ONLINE COLLABORATION TOOLS

Compiled by

Community At Work

Colleagues & Staff

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Disclaimer

CREATIVE THINKING

1000Minds
Helps groups prioritize alternatives based on pre-determined criteria, rather than brainstorming.
Free for 21-day trial. Then custom pricing.
https://www.1000minds.com

A Web Whiteboard
Collaboration platform that works on every device and browser.
No registration needed.
Personal: $10/month. Organization: $75/month.
https://awwapp.com

Cacoo
Online diagram tool for creating sitemaps, flowcharts, mind maps, wireframes, mockups, UML models, etc.
Free for 6 sheets and limited sharing. Plus: $4.95/month.
Business multi-user: $18/month/user.
https://cacoo.com

Cascade
A suite of strategy development tools and templates.
$19/user/month.
https://www.executestrategy.net

Co:tunity
Tools for idea development, trendspotting, problem reporting and analysis.
$63/month, 1-9 people. Custom pricing for larger groups.
http://www.cotunity.com

Crowdbrite
Large group brainstorming sessions and workshops / charrettes.
Free to use some features. Custom pricing for full features.
http://www.crowdbrite.com/

CrowdCrafting
Online assistance in performing tasks that require human cognition, knowledge or intelligence such as image classification, transcription, geocoding and more.
Free.
http://crowdcrafting.org

Draw.io
Drawing software for making flowcharts, org charts, process diagrams, UML, ER and network diagrams.
Free.
http://www.draw.io

Gliffy
Drawing software for flowcharts, diagrams, floor plans, technical drawings and more.
Free: 5 diagrams. Business team: $4.99/user/month.
http://www.gliffy.com

GroupMap
Captures group members' individual thinking first, then reveals the group perspective.
Basic: $20/month. Pro: $60/month. Organization: $100+/month.
https://www.groupmap.com

GroupZap
A virtual whiteboard with colored stickies.
Free: unlimited 24-hour boards. $10/month: 5 long-term boards.
http://groupzap.com

IdeaBoardz
An Agile-based problem-solving tool. Allows use of stickies with categorizing and sorting.
Free.
http://www.ideaboardz.com

Ideaken
Companies submit "challenges" (usually technical) and professionals from all over the world submit potential solutions.
Free to submit entries. Custom pricing for submitting challenges.
http://www.ideaken.com

IdeaFlip
Uses post-it like icons to move ideas around on a whiteboard.
Basic: $9/month. Standard: $16/month. Enterprise: custom price.
https://ideaflip.com

Loomio
An app for collaborative decision-making. Collects responses to proposals made by users.
Community groups: Free. Standard: $19/month. Pro: $99/month.
https://www.loomio.org
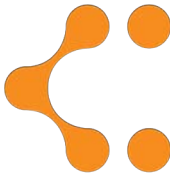
Lucidchart
Creates flowcharts and diagrams that can be edited by others.
Free: limited to 3 documents. Basic: $4.95/month.
Pro: $8.95/month. Team: starting at $20/month.
https://www.lucidchart.com

Mind42
Collaborative, browser-based, mind-mapping software.
Free.
http://www.mind42.com

MindMeister
Users can create, manage and share mind-maps online.
Basic: Free. Personal: $6/month. Pro: $10/month.
Business: $15/month.
https://www.mindmeister.com

Mindomo
Mobile-friendly mind-mapping – with presentation mode, templates and integration of audio and video files.
Basic: Free. Premium $6/month. Additional charge for teams.
http://www.mindomo.com

Onstrategy
Cloud-based software for the design, implementation and performance management of organizational strategy.
$200-$800/month depending on the size of your organization.
https://onstrategyhq.com

OpenIdeo

Enables social sector organizations to sponsor "challenges." Responders use design thinking to suggest ways to get started. Free.
https://openideo.com

Pinterest

Note: A specialized use of Pinterest is to create collaborative Vision Boards for groups or organizations.
See: https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/224006.
Free.
https://www.pinterest.com

Prezi

Co-create ideas involving motion, zoom and spatial relationships.
Free to start. "Enjoy:" $4.92/month. Pro: $13.25/month.
Pro-plus: $20/month.
https://prezi.com

