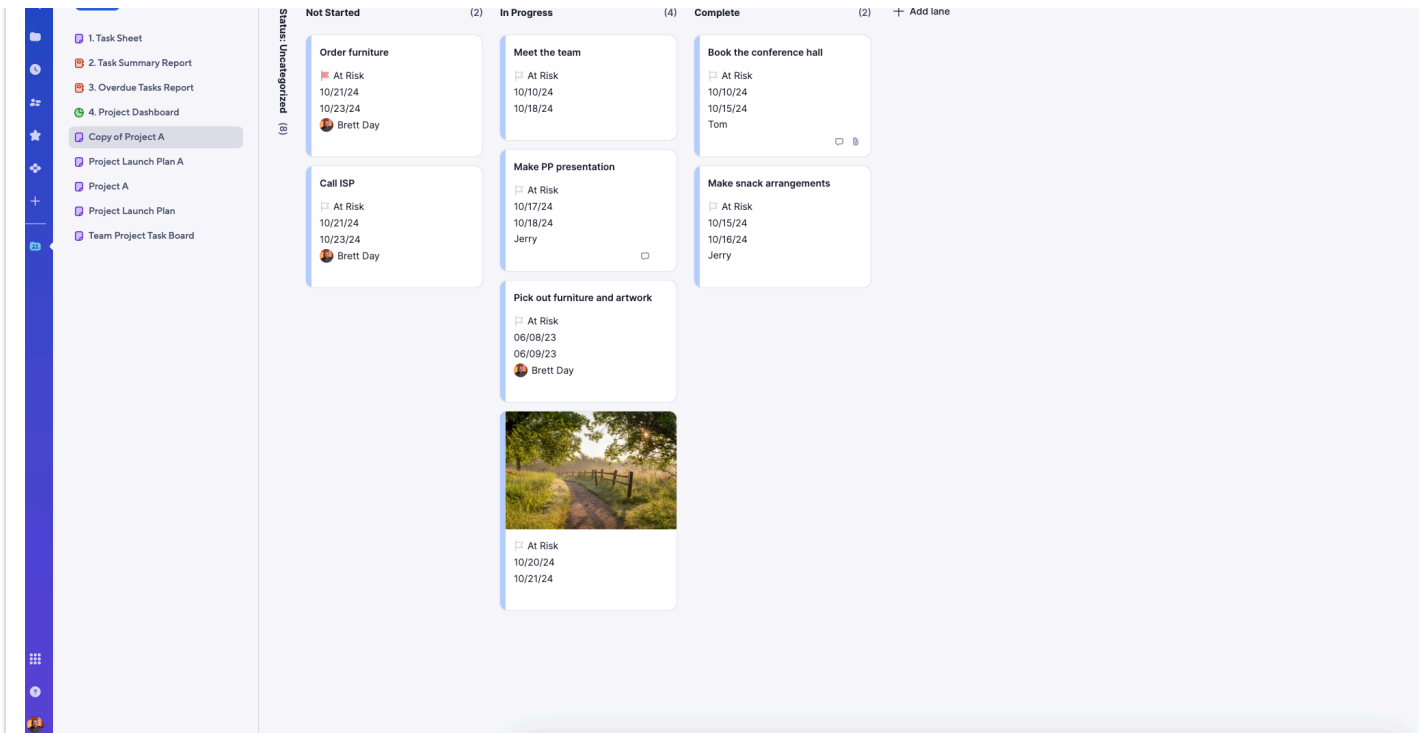
	Task Name	Status	Health	Start Date	End Date	Assigned To	Nov 26	Dec 3	Dec 10												
							M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M
1	Q2 Plan			11/28/18	11/11/24																
2	Planning Phase			11/28/18	10/28/24																
3	Market Requirements Definition	In Progress		10/10/24	10/16/24	Brent Williams															
4	Business Case	At Risk		10/16/24	10/24/24	June Taylor															
5	Launch Plan	Complete		10/22/24	10/28/24	Alexandra Matts															
6	Target Metrics	In Progress		11/28/18	11/28/18	Lori Grimes															
7	Sales Tools			10/17/24	10/28/24																
8	Prospect Presentation	In Progress		10/17/24	10/23/24	Brent Williams															
9	Demo	In Progress		10/24/24	10/28/24	Henry McNeal															
10	Competitive Positioning	Postponed		10/23/24	10/24/24	Kirk Caskey															
11	FAQ sheet	In Progress		10/23/24	10/24/24	Kirk Caskey															
12	Product Marketing			10/15/24	10/28/24																
13	Pricing Strategy	In Progress		10/15/24	10/23/24																
14	Product Positioning	In Progress		10/24/24	10/28/24																
15	Define Audience	In Progress		10/24/24	10/25/24																
16	Core Messaging	In Progress		10/24/24	10/28/24																
17	Executive Approval	In Progress		10/24/24	10/25/24																
18	Social			10/24/24	10/28/24																
19	Define social media strategy	In Progress		10/24/24	10/25/24																
20	Schedule social media posts	In Progress		10/24/24	10/28/24																
21	Product Release			10/25/24	11/11/24																
22	Alpha Release	In Progress		10/25/24	10/25/24																
23	Beta Release	In Progress		10/25/24	10/25/24																
24	V1 General Availability	In Progress		11/01/24	11/01/24																
25	R2 Press Event	In Progress		11/11/24	11/11/24																
26																					
27																					
28																					
29																					
30																					
31																					
32																					
33																					
34																					
35																					

Additional Features

There are a couple of features that are nice to have but only available on the higher-priced plans. I found it was much easier to manage a team and their work with the workload management feature. I could see my team’s workload in one window, determine who had too much going on and then reassign a task from a project timeline.

In fact, Smartsheet offers a lot of additional features that help add functionality to its simple spreadsheet platform, but I don’t love that they’re all kind of à la carte. Most of these advanced features for data synchronization, resource management and advanced automations are costly add-ons.

Jeffrey Weide, a project management professional of 20 years, appreciates Smartsheet for its customization features: “There is a great drag-and-drop and customization element to their dashboards that is helpful if you are starting a PMO or other function that requires status updates to leaders across remote or disperse environments.”



Cost

The free plan only allows you two sheets and it lacks forms, template sets, API calls, proofing and other advanced features, so it's really only suitable for my personal projects. I do like that there are 100 automations per month on the free plan. However, the Pro plan only costs \$12 per user per month if you pay monthly and it unlocks a lot of the advanced features from Smartsheet. The Business plan costs \$24 per member per month (billed monthly).

Customer Service

On one hand, Smartsheet is easy to use. On the other hand, it's a complex system and I needed help figuring out a few things at times, but live support wasn't readily available. I had to make do with the help center. In fact, there's no live support for the free or entry-level plan. It's an add-on that costs more and is only available to Business and Enterprise plan users. It's the same story with email support.

With all that said, the help center is useful and I was able to figure out how to do something without having to resort to sending an email or spending more money.

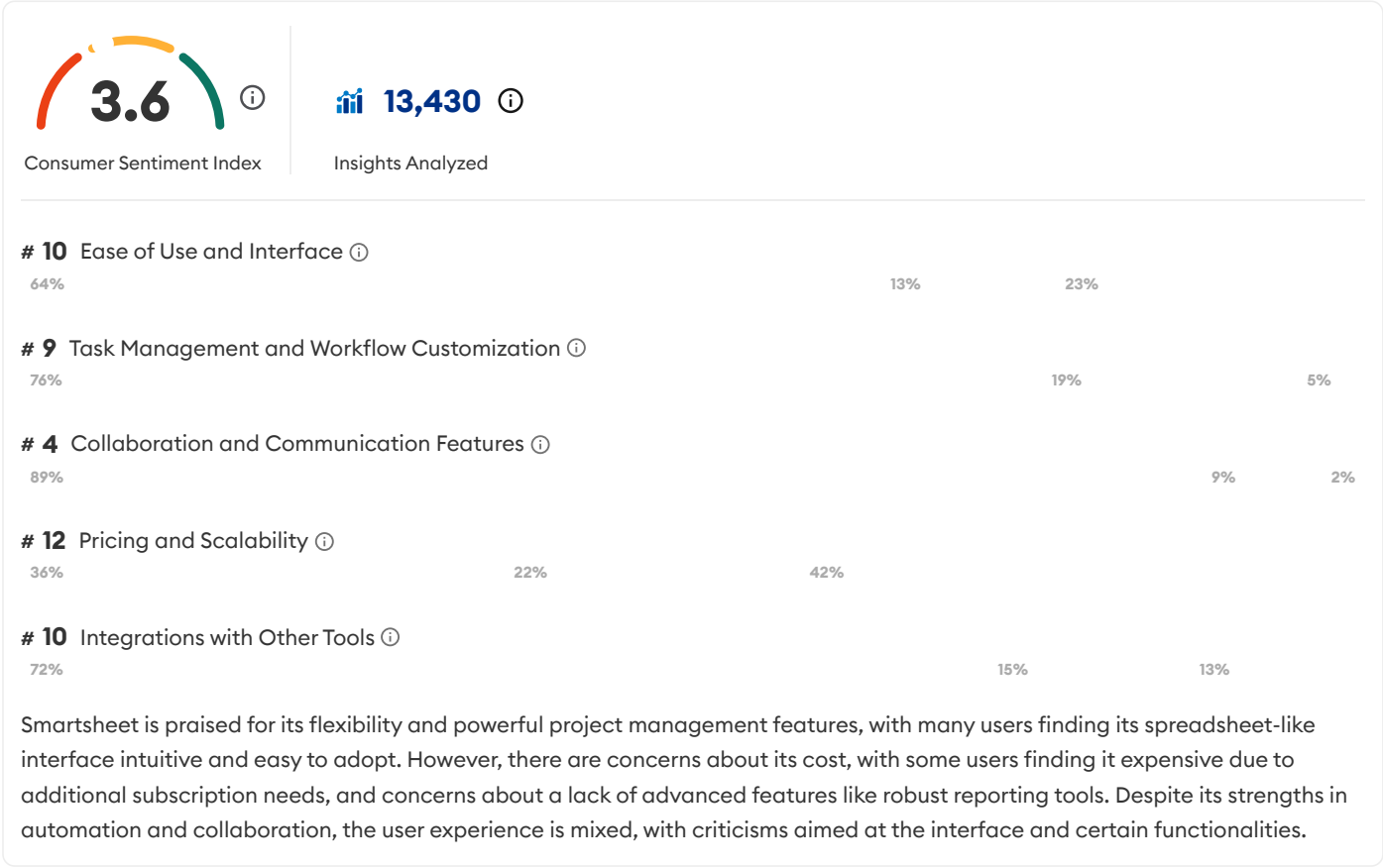
Mobile App

There are a few frustrations I've had with Smartsheet's mobile app, such as project planning, but I think that's just because of the medium. I like that I can access reports easily and it's scaled well for my phone. Plus, the offline feature is fantastic for when you don't have service or a Wi-Fi connection. And the times I've used the barcode scanner, it was quick and easy.

Who should use it:

Project teams that prefer spreadsheets for data and project management are likely to take to Smartsheet quickly. The automated workflows, forms and proofing features make it much easier to get work done quickly and efficiently, whether you're collaborating with teammates, clients or both.

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Workflow automation for all plans
- Intuitive for spreadsheet users
- Card, Gantt and grid views
- No live support
- Pricing adds up with time tracking and resource management add-ons

BEST FOR CONTENT CREATORS

Notion



Learn More

Read Forbes' Review

Integrations**Slack, Zapier, Jira, Asana, Google Drive, and IFTTT****Collaboration tools****Real-time document collaboration, comments and @mentions****Expert Take**

Notion offers one interface to handle all of your content creation projects from start to finish. Not only can you design your content from the platform, but you can also create checklists, store your documents or rich content and share your content from one platform. With a free personal plan and small business paid plans that increase to just \$12 per month per user (when billed monthly), even freelance content creators can afford this luxury.

General Features

Notion is a wide-open playground for writers, but I appreciated the templates available because I need boundaries. Using Notion this way made it much easier for me to create project plans and wikis. Once I was comfortable with the tools and menus, I started to think of all the ways I could use it to my advantage. When I was freelancing, I would've loved this platform to create a knowledge base with unlimited files for myself and my virtual assistant so we could easily share samples of my work with clients.

Dan Ginn from Them Frames appreciates Notion's ease of use: "Notion's simplicity really makes task management easy. It's become my all-in-one workspace as I can manage my client database, brainstorm ideas and create documents. I especially like using the Kanban board and that I can create tables to manage my budgets."

Karolina Gorska, a Senior HR Coordinator, has found success using Notion for HR-related work and as a CRM tool. "The first tool I've ever used for project management was Notion. We produce a lot of content as HR, and Notion is especially helpful with that. I like the interface, as I'm not a very technical person and I still find it incredibly easy to get around in. Notion is also a great place to keep and build your CRM. One of the most important things about it for me is that it lets you tag each entry. This way, I could create groups that are simple to filter out, according to my needs."

Subscribe

Inbox

Teamspaces

General

Beta Team Home

Project / Program Manag...

Project / Program Mana...

Team Wiki

Sprints

Projects

Tasks

Docs

Social Savvy

TeamSpace Home

Private

The Notion Automation ...

Getting Started

New page

Calendar

Settings

Templates

Trash

Help

Invite members

By project

This sprint

Backlog

All Tasks

Timeline

Calendar

Do all the doings!

2

Aa Task name

Status

Assign

Due

Priority

Tags

Sprint

Invite team members

Done

Brett Day

October 10, 2024 →

High

Improvement

Sprint 3

Add Projects templates

In Progress

Brett Day

October 11, 2024 →

High

Improvement

Sprint 3

+ New

COMPLETE 1/2

New Project

1

Aa Task name

Status

Assign

Due

Priority

Tags

Sprint

Do the thing

Not Started

+ New

COMPLETE 0/1

Project X

2

Aa Task name

Status

Assign

Due

Priority

Tags

Sprint

Schedule kick-off meeti

Not Started

Brett Day

October 14, 2024 →

Medium

Mobile

Sprint 1

Write project proposal

Done

Brett Day

October 15, 2024

High

Mobile

Sprint 1

+ New

COMPLETE 1/2

Project Y

2

Aa Task name

Status

Assign

Due

Priority

Tags

Sprint

Review research results

Not Started

Brett Day

October 10, 2024

Medium

Website

Improve

Sprint 2

Re-design website

Not Started

Brett Day

October 17, 2024

Medium

Website

Sprint 2

+ New

COMPLETE 0/2

1 hidden group

+ Add a group

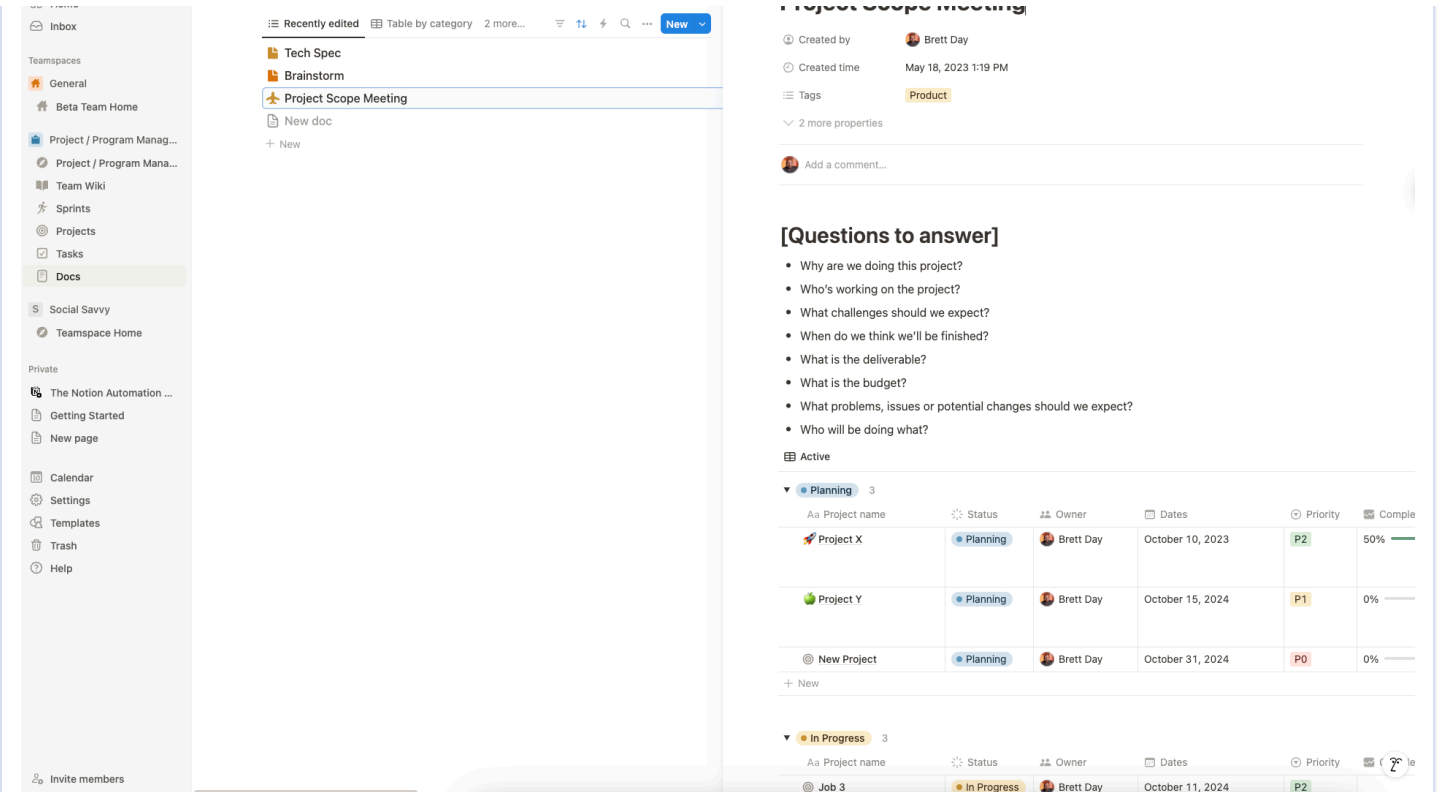
Additional Features

One of the best things about Notion is the guest access it allows. Even the free plan allows up to 10 guests on your board. I really like Notion for its collaborative features. An upgrade to the Business plan unlocks collaborative workspaces, which is where the real magic happens, in my opinion.

