



# Things

Technology, Tools and Applications To  
Make Your Presentations and Other Media  
More Interesting and Interactive



## PowerPoint Presentation Software



[www.office.com](http://www.office.com)

FREE as part of your NHS  
Microsoft 365 account

### PROS

- **Straightforward** presentation software which is similar to using Word
- There is a new option '**Presentation Coach**' which allows you to get feedback on your presentation skills (ie, do you mumble? Do you read directly from the screen?)

### CONS

- Not much **choice of templates** unless you upload from an external site
- Can be a bit **cumbersome** to add text and images in comparison to other products
- Could be accused of being a bit **boring and safe**



## Graphic design tool for those with no formal graphic design training



[www.canva.com](http://www.canva.com)

FREE for basic account

### PROS

- Great for **presentations, posters and other formats**
- Huge variety of **templates** available
- Presentations can be played **directly** on screen or **downloaded as a PowerPoint slideshow**
- **Compatible** with a number of different apps

### CONS

- Basic version does not include the option to **resize** to other formats
- **Restricted number of images and photographs** in the free version (although there are some workarounds)



## Presentation Software



[www.prezi.com](http://www.prezi.com)

FREE 14 day trial

### PROS

- The presenter has the ability to **zoom** in and out during presentations which means specific facts can be highlighted. This allows for a more **dynamic and engaging presentation**
- Great for easy presentation of **large pictures, maps, or infographics**.
- **Existing PowerPoints** can be converted into Prezis

### CONS

- Some users have found the process of creating, exporting, and sharing presentations in Prezi to be **clunky**
- Be careful as the zooming feature can make users feel **dizzy or sick** if it's shown too quickly!



Graphic design tool for those with no formal graphic design training



[www.visme.co](http://www.visme.co)

FREE for basic account

### PROS

- Great for **presentations, posters and other formats**
- You can **download, share** or **present** your presentation
- The **stats and figures** graphics are really good
- You can record **yourself** alongside your project to present it

### CONS

- The pre-built templates are quite **generic**
- Occasional errors with **formatting and layout customisation**
- **Restricted** number of images and photographs in the free version



Graphic design tool for those with no formal graphic design training



<https://genially.ly>

FREE for basic account

### PROS

- Great for **presentations, posters and other formats**
- Exciting **gamified** and **media-rich** content
- Can add **audio**
- You can measure **metrics** and **collect audience responses**
- Popular **free** alternative to ThingLink

### CONS

- **Restricted** number of images and photographs in the free version
- No **mobile** version or **desktop apps**



Graphic design tool for those with no formal graphic design training



<https://create.vista.com>

FREE for basic account

### PROS

- Great for **presentations, posters and other formats**
- **100K+** free design templates
- Templates for each **social channel** with **correct sizing**
- Contains a **background remover feature**

### CONS

- Difficult to design content on **mobile phone**
- Mobile designs do not **sync** with desktop app



High quality, free and copyright-cleared photographs



[www.pexels.com](http://www.pexels.com)

FREE

## PROS

- Choice of **1000s** of high quality, free and copyright-cleared photographs and videos to add to your work
- **Easy to download and use** photographs and videos to your projects
- Really **clear and sharp photos** and videos
- You can choose the **resolution** that best fits your project's needs. You can either download the original size or large, medium, or small size. You can also customise the image size.

## CONS

- The advanced image search option is not great



High quality, free and copyright-cleared photographs



[www.pixabay.com](http://www.pixabay.com)

FREE

## PROS

- Pixabay offers **more than just images** and videos There is a choice of more than **4000+** high quality, free and copyright-cleared resources to add to your work
- Easy to **download** and **use** resources for your projects
- You can choose the **content format** you want after typing in the keyword in the search box – whether it's images, videos, illustrations, sound effects, GIFs, or music
- You can see the **most popular and trending** images and videos for inspiration

## CONS

- Pixabay appears to be sponsored by **Shutterstock**. This means Shutterstock (which isn't free) images appear on the first line of results



Free tool to remove backgrounds from photographs



[www.remove.bg](http://www.remove.bg)

FREE

## PROS

- Allows you to **customise** images for your own use
- Can make your images more **personal and appropriate** to you
- **Easy to use**
- **Free and safe** to remove background without downloading software

## CONS

- The free version only supports **50 free previews**
- The **quality** of the original image will be reduced when removing the image's background



Free templates you can use in PowerPoint



[www.free-powerpoint-templates-design.com](http://www.free-powerpoint-templates-design.com)

FREE

### PROS

- Fully and easily **editable** (shape colour, size, and text)
- Great choice of **modern templates**
- You can choose by **category** or **keyword**
- Contains 100% **fully editable** Vector graphics