Stormz

Dozens of templates for generating and organizing ideas, such as design thinking, problem-solving, retrospectives, etc.
Demo: Free. Standard: $15/month for first 10 participants, $10/month per additional participant.
http://stormz.me

TOCO

For sharing and editing Theories of Change. Includes tools for drawing as a group.
Basic: Free. Premium: $8/month. Enterprise: $47/month.
Enterprise+: $416/month.
http://toco.actknowledge.org

Twiddla

Users browse websites in a shared, real-time whiteboard.
Guest: Free. Pro: $14/month. Team: $49/month.
Business: $189/month. Enterprise: custom pricing.
https://www.twiddla.com

SURVEYING AND POLLING

All Our Ideas
Wiki-based surveying tool, where users can combine survey research with crowd-sourced insights.
Free (open source).
http://allourideas.org/

Checkbox
Collaborative survey creation, distribution, data collection and analysis. Includes a library for types of questions.
Basic: $450/year. Professional: $1,750/year. Team: $3,450/year.
https://www.checkbox.com

Doodle
Helps groups of all sizes collaboratively set the date and time for a group event. No registration required.
Individuals: Free. Professional: $39/year. Teams: $169/year.
http://www.doodle.com

Facebook Polls
Customizable polls that can be set up in less than 5 minutes.
Unlimited premium plan for $8 per month.
https://apps.facebook.com/my-polls

GetFeedback
Mobile survey-builder with drag-and-drop function. Themes, colors and buttons can be customized.
Professional: $50 per month. Enterprise: $150/month.
https://www.getfeedback.com

GoogleForms
Multiple question options, automatic collection of responses and real-time response information and charts.
Free, except as part of the G Suite for business.
https://www.google.com/forms

KwikSurveys
An online survey builder designed specifically to be quick and easy to use.
Basic: Free. Students: $9.99/month. Extra: $19.99/month.
Extra Annual: $180/year.
https://www.kwiksurveys.com

Lime Survey
Open source software survey tool.
Free for up to 25 responses. Basic: $29/month.
Expert: $349/year. Enterprise: $849/year.
https://www.limesurvey.org

MetroQuest
Web-based suite of public engagement tools used by public works firms to engage stakeholders in planning.
Customized pricing.
http://www.metroquest.com

NarraFirma
Tools for gathering stories and analyzing trends, to support participatory narrative inquiry.
Free.
https://narrafirma.com/

Pol.is
Gathers open-ended feedback from any size group of people.
Free.
http://pol.is

Poll Everywhere
A polling tool that can display results on cell phones, web browsers, and via *Twitter* accounts.
Free for up to 25 people. Custom pricing for larger groups.
https://www.polleverywhere.com/

Survey Gizmo
Collects quantitative and qualitative data, with functions for collaborative survey design and analysis. Many tools and templates are included.
Limited: Free. Basic: $300/year. Standard: $1,000/year.
Market Research: $1,500/year.
https://www.surveygizmo.com

Survey Monkey
Builds surveys. Includes a library of tools and templates.
Basics: Free. Select: $19/month. Gold: $25/month.
Platinum: $85/month.
https://www.surveymonkey.com

Textizen
Surveying by text message. Participants answer questions by texting. Textizen analyzes those responses.
Customized pricing.
https://www.textizen.com

Voxco
Comprehensive suite of survey tools: phone surveys, mobile surveys, personal interviewing and web surveys.
Customized pricing.
http://www.voxco.com

Zoho Survey
Surveys may be taken on any device.
Surveyors can see real-time, graphic results.
Basic: Free. Standard $19/month. Premium $24/month.
Enterprise: $41/month.
https://www.zoho.com/survey

ONLINE MEETING PLATFORMS

Blackboard Collaborate
Web-conferencing for educational environments.
Custom pricing.
http://tiny.cc/blackboard-collaborate

BlueJeans
Hosts meetings of up to 50 participants.
Personal: $9.95/month. Enterprise: custom pricing.
https://www.bluejeans.com

Collabco
Online collaboration platform with suite of tools and services.
Customized pricing.
http://collabforge.com/technology/

Covision Interactive Meetings
Enables participatory conversations for any size group,
all the way up to thousands of participants.
Custom pricing.
http://www.Covision.com

Drum
Online meeting space with audio and annotated filesharing.
Free: 3 participants. Standard: $6/month. Pro: $12/month.
https://www.thisdrum.com