I found this incredibly helpful when I was working with a colleague on a project where we both needed to brainstorm. We were able to work on the same block in real time. It’s an uncommon feature for a project management platform.

https://www.forbes.com/advisor/business/software/best-project-management-software/#teamgantt

22/62



I’m also a fan of Notion’s AI assistant because it reduces the number of programs you have open and helps you create whatever you want in Notion. For example, rather than using a search engine to help me develop a content plan, I tried using Notion’s AI and got a few ideas. It’s also a fast way to find an obscure piece of data.

Cost

I like Notion’s free plan, but it’s unlikely I’d use it as my primary project management tool because it’s so limiting. The thing is, I’d say the same about the entry-level Plus plan, which costs \$12 per seat per month (billed monthly) because you really get the same features as the free plan but without limits and the addition of live support.

I’d rather spring for the \$18 per seat per month (when billed monthly) Business plan that includes more security features and collaborative workspaces. And Notion’s AI assistant is great but it’s \$10 per user per month in addition to the plan price, billed monthly, which ups the cost considerably.

Customer Service

It’s nice to see that Notion uses its platform, too—at least that’s how it appears with Notion’s help center. Notion offers priority support, but only to those on paid plans. I did find a support email address in the help center, so I sent a ticket. I received an email from their AI chatbot first asking for more information, so I replied. A human response to my question took over 24 hours, which is not great, especially when there’s no phone support.

Mobile App

I like that most project management software offers a mobile app but it’s never going to be the same as using the platform on your desktop or a browser. Notion’s mobile app includes a lot of the same features but the toolbar looks different. To me, it was a bit like

I mostly used the mobile version for note-taking and quick status updates. I liked that I was able to add my workspace as a widget so I didn't have to go through menus in the app to find the area I access most often.

Who should use it:

Notion would be the best fit for content creators who are solopreneurs or have small teams.

Learn more: Read our [Notion review](#).

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Free version with unlimited pages
- Highly customizable
- Unique productivity features, such as habit tracking
- Small business plans lack security features
- Mobile app can be tedious
- Bland user interface

Teamwork.com

 **4.4** Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

Read Forbes' Review

Starting price	\$13.99 per user per month, billed monthly (minimum of three users)
Integrations	Dropbox, Google Drive, SharePoint, QuickBooks, and Microsoft Project
Collaboration tools	In-app chat, @mentions and guest collaborators

Expert Take

Teamwork.com makes working with and managing client relationships seamless. Paid plans offer unlimited collaborators. This means service-oriented freelancers, consultants and agencies can work directly with clients within the interface to create a deliverable that uniquely meets client needs and expectations.

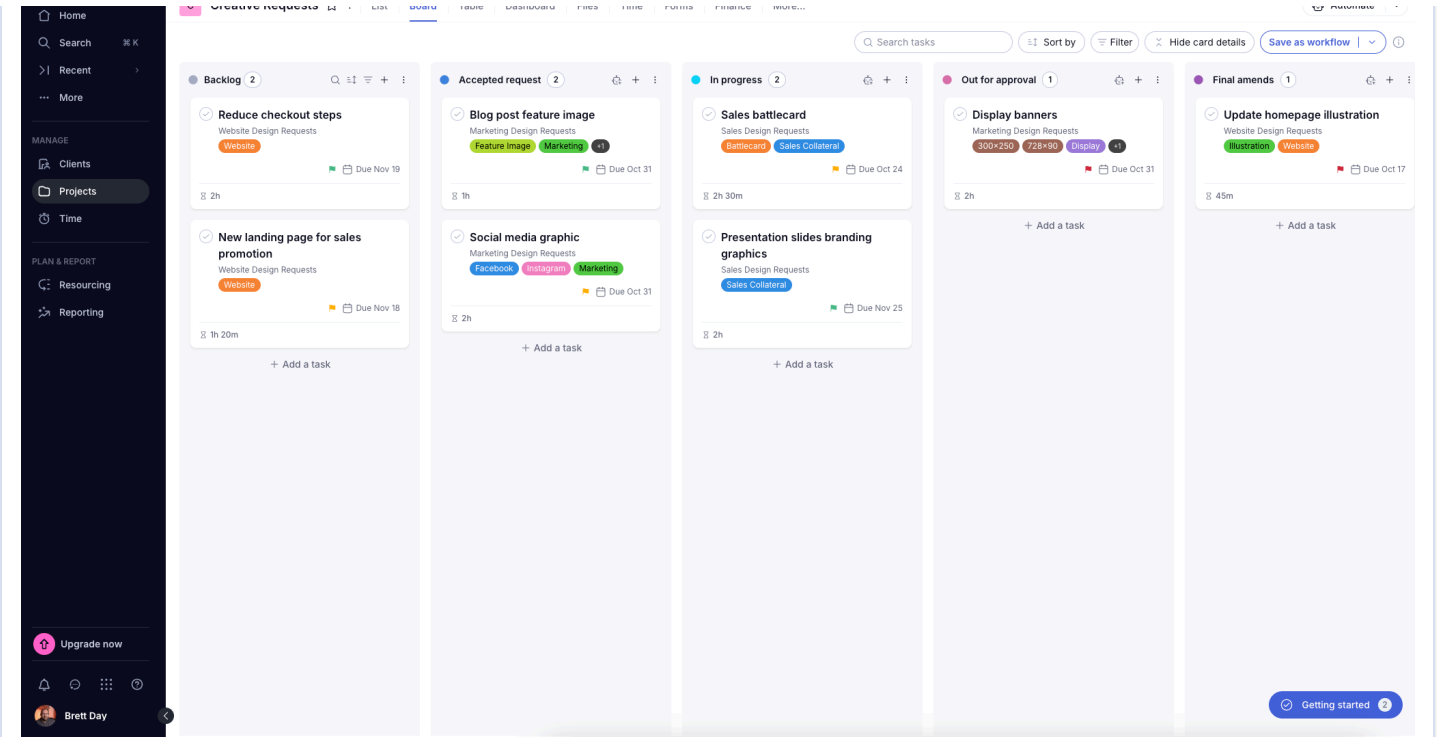
General Features

The biggest benefit I found using Teamwork.com as my project management platform is that it’s set up ideally for an agency. When working with clients, I need to keep information about those clients separate and I’m able to do that with Teamwork.com’s client view. With the option to add collaborators, I could share project progress with clients and not risk them changing anything or accidentally deleting something.

Another reason you might want to go with Teamwork.com for project management is if you need billing and invoicing features. Although being able to offer rate sheets and create invoices is uncommon for project management software, it’s a core feature of Teamwork.com. I could track billable hours and turn those into invoices for clients, which makes it clear why this software is meant for agencies.

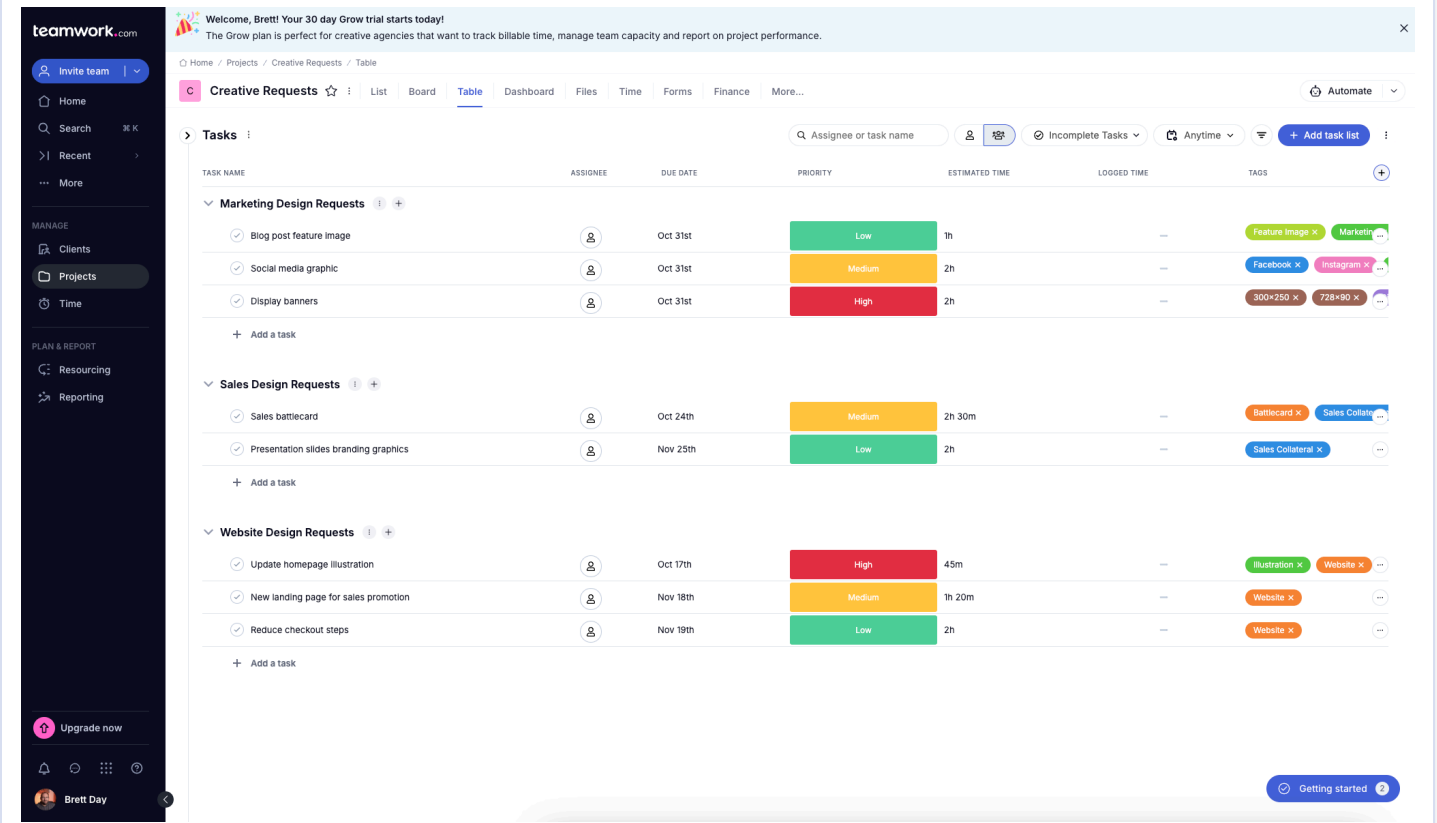
Michael Ashley, the founder of AshleyInsights, likes the features offered by Teamwork.com. “Teamwork is great for small businesses. It offers a wide range of features, including task management, team collaboration, time tracking and project reporting. I believe Teamwork is especially useful for larger projects that require detailed planning and coordination among team members. One standout feature that I found with Teamwork, was its Gantt chart functionality, which provided a visual representation of project timelines and dependencies, making it easier for me to track progress and identify potential bottlenecks.”

Subscribe



Additional Features

I liked that you don’t have to integrate a chat program to communicate with your team in Teamwork.com; there’s a built-in chat feature. Although I do find some of the prebuilt reports helpful, not all of them are necessary in my opinion. I suppose I could use them to share information with stakeholders who don’t want to look at project views but I found time, risk and planned vs. actual reports the most helpful for my needs.



[Subscribe](#)

I'm never going to be a fan of user minimums or caps and teamwork.com employs this across all of its plans. The free plan only allows up to five users, though that is generous, I'll admit. To upgrade to the entry-level Deliver plan, you're looking to spend more than \$42 per month (\$13.99 per member) (billed monthly) for three users. Solopreneurs wouldn't get the biggest bang for their buck here; however, Teamwork.com makes up for this by offering some advanced features even on the lowest-tier plan.

The Grow plan, which has a five-user minimum, costs \$25.99 per user per month when billed monthly and the Scale plan costs a whopping \$69.99 per user per month when paying monthly.

Customer Service

Teamwork offers an AI chatbot, live chat and email support, along with its help center. However, you need to be an Enterprise member to receive premium support. Still, I spoke with the chatbot and was quickly connected to a live agent who was friendly and helpful. I also opened an email ticket and received a helpful response in about 18 hours.

In addition to the email and live chat support, you'll find a knowledge base that's full of helpful articles that will help get you out of a bind. As is the case with many platforms now, Teamwork.com only offers phone support for sales-related questions.

Mobile App

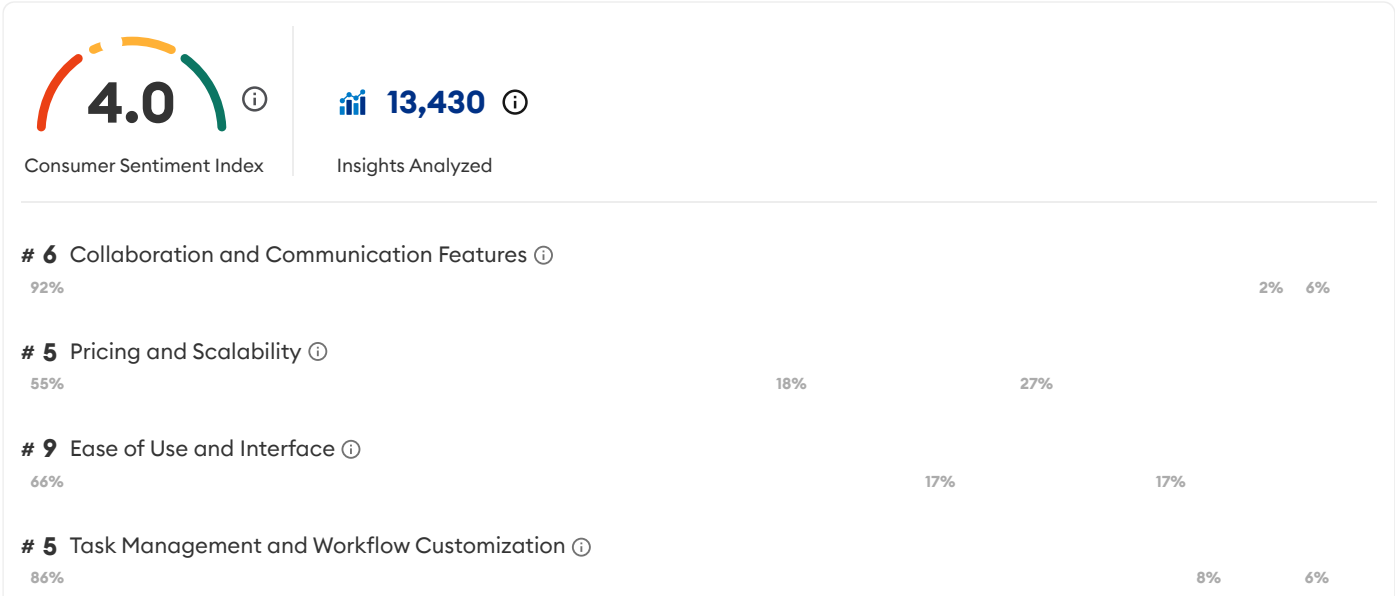
One of the frustrating things for me about mobile project management apps is that they almost always have incomplete or buggy features. I was able to perform basic tasks using the app but it lacks some functionality compared to the browser version and the user experience isn't the best. I found the app's navigation to be a bit clunky, but to be fair, I find most project management mobile apps suffer from the same issue.

Who should use it:

Client-facing professional service providers and agencies will find Teamwork.com uniquely meets their needs.

Learn more: Read our [Teamwork.com review](#).

[Consumer Sentiment Index](#)



[Subscribe](#)

Teamwork.com is generally well-regarded as a robust and flexible project management tool with a wide array of features suitable for various business needs, especially agencies. Users praise its strong support and continuous updates, though some express concerns about its complexity and pricing model.

Pros & Cons

- Unlimited collaborators on paid plans
- Budget tracking
- Client-management features such as invoicing
- Few integrations
- Very limited free plan
- Pricier than many competitors

BEST FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FEATURES

Wrike

 **wrike**

4.4 Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

On Wrike's Website

Starting price	\$10 per user per month
Integrations	Google Drive, Slack, Salesforce, and QuickBooks
Collaboration tools	Request forms and @mentions

Expert Take

Wrike is a popular project management solution for all types and sizes of businesses, but it stands out with its commitment to automation with artificial intelligence (AI) assistance. There’s a whole category of features devoted to “smart” actions, including search, replies (via mobile) and text recognition. Nearly all of the AI-assisted features are available on all plans (even the free plan). Only AI-assisted project risk prediction is limited to the higher-paid tiers.

