



This quick guide focuses on alternatives to Microsoft PowerPoint.





I chose the following apps because of their longevity in addition to their low cost.

For cost, my cap is a \$10 monthly fee or \$50 for a single use license. However, most of the options here cost less and many are free. If a Pro account is available the cost is also listed.

The order of the apps in each list is from lowest to highest cost but not ranked. The features listed are what is available with the free version if the app has this option.

Information about each application includes the following: web address, required platform or operating system (OS), cost, and main features. The main features vary based on the app category.

The list begins with a section of what to keep in mind when selecting an alternative app. It is broken down into four categories:

-  Time
-  Previous Experience
-  Editing Needs
-  Platform/OS (Operating System)

In the long run, you want to select an app that can create multiple types of content and layouts. Additionally, ease to use is important for creating a slide deck.

What to consider when selecting a presentation app

Even though there is much moaning about “death by PowerPoint,” slide decks are here to stay. The good news is that there are many options besides PowerPoint. Many of these apps can be used to create online courses, handouts, basic videos, and even conference posters.



Creating a quality presentation takes time and planning but if you need to create a slide deck quickly, choose an app that is easy to access and use.



When learning to create slide decks, choose an app with less features as it will be easier to use and learn.



For minimal editing needs, use an app with good templates. For advanced features, select a robust/paid version.



If you do your work across multiple platforms and operating systems, pick a compatible app with all of them.

Emaze Presentations (<https://www.emaze.com/presentations/>)

Cost: Free	Main features:
Pro/Premium version: No	Templates
Free Trial: No	Shape Fills & Borders
Platform/OS: Web	Animation
Present offline: No	Transitions
	Effects
	Embed Multimedia
	Insert Charts/Graphs
	Export as PDF & video
	Import PowerPoint files

Sidebar

Online Slide Deck Hosting

Slidr.io
<https://slidr.io/>
 A service that converts pdfs to a hosted online slide deck.

SlideShare
<https://www.slideshare.com>
 Free
 Integrated with Scribd

SlideDog
<https://slidedog.com/>
 Creates a presentation playlist from multiple files and links on the web.

Zoho Show (<https://www.zoho.com/show/>)

Cost: Free	Main features:		
Pro/Premium version: No	Multiple Slide Layouts	Effects	Slide Master
Free Trial: No	Themes/Templates	Embed Multimedia	Rehearse Mode
Platform/OS: Web	Draw & Diagram tools	Insert Charts/Graphs	Voiceover Narration
Present offline: No	Shape Fills & Borders	Multiple Slide Views	Presenter View
	Animation	(Slides / Outline /	Import PowerPoint
	Transitions	Notes / Handouts)	files

OpenOffice Impress (<https://www.apache.com>)

Cost: Free	Main features:		
Pro/Premium version: No	Multiple Slide Layouts	Embed Multimedia	Presenter View
Free Trial: No	Themes/Templates	Insert Charts/Graphs	Import PowerPoint
Platform/OS: Windows, MacOS, Linux	Draw & Diagram tools	Multiple Slide Views	files
Present offline: Yes	Shape Fills & Borders	(Slides / Outline /	Save in
	Animation	Notes / Handouts)	OpenDocument
	Transitions	Master Pages	format
	Effects	Rehearse Mode	Save as .ppt & .pptx

Visme (<https://www.visme.co/>)

Cost: Free; limited access to content/project limits	Main features:		
Pro/Premium version: Yes; Standard (\$15/month); Business (\$29/month)	Templates	Shapes & Icons	Drag-and-Drop Editor
	Backgrounds	Fills & Borders	Image Library
	Web Fonts	Insert Charts/Graphs	Image Upload
	Text Editing	Import Data	Export as . png, .jpg
Free Trial: No			
Platform/OS: Web			
Present offline: No			

Beautiful.ai (<https://www.beautiful.ai/>)

