

Web Apps differences to Desktop Apps

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Microsoft web apps such as Word, Excel and PowerPoint can be handy and quite available to us via web browsers such as Google Chrome.

However, there can be major drawbacks in respect to functionality. The Web App versions of Office Apps normally located on the desktop can mean tools are not the same, the online version are cutdown versions of their desktop parents.

Here's a note of some differences:

1. Microsoft Word online does not have the following

- ability to add captions, citations or bibliography field
- border around page or text
- automatic insertion of a cover page
- there isn't a full set of Reference and Researcher tools
- watermarks are not supported
- index of words
- password protection
- mail merge
- advanced page layout tools
- some printing tools (basic printing only)
- extended proofing tools

It is worth noting, some of the above can be viewed but not created or edited online.

Also, some documents can appear different within the online version compared to the full desktop version of the application software due to the viewer.

2. Excel online does not have the following

- smart formatting
- creation of external data connections
- advanced analysis such as Power view or Power Pivot
- some advanced formula tools
- recommended chart creation and editing
- password security
- advanced auditing tools
- what if analysis

3. PowerPoint web app does not have the following

- advanced design tools or the full suite of animations and transitions
- headers and footers
- presenter view or advanced reviewer tools

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