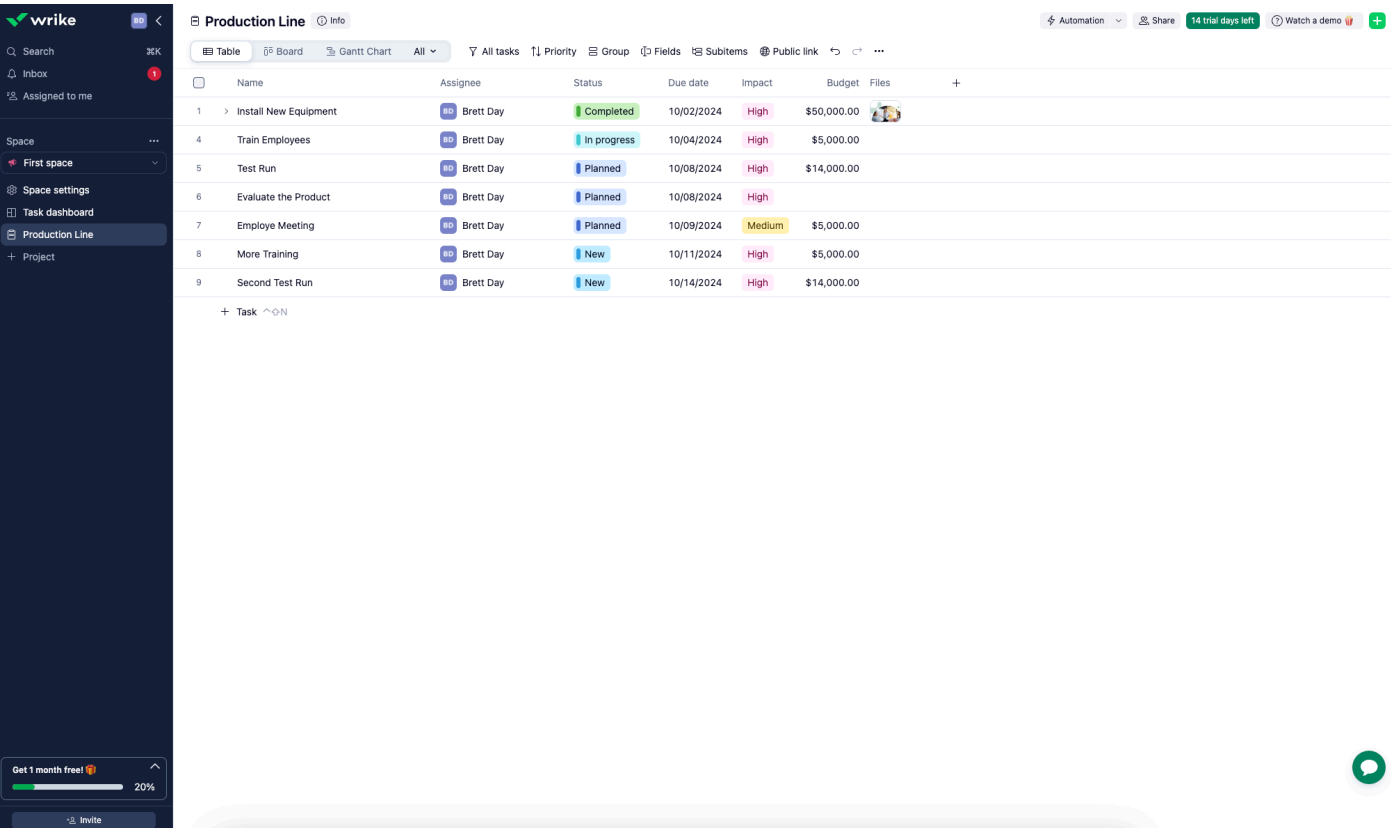
Jeffrey Weide, our advisory board member, mentioned why he likes Wrike: “It’s a project software focused on security, complex projects and high control. It’s a great option for larger PMOs or enterprises.”

General Features

At Wrike’s core are task and project management features, and I had zero issues learning how to use them. I’m a big fan of the customization of dashboards so I could create my personal “home page” for projects; I just chose the widgets I wanted, such as my

Subscribe

I rarely notice role assignment features but I tried to invite a collaborator to work on a single task and I couldn't set permissions at the task level. No big deal though; I just created a project with the one-off tasks and allowed collaborators access to that project only. For simple projects, Wrike worked well for me because I only needed a Kanban board to manage them.



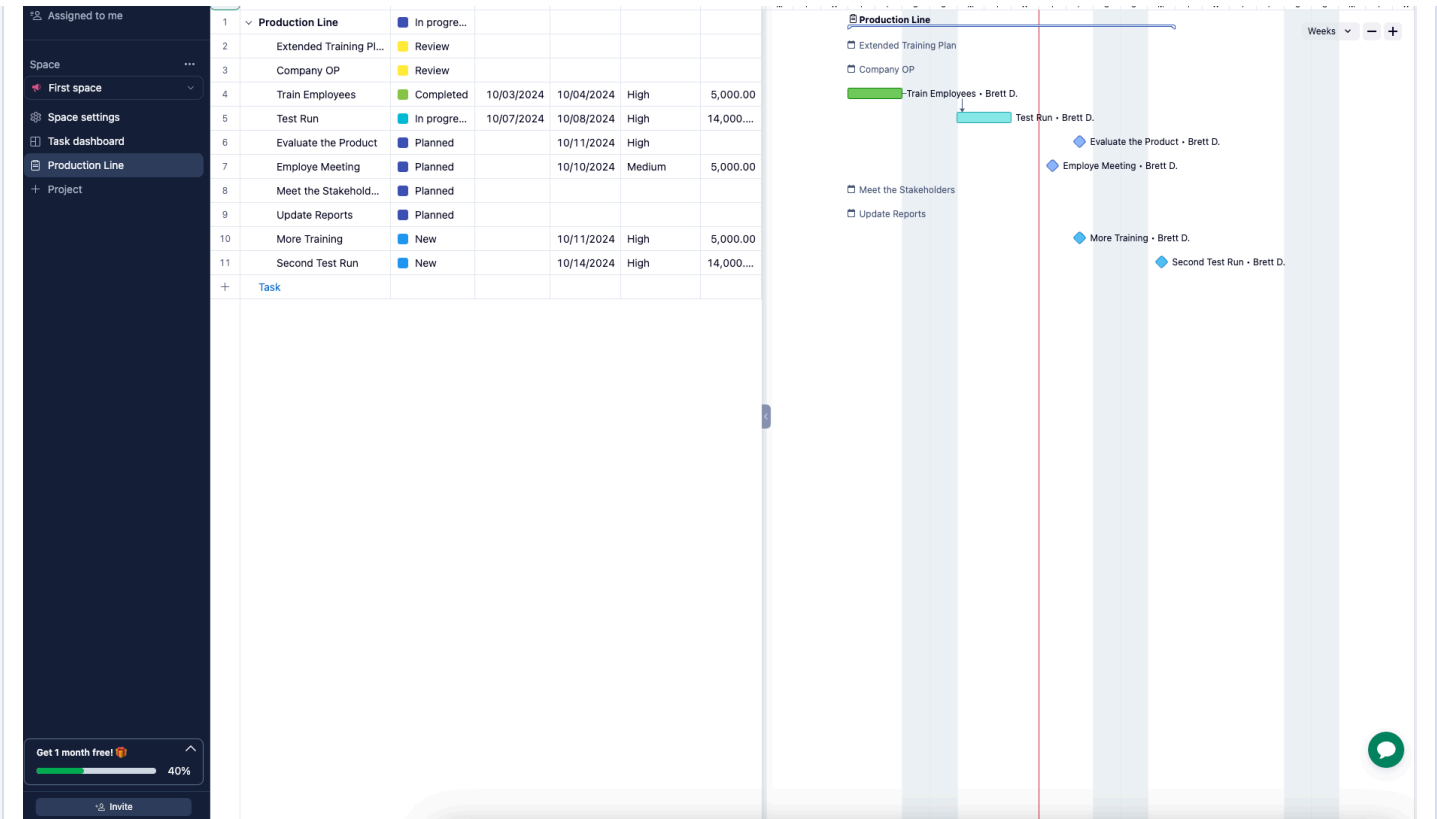
Wrike's interface favors function over form.

Additional Features

Although I could go on and on about all of Wrike's added value with its integrations and advanced analytics, I want to tell you about its AI features. They're available for all plans (except risk prediction) and it's a bit like having a built-in ChatGPT.

It was so easy to brainstorm and fill in with project plans and task descriptions. It wasn't perfect by any means, and I certainly wouldn't use the suggestions without adding specific instructions for my projects, but it was nice to have the assistance. As a caveat, it is worth noting that these features are still experimental right now.

Subscribe



The Gantt charts in Wrike are easy to use.

Cost

The free plan may be enough for you regardless of team size because Wrike doesn’t limit your user count. And you still get most of the AI features, which is rare among most project management software that offer AI tools. However, it was a bit too limiting for my needs when I had a complex project to run.

For Gantt charts, better security and integrations, I’d have to upgrade to a paid plan. The cheapest is the Team plan and costs \$10 per user per month. The Business plan costs \$24.80 per user per month (billed annually) and requires at least five users.

I received a quote for the Enterprise and Pinnacle plans based on a team size of 25. The Enterprise plan costs \$45 per user per month or \$13,500 annually while the Pinnacle plan costs \$60 per user per month or \$18,000 annually.

Customer Service

Wrike is quite secretive about the support it offers. The plan page doesn’t list what support options are available, which is odd, and when you click “help” from the Wrike dashboard, you’re whisked away to a help center with an unhelpful AI chatbot and a link to a community forum where you can ask questions. The top of the help center page is where you’ll find the “submit a request” link. It took 28 hours to receive an average response after submitting my ticket.

Mobile App

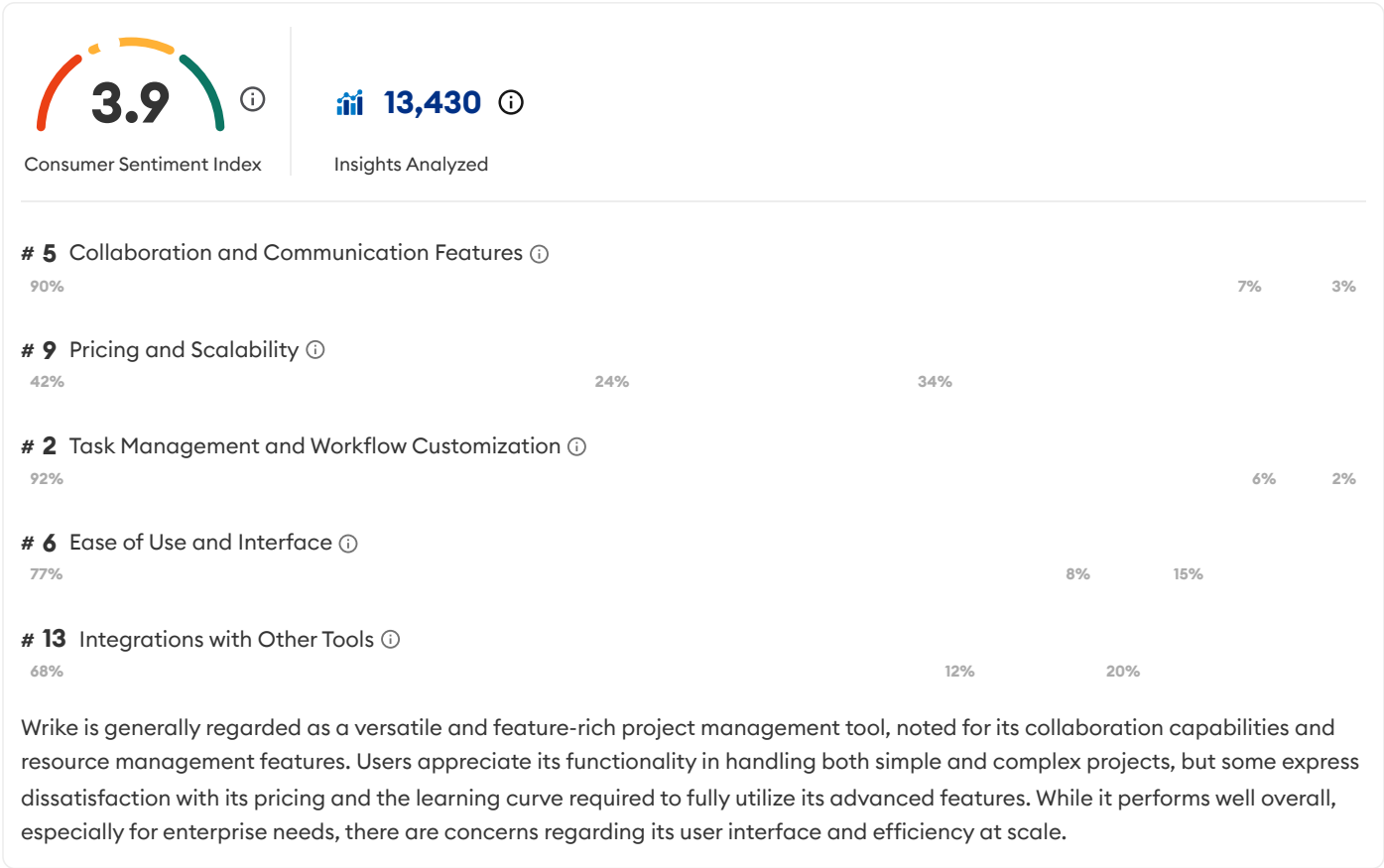
Wrike’s mobile app isn’t great but it isn’t the worst experience I’ve had either. In my opinion, it isn’t simple enough to be useful on a phone. Using a Gantt chart on a small screen is difficult, at best. And it takes too many clicks to get to a task so it isn’t a time-saving

Who should use it:

Wrike provides a lot of value for its free and low-priced plan users with its AI-assisted tools for mobile and desktop apps. However, the richest feature sets are limited by higher pricing, user minimums and added costs, which means Wrike is likely best for larger companies with bigger budgets.

Learn more: Read our [Wrike review](#).

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Free plan available
- No user minimum on free plan
- Custom fields and workflows on all paid accounts
- Two-user minimum on lowest plan
- User maximums on paid plans
- No real-time reports or time tracking on free or lowest plan

Jira



4.3 Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

On Jira's Website

Starting price	\$8.60 per user per month (estimated cost)
Integrations	Slack, Zendesk, Outlook, Google Sheets and GitHub
Collaboration tools	Comments and @mentions

Expert Take

Given Jira’s history as a bug-tracking tool, it makes sense that it’s best used by product teams and developers. However, it is versatile enough to work for any type of project manager who needs to plan, assign, track and manage tasks and projects. Features such as roadmaps and dependencies make it clear that Jira is best suited for product developers.

Jeffrey Weide, our advisory board member, also sees Jira as a robust tool: “Jira is a great project management program to help with task and issue tracking, agile sprints and reporting for project progress.”

General Features

Although I’m not a product developer, I can appreciate the simplicity of Jira’s project management platform. Even the free plan includes most of what I need to manage a project, whether I want to use a Kanban board, list view or a timeline. In fact, I was kind of surprised to see a Gantt chart on Jira. Creating dependencies is as easy in Jira as any other Gantt chart software; I was able to simply drag and drop the link icon up or down to a task.

What I don’t love about Jira is the user experience and how I tend to interact with project management software. From the list view, I couldn’t just click on a task name to open the task, it would just allow me to edit the task name. Same with the timeline view; I had to click on the bar on the timeline, not the name of the task. To me, that’s not intuitive. But it didn’t take long to retrain my brain.

PLANNING

Timeline

Board

List

Goals

+ Add view

DEVELOPMENT

Code

Project pages

Project settings

Search list

< Share

≡ Filter

≡ Group

📊 Chart

⋮ More

☐	Type ↑	# Key	Summary	🕒 Status	@ Assignee	📅 Due date	🏷 Labels	📅 Created	📅 Updated	@ Reporter	+
☐	➤ ☒	KAN-1	Create intro sequence	TO DO		Oct 9, 2024		Oct 8, 2024	Oct 8, 2024	Brett Day	
☐	☒	KAN-2	Develop user inputs	TO DO		Oct 21, 2024		Oct 8, 2024	Oct 8, 2024	Brett Day	
☐	☒	KAN-3	Create title page	TO DO		Oct 25, 2024		Oct 8, 2024	Oct 8, 2024	Brett Day	
☐	☒	KAN-4	Develop character models	TO DO		Nov 6, 2024		Oct 8, 2024	Oct 8, 2024	Brett Day	
☐	☒	KAN-5	Create character backstories	TO DO		Nov 4, 2024		Oct 8, 2024	Oct 8, 2024	Brett Day	
☐	☒	KAN-6	Pick an animation style	TO DO		Oct 8, 2024		Oct 8, 2024	Oct 8, 2024	Brett Day	
☐	☒	KAN-7	Work on lighting and raytracing	TO DO		Nov 27, 2024		Oct 8, 2024	Oct 8, 2024	Brett Day	
☐	☒	KAN-8	Ensure compatibility	TO DO		Nov 28, 2024		Oct 8, 2024	Oct 8, 2024	Brett Day	
☐	☒	KAN-9	Work on DLSS	TO DO		Nov 29, 2024		Oct 8, 2024	Oct 8, 2024	Brett Day	

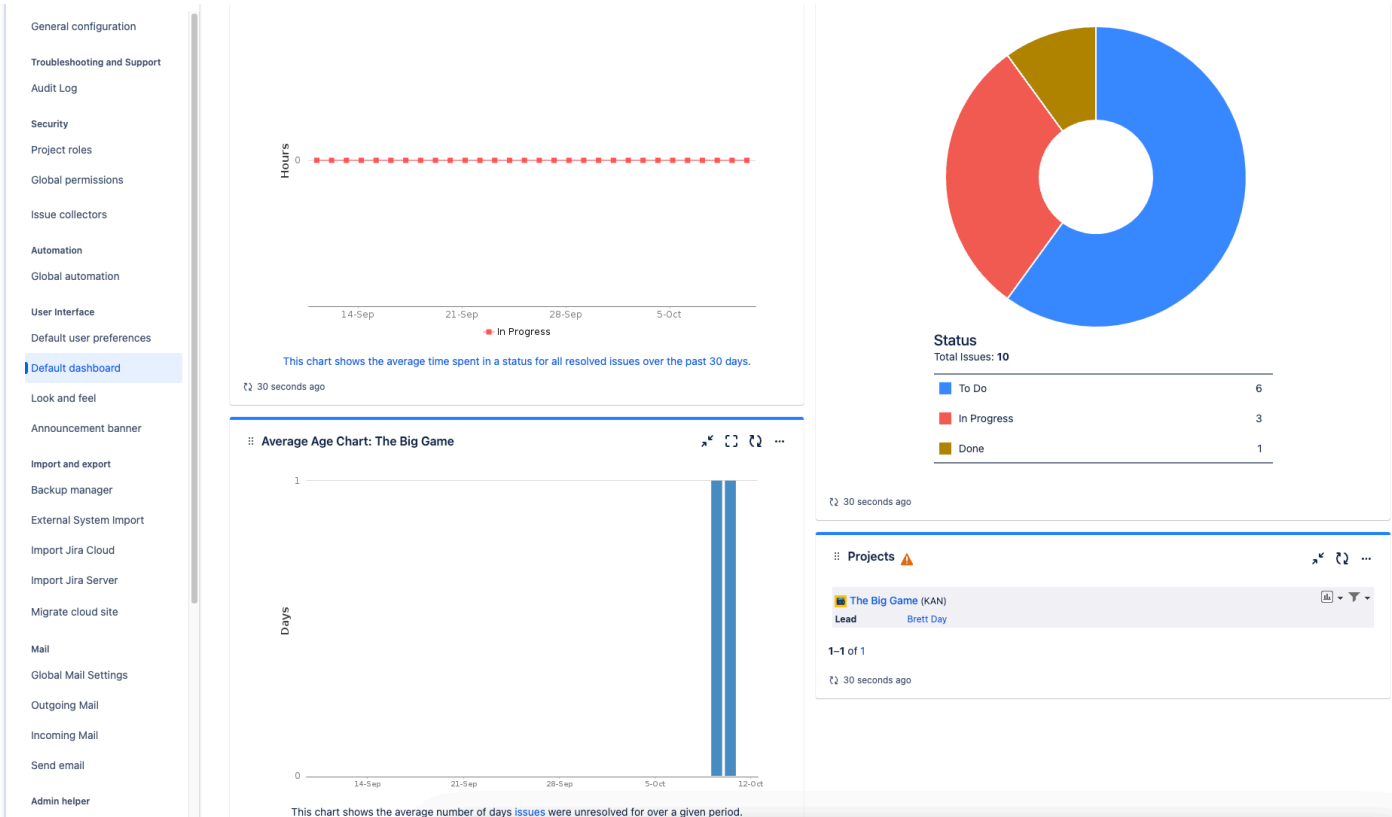
+ Create

Jira's interface is sterile but it gets out of the way.

