

Additional Google Drive Apps

Apps for more than what you might suspect

Google Drive is a service we've touted before, because it represents a powerful, cloud-based alternative to Microsoft's Office suite; but Drive offers more than what it has developed in competition with Redmond, WA. Drive can be connected with a tremendous variety of apps, giving you the ability to produce everything from floor plans to mind maps.

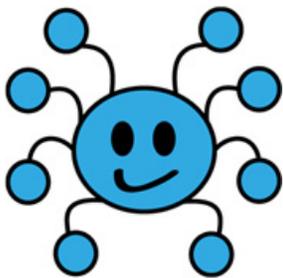
In many cases, there are several apps available in the Drive marketplace for accomplishing the same task, with more always in development. This pluralism encourages

experimentation for finding what works best for you. One thing to note: A few of the apps do not have infrastructure for collaboration, as you might expect to be standard with Drive apps. In just about every case, however, there is an alternative which does have collaboration tools.

I have worked with each of the apps detailed below, and return to using many of them with regularity. Each of them **does offer** collaboration, and is what I would consider to be a choice option for you to begin with in your exploration of Google Drive's apps options.

Recommended Apps

MINDMUP



Mindmup is a super-easy mind-mapping app which can be added to your Google Drive apps and, from there, shared with other Google Drive users for easy collaboration on projects. The interface encourages focus on content, rather than style, and is

exportable in a large array of formats.

SCRIPT



Google Apps Script is a great tool for those looking to code, especially if they want to create an app which integrates well with Google products.

Additionally, because it is a Google Drive app, Script runs on

all of the devices on which you can install Drive - Android and iOS tablets, phones, and more - so you can return to or show off your work in a huge variety of potential situations.

FLOORPLANNER



Floorplanner is a beautiful, fast, and fun way of visualizing an interior/exterior space. For remodel-jobs, education, or simply play, Floorplanner executes a ton

of potential implementations, with support for collaboration, in a very slick package.

BALSAMIQ WIREFRAME



For students or teachers looking to build websites, regardless of their skill with design, it can be a good idea to play with wireframes before wrestling with code and/or themes, for visualizing how they want their sites to appear.

With a fun hand-drawn look and a friendly interface, Balsamiq Wireframes are a cinch to drum up and refer back to after you enter the development phase.