Google Hangouts
Conference calling, video optional.
Free for up to 10 participants.
https://hangouts.google.com

GoToMeeting
Online meeting, desktop sharing and video conferencing.
Free meetings for 3 participants.
Starter: $19/month. Pro: $29/month. Plus: $49/month.
https://www.gotomeeting.com

Gruveo
Connect instantly by entering a mutually agreed code on
Gruveo.com, eliminating the hassle of installing software.
Basic: Free. Pro: $12/month.
https://www.gruveo.com

HipChat
Team chat built for business: persistent and searchable.
Includes group chat, video chat and screen sharing.
Basic (audio only): Free. Plus: $2/month.
http://www.hipchat.com

Highfive
Videoconferencing – with pricing based on hardware leasing
rather than per-user fee.
Essential: $99/room/month. Standard: $189/room/month.
Pro: $279/room/month. Pro+: $329/room/month.
https://highfive.com

Join.Me
Presents video images in circles rather than squares.
Basic: Free. Pro: $18/month. Business: $25/month.
https://www.join.me

MaestroConference
Supports breakout groups, webinars and more.
Starter: $49/month. DIY 75: $97/month.
Standard: $250/month. Advanced: $497/month.
https://maestroconference.com

R*Hub
Collaborative meetings, includes remote access.
Custom pricing.
http://www.rhubcom.com/v5/index.html

Skype
Conference calling, video optional.
Free for up to 25 participants.
http://www.skype.com/allfeatures/conferencecall

Slack
Flexible platform that utilizes "channels" to organize
conversations. Enables private channels for sensitive
information. Also integrates phone and video calls.
Basic: Free. Standard: $6.67/month. Plus: $12.50/month.
http://www.slack.com

Totally Free Conference Calls
Up to 99 participants per call. No scheduling or reservations.
Free.
http://www.totallyfreeconferencecalls.com

WebEx
Online meeting, web conferencing and videoconferencing
applications.
Free for 3 participants. Premium 8: $19/month.
Premium 25: $39/month. Premium 100: $49/month.
https://www.webex.com

Zoom
Online meeting, web conferencing and videoconferencing
applications, with breakout room option.
Basic: Free for meetings up to 40 minutes long.
Pro: $14.99/month. Business or Enterprise: $19.99/month.
https://zoom.us

DISCUSSION GROUPS
AND ONLINE COMMUNITIES

AskThem
Citizens can pose questions to politicians and other celebrities, and receive answers posted publicly.
Free. (*Twitter* account required.)
http://www.askthem.io/

Blogger
Share text, photos and video from the web or mobile phone.
Free.
http://www.blogger.com

BuddyPress
A WordPress plugin with member profiles, activity streams, user groups, messaging and more.
Free.
http://www.buddypress.org

Civic Commons
"We like to think of the Civic Commons as social media for stuff that matters."
Free.
http://theciviccommons.com/

Dolphin Pro
Open-source software for creating custom social networks and web communities.
Free.
https://www.boonex.com

E-Democracy
Online town hall forums. Individuals can participate via email, daily email digest, the web or web feed.
Free.
http://forums.e-democracy.org/groups

Engagement HQ
Gather questions, ideas, concerns, stories, thoughts and feelings from your community, with tools for surveys, polls, questions, guestbook, stories, places, forums and ideas.
Custom pricing.
http://www.bangthetable.com/engagementhq

Google Groups
Google Groups allows you to create and participate in online forums and email-based groups with a rich environment for community conversations.
Free.
http://www.groups.google.com

Grou.ps
A social groupware platform that allows people to come together and form private or public interactive communities around a shared interest, work or affiliation.
Silver: $29.99/month. Platinum: $89.99/month.
VIP: custom pricing.
http://grou.ps/home

HipChat
Team chat built for business: persistent and searchable.
Includes group chat, video chat and screen sharing.
Basic: Free. Plus: $2/month.
http://www.hipchat.com

LinkedIn Groups
LinkedIn Groups are virtual meeting rooms (or forums) in which people with similar interests can share perspectives and hold conversations.
Free.
https://www.linkedin.com/groups

LISTSERV
LISTSERV is the original and industry standard email list management software.
Lite (limited): Free. Perpetual License Ranges: Lite: $2,500 – $4,300. Classic: $2,525 – $16,900. HPO: $24,400 – $25,600.
http://www.lsoft.com/products/listserv.asp