Additional Features

If anything is difficult about Jira, it's the language it uses. Not everyone who needs project management software knows what issues or epics are but Agile teams will be familiar with the terminology. I didn't have trouble using any of Jira's core features but I could see how the issue feature would be a little confusing. With that said, creating a custom issue type is easy; I was able to drag and drop the fields I wanted to use to collect the information I'd need.

Other than commenting on tasks and using @mentions to bring others into a discussion, there isn't a lot of collaboration in Jira. That's likely because Confluence is Jira's complementary program that brings real-time collaboration into the project management platform.



Dashboards can be customized and show everything from task statuses to pie charts and issues.

Cost

One of the best things about Jira is that it offers a feature-packed free plan for up to 10 users. I was able to create multiple project boards, plus automations, custom workflows and backlog management. It is a bit limiting as far as automations and user roles are concerned.

A Standard plan billed monthly requires at least 10 users and starts at \$86 per month, or about \$86 per user. This plan has the same features as the Free plan, but offers more security and admin features, such as advanced roles and permissions, audit logs and support during business hours. The Premium plan costs \$17 per user per month when billed monthly and retains the 10-user minimum.

Customer Service

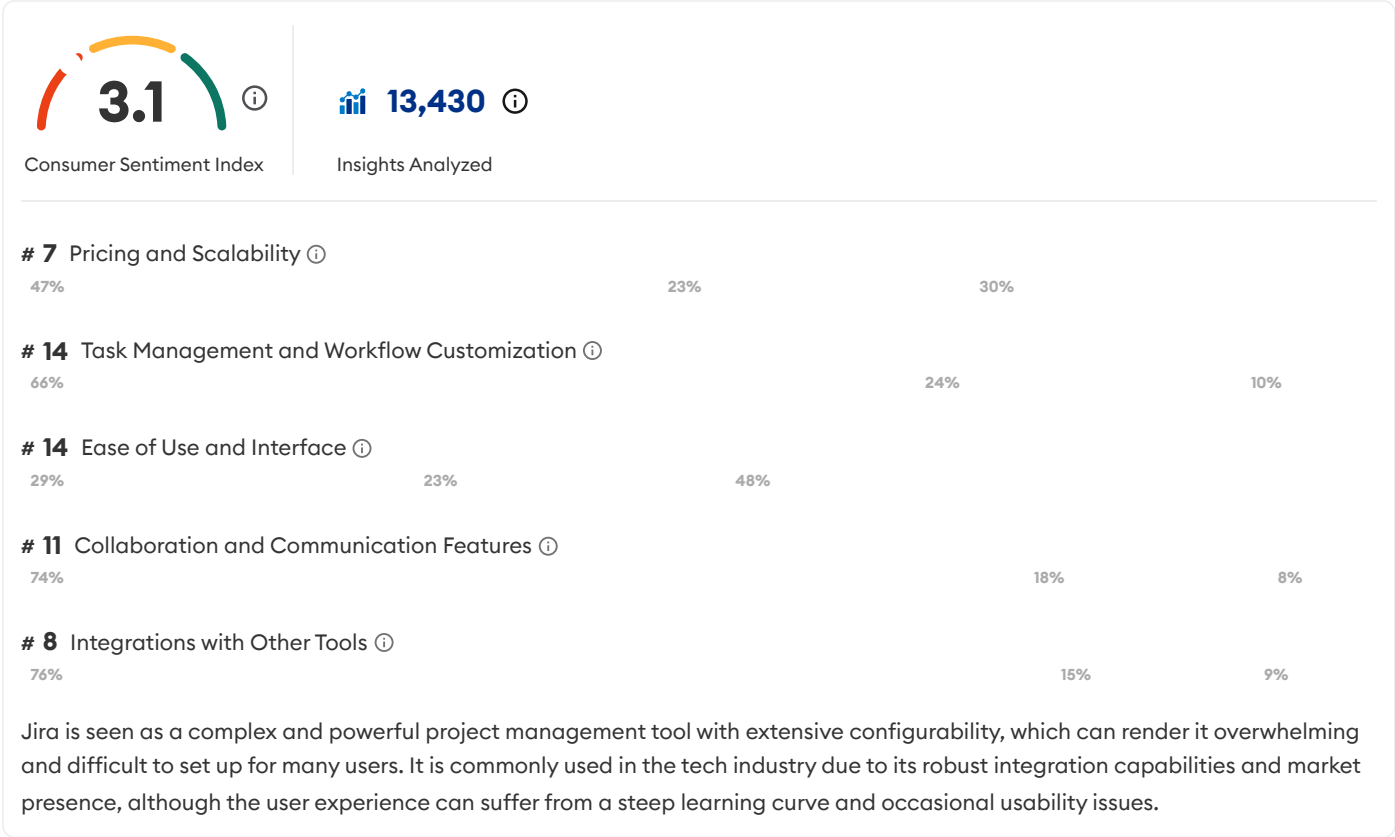
I was a little surprised that Jira didn’t include a live chat option in its platform but the help center articles were useful for me. Get used to the knowledge base if you’re a free user as that’s all the support you’ll receive. If you move up to the Standard plan, you receive standard support, but the best support options are reserved for Premium and Enterprise users. I had standard support. I submitted a ticket during regular business hours and received a response in just under a day.

Mobile App

I think the phrase “your mileage may vary” works here for the mobile app experience. For me, Jira’s mobile app is easy to use for basic functionality. I had no trouble updating tasks and issues. Now if I wanted to create a whole new project and adjust settings, that’s something I’d do on the browser-based platform. I did run into a few errors and issues with tools not appearing as I expected (my keyboard didn’t show up when I tried to search for something) but bugs happen.

Learn more: Read our [Jira review](#).

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Free plan available
- Most features available for all plan levels
- Integrates with popular dev tools, such as GitHub and Figma
- Limited support for lower-tier plans
- Complicated guest access allowance
- Complex terminology

BEST FOR DATA-DRIVEN COMPANIES

Airtable



4.2
Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

Starting price	(billed monthly)
Integrations	Salesforce, Google Calendar, Facebook, Mailchimp, and Slack
Collaboration tools	Comments and @mentions

Expert Take

Airtable is a supercharged spreadsheet that allows the integration and management of traditional and rich data points (such as photos, videos and other files). While it is most famous for its spreadsheet-like interface, it also allows for other project views, including Kanban card stacks and gallery, grid, calendar and Gantt/timeline views.

General Features

Perhaps the best thing about Airtable is how incredibly flexible and customizable it is. That leads me to the worst thing about Airtable: It’s so open-ended that it can be overwhelming to set it up to work exactly the way you want it. I especially like the advanced filtering options so I can find exactly what I need.

As far as core functionality goes, Airtable is easy enough for task and project management at the user level. At the admin level, I found it incredibly time-consuming and complex to set everything up the way my team needed it. Automations are useful for my needs in that I’m able to create a task with all the fields I need to track different things such as status, due date, assignee, editor, publish date and URL. I’m also able to set it up so a document is created in Google Drive with an outline.

With all that said above, Airtable is difficult to use to meet the varied needs of different teams. Not every team uses the same outlines, fields or statuses, and Airtable gets increasingly more complicated when you try to make it work for everyone.



Let Airtable do the work for you by automating your most common tasks. [Learn More](#)

Send an email
When Next steps is Stop, send an email

Send a Slack message
When Next steps is Stop, send a Slack message

Update a record
When Next steps is Stop, set Next steps to Continue

Send a weekly digest
At 10:00 am Monday, email records where Next steps is Stop

Generate a weekly digest in Google Docs [Team](#)
At 10:00 am Monday, generate a Google Doc digest from 1. See results at a glance

TRIGGER

+ Add trigger

Suggested triggers for you:

When a record matches conditions

When a form is submitted

When a record is created

When a record is updated

At a scheduled time

When a record enters a view

[See all...](#)

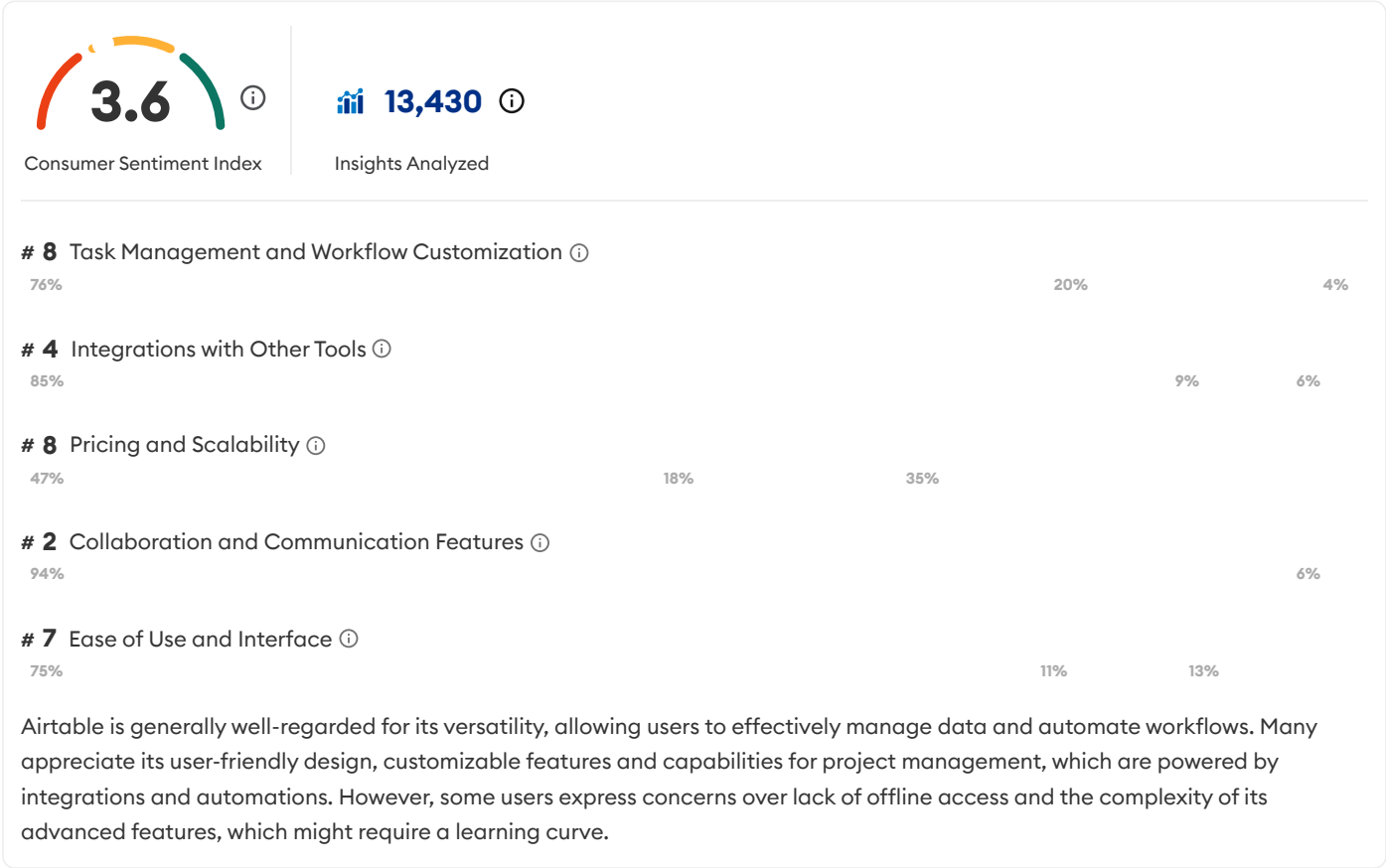
Additional Features

Airtable has a forms feature that I think is helpful for collecting data from external collaborators. It also offers an easy-to-read dashboard that I’ve set up to track the data that is important to me. I can see at a glance which tasks are in which stages, so I know where I need to focus my attention.

I touched a bit earlier on the integration with Google Drive but it’s worth mentioning that Airtable also integrates with Dropbox and Salesforce, which is helpful for importing data. I think one of the most frustrating issues with Airtable is for users who have no admin powers. You’re at the mercy of whatever the admins decide to set up for you, so it might not be the best option for larger companies unless they allow workspaces for each team.

Jeffrey Weide, our project management expert, also notes that “Airtable also has unlimited data-entry use for things that can be used by non-licensed team members to contribute information. You can also easily create data collection forms for anonymous or authenticated users for staff/status updates or minor customer relationship management (CRM) jobs.”

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Free version available
- Easy-to-use templates for various project types
- Highly customizable
- Plans get expensive
- Clunky automation features
- Limited internal communication features available

BEST FOR KANBAN-STYLE BOARDS

Trello

 **Trello**

4.2 Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

Read Forbes' Review

\$6 per user per month

Integrations

Slack, Salesforce, Marketo, NetSuite, and Box

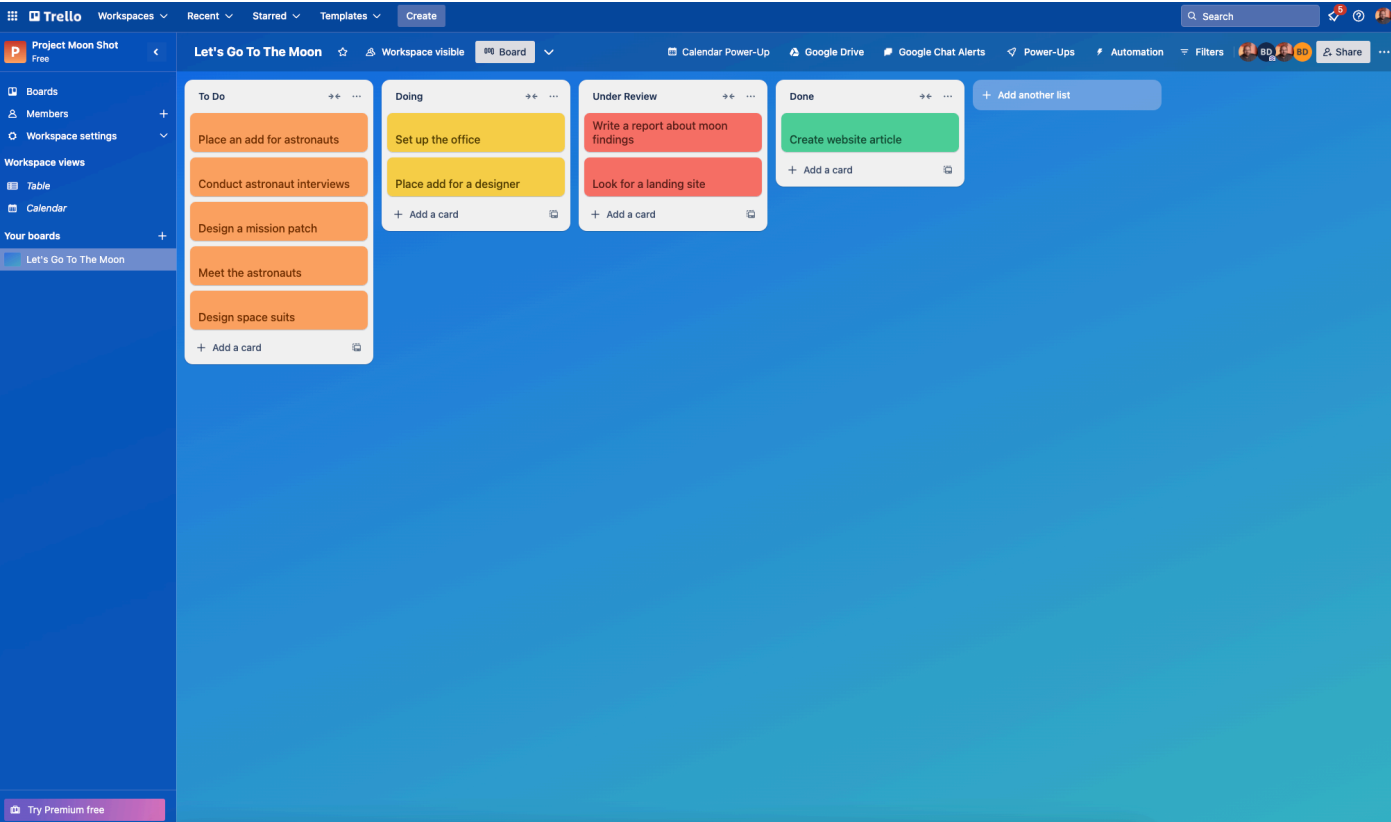
Collaboration tools

Comments and @mentions

Expert Take

Trello is a Kanban board-style project management tool. It has four plans to choose from starting with the Free forever plan. This plan is perfect for individuals or very small teams looking to stay organized with their projects. It is iOS and Android compatible with respective mobile apps and has two-factor authentication.

