The Top 8 Free Accounting Software for Nonprofits

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Update 9/23/2016: This piece has been updated to reflect new software options that have been discovered since the original article first went live

When you're starting out fresh in the nonprofit sector, it can be hard to build the funds you need to function, especially when you're selling an idea, not a product. As you build your organization, every incoming donation and outgoing expense has to be documented meticulously.



Nonprofit organizations have a serious need for quality fund <u>accounting software</u>, unfortunately not all organizations can justify the expense.

Luckily for smaller organizations, there are many free and open source options to choose from. These are the top eight free accounting software for nonprofits!

1. GnuCash



GnuCash is a small-business financial accounting software available for Windows, Mac, and Linux users. Along with standard accounting software functions such as transactions and financial calculations, it also features a double-entry system and the ability to account for multiple currencies.

GnuCash is also consistently being developed by the GnuCash Project and offers substantial user support through bug reports and team chat. GnuCash is a fantastic option to go with for any small nonprofit.

Have you used GnuCash? Be sure to leave a review!

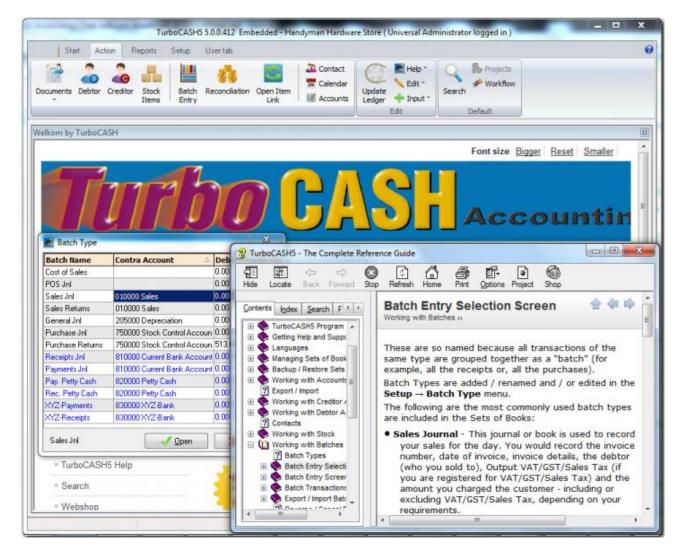
2. Invoice Expert Lite

Offering a litany of features, Invoice Expert Lite is the free version of the company's full accounting software. Under the Lite edition you have access to invoicing, quoting, inventory control, custom tax settings, payment history, as well as other accounting features.

In addition to these features, Invoice Expert also offers tech support to help with any glitches or questions with the software. If you choose to upgrade your software, Invoice Expert doesn't require you to re-download your software all over again; you can just purchase the full software for \$69.95.

Have you used Invoice Expert? Be sure to leave a review!

3. TurboCASH

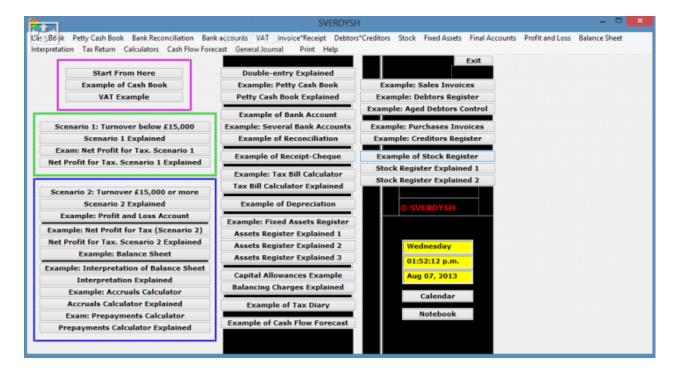


TurboCASH is an on-premise, entry-level, open-source accounting software option made for single users and smaller networks. Features include automated billing, accounts payable and receivable, invoicing, credit card processing, etc. This software runs on Windows, Mac, and Linux.

Being an open-source program, formal support (beyond user forums) is non-existent. However, considering the 4.8 out of 5 star rating on Sourceforge, TurboCASH is considered a reliable software option. It may not be pretty looking, but brings solid functionality to the table.

Have you used TurboCASH? Be sure to leave a review!

4. SVERDYSH



Despite being another plainly designed software tool, SVERDYSH is a functional program which offers all standard accounting features, such as invoices, account tracking, profit/loss trackers, balance sheets, and bank account tracking. SVERDYSH is unfortunately limited to Windows operating systems, however it is functional on all Windows platforms from XP and beyond.

Information of this software is limited on its own (remarkably outdated looking) website, which calls into question the amount of support that is offered with it, if any.

Have you used SVERDYSH? Be sure to leave a review!

5. BS1 General Ledger

<u>CNet boasts</u> BS1 General Ledger is a "high-quality business software" which offers double-entry accounting, financial transaction tracking (inbound and outbound), balance sheets, and offers detailed reports. It is a great choice for starter accounting.

Once problem noted on CNet was the lack of an Excel formatting for reports, so those who use Excel in their finances should consider that when looking at BS1 General Ledger. Davis Business Systems, which developed this software, also offers the source code for programmers to modify to their needs.

