

FREWARE

DISCLAIMER

Important information

This guide is provided by Ground Support Crew for educational and informational purposes only.

The programs listed may have different licences, features, supported systems, optional paid services and privacy settings. Check these before installing software, and download from official websites.

By choosing to follow any instructions, recommendations or procedures in this guide, you acknowledge that you do so voluntarily and at your own risk.

You are responsible for your own devices, systems, files and data, including taking appropriate precautions before making any changes.

Ground Support Crew is not responsible for data loss, equipment damage, system failures or other problems resulting from your use of this guide, to the extent permitted by applicable law.

We strongly recommend creating and verifying a backup of your important data before following any technical instructions.

Nothing in this disclaimer excludes or limits any rights or guarantees that cannot legally be excluded under Australian Consumer Law.

Ground Support Crew — We Keep You Flying.

Programs worth knowing

Every program here is free to use. Nothing to buy, nothing to unlock. I do not get any commissions for recommending these. I recommend them because I use them and I think they are awesome.

A word from me

I do not have a problem with people making money from their programs. What I have a problem with is companies like Adobe charging big money every month for software as a service. You never own it, you are just paying to use it. I would much rather have software I can download once and use without the internet, and that is why I use these programs.

Brave Browser

Chromium-based open-source web browser

Brave blocks ads and trackers automatically, so pages load faster and you are not followed around the web. It also blocks most YouTube ads, so videos play without the interruptions. Your Chrome extensions and bookmarks carry over easily.

Download: brave.com/download

Notepad++

Open-source text editor for Windows

Fast, simple writing and editing for notes, lists and code. It opens big files without slowing down.

Download: notepad-plus-plus.org

GIMP

Open-source image editor

The powerful option for editing photos and adding text to pictures. It takes a little time to learn, so try a few beginner tutorials.

Download: gimp.org

LibreOffice

Open-source office suite

Write letters, build spreadsheets and make slideshows. It opens and saves Word and Excel files, and you can save any document as a PDF.

Download: libreoffice.org

SumatraPDF

Open-source PDF reader for Windows

A small, fast reader for PDFs and ebooks, with no ads and no sign-in. It is a free alternative to Adobe Reader.

Download: sumatrapdfreader.org

VLC Media Player

Open-source media player

Plays almost any video or audio file with no extra downloads.

Download: videolan.org/vlc

7-Zip

Open-source file archiver

Opens and creates zip files and other compressed folders.

Download: 7-zip.org

Audacity

Open-source audio editor

Record your voice, cut audio and clean up background noise.

Download: audacityteam.org

OBS Studio

Open-source screen recorder

Record your screen or stream live. Great for tutorials.

Download: obsproject.com

Thunderbird

Open-source email program

Manage all your email accounts in one place.

Download: thunderbird.net

Bitwarden

Open-source password manager

Keeps all your passwords safe, so you only remember one.

Download: bitwarden.com

Kdenlive

Open-source video editor

Cut, join and add titles to videos, with no watermark.

Download: kdenlive.org

Inkscape

Open-source vector graphics editor

Design logos and flyers that stay sharp at any size.

Download: inkscape.org

Linux Mint

Free, open-source operating system, an alternative to Windows

A complete operating system that can replace Windows, and it is free. It looks and feels a lot like Windows, so it is easy to get used to. It comes with a web browser, office programs and media players ready to go, and you can try it from a USB stick before installing anything.

Download: linuxmint.com

Windows vs Linux

Microsoft is a huge corporation that collects data on how you use your computer. They built Windows, and that is fine, but they charge you for it. Linux is free, and it always will be. That is why I recommend Linux Mint.

Good to know

There are thousands of open-source projects, including free versions of software that normally costs money. Before you pay for any program, search for its name plus "open source alternative." There is very often a free one that does the same job.

Download safely

Always download software from the official website of the program, never from a random link or a third-party download site. That keeps your computer safer and helps make sure you get the real, free version.

Need help?

We can help you install it. Email us at info@groundsupportcrew.com for a free quote.