Jeffrey Weide, our advisory board member, shared when he likes Trello: “Trello is a great product for those not requiring a full subscription service to manage tasks or projects. They offer a multitude of simple options that include Kanban boards and Gantt charts, plus can work with small groups. There are advanced features in their paid subscriptions as well.”

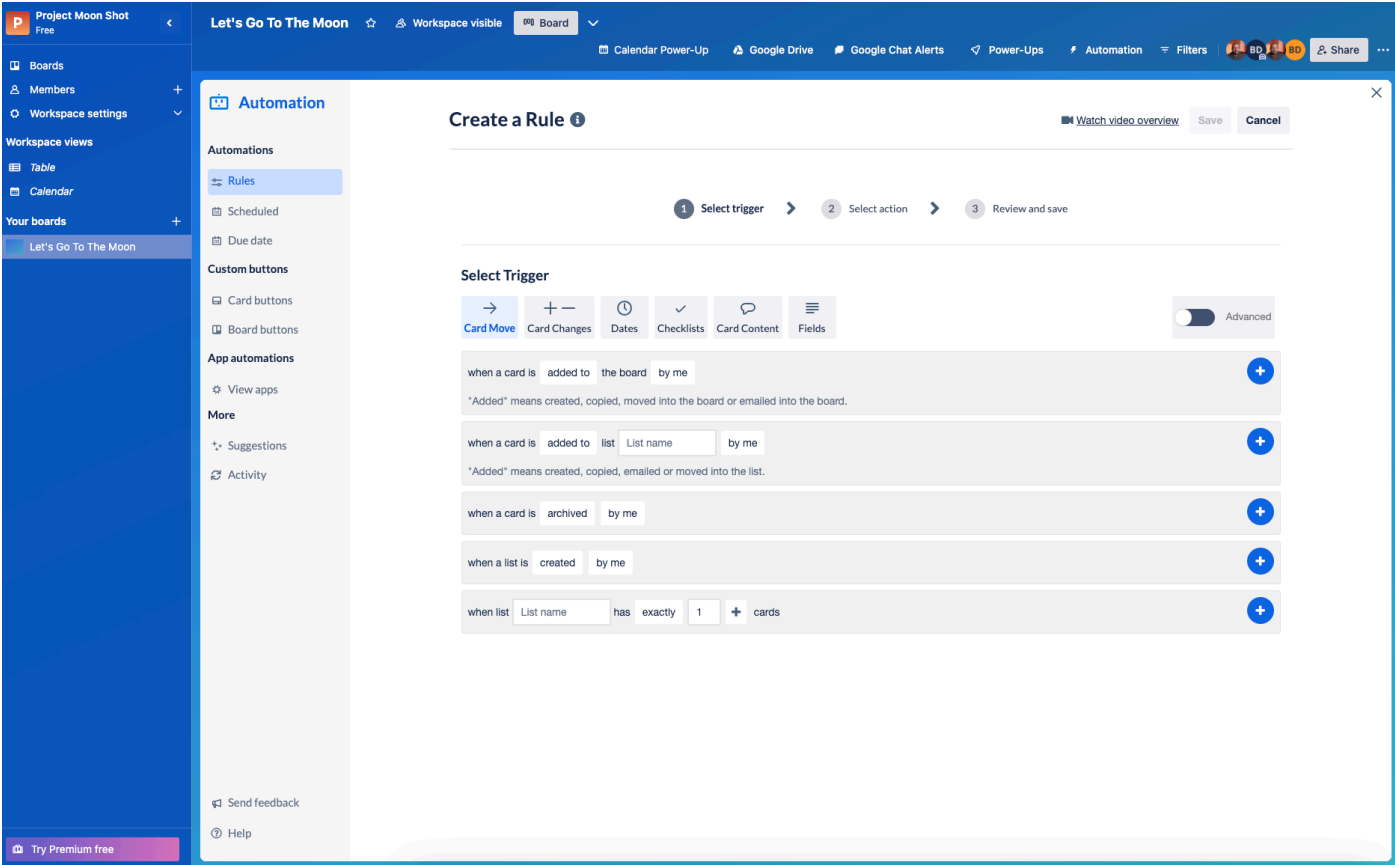


Trello’s Kanban boards and task cards can be customized with colors and images.

General Features

Full disclosure: I’ve used Trello for years for personal projects. It’s one of the easiest-to-use project management systems I’ve come across and I’ve introduced it to many people I’ve worked with who had never used project management software before. Creating a project and tasks is intuitive and moving a card from stage to stage with the drag-and-drop functionality is quick and easy.

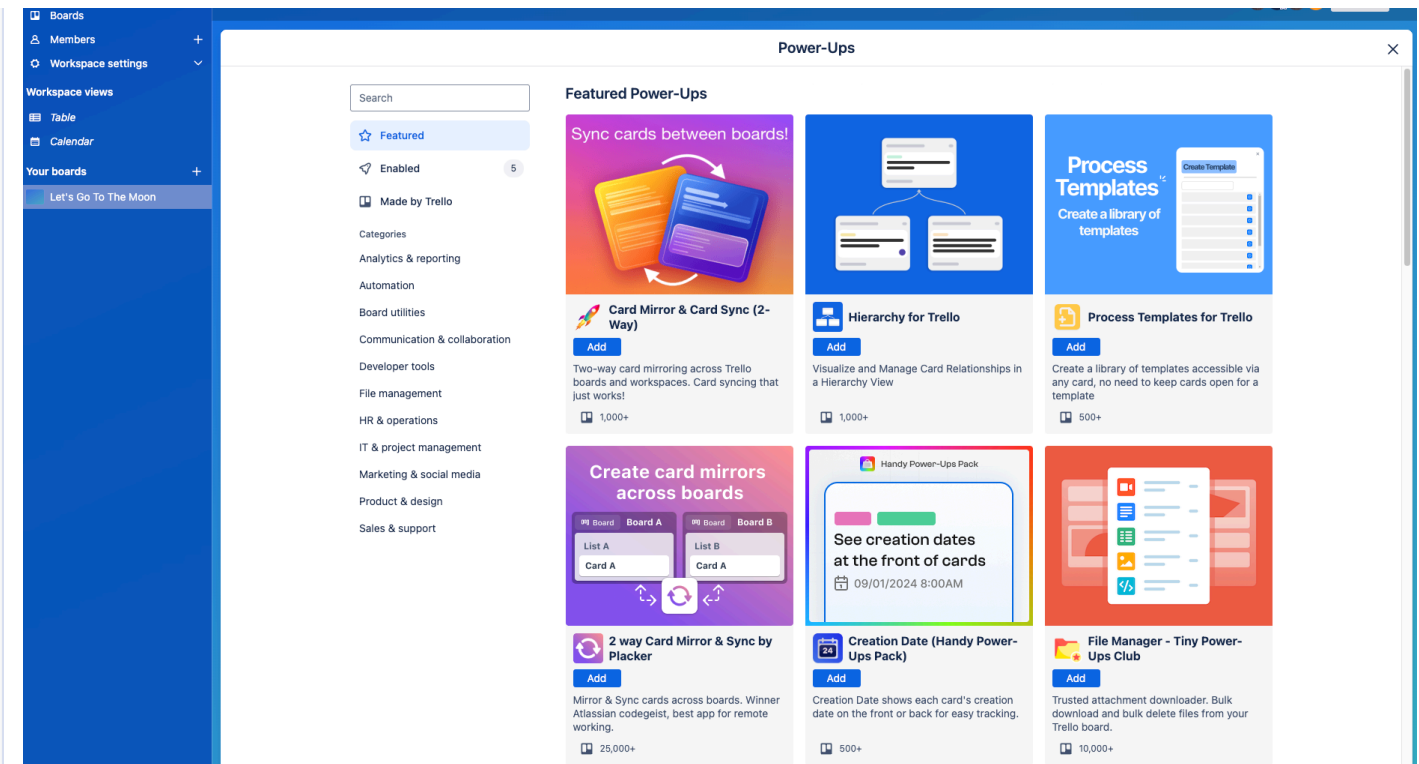
The 10 boards I get on the free plan are plenty for me, and I have yet to run out of automations for my workflows. The only reasons I might upgrade are for the custom fields and unlimited guests on the entry-level plan. Bigger teams would probably do well with Trello’s



The Automation Butler in Trello can help you create automated workflows.

Additional Features

A Power-Up is just Trello’s name for an add-on and these are unlimited and free for all users (any cost goes to the third party, not Trello). I found I was able to bypass some of the advanced features available on higher-paid plans by using integrations instead. For example, there’s an export Power-Up that costs \$6 per month (or \$18 for a year), so if that’s all you need, it can be more affordable than upgrading to Trello’s Premium plan.



Trello offers unlimited power-ups (integrations).

Cost

Trello is one of the most cost-effective project management solutions out there. The free plan is robust enough for my needs and it only costs \$6 per user per month (billed monthly) for the entry-level plan. More than double that cost for the Premium plan (\$12.50 per user per month, billed monthly) and you'll get most of the advanced features. There is an Enterprise plan available, but you need a minimum of 50 users. The Enterprise plan costs \$17.50 per user per month, billed annually.

Customer Service

Atlassian is the parent company of Trello (along with Jira and Confluence), so you can expect the same type of support. Free plan users get access to help documentation and community support while paid plan users can submit tickets. Phone support is only available to Enterprise plan users. I submitted a ticket regarding a technical issue and received a response back around 23 hours later, which is not great, but the help was excellent.

I was able to set up Trello easily enough but I did use the community forums to ask about admin issues. I got an answer from community users the same day and a staff member the following day.

Mobile App

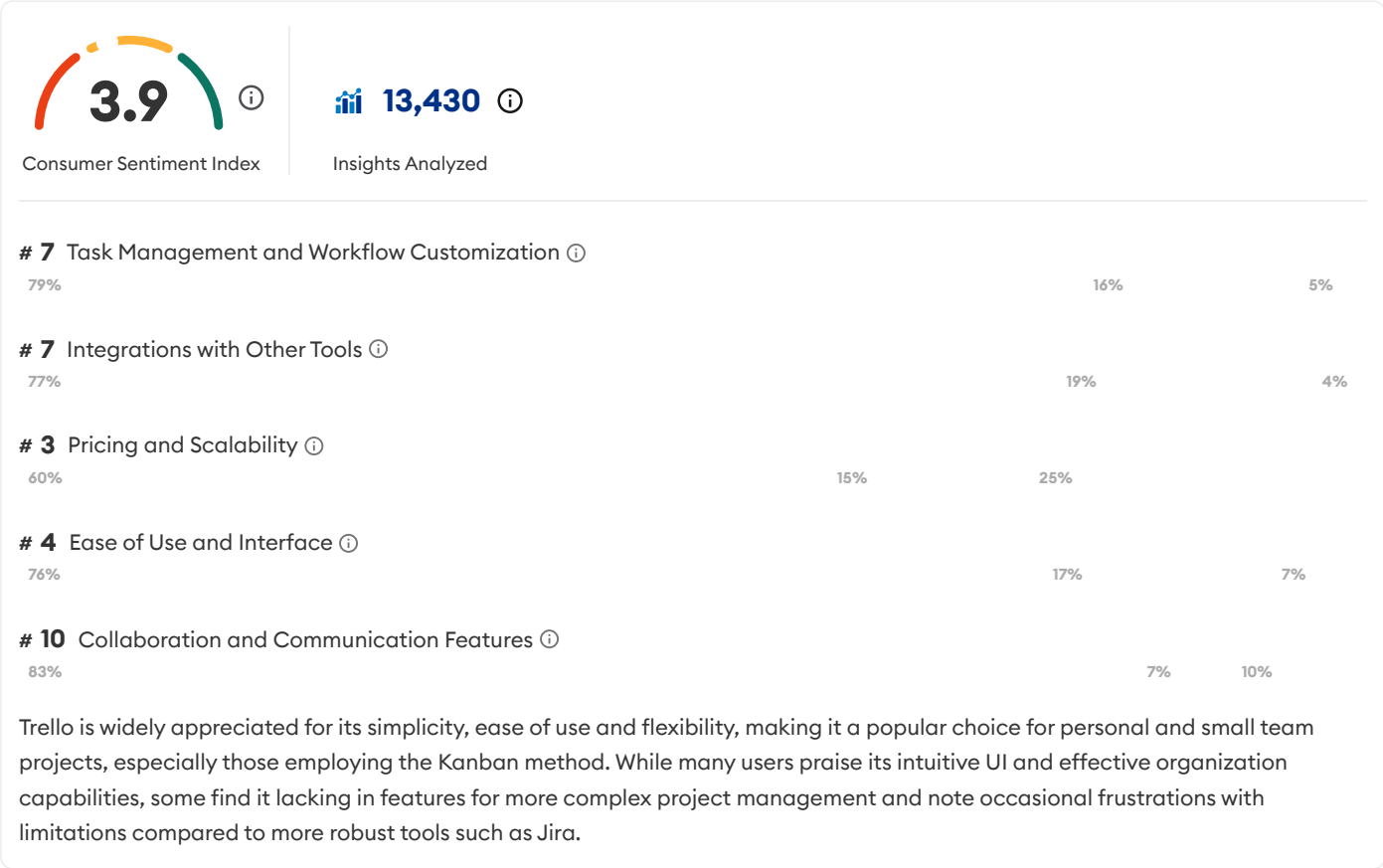
Trello's mobile app is one of the few I've kept on my phone because I use it for personal projects. I've used it to track my out-of-state moves and my international travel. I was able to access all of my boards, tasks and comments easily. Adding and editing tasks was easy. I also like that Trello includes quick actions so I can add an attachment or checklist without having to go through menus to find the features.

[Subscribe](#)

Trello’s Kanban-style board with drag-and-drop features makes organizing a project and collaboration easy. It’s intuitive to use, and teams respond well to its format.

Learn more: Read our full [Trello review](#).

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Highly visual design
- Drag-and-drop usage
- Simplifies task and project management
- Limited free version
- Scalability is costly
- Limited functionality for complex projects

BEST FOR FORM CREATION

Coda

coda

Starting price	\$12 per month per doc maker (billed monthly)
Integrations	Slack, Zoom, Jira, and GitHub
Collaboration tools	Collaborative documents, comments, @mentions and forms

Expert Take

Coda makes collaboration easy with an interface that feels like a doc but engages with collaborators like an app. There is a free plan you can start with, but if you upgrade to a paid plan, you only pay for document creators—editors are considered free collaborators. All plans get unlimited forms for collecting information.

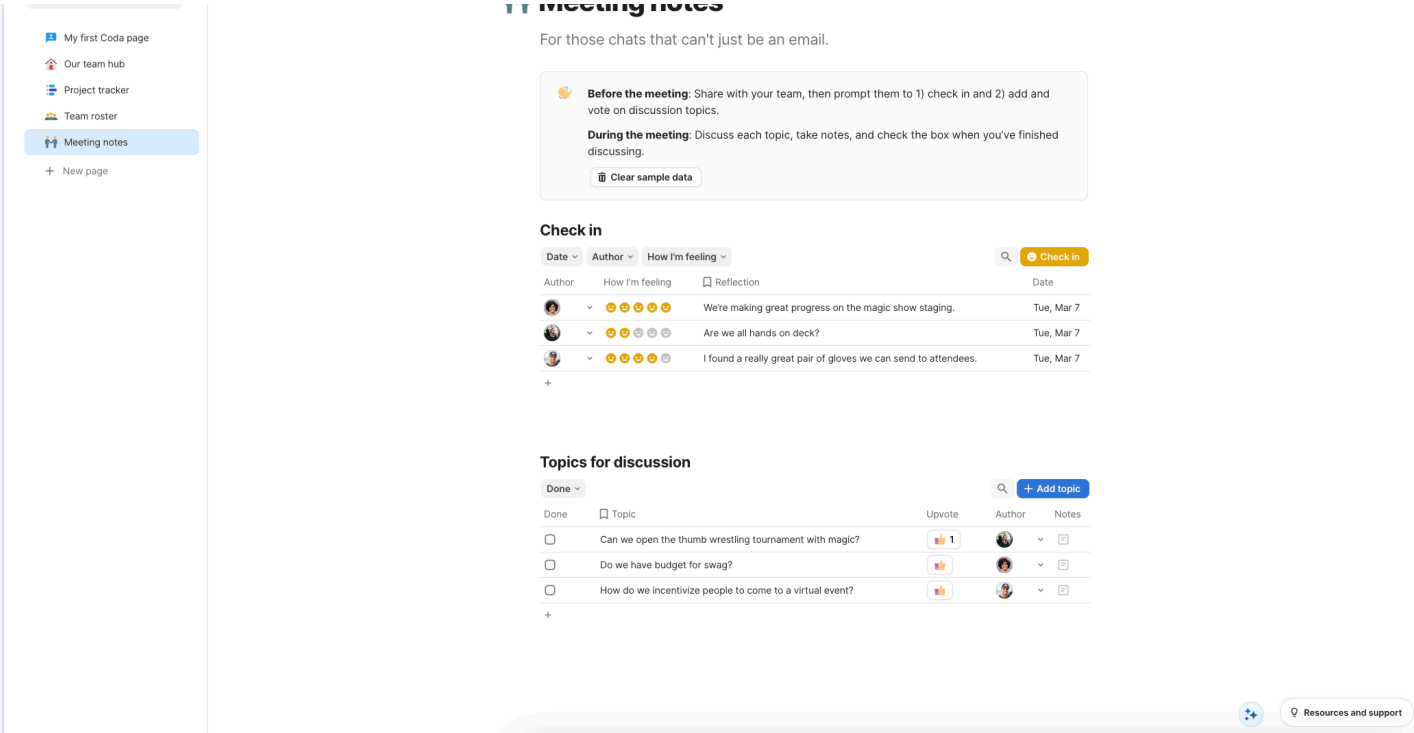
General Features

At the core of Coda are collaborative documents and forms. There are plenty of templates to give you a quick start with the project management software. I chose a project dashboard because it makes the most sense for my team. It must be a lightweight system because it loads quickly. This is where I'll admit I didn't expect there to be any task or project management features in Coda and technically there aren't; rather, you have to build the functionality yourself (or use a template).

