WHITE PAPER

Choosing the Right Collabora Products: Differences between Collabora Online, Collabora Office and CODE

Collabora Productivity

Our Office Products

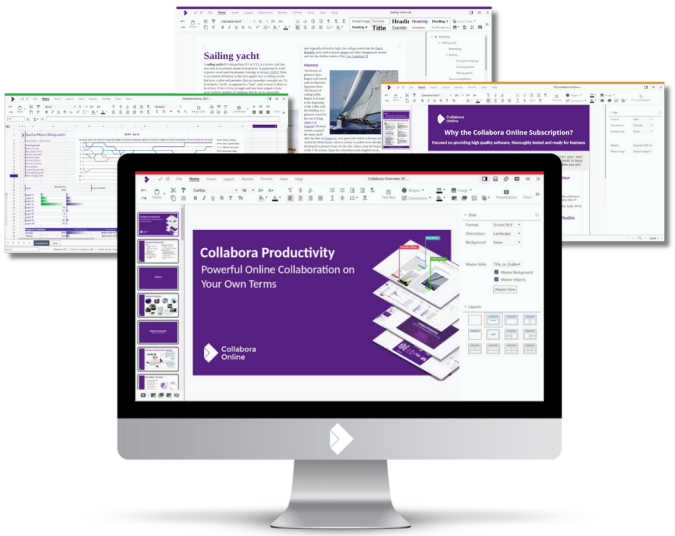
Collabora Productivity offers five products; Collabora Online, Collabora Office, Collabora Office Classic, and Collabora Online Development Edition (CODE) and Collabora Office Mobile. This white paper aims to provide a brief guide to understanding and evaluating them.

All five products are designed for organisations and individuals seeking to take back control of their documents with a secure, collaborative, GDPR-compliant solution. Whether you are a small startup or large enterprise user, this guide will help you navigate the differences between various Collabora Office products, empowering you to make an informed decision.

> "It simply works. And it is reliable. That is crucial for us. In combination with Nextcloud, it works wonderfully and is very performant."
>
> - David Binder – Teacher and IT Officer, The Friedrich-List-Gemeinschaftsschul

We are the single largest contributor to the widely distributed LibreOffice codebase, and all of our products are based on LibreOffice as a foundation. They support all major document, spreadsheet and presentation file formats, and all offer the powerful office features you know and rely on.

Available across all major platforms:



Collabora Online

Our flagship product, Collabora Online, is a primarily known as a powerful, collaborative, document editing suite which supports all major document, spreadsheet and presentation file formats, as well as open documents. As a document editing suite, it runs on a server, or local computer, and documents are opened and edited from your browser. With a familiar interface, and operating similarly to other well known online browser-based document editors, Collabora Online can be integrated with new or existing file storage systems in a number of ways.

> "The ability to collaboratively edit documents, spreadsheets, presentations in a browser is the core for an alternative to Microsoft 365. We feel Collabora is a very supportive, very flexible, very open partner which is fun to work with."
>
> - Peter Ganten, CEO, Univention

One key difference between Collabora Online and other browser-based document editors is the focus on document security with Collabora Online. Collabora Online opens documents on your server, and operating more like a hyper-efficient remote desktop, allows end users access through an embedded iframe in their browsers. At a fundamental level however, the document data never leaves the server it is hosted on. Users may choose to host files themselves locally, or use one of our trusted local hosting providers.

As an embedded document editor however, there are also many more applications and use cases of Collabora Online than pure document editing. Collabora Online may be used as a component part of a more complex web app that requires word-processing or spreadsheeting as part of its operations. For example embedded in email applications, CRMs, educational, HR or legal applications and so on. Collabora Online may also be used without embedding anywhere, leveraging Collabora Online APIs, useful for example as a powerful file converter.

With great flexibility, powerful scalability, a commercially supported SLA, and long term support, Collabora Online is the flexible document editor you need.

Collabora Office

Collabora Office brings the familiar Collabora Online experience to your computer - so you can create, edit, and present with a beautiful, modern UI. Based on trusted LibreOffice technology and backed by the largest team of LibreOffice developers worldwide, it delivers excellent interoperability with ODF and Microsoft Office formats, and exports to PDF with ease. Your documents stay on your device unless you choose to share them - privacy by design.