Livejournal
Can be used as a private journal, a blog, a discussion forum
or a social network.
Free.
http://www.livejournal.com

Meetup
Meetup allows you to promote and organize your group or
event on one of the most popular event platforms on the web.
Joining: Free. Organizers, Basic: $9.99/month.
Unlimited: $14.99/month.
http://www.meetup.com

Muut
A single solution to power the forum, commenting and
messaging on your site.
Standard: Free. Premium: $16/month.
http://www.muut.com

Ning
Scalable hosted platform to publish and connect
with an online community.
Basic: $25/month. Performance: $49 per month.
Ultimate: $99/month.
http://www.ning.com

Open311
Neighborhood improvement conversations about
physical / infrastructure conditions that need attention.
Free.
http://www.open311.org

QiqoChat
Online community-building tool for knowledge-sharing and
discussion. Includes video breakout groups.
Members: $3/month. Organizations: $.02/minute/person
for video meetings.
http://qiqochat.com

QuickTopic
A single-topic web forum, fully email-enabled.
New discussions can be started rapidly.   Participants
can use email or the web board, or both in combination.
Basic: Free. Pro: $49/year.
https://www.quicktopic.com

Reddit
A social news aggregation website with discussion
and web-content rating.
Basic: Free. Gold: $3.99/month or $29.99/year.
https://www.reddit.com

Tumblr
A blogging tool that supports Spotify tracks, mp3s,
videos, fashion, art and conversations.
Free.
https://www.tumblr.com/

Twitter
An online news and social networking service where
users post and interact with messages (called tweets)
that are restricted to 140 characters.
Free.
http://www.twitter.com

Wiggio
Online toolkit with many tools for working in groups.
Free.
http://www.wiggio.com

WordPress
An open source content-management system. Includes
plug-in architecture with access to thousands of templates.
Free.
http://www.wordpress.org

Yahoo! Groups
A community-driven hybrid between an electronic mailing list and an Internet forum.
Free.
http://www.groups.yahoo.com

Yammer
An internal social networking site for posting links, files, photos and videos. Integrated with Office 365.
Free as part of Office 365.
http://www.yammer.com

YouTube
A video-sharing website that allows users to upload, view, rate, share, report and comment on videos.
Free.
http://www.youtube.com

zIFBoards
Forum hosting with thousands of themes to choose from.
Free.
http://www.zifboards.com

Zilino
A tool for designing, hosting and managing deliberative online forums.
Custom pricing.
http://beta.zilino.com/

CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT
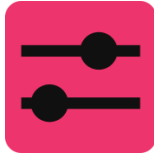
Budget Simulator
For *participatory budgeting* processes.
Customized subscription pricing.
http://www.budgetsimulator.com/info

CitizenBudget
For *participatory budgeting* processes.
Customized pricing.
http://www.citizenbudget.com/

CitizenSpace
For governments, universities and other large institutions
to manage, publicize and archive citizen engagement activity.
Customized subscription pricing.
http://www.citizenspace.com/info

CityZen
Large-scale public outreach through news and social media,
with interactive surveys and data visualizers.
Custom pricing.
http://cityzen.io

Civic Commons
Forums on current events and social challenges.
Free.
http://theciviccommons.com

Codigital
Large group tool for generating, prioritizing and refining ideas.
Integrates with Social Networks and Intranets.
Free for up to 50 participants.
Custom pricing for enterprise accounts.
http://www.codigital.com/

Community Remarks
For urban planning and community improvement.
Allows citizens to post their comments on a *Google* map.
One-time license fee: Basic, $1,995. Basic Plus, $2,720.
Annual fee: Basic Plus for TIP, $5440.
https://communityremarks.com

coUrbanize
For community involvement in urban planning
and real estate development projects.
Custom pricing.
https://courbanize.com/

Crowdbrite Solutions
A suite of tools to manage civic engagement projects.
Includes mobile surveys and digital workshops/charrettes.
Free for a few features. Custom pricing for full features.
http://www.crowdbrite.net/

Dialogue
For public input and proposed solutions to community
challenges, often posed by government agencies or institutions.
Customized subscription pricing.
http://www.dialogue-app.com/info/