When I first started with Coda, it seemed a bit too complicated to use but it's really easy to edit layouts and documents to make it do what you want. To me, it's like a cross between Notion and Airtable but much easier to use. Also, I found I could make as many documents and forms as I'd like on the free plan; the biggest limitation is I could only make big docs (50-plus objects and 1,000-plus rows) for myself. Smaller docs you can share with editors as you'd like.

Carl Rodriguez, founder and owner of NX Auto Transport, shared his thoughts with us on using Coda for his business:

"Coda excels in its ability to create interactive documents. It's like combining a spreadsheet and a word processor but with the power to create dynamic workflows. One lesser-known feature I've found incredibly useful is the ability to embed live data from other sources. For instance, I can pull in real-time sales data from a Google Sheet and display it directly in my project planning document. This allows me to make informed decisions without switching between multiple tools or tabs."



Coda allows you to create documents your team can edit together in real time.

Additional Features

Along with most project management software, Coda offers integrations but similar to Trello, it calls them something different; in this case, they’re “packs.” There are hundreds of these connectors and the options range from communication tools like Zoom and Slack to inventory management systems and payment processors. Of course, they’re only available on paid plans.

There are AI tools included with all plans but the free plan only allows you to try it out with a single question, edit or automation. Each tier gets 2,000 to 12,000 AI tool credits (it works similarly to automations in other software). It’s a bit like having Grammarly or ChatGPT in the app with you.

Packs

My Packs Shared with me Shared with workspace Subscriptions

Search to filter Packs

- Cross-doc** By Coda
Sync data and perform actions between Coda docs.
- Salesforce** By Coda
Connect the world's #1 CRM platform with Coda.
- Jira** By Coda
Track projects and push updates with two-way sync.
- Google Calendar** By Coda
See your events and create new events from your doc.
- Google Sheets** By Coda
Streamline your data management and analysis with the Google Sheets Pack.
- Gmail** By Coda
See and send emails from your doc by connecting to Google.

Resources and support

You can link Coda with many top software platforms thanks to integrations.

Cost

I'm considering using the free version of Coda for personal projects because I like how customizable it is and the limitations aren't that limiting. Given that Coda only charges per document maker, it can be an affordable option.

The Pro plan starts at \$12 per user per month (billed monthly) but you can share editable documents with as many users as you'd like. Think of it like admins and users; you pay for admins but not users, which makes this an affordable option. The Team plan costs \$36 per doc creator per month (billed monthly) but you also get advanced packs, private folders and document locking.

Customer Service

Customer support via live chat isn't instant, and support is only available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PT. I was able to make the chatbot direct my question to a representative but was told they would respond when they could. Fortunately, I only had to wait five minutes. I also sent a help request through email and received a detailed response in just under six hours. Coda does not offer phone support, but you will find a helpful community page and a large knowledge base.

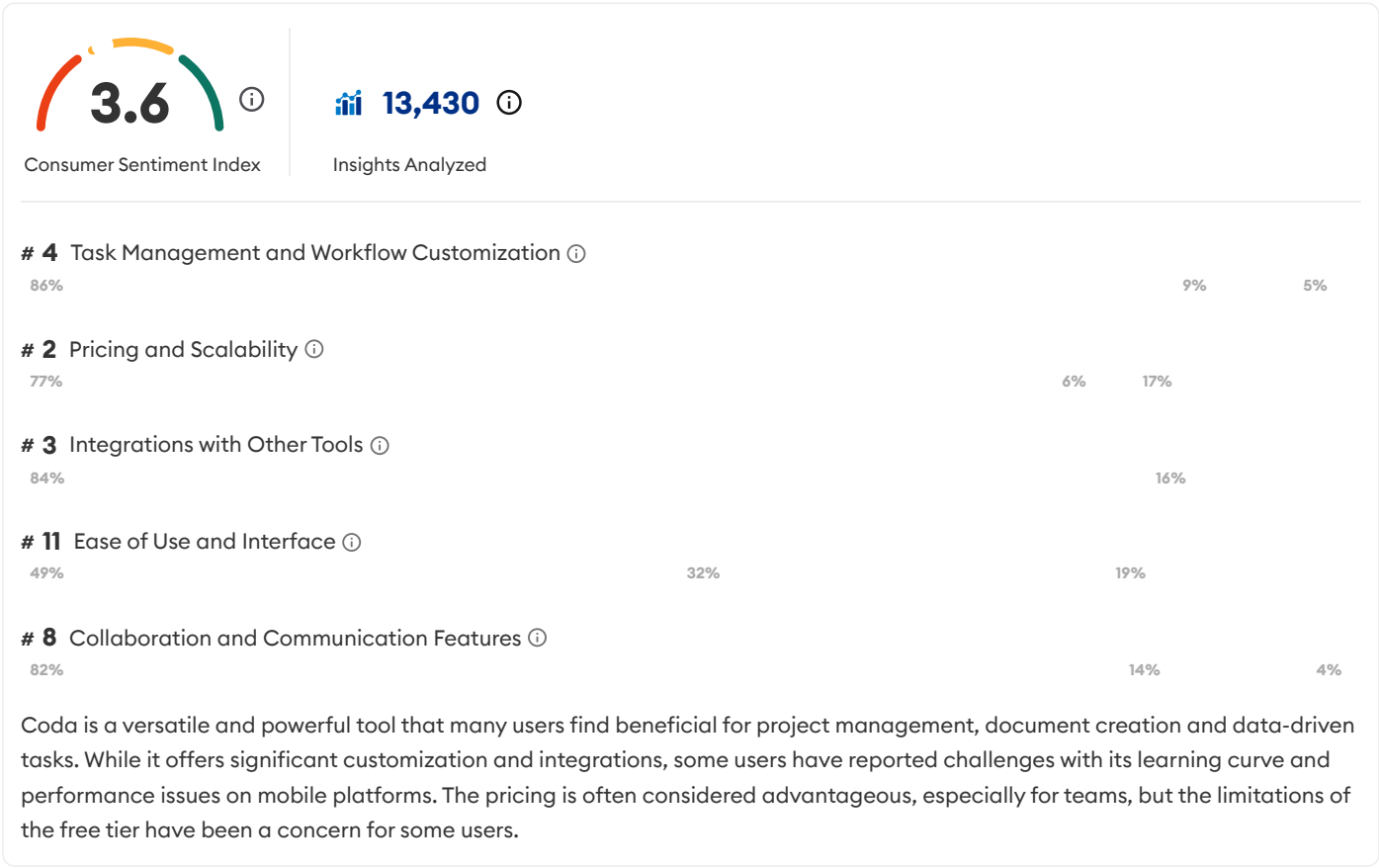
Mobile App

Unfortunately, the functionality of Coda's browser-based app doesn't translate well to mobile. I was able to edit my documents but it was a tedious process. Plus it was difficult to impossible to modify layouts. If I continue to use Coda, I'll only use the mobile app for quick text additions or to answer a collaborator if I'm tagged and nowhere near my laptop.

Who should use it:

When you want customized forms to gather information, Coda is the pick of the platforms. It allows you to create and brand forms to make information gathering straightforward.

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Free plan includes useful templates
- Powerful collaboration tool
- Easily monitor team performance
- More expensive than other platforms
- Difficult to use
- Tools aren't always intuitive

BEST FOR TASK MANAGEMENT

Todoist



4.1

Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

Read Forbes' Review

Integrations	Google Calendar, iCalendar, Toggl Track, Time Doctor and PomoDone
Collaboration tools	Comments and voice notes

Expert Take

Todoist is a great way to stay on track with personal and team projects. It’s similar to any other project management software in that you can create tasks, subtasks and multiple projects, and assign tasks to other users. There’s also an AI assistant to help reduce manual work. There’s a free plan available but it’s fairly limited.

General Features

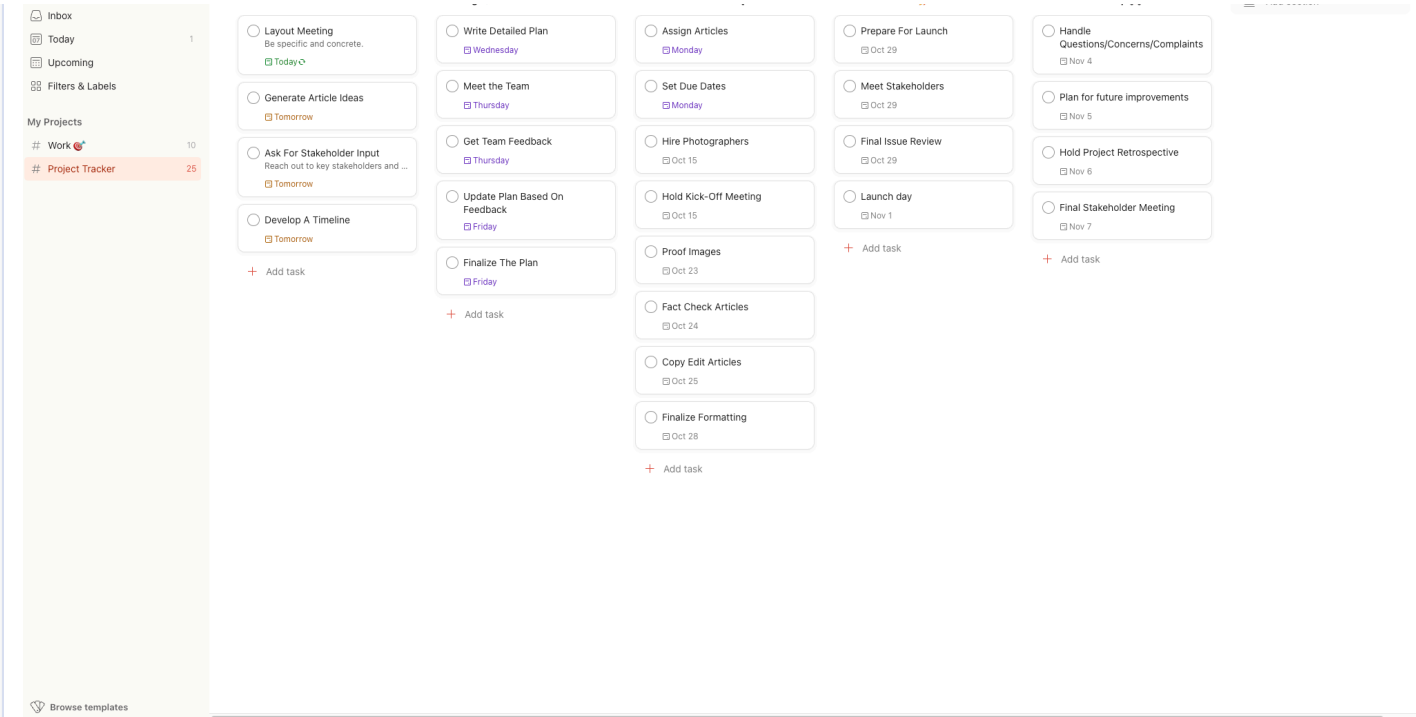
Getting started with Todoist is easy with its walk-through as soon as you sign up for an account. For the most part, I found it intuitive to create a project and task but that’s where it ended. As I set priorities and added subtasks, the app seemed to change the priorities of my tasks. It also took several clicks for me to add labels; after creating a label, Todoist prompted me to add tasks to that label, which is not how I like to work. I wanted to create a bunch of labels that I know I’d use but I had to exit one label and click on the menu option to create a new one.

Adding a task to a board in Todoist is easy but along with filters, it’s tedious. You can’t really use keyboard shortcuts to set up a project. I had to click a lot to add due dates, labels and to add the task; tab and enter don’t work to move from field to field or to save a task. I also wanted more control over how tasks are treated in each column; for example, if I move a card into the final column, it should mark the task as complete. As it is, if you mark a task as done, it’s just gone to the archive.

Michael Ashley, the found of AshleyInsights, shared his thoughts on Todoist with us:

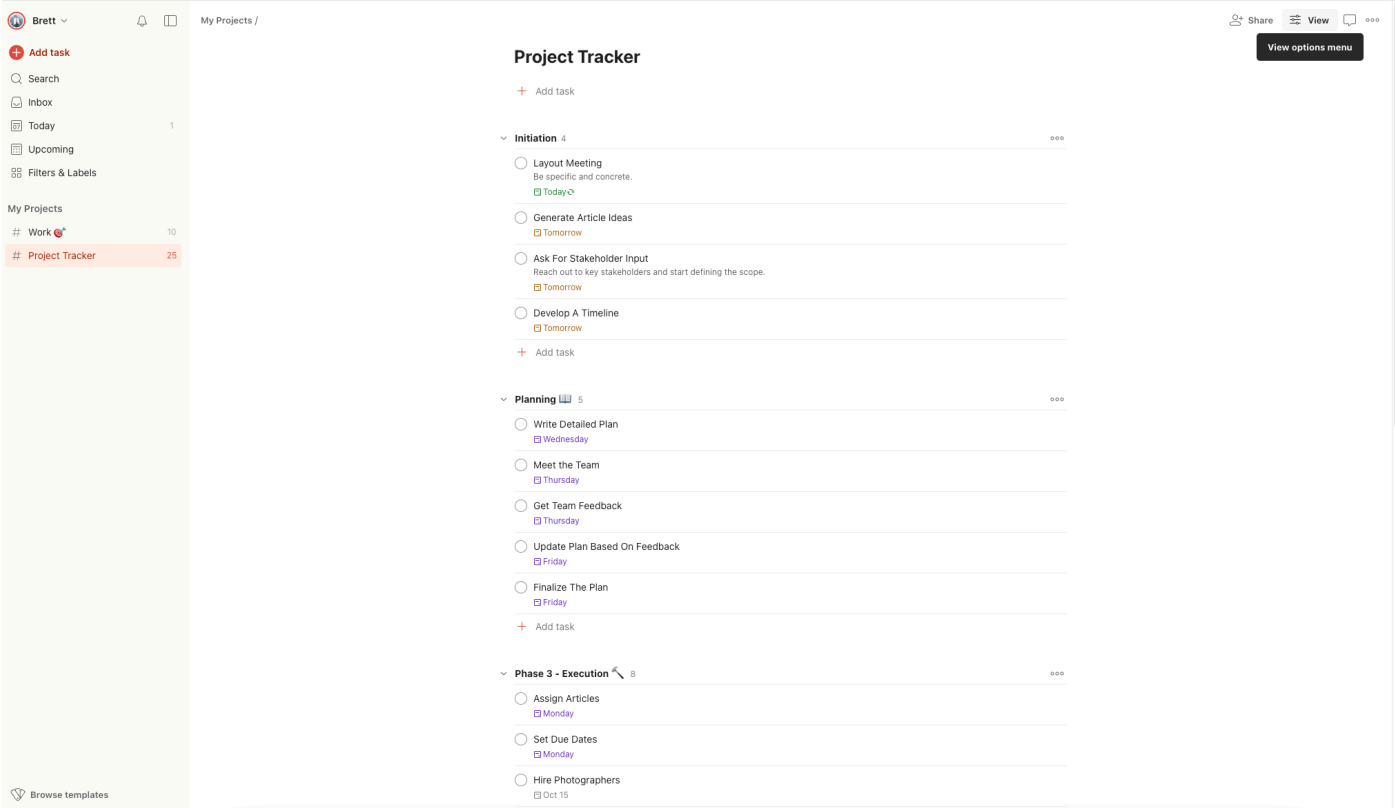
“Todoist is excellent for its simplicity and ease of use. I like its straightforward interface and intuitive task management features. It’s great for small business owners who need a no-frills task management tool that helps them stay organized and focused on their priorities. One feature I particularly liked about Todoist was its natural language input, which allowed me to quickly add tasks and set deadlines without navigating through multiple menus.”

Subscribe



Additional Features

The AI assistant can help by suggesting tasks or breaking down a task to make it easier to hit your goal or deadline. I tried using the AI assistant to apply filters to tasks but it didn’t work for some reason. Reminders are a nice-to-have feature but they’re only available on paid plans.



Cost

The Pro plan is affordable at \$5 per user per month (billed monthly) and allows up to five people but this also includes the AI assistant, calendar views and up to 150 custom filters. If you need Todoist for a whole company, the Business plan is the most viable option at \$8 per user per month (billed monthly) because it has far fewer limitations and all the features available.