### CONS

- Contains a lot of **adverts**



QR Code Generator



<https://www.qrcode-monkey.com>

FREE for most formats

### PROS

- Can **create your own QR codes** easily and quickly
- 
- Large **choice** of styles
- 
- Simple to **download and add to other applications**

### CONS

- **Make sure** you use the link/QR code above as there is another site with a *very* similar name which is **not** free



Create your own illustrations



<https://blush.design>

FREE for basic account

### PROS

- **Visually different**
- Create your **own** illustrations and figures to complement your presentations, handouts or posters
- Lots of **existing** illustrations you can use for free

### CONS

- **Easier** to use existing illustrations than create your own
- Initially **can be tricky** to use

# bitly

URL shortener and QR code creator



<https://bitly.com>

FREE

## PROS

- Perfect if you have a **really long URL** that you want to put into a presentation or social media post, and you **don't have enough space for a long URL** in your design
- **Trusted** among the internet community
- Easy to **shorten links** and **track traffic**

## CONS

- Free version has **basic** minimal features
- Paid version is **very** expensive

# Kahoot!

Online game-based learning platform



[www.getkahoot.com](http://www.getkahoot.com)

[www.kahoot.it](http://www.kahoot.it)

FREE for basic account

## PROS

- Very **user friendly**
- **Colourful visuals, catchy music, and the competitive nature** helps engage participants
- Participants **do not need** to sign up – just use a **PIN** to access the games
- Participants can use real names or nicknames

## CONS

- Only up to **10 players** with the basic version
- Some participants may focus more on **winning the game** rather than on **learning the content**

# Blooket

Online game-based learning platform



[www.blooket.com](http://www.blooket.com)

[www.playblooket.com](http://www.playblooket.com)

FREE for basic account

## PROS

- More **gamification choices** than Kahoot. All questions can be used in a number of **different games**
- You can **'steal' points or prizes** from other participants so it can be really competitive and engaging
- Up to **60 participants** per session

## CONS

- As with Kahoot, some participants may focus more **on winning the game** rather than on **learning the content**
- Some of the games are quite **complicated** to understand so if you are short on time, Kahoot is simpler for participants to understand



Online polling and game-based learning platform



[www.socrative.com](http://www.socrative.com)

FREE

### PROS

- Up to **50 participants per session**
- Create up to **5 quizzes**
- You can create **quizzes, word clouds, surveys and polls**
- Start from **scratch** or use **existing templates**
- Participants do not need to sign up – just use a **PIN** to access the games

### CONS

- Fairly **small** choice of question types
- Can be a bit **tricky** to initially navigate



Online polling and Q&A tool



[www.mentimeter.com](http://www.mentimeter.com)

[www.menti.com](http://www.menti.com)

FREE for basic account

### PROS

- Up to **50 participants per month**
- You can create **quizzes, word clouds, surveys and polls**. Polls can be customised with **graphics** to cater to a specific, targeted audience.
- Start from **scratch** or use **existing templates**
- Participants do not need to sign up – just use a **PIN** to access the games
- Participants are **anonymous**
- Participants can **'like'** content by sending an emoji

### CONS

- You can only get **two questions** for free per Mentimeter presentation



Online polling and Q&A tool



[www.slido.com](http://www.slido.com)

FREE

### PROS

- Useful to use throughout a session to **gauge feedback** as you go along
- Participants do not need to sign up – just use a **PIN** to access the games
- Participants can ask **anonymous questions** during a live Slido session which you can answer online

### CONS

- You can **save or export analytics**, but they are fairly **basic**. As participants are anonymous you cannot drill down for detail



MS Forms survey and quiz application



[www.office.com](http://www.office.com)

FREE as part of your Microsoft 365 package

### PROS

- **Simple to use**
- Easy to **share** Forms in a variety of ways
- **Easily understood** by your audience
- You can make it **as long or as short** as you need to
- Unlimited participants
- Simple to use **analytics**

### CONS

- The templates are a **bit basic** and there isn't much choice to customise your form
- **Branching** and **logic** may not be as powerful as with other survey software



A virtual pin board where participants can leave notes



<https://padlet.com>

FREE for basic account

### PROS

- You can use **existing templates** from a gallery to use, or you can **create your own from scratch**
- **Easy** to set up
- **Anonymous participation** which can help reluctant users
- Great for **gathering thoughts** on a topic
- You can upload **files, add links, or images** to any comment
- Participants can **react** to others' comments

### CONS

- You can only create a **maximum of 3 padlets** at one time with the free version



Virtual workspace designed for creative brainstorming and collaboration



[www.miro.com](http://www.miro.com)

FREE for basic account

### PROS

- **Perfect for ice breakers**
- Hundreds of **preset templates** you can customise
- Has options for **mind mapping**,
- **Integrates** with MS Team and Zoom

### CONS

- You can only create a maximum of **3 boards** with free version
- Can be **tricky to** understand initially