Granicus
Cross-department and cross-agency communication within
government, including platforms for citizen engagement.
Custom pricing.
https://www.granicus.com

mySidewalk
A platform for community planning and development.
Includes large data libraries from credible sources,
such as US Census Bureau and city governments.
Free for citizens. Custom pricing for municipalities
and institutions.
http://app.mysidewalk.com/

NarraFirma
Supports participatory narrative inquiry through gathering stories and analyzing trends.
Free.
https://narrafirma.com/

Neighborland
Engages residents in public planning through posing questions and collecting insights online.
One-time license. DIY: $1,000. Basic: $2,000. Partner: $3,000+.
https://neighborland.com/

Recovers
A website for post-disaster communities to manage donations, organize volunteers and meet the needs of residents.
Free.
https://recovers.org/

Tellus Toolkit
Uses interactive maps and Geographical Information Systems to support multi-stakeholder decision-making on decisions about community development.
Custom pricing.
http://www.tellus-toolkit.com/

TidePools
Users share local information and culture through community maps and data feeds.
Free.
http://tidepools.co/

WeJit
Users can create public discussions, debates or decisions, distributed via social media or email.
Free.
http://www.mywejit.com/

FILE SHARING

Box
File-sharing that allows document creation, editing and review, in real time on multiple devices.
Basic: Free. Business Starter: $5/user/month.
Business: $15/user/month. Enterprise TBD.
https://www.box.com

Citrix Sharefile
File sharing with E-signatures for high security.
Personal: $16/month. Team: $60/month. Business: $100/month.
https://www.sharefile.com

DocThreads
File management with different versions automatically made explicit and visible to all collaborants.
Associate: Free. Standard: $95/year.
Team Leader: $665/year. Administrator: $950/year.
https://docthreads.com/en

Dropbox
Supports multiple users, provides one TB of storage per user, centralized administration/activity monitoring, additional security settings, and the capability to track and recover previous versions of files.
Individuals: Free or $8.25/month. Teams: $12.50/user/month.
Larger teams: $20/user/month.
https://www.dropbox.com

EditMe
WYSIWYG, cloud-based page editor.
Team: $19/month. Business: $49/month.
http://www.editme.com

Editthis.info
Creates simple wikis. Features spam protection, RSS support.
Free.
http://editthis.info/wiki/Main_Page

Etherpad
Collaborative document editing.
Every copy of a document is updated twice per second.
Free.
http://etherpad.com

Google Docs
Web-based word processor, spreadsheet and presentation suite.
Free.
http://docs.google.com

Google Drive
Allows users to store files in the cloud, synchronize files across devices and share files.
Basic: free. G Suite Basic: $5/month. G Suite Business: $10/month.
G Suite Enterprise: custom pricing.
https://gsuite.google.com/products/drive

MediaWiki
A free software open source wiki package written in PHP, originally for use on Wikipedia.
Free.
https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/MediaWiki

Microsoft Office Online
Online version of Microsoft Office – includes Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Comparable to *GoogleDocs*.
Free.
https://office.live.com

OneDrive
File storage that integrates with Windows operating systems.
Multiple people can collaborate and edit documents simultaneously in real-time and from any device.
Basic: Free. Premium: $6.99/month.
https://onedrive.live.com

OneHub
Standard suite of file-sharing tools. Can be customized visually.
Team: $29.95/month. Business: $99.95/month.
Enterprise: Custom pricing.
https://www.onehub.com/

Quip
Integrates spreadsheets and text into a single document.
Also has a live editing function.
$30/month for 5 people. $10/month for each additional person.
https://quip.com

Sugarsync
File backup and synchronization
within users' existing folder structure.
Individual: $9.99 for 250GB. Business: $55/month for 1000GB
for 3 users, with $13 additional charge per person for 4-9 users,
and custom pricing for 10 or more users.
https://www.sugarsync.com

Wagn
Collaborative editing, with tracking and content protection.
$4.99/month.
http://www.wagn.org

Wikidot
A place to build wiki-based websites.
Community: Free. Pro Lite: $49.90/year. Pro: $119.90/year.
Pro+: $239.90.
http://www.wikidot.com

Zoho Wiki
Collaborative web portal creation site.
Up to 3 users: Free. Business: $3/user/month and $5/wiki/month.
http://wiki.zoho.com