Customer Service

Todoist offers a help center filled with articles that cover numerous topics from features to teams and billing so you can problem-solve on your own. If you need extra help, you can submit a ticket. There is no live support available and there is no phone support. I created a help ticket during regular business hours and I received a response in under three hours.

Mobile App

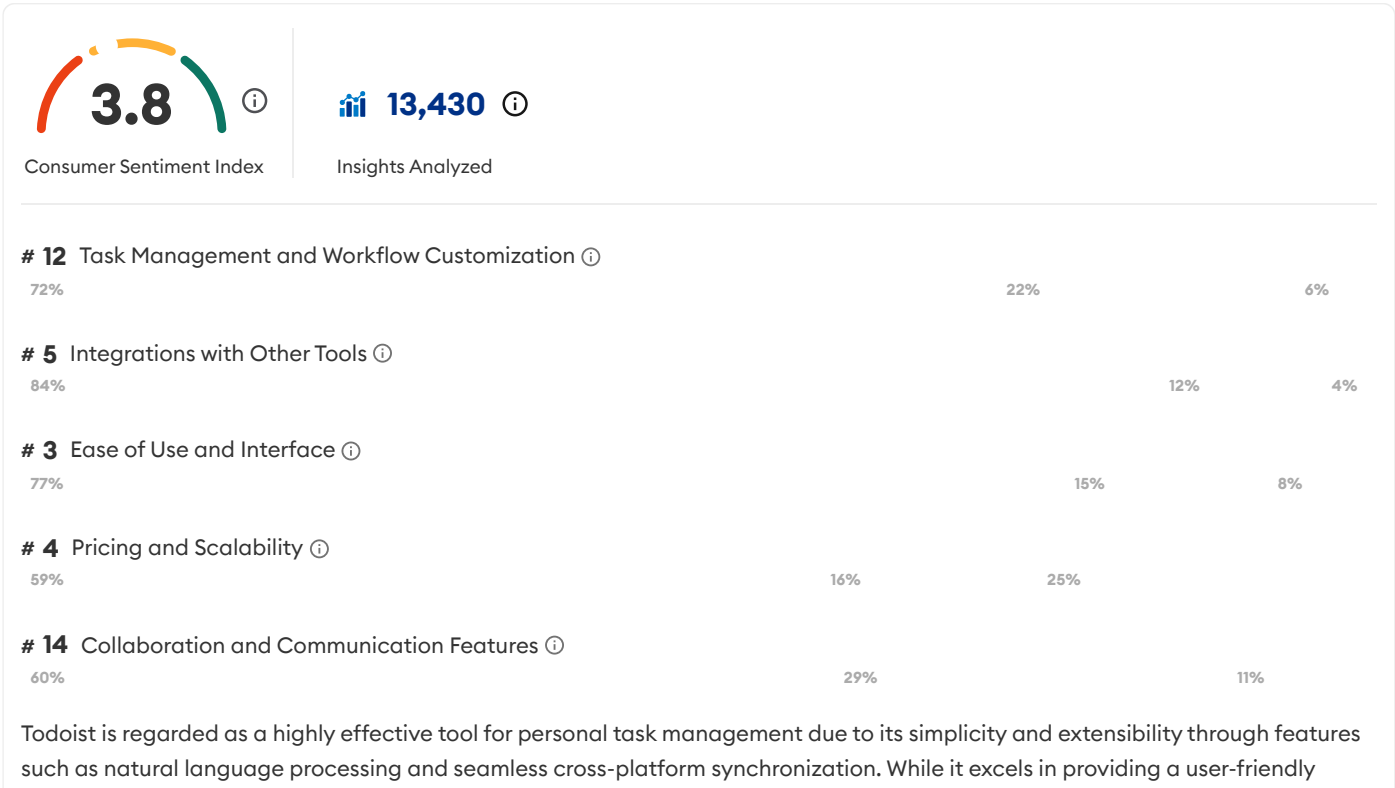
If I were to keep using Todoist I might do so just to track my personal tasks. The paid versions can act as a reminder or habit app, so I like it for that purpose. However, I ran into some bugs with this app randomly closing. For project management, it leaves a lot to be desired. Sorting tasks seems to be broken at times (I could only sort once but after exiting the app and trying again, it worked) and it just feels like I have to find loopholes or workarounds to make the app do what I want.

Who should use it:

Staying on track is the key to project efficiency and completion. Todoist is ideal for keeping organizations on task with ease.

Learn more: Read our full [Todoist review](#).

Consumer Sentiment Index



Pros & Cons

- Inexpensive plans
- Easy to learn
- Seamlessly access tasks from various devices
- Lacks off-line functionality
- Not all features are intuitive to use
- Only suitable for simple projects

BEST FOR GANTT CHART CREATION

TeamGantt



4.0
Forbes ADVISOR

Learn More

[Read Forbes' Review](#)

Starting price	\$11.99 per month per user (billed monthly)
Integrations	Slack, Trello, Dropbox and Zapier
Collaboration tools	Comments and @mentions

Expert Take

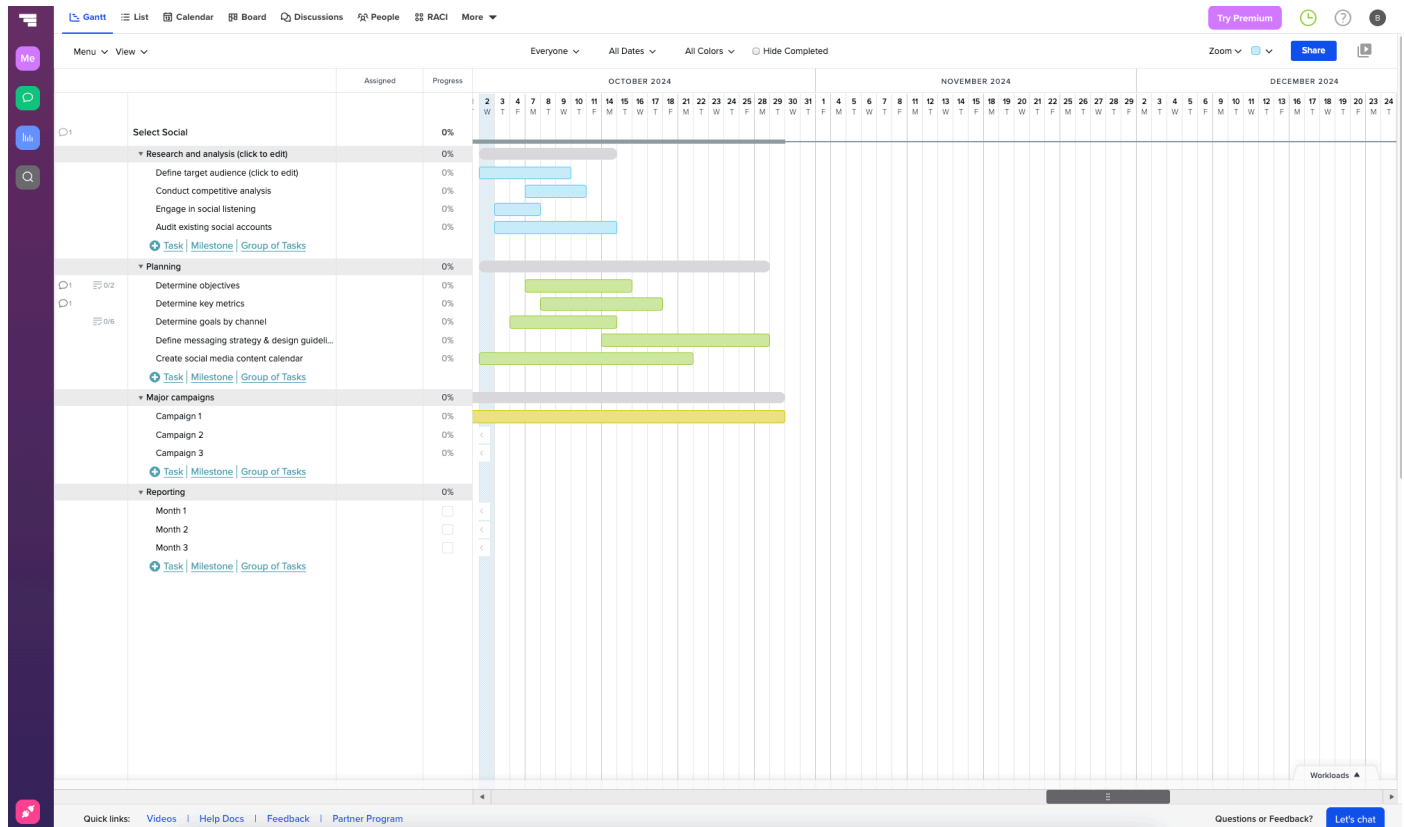
TeamGantt is primarily a Gantt chart project management tool that’s easy to use, even for beginners. In my opinion, the free plan is only viable for a solopreneur. The paid plans are much less limited with reporting, workload management, priority support and portfolio management.

General Features

If you’re just looking for Gantt charts, TeamGantt could be a good option for managing a single small project. The core features are included on all plans, so I was able to effectively manage a project with tasks, subtasks, dependencies and milestones. The dynamic Gantt chart is so easy to use to add tasks, set dependencies and track a project’s progress.

Admittedly, I’m familiar with Gantt charts but I prefer Kanban- and list-style project management. With that said, I’d say TeamGantt is easier to use than most Gantt chart software. My biggest complaint is that I can’t click on a taskbar on a chart or the line to the left to open a task, so I have to slow my roll with clicking to actually open a task window.

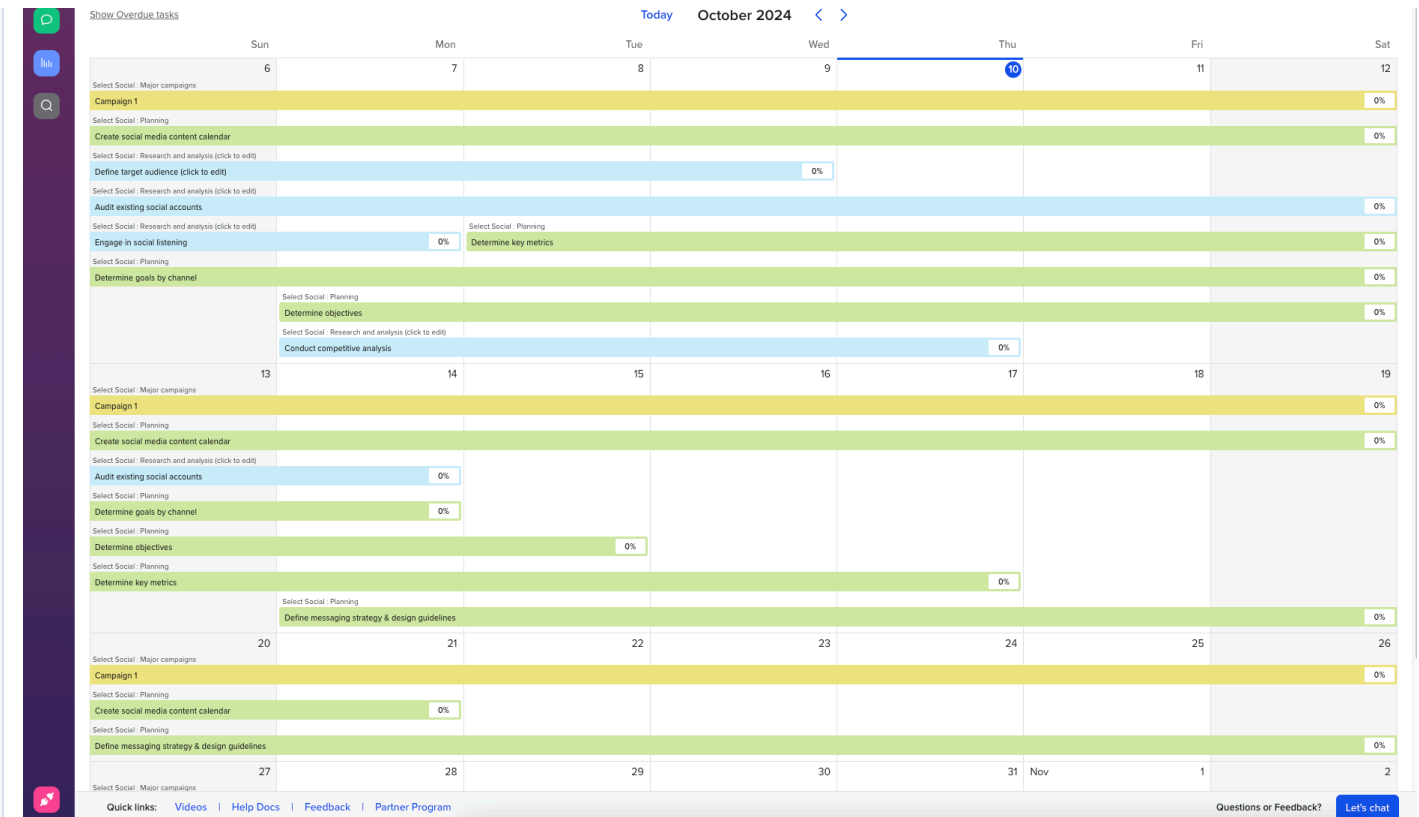
“We have been using TeamGantt for a few years, and we find it effective and efficient for implementing projects. The flexibility that it has for collaboration is excellent. TeamGantt is the best tool we have found to easily build and maintain project plans, with automation built in for resource planning. Being a browser-based tool allows for collaboration and seamless across our project management team as well as clients and other departments. The built-in integrations and open API allow us to sync our work in Team Gantt with other tools we use in our business. My favorite part is that the Team Gantt team is always accessible for customer support and working through user-voted enhancements.”



Additional Features

Beyond the basics are workload management, baselines, time tracking and hourly estimating. Time tracking is easy enough to use and I like that I can view multiple projects at once. Another great feature, which is common with Gantt chart software, is the ability to see planned versus actual time.

And although I've seen workload management handled in a similar way, I like how TeamGantt handles it. The workload window is minimized by default but you can pull it up at any time and it just resides below your project. This helps you reallocate resources without having to jump from screen to screen.

[Subscribe](#)

Cost

Depending on the size of your business, TeamGantt could get pricey; the Lite plan costs \$11.99 per user per month (billed monthly). To get the more advanced features, which I think are necessary for fully formed teams, you should consider the Pro plan, which costs \$24.99 per user per month (billed monthly).

Customer Service

TeamGantt offers phone support for technical and billing questions. I called and was asked to leave a voicemail. I never received a call back. TeamGantt also provides live chat support. According to the tool, the typical response time is 10 minutes. I received a response in six minutes. Email support was also snappy, with a response arriving in under six hours. TeamGantt users can also access a well-designed knowledge base and sign up for free live classes.

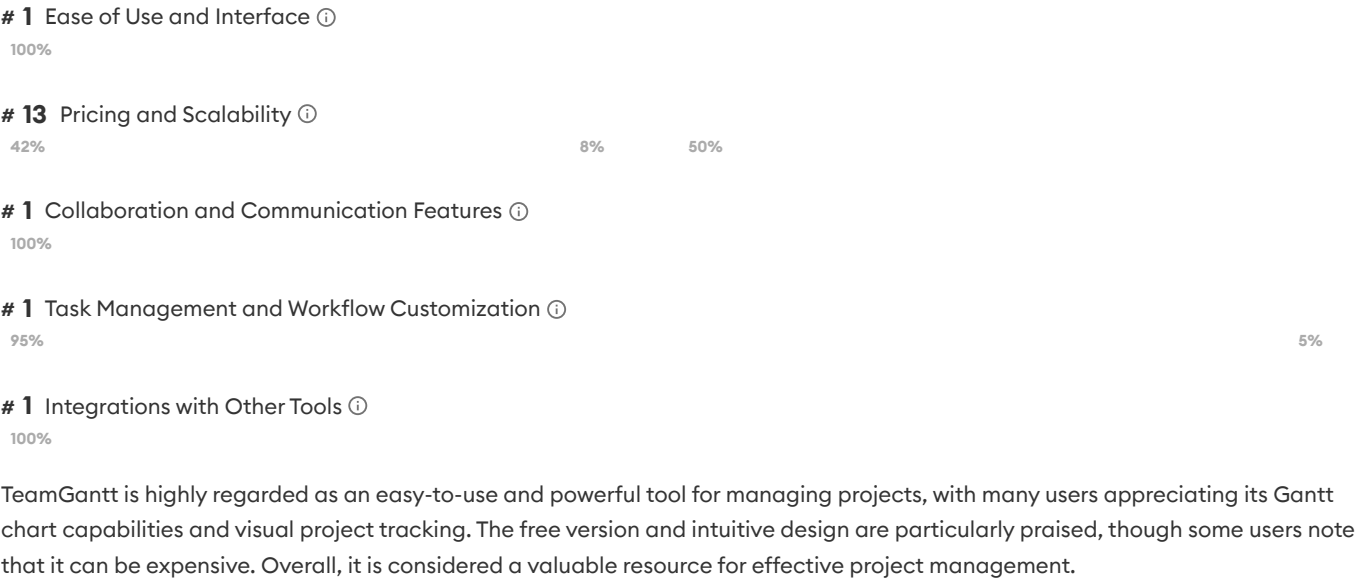
Mobile App

Given that the mobile app is named “TeamGantt Companion” in the app store, you should probably expect it to be as such. I certainly don’t expect full functionality of a Gantt chart platform on mobile. I did just fine using it to view projects in list view and commenting on tasks.

Who should use it:

TeamGantt is ideal for companies planning on using Gantt charts to stay organized and on task. It is the most user-friendly platform for Gantt chart creation.

Learn more: Read our full [TeamGantt review](#).