Cost: Free; limited access to content/project limits	Main features:		
Pro/Premium version: Yes; Pro (\$12/month)	Themes	Text Editing	Drag-and-Drop Editor
Team (\$38/month)	Layout Templates	Charts/Graphs	Image Library
	Editable Layouts	Use Your Own Data	Image Upload
	Color Palettes	Animation	Export as . pdf, .pptx
Free Trial: No			
Platform/OS: Web			
Present offline: No			

Canva (<https://www.canva.com>)

Cost: Free; limited access to content	Main features:		
Pro/Premium version: Yes; \$9.95/month	Templates	Shapes	Drag-and-Drop Editor
	Backgrounds	Fills	Image Library
	Web Fonts	Borders	Image Upload
Free Trial: Yes; 30 days	Text Editing	Insert Charts/Graphs	Export as . png, .jpg
Platform/OS: Web			
Present offline: No			

Infogram (<https://infogr.am>)

Cost: Free; limited access to content/project limits	Main features:		
Pro/Premium version: Yes; Pro (\$19/month)	Templates	Shapes & Icons	Drag-and-Drop Editor
	Backgrounds	Fills & Borders	Image Library
	Web Fonts	Insert Charts/Graphs	Image Upload
Free Trial: No	Text Editing	Import Data	Export as . png, .jpg
Platform/OS: Web			
Present offline: No			

Sidebar -- Free Downloadable Templates

Slidesgo https://slidesgo.com/ Categorized templates for PowerPoint and Google Slides	Slides Carnival https://www.slidescarnival.com/ Categorized templates for Google Slides, PowerPoint, & Keynote	Showeet https://slidedog.com/ Categorized templates for PowerPoint and Google Slides
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Piktochart (<https://www.piktochart.com>)

Cost: Free; 5 project limit	Main features:		
Pro/Premium version: Yes; Pro (\$29/month)	Templates	Shapes & Icons	Drag-and-Drop Editor
Free Trial: No	Backgrounds	Fills & Borders	Embed Video
Platform/OS: Web	Web Fonts	Maps	Image Upload
Present offline: No	Text Editing	Photo Library	Export as . png
		Photo Frames	
		Insert Charts/Graphs	

Apple Keynote ([https:// www.apple.com/keynote/](https://www.apple.com/keynote/))

Cost: Free	Main features:		
Pro/Premium version: No	Multiple Slide Layouts	Embed Multimedia	Presenter View
Free Trial: No	Templates	Insert Charts/Graphs	Import PowerPoint files
Platform/OS: MacOS & iOS	Draw & Diagram tools	Multiple Slide Views (Slides / Outline / Notes / Handouts)	Export as PDF & video
Present offline: Yes	Shape Fills & Borders	Slide Master	Save as .ppt & .pptx
	Animation	Rehearse Mode	
	Transitions		
	Effects		

Google Slides (<https://drive.google.com>)

Cost: Free	Main features:		
Pro/Premium version: No	Multiple Slide Layouts	Embed Multimedia	Presenter View
Free Trial: No	Templates	Insert Charts/Graphs	Convert PowerPoint files
Platform/OS: Web	Draw & Diagram tools	Multiple Slide Views (Slides / Outline / Notes / Handouts)	Download as PDF .pptx
Present offline: No	Shape Fills & Borders	Slide Master	
	Animation	Rehearse Mode	
	Transitions		
	Effects		

Prezi (<https://prezi.com>)

Cost: \$7/month for individual use	Main features:		
Pro/Premium version: Yes; Plus (\$19/month)	Open Canvas Style	Shapes & Icons	Drag-and-Drop Editor
Premium (\$59/month)	Templates	Fills & Borders	PowerPoint upload
Free Trial: Yes; 14 days	Drawing Tools	Story Blocks	Image Upload
Platform/OS: Web	Animation	Embed Multimedia	Voiceover Narration
Present offline: Yes	Zooming	Insert Charts/Graphs	Presenter View