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

30 Boxes
A calendaring web application that can be shared among team members. Various features.
Free.
http://30Boxes.com

Asana
Project and task management app. Team members can follow progress of tasks and projects from various browser and devices.
Basic: Free. Premium: $8.33/month. Enterprise: custom.
https://asana.com

Basecamp
Centralizes projects, internal communications and client work in one place.
Free for teachers and students. Discounts for nonprofits.
Standard: $99/month (no per user fees).
http://www.basecamphq.com

Centrallo
Enables users to prioritize lists, and to identify the most important tasks within those lists.
Basic: Free. Premium: $4.99/month.
https://centrallo.com

Dapulse
Uses color coded board to track everything a team is working on. Instantly see who's working on what, and where things stand.
Basic: $25/month. Standard: $39/month. Pro: $59/month.
Enterprise: $118/month.
https://dapulse.com

Doodle
Helps groups of all sizes collaboratively set the date and time for a group event. No registration required.
Individuals: Free. Professional: $39/year. Teams: $169 for 5 users.
http://www.doodle.com

Droptask
A visually-oriented task management program. Each task is shown as a circle organized within other circles.
Personal: Free. Business: $8.25/month.
https://www.droptask.com

Eventbrite
Self-service ticketing platform. Provides support for creating, sharing and hosting group events.
Free if no charge for the event. Per ticket fees for paid events.
https://www.eventbrite.com

Evite
Guides event hosts through the steps of the event planning process – with tools to support each step.
Free.
http://www.evite.com

FeatureMap
An Agile project manager using cards and story mapping.
Starter: Free. Premium: $60/year.
https://www.featuremap.co

Intervals
A hosted project management service that combines time tracking and task management in a collaborative online space.
Basic: $25/month. Not So Basic: $49/month. Premium: $99/month. Top Shelf: $179/month. Unlimited: $249/month.
http://www.myintervals.com

MeisterTask
A Kanban task management software that can be integrated with other widely-used tools such as *Dropbox* and *Google Drive*.
Basic: Free. Premium: $7.50/month.
https://www.meistertask.com

NeedToMeet
Comprehensive meeting scheduling program.
Supports calendaring, polling and multiple platforms.
Standard: free. Advanced: $12/month.
http://www.needtomeet.com

Onstrategy
Cloud-based app for the design, implementation
and performance management of organizational strategy.
$200-$800/month depending on the size of organization.
https://onstrategyhq.com

Podio
Online hub that links multiple organizing functions,
such as calendar, CRM, scheduling and workflows.
Basic: $9/month. Plus: $14/month. Premium: $24/month.
Enterprise: custom pricing.
https://podio.com

Qlutter
Uses a Kanban style planning board to divide task progress
into *Planned, Ongoing, Blocked* and *Done.*
Basic: Free for 3 users. Team: $39/team/month.
Pro: $9/user/month.
https://qlutter.io

Remember The Milk
Shareable and searchable to-do lists
that sync across multiple devices.
Basic: Free. Pro: $39/year.
http://www.rememberthemilk.com
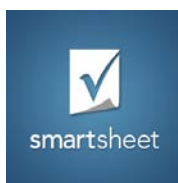
Smartsheet
Project management driven through a spreadsheet format.
Individual: $14/month. Team: $15/month. Business: $25/month.
Enterprise: custom pricing.
https://www.smartsheet.com

StrategyBlocks
Visual strategy development tool that allows members across an
organization to provide input and feedback.
$220/year.
https://www.strategyblocks.com

Teamweek
Task scheduling, project management and team planning.
Up to 5 members: Free. 10 members: $39/month.
20 members: $79/month. 40: $149/month. 100: $299/month.
https://teamweek.com

Todist
Many ways to customize the organization of tasks and projects.
Basic: Free. Premium: $28.99/year. Business: $28.99/user/year.
https://en.todoist.com

Trello
Visual, collaborative, project management. Provides boards,
lists and cards that can be uniquely arranged for each project.
Basic: Free. Business Class: $9.99/month.
Enterprise: custom pricing.
https://trello.com

YouCanBook.me
Online scheduling that allows customers and clients to book
directly into your calendar. Users can show availability and
send updates automatically. Other features too.
Basic: Free. Standard: $10/month.
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