Have you used BS1 General Ledger? Be sure to leave a review!

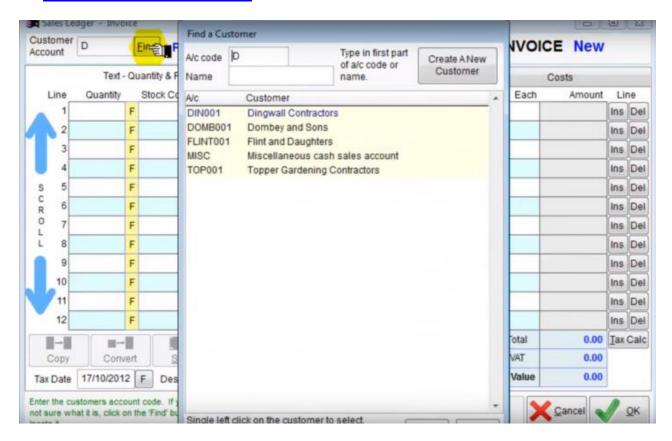
6. VT Cash Book

VT Cash Book is a basic data entry and accounting software option without too many visual bells and whistles, but considering its lack of a price tag, it doesn't have to look pretty. Features include "fast" data entry, multiple bank/cash account handling, bank reconciliation, VAT returns (which is useful for international organizations that deal with value added taxes), and balance sheets/ledger reports.

The list of system requirements is amazingly short, only mandating that you run Windows 2000 or later. Unfortunately this isn't good news for Mac and Linux users.

Have you used VT Cash Book? Be sure to <u>leave a review!</u>

7. Adminsoft Accounts



In addition to a detailed website, Adminsoft Accounts also offers its own instructional videos on <u>Youtube</u> to show customers how every single function of their software works. This could count as a detailed support channel, which is a rare feature with free software.

This option offers your typical accounting software features such as invoicing, statements, and reports, but also offers HR features and payroll. It is a very well rounded software option.

This software is offered on PCs running Windows 98 to Windows 10. The vendor also lets customers know that their software is functional on Mac so long as it is run on a Windows emulator.

Have you used Adminsoft Accounts? Be sure to leave a review!

8. <u>xTuple PostBooks</u>

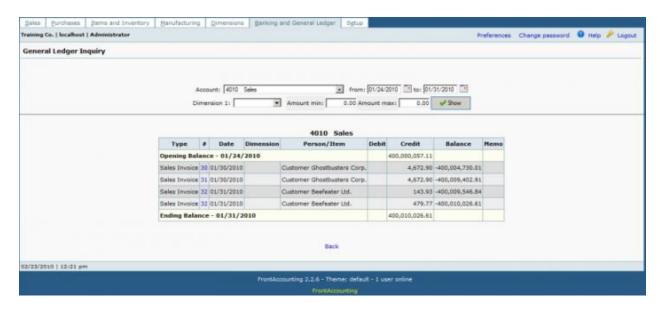


PostBooks is a very polished and well rounded software option that encompasses accounting, customer relationship management (CRM), and enterprise resource planning (ERP) features. It offers your standard accounting features such as general ledger, accounts payable and receivable, and bank reconciliation, along with CRM and ERP features such as address books and vendor lists.

PostBooks has a polished and modern look, which you typically expect from a paid software option. Unfortunately this option is only free with one user and additional users requires additional purchased product keys.

Have you used xTuple PostBooks? Be sure to leave a review!

9. FrontAccounting



The beauty of open source software, such as FrontAccounting, is the collaborative effort on the part of code savvy users to improve the source code and create an improving product over time. FrontAccounting is an open source small business accounting solution which includes a full arsenal of accounting features such as allocations, sales orders, accounts payable, and a general ledger.

The newest version released in February of 2016 is currently available for Windows, Mac, and Linux and even offers multiple user access.

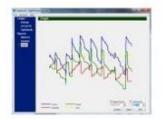
Have you used FrontAccounting? Be sure to leave a review!

10. Ledger Lite

LedgerLite

The World's Simplest Accounting Software







LedgerLite is an accounting system for any organization that needs a general ledger or cashbook. Because it's incredibly easy to download and use, it's ideal for students of double-entry bookkeeping. And <u>hundreds of businesses worldwide</u> are using **LedgerLite** to securely track their important financial information.

Simply download the **LedgerLite** EXE file to your computer's hard drive or USB stick and run. The database gets created automatically. You can keep both program and data on a USB flash drive making it easy to backup or share with your accountant. To access simply plug into any USB port on any Windows computer and run. It doesn't get much easier than that! (Who said accounting software needs to be complex?)





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Ledger Lite is the free version of the paid open source software, Ledger. They boast their software as being the "world's simplest accounting software" and their features include balance sheets, general ledgers, comparative reporting, tax calculations, and income statements.

One interesting perk to Ledger Lite is the quick download with no formal installation. The program runs off of a ".exe" format, which allows for immediate use as soon as the file is downloaded. However, as a trade off, this means that Ledger Lite is only available for Windows due to the file format. We can't get everything we want.

Have you used Ledger Lite? Be sure to leave a review!

Source: https://blog.capterra.com/top-free-accounting-software-for-nonprofit/