Pros & Cons

- Easy Gantt chart creation
- Easy-to-navigate interface
- Visual representation of long-term projects
- Limited number of projects
- Finished tasks still show up in progress reports
- Limited communication tools

Forbes Advisor Ratings

Company	Forbes Advisor Rating	Starting Price	Integrations	Learn More	
 ClickUp	Forbes ADVISOR 4.9 ★★★★★ ⓘ	\$10 per member per month (billed monthly)	Slack, Microsoft Outlook, HubSpot, Salesforce, Timely, Google Drive and more	Learn More On ClickUp's Website	>

monday.com		monthly (minimum of three seats)	and more	On monday.com's Website
 Asana	Forbes ADVISOR 4.6 	\$13.49 per user per month (billed monthly)	Google Drive, Microsoft Teams, Outlook, Slack and DocuSign	Learn More Read Forbes' Review
 Zoho Projects	Forbes ADVISOR 4.6 	\$5 per seat per month (billed monthly)	Microsoft Teams, Slack, Dropbox, Google apps, Github, Zendesk, Zapier and Zoho apps	Learn More Read Forbes' Review
 Smartsheet	Forbes ADVISOR 4.5 	\$12 per user per month (billed monthly)	Google Drive, Slack, Tableau, Miro, and Zapier	Learn More Read Forbes' Review
 Notion	Forbes ADVISOR 4.4 	\$12 per user per month (billed monthly)	Slack, Zapier, Jira, Asana, Google Drive, and IFTTT	Learn More Read Forbes' Review
 Teamwork.com	Forbes ADVISOR 4.4 	\$13.99 per user per month, billed monthly (minimum of three users)	Dropbox, Google Drive, SharePoint, QuickBooks, and Microsoft Project	Learn More Read Forbes' Review
 Wrike	Forbes ADVISOR 4.4 	\$10 per user per month	Google Drive, Slack, Salesforce, and QuickBooks	Learn More On Wrike's Website
 Jira	Forbes ADVISOR 4.3 	\$8.60 per user per month (estimated cost)	Slack, Zendesk, Outlook, Google Sheets and GitHub	Learn More Read Forbes' Review
 Airtable	Forbes ADVISOR 4.2 	\$24 per seat per month (billed monthly)	Salesforce, Google Calendar, Facebook, Mailchimp, and Slack	Learn More Read Forbes' Review

See More

Methodology

Decision Factor	Scoring Weight	Description
General Features	25%	We considered the basics of project management software such as task management and automations.
Additional Features	20%	Sometimes it's the added features that set a tool apart from another such as client access or budgeting tools.
Cost	15%	Although pricing is important, we acknowledge many project management apps offer free and low-priced plans, so the weight on this is a bit lower.
Customer Service and User Reviews	15%	It's important to be able to contact support in the way you prefer, so we look at whether live chat and phone support are available. We also consider user reviews in our scoring.
Mobile App	5%	We scored the mobile apps lowest in our data analysis because project management mobile apps are supplemental in most cases.
Expert Score	20%	Some elements of a project management app are nebulous and don't have hard data to compare, so we trust our experts, who test each software themselves, to determine the value-to-cost ratio, ease of use and unique features of each software.

Read More: [How We Test Project Management Software](#)

How To Choose the Best Project Management Software

To choose a project management software, consider each provider's cost and added fees, overall features and functionality offerings, reporting, integration capabilities, necessary features vs. feature overload, customer reviews and customer support. In this section, we walk you through how to approach this assessment.

ASK AN EXPERT

How do I pick the best project management software?



Jeff Weide
Education Expert



Brett Day
Senior Staff Writer



Rachel Williams
Small Business Editor

Ultimately, it is best to take the time to talk to end-users and team members on what is important to them in their project management roles. It is also critical to know if your clients or leadership need reports or dashboards for status updates.



Jeff Weide
Education Expert

Essential Project Management Software Features

Project management software has basic features that most projects need to be successful. However, extra or unique features make some software options better for certain teams or businesses. It's important to do your research to understand what unique features might make your project more successful based on your team approach, type of business or type of project. Some highly utilized project management tools and features include:

Budget planning tools: Budget planning tools allow you to upload your set budget, then track expenses and invoices to compare project costs to the planned budget. By tracking this variance, you can determine if you are running into a budgeting problem. Financial forecasting tools further help you to ensure you don't run over budget or, worse, have to stop the project because of lack of funds.

Resource management tools: [Resource utilization](#) tools allow you to plan, track and record where resources—such as your talent—are used in the project's execution. In doing so, it helps to reveal gaps in availability or when certain team members are overused (risking burnout), then adjust resource allocation to prevent problems.

Task management features: Task management features include automations (that eliminate redundant tasks from to-do lists). Examples include automating invoicing, the identification of critical project changes and managing project workflows. Other task management tools include boards (to visualize moving tasks through their stages to completion), calendars, timeline views, scheduling, task tracking and task prioritization.

Risk management features: Common project risks include finishing over budget, with a lower-quality outcome than expected or not finishing on time. Many tools within a project management software can help you balance competing demands to finish the project as intended, including [critical path](#) charts, checklists, scheduling tools, cost breakdowns, cost variance reports and timelines.

Reports and charts: Project management software offers digital charts for planning, tracking and readjusting your projects' timelines, budget and quality as needed. For example, Kanban charts show tasks on a timeline board and their status. Gantt charts also give an overview of a project's timeline complete with its phases, tasks and outputs. You can gather or feed data into these charts to update in real time.

Mobile app: Mobile apps help teams easily track, manage and deliver project deliverables from anywhere, helping to ensure all members are always in the know no matter where they are. Real-time knowledge can help them make smart decisions that keep projects progressing as planned. Apps also offer personalized content so team members know the tasks, activities and milestones they must complete each day.

Integrations: Integrations help to boost a project management software's performance and cater it to your needs. Slack and Google Drive integrations, for example, allow team members to collaborate within the software on project deliverables. Stripe also allows your team to invoice clients for deliverables. Many project management software offer hundreds or even thousands of integration options.

Client management tools: Many project management software offer various features for including your clients in the project's execution, keeping them up to date on the project's status and maintaining a professional relationship. Such tools include video-conferencing tools, invoicing and the ability to add clients as users to the project management software while maintaining control over what they can and cannot see.

Collaboration tools: Many project management platforms offer tools to help project execution team members work together seamlessly, even across locations. Some come in the form of integrations, such as Slack. Others, however, are built in. Such built-in tools often include shared calendars, group chats, document sharing, chat forums and team email.

Demos and team feedback: Project management software may have all the right features but, if your team isn't comfortable with it, it may underperform in project execution. For this reason, many software programs offer demos your team can use to test them, even allowing you to pilot them in a real project. From there, you can gather team feedback to learn the software's appropriateness for your team and needs.

Ease of Use

Look for tools and designs that can help your organization use the software easier, despite barriers such as little knowledge of best practices or a cumbersome number of tasks that must be completed on a daily basis. Choosing the right ease-of-use features for your organization depends on

Templates: Project management software templates incorporate project management best practices.

Learning materials and opportunities: Software knowledge bases allow project managers and team members to learn how to expertly implement the software's features based on layman's terms definitions, videos and more. Demos are another opportunity to learn via often live interaction with software experts who know how to present its features and answer questions in layman's terms.

Automations: Automations make complex tasks instant and effortless by taking repetitive and often tedious tasks out of human hands. Less hands-on interaction makes the software's involvement in project management easier to manage. Preset automation recipes make this ease-of-use feature even more intuitive.

Mobile apps: Logistically, mobile apps make using the software easier by facilitating the gathering and dissemination of necessary information and helping team members complete tasks in a timely manner. Project field practitioners, for example, can update pertinent information on a project's status without having to hold up the project to go back to the office to input such data.

Reporting and Analytics

Reporting within project management software presents key data in a meaningful way to help you understand the success or needed improvements in your projects. The best project management software offer dashboards that break down data in the form of graphs, tables and the like to make gleaning insights from the data instant and intuitive.

Determine the types of key performance indicators (KPIs) you may need to track and the types of needed reports to help you track them. Then, when evaluating your considered software, explore its reporting and analytics options and dashboards to determine if they have what you need.

Common reports that may be helpful in a project management software include project status, health, team availability, risk, variance and timeline reports. Common KPIs include percentage of tasks completed, return on investment (ROI), schedule variance, planned vs. actual hours and the planned project value.

Next, evaluate whether the software will continue to meet your needs by exploring whether you can customize the reports or dashboards to meet needs as they arise. Customization options may include the ability to add or remove columns or create new reporting views.

Customer Reviews

Customer reviews offer real-world insights into what it is like to use your considered software and do business with its provider. Search your considered software on tech review sites such as Capterra and TrustRadius. Read the reviews of past and current users. As you do, you are likely to learn the glitches the software experiences, hidden costs not highlighted on the provider's website and how the software compares to competitor solutions.

Customer Support

Access to quality customer support ensures that, should a glitch happen in the software, your entire project isn't derailed. To learn more about your chosen provider's customer support, search for it on review sites such as TrustRadius and look at the company's plans to understand what will be available to you and when. Aim to at least ensure support will be responsive during your normal business hours and via the mediums your team is accustomed to using.

Business Size Considerations

As you look at the feature set, remember that startups have different needs in project management software than do large enterprises. For example, enterprise companies may need to manage projects with execution steps that span the globe, while startup projects are more likely to span one or two locations. Demos can help you determine what tools are useful for your organization's size and which will unnecessarily create a steeper learning curve.

Though one software plan or tool may be best for your organization at your current size, those needs are likely to change as you grow. For example, as you grow, you may need a software or plan with greater automation capabilities to scale operations or greater file storage capacity. So, while it is important to choose a software without unnecessary features, it is equally important to choose one that will continue meeting your feature needs as they grow.

[\[Compare Best Project Management Software\]](#)

What Does Project Management Software Cost?

	Monday.Com	Asana	ClickUp
--	------------	-------	---------

[Subscribe](#)

Second-tier plan price	\$12 per user per month (when billed monthly) (minimum three users)	\$13.49 per user per month (when billed monthly)	\$10 per user per month (when billed monthly)
Third-tier plan price	\$14 per user per month (when billed monthly) (minimum three users)	\$30.49 per user per month (when billed monthly)	\$19 per user per month (when billed monthly)
Discounts	18% discount when billed annually; 10 free users for nonprofits	50% off plans for nonprofits and educational institutions; save when billed annually	About 45% discount when billed annually, with slight variances depending on plan
Free version	Yes	Yes	Yes
Free trial of paid plans	14 days	30 days	No
Learn more	monday.com Pricing Guide	Asana Pricing Guide	ClickUp Pricing Guide

Pricing for small to midsized business (SMB) project management software generally ranges from free to \$20 per user per month, depending on the features you want. Most also offer a discount of between 15% and 50% for paying your bill annually. In addition, many companies can use such software for free, including startups, nonprofits and educational institutions. Free trials help users assess whether they want to upgrade from a free plan to a paid one.

More specifically, most providers offer a free plan with a limit on the number of users allowed. For example, monday.com allows two users on each free account. As plans scale up, more users are allowed. In addition, higher-tiered (and so, more expensive) plans offer more robust features, such as more storage, viewers, customer support, security, collaborative tools, automations, customizations and charts. Enterprises often have to request a custom quote.

Featured Partners

Advertisement ⓘ

1

monday.com



Learn More

On monday.com's Website

Free version available

Yes

Starting price

From \$8 monthly per user

Integrations

Zoom, LinkedIn, Adobe, Salesforce and more

2

ClickUp



Learn More

On ClickUp's Website

Free version available

Yes, for unlimited members

Starting price

\$7 per month

Integrations

Slack, Microsoft Outlook, HubSpot,

3

Wrike



Learn More

On Wrike's Website

Free version available

Yes

Starting price

\$10 per user per month

Integrations

Salesforce, Adobe, Miro, Netsuite, QuickBooks, SAP

4

Motion



Learn More

On Motion's Website

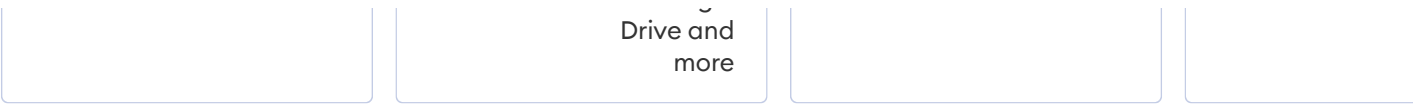
Free Version Available

Yes

Starting Price

\$12 per month

Integrations


 Drive and
more

2025 Project Management Trends

Significant changes are occurring in nearly every industry as technology advances and attitudes surrounding work and leadership evolve. Project management is no exception, and the styles and strategies for managing both the technical and human aspects of team projects are being adapted to accommodate the new workplace landscape emerging in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Here are the 2025 project management trends that we anticipate growing in the year to come.

A Continued Shift Towards Digital and Remote Work

In our post-pandemic world, fully remote and hybrid work options are here to stay. Gallup reports approximately 56% of full-time employees can fulfill job requirements entirely from home. The transition to fully remote work during the pandemic further illustrated productivity and effectiveness in the workplace could be maintained, even when a majority of employees were working from home.

From a project management standpoint, this transition has its pros and cons. Working in the same physical location as other team members promotes team-building and spontaneous collaboration that can be otherwise limited in a virtual workspace. Despite the perks of in-person collaboration, however, remote employees enjoy the flexible nature of working from home and report increased satisfaction with their work. When given the choice, many remote employees would prefer to remain remote or partially remote instead of returning full-time to the office.

As we move into 2025, project managers are challenged with navigating team dynamics and productivity in an increasingly digital environment. Jeffrey Weide says part of this is finding project management software that meets your remote team's needs, "but also helps integrate the existing products you use for communication, productivity and scheduling whenever possible."

Project Management and Change Management

In recent years, companies have enacted increasing numbers of change initiatives to organizations and the structures within. Project managers are learning to integrate the requirements of these change initiatives into project management strategies and plans. It is crucial to create a flexible methodology for integrating change initiatives with specific steps and protocols that your team can follow. These skills will continue to be relevant in coming years as companies grow and conform to the ever-evolving workplace standards.

Hybrid Approaches

Project success strategies have traditionally relied upon adherence to a single [project management methodology](#). Recently, an increasing number of companies have merged multiple approaches to project management in an effort to increase flexibility and create a style that's adapted to the needs of the individual project. Hybrid approaches also work well when faced with the task of integrating the expectations of new change initiatives presented by company leaders.

Increasing Connection Between Projects and Strategy

Project managers increasingly are asked to expand the scope and scale of strategies in growing workplaces. Rather than simply focusing on individual projects in isolation, project managers are being tasked with learning how individual projects relate to one another and how they work together to advance the goals of the company. This type of understanding can promote the strategic use of a project manager's skills and help them to consistently make decisions that align closely with the company's vision.

Increasing Prevalence of AI and Automation

Artificial intelligence, automation, machine learning and data collection and analysis are rapidly becoming critical elements in project management strategies. According to PwC, 77% of high-performing projects utilize project management software to help streamline their work and meet their goals.

AI has the capacity to evaluate outcomes and provide insights into performance strengths and weaknesses, provide organized data to guide important decisions, predict outcomes, estimate timelines, analyze risk and optimize [resource scheduling](#). Project management tools and software can also automate time-consuming administrative tasks normally performed by the project manager, leaving the project manager free to focus time and energy on more critical or more nuanced tasks. "Many of the paid products are now offering AI or automation considerations, which can be a great time savings and help offset the costs from a staffing and overhead perspective," says Weide.

The best AI project management tools can significantly enhance efficiency and decision making.”
—*Paul Naybour, managing director at Parallel Project Training*

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- + **Why is project management important?**
 - + **What is the best project management software for small businesses?**
 - + **What are the three main types of project management software?**
 - + **What are the benefits of project management software?**
 - + **What are the different types of project management methods that are popular now?**
 - + **Is project management software secure?**
 - + **Who are project managers, and what do they do?**
-

Next Up In Project Management

[Best Asana Competitors & Alternatives](#)

[Best Scheduling Apps](#)

[monday.com Review](#)

[Asana Review](#)

[Trello Review](#)

Information provided on Forbes Advisor is for educational purposes only. Your financial situation is unique and the products and services we review may not be right for your circumstances. We do not offer financial advice, advisory or brokerage services, nor do we recommend or advise individuals or to buy or sell particular stocks or securities. Performance information may have changed since the time of publication. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

Forbes Advisor adheres to strict editorial integrity standards. To the best of our knowledge, all content is accurate as of the date posted, though offers contained herein may no longer be available. The opinions expressed are the author's alone and have not been provided, approved, or otherwise endorsed by our [partners](#).



Amy Nichol Smith

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.



Rachel Williams

Lead Editor, SMB

agents, business licenses and more.



Jeff Weide, DBA, FACHE, PMP
Education Expert

Jeff Weide is the Academic Director of Health Informatics at University of Denver, Operations Manager for the COVID Rapid Response Program for CDPHE/Insight Global, and Owner/Founder of SHAPE Consulting, LLC. For 20 years, Jeff has been a project and program leader, strategic health leader, management consultant/coach, and process improvement facilitator. Other organizations that Jeff has worked with include Thomas Jefferson Health, Denver Health, STRIDE Health, PMI Mile Hi, Florence Crittenton, and the US Air Force. This variety of work has given Jeff insights on the multiple challenges facing project leaders, organizations, team members, and stakeholders.



Was this article helpful?

SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

Forbes

© 2025 Forbes Media LLC. All Rights Reserved.

[AdChoices](#)

[Privacy Statement](#)

[Do Not Sell or Share My Personal Information](#)

[Limit the Use of My Sensitive Personal Information](#)

[Privacy Preferences](#)

[Digital Terms of Sale](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Send Us Feedback](#)

[Report a Security Issue](#)

[Jobs At Forbes](#)

[Reprints & Permissions](#)

[Forbes Press Room](#)

[Advertise](#)

[Cookie Preferences](#)