SoftMaker

SoftMaker Office 2018 for Windows available today

NUREMBERG, November 8, 2017 – German software developer SoftMaker today released the latest version of its Office suite, SoftMaker Office 2018 for Windows. The office solution "Made in Germany" comes with a completely revised user interface—users can now work either with classic menus or with modern ribbons. By using Microsoft's DOCX, XLSX and PPTX as its native file formats, SoftMaker Office 2018 provides seamless compatibility with Microsoft Office.

In brief:

- SoftMaker Office 2018 for Windows is now available.
- Versions for Linux and Apple Mac are currently in private beta testing.
- The Office suite includes the word processor TextMaker 2018, the spreadsheet application PlanMaker 2018 and the presentation software Presentations 2018.
- For email, tasks and appointments, a SoftMaker-enhanced version of Thunderbird is included.
- The new user interface allows users to work either with ribbons or the classic menu interface.
- By using the file formats DOCX, XLSX and PPTX natively, SoftMaker Office 2018 offers seamless compatibility with Microsoft Office.

SoftMaker Office 2018 is available immediately. The new Office suite includes the latest versions of the word processor TextMaker, the spreadsheet application PlanMaker and the presentation software Presentations. For email, tasks and appointments, a SoftMaker-enhanced version of Thunderbird is included.

Optional ribbons or classic user interface

SoftMaker Office 2018 offers a fundamentally new user experience: for the first time, users can choose to work with the new ribbon interface or with classic menus and toolbars.

Users familiar with working with the latest versions of Microsoft Office will not only find their way around the SoftMaker Office ribbons quickly, but will also benefit from many of the advantages that the interface offers over Microsoft Office. For example, a separate "file" ribbon tab was deliberately implemented instead of the "backstage view" used in Microsoft Office, to ensure a fluid workflow.

For users familiar with the previous menu interface of SoftMaker Office, the new ribbon interface also provides a practical aid for the transition to the modern ribbon: all menu items from the classic interface are also available in ribbon mode in the form of a "hamburger" menu.

Users can not only customize the ribbons, but can also work with multiple different UI "themes", such as a "dark mode", which allows using SoftMaker Office 2018 in an eye-friendly way.

Seamlessly compatible with Microsoft Office

SoftMaker Office 2018 natively handles the Microsoft formats DOCX, XLSX and PPTX. It is no longer necessary to import or export when exchanging files with users of Microsoft Office; all files can be edited and sent directly.

Seamless use of the DOCX, XLSX and PPTX file formats not only enables problem-free file sharing among users, but also ensures interoperability with third-party programs that work with those formats.

Further innovations at a glance

Convenient: SoftMaker Office 2018 is all about ease of use. Users can not only open documents in separate windows, but also in tabs, like with current web browsers. Simply dragging documents from one window docks them to another window.

Text formatting is easy with TextMaker 2018 and PlanMaker 2018: thanks to the new cell-style catalog, users can customize tables with just one click.

Professional: Especially for journalists and users in the academic sector, the new real-time word counter in TextMaker 2018 offers the possibility to always keep track of document length. SoftMaker Office Professional includes Berlitz translation dictionaries for English, German, French, Italian and Spanish.

Efficient: PlanMaker 2018 now allows users to define "tables" within worksheets. These specialized areas allow users to quickly format and dynamically add new data, as well as easily filter, sort and analyze content.

The completely redesigned AutoFilter helps users get a quick overview of large amounts of data with just a few clicks.

Compelling: With the new slide-master concept in Presentations 2018, users create attractive presentations with just a few clicks. It is now possible to create as many master layouts as desired, on which arbitrary placeholders can be positioned. This not only ensures a consistent appearance of presentations but also guarantees compatibility with Microsoft PowerPoint.

All animations and slide transitions are rendered with OpenGL now which increases their frame rate and allows for spectacular special effects.

The new "presenter view" helps with presenting in front of an audience. While the public sees the presentation on a monitor or projector, the presenter keeps control over the "cockpit" on a second monitor; here the presenter sees the current and the next slide and has the ability to navigate the presentation and add notes and drawings on the screen.

Also available as 64-bit software

SoftMaker Office 2018 is available as 32-bit and 64-bit software in the same package. With 64 bits, the new version can address more memory and operate even faster, especially with complex calculations and high-resolution graphics.

SoftMaker Office Standard 2018 is available directly from the manufacturer and in stores at a price of US$/EUR 69.95, while SoftMaker Office Professional 2018 retails for US$/EUR 99.95. Owners of older versions are offered discounts.

A **free 30-day trial version** can be downloaded from the SoftMaker web site at www.softmaker.com.

About SoftMaker

SoftMaker has been developing Office software since its inception in 1987: word processing (TextMaker), spreadsheet (PlanMaker) and presentation applications (Presentations). The flagship SoftMaker Office is available for Windows, Linux, Android and soon macOS. The outstanding features of software from SoftMaker are ease-of-use, extremely high compatibility with Microsoft Office and speed. Coupled with competitive pricing, these features offer an unbeatable combination. SoftMaker's second core strength is high-quality computer fonts. With the two product lines MegaFont NEXT and infiniType, home users as well as professional designers, printers and publishers receive font libraries of the highest quality.

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