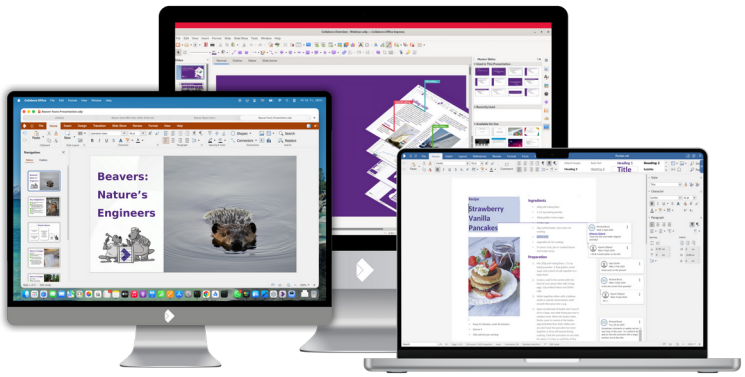
This isn't only a look-alike. Collabora Office shares the same code DNA as Collabora Online. All the power of one is contained in the other, and what you learn in one transfers to the other. That means fewer surprises, fewer workarounds, and a smoother path from solo editing to team collaboration.

Whether you're editing a spreadsheet offline on the train in Collabora Office, or later collaborating with your team online - it's the same experience, just in a different wrapper.

Collabora Office Classic

Collabora Office Classic is an enterprise office suite based on LibreOffice, the world's most widely used Open Source office suite. We provide installation and administration utilities together with long term maintenance and contracted support to deliver successful deployments with expertise.

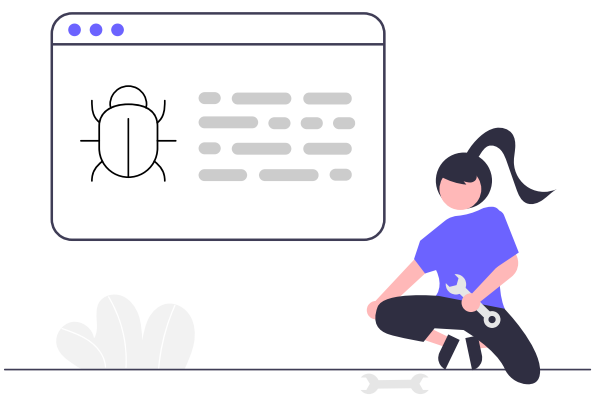
Choose Collabora Office Classic if you need tools like the Base database module (including Java-based components), the full Math module, or for extreme Calc workloads (think complex Solver models or analysis across hundreds of thousands of rows).



Collabora Online Development Edition

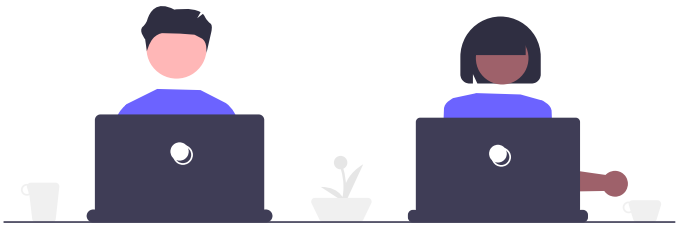
In addition to the above, we also offer our free application CODE (Collabora Online Development Edition). CODE, as the name suggests, is a development edition of Collabora Online, again for browser-based document editing. It contains the latest developments to Collabora Online, and is perfect for testing, or for home users that want to host their own secure online document editor without the added support.

We want as many people as possible to try it out and get back control of their own online documents. CODE however is not recommend for business or production environments - as a development release, we do not guarantee its stability which may impact functionality.



Collabora Office Mobile

Collabora Office Mobile is the mobile office suite of Collabora Office, which is based on LibreOffice, the world's most widely used open-source office suite. Today's world of work is far more distributed and mobile, as such, Collabora Office Mobile allows you to edit documents directly on your phone or tablet, guaranteeing your privacy and putting you in full control of your data and documents, from anywhere or while on the move.

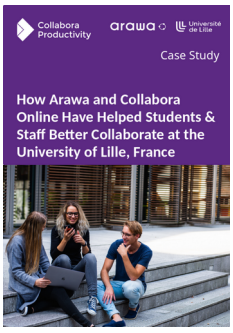


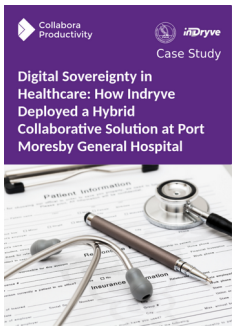
"Collabora Online with Nextcloud has provided us with a powerful enterprise on-premise solution which has seamlessly integrated with our existing infrastructure. Collabora Online's preservation of layout and formatting across all documents has been a key component in staff utilising Collabora Online. "

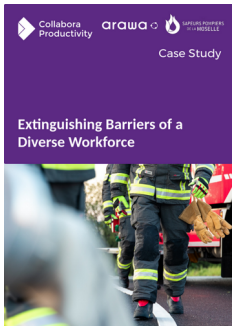
- Australian Council for Trade Unions

Real World Examples

Collabora Office products are used by a wide variety of industries and users including Public Sector, Education, Healthcare, Finance and Law. To learn more, see our Case Studies on our website, or read our white paper “Collabora Online – the Document Editor Bringing Freedom and Empowerment to Workplaces”.



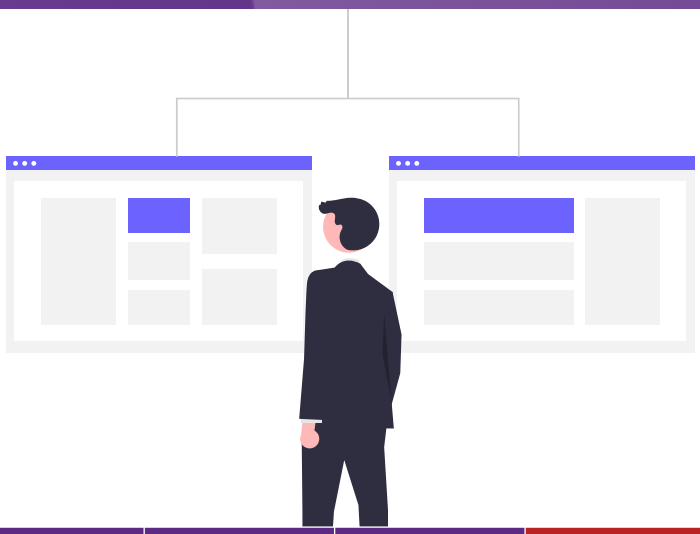




Supported by Experts

With Collabora Online and Collabora Office, you will receive responsive and quality support from our full-time team. We love to help people free their documents, and have engineers dedicated to helping with the migration and setup process. Should any problems be discovered they can be easily reported, and dealt with. We also provide access to a support platform maintained by engineers. This is further enhanced with a full and complete range of technical documentation, comprehensive SLAs and signed security updates. Users are never left alone should any problems arise.

> “Collabora Online with Nextcloud has provided us with a powerful enterprise on-premise solution which has seamlessly integrated with our existing infrastructure. Collabora Online’s preservation of layout and formatting across all documents has been a key component in staff utilising Collabora Online. ”
>
> - Australian Council for Trade Unions

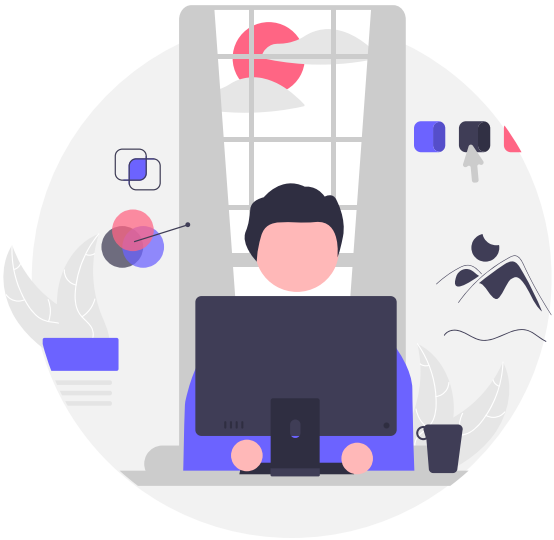


Comparison Chart

Feature	Collabora Online	Collabora Office	Collabora Office Classic	Collabora Office Mobile	CODE
Online	✅	❌	❌	✅	✅
Desktop	❌	✅	✅	❌	❌
Mobile	❌	❌	❌	✅	❌
Support	✅	Coming soon	✅	✅	❌
Familiar Interface	✅	✅	✅	✅	✅
Powerful Features	✅	✅	✅	❌	✅
Excellent Interoperability with Microsoft File Formats	✅	✅	✅	✅	✅
Enterprise-ready	✅	Coming soon	✅	✅	❌
Customisable Integration	✅	✅	✅	✅	✅
GDPR/Security-focused	✅	✅	✅	✅	✅
Open Source	✅	✅	✅	✅	✅
Scalable	✅	✅	✅	❌	❌

> “Collabora Online gives our users the capability for editing documents securely and collaboratively so multiple people can be editing the document at the same time... But the important thing here is that it's secure editing, you're not taking that document offline all the way down to the user's workstation and obviously at that point you've lost control of the document.”
>
> - Robin Redgrave – Product Manager, Filr

Consultancy



Collabora Productivity also provides tailor-made consultancy services to help customers get the office document management solution they need. Whether it's assistance with integration, or addressing a specific feature gap, we provide a comprehensive consultancy service from an unparalleled team of certified LibreOffice developers.

Our parent company, Collabora Ltd provides open a range of consultancy services utilising Open Source technologies. Their expertise spans across all key areas of Open Source software development, from graphics, multimedia and web engines, to complete, integrated services.

Try Collabora Office products today and embark on a journey of safe, powerful and flexible document editing.

www.collaboraonline.com

hello@collaboraoffice.com