

# Introducing ExCompTool: The Excel Comparison Tool I Wish I'd Always Had

After years of pulling my hair out comparing Excel files, I finally decided to build something that would save me (and hopefully you) from this mind-numbing task. Let me tell you about ExCompTool - my weekend project that turned into something I now use almost daily.

## The Problem That Drove Me Crazy

We've all been there. Your colleague sends "the final" spreadsheet. Then another "final" version. Then the "actual final" version. Before you know it, you're staring at two nearly identical Excel files, playing the world's most frustrating spot-the-difference game.

Last month, I spent three hours comparing budget forecasts manually - cell by cell - only to miss a critical change that came back to haunt me in a meeting. That was my breaking point.

## What I Built (And Why You Might Like It)

ExCompTool is embarrassingly simple, but that's kind of the point. I wanted something that would:

Let me drag and drop two Excel files and immediately see what's different

Work right in my browser (because who needs another download?)

Keep my data on my computer (because some of this stuff is sensitive)

Just work, without a learning curve or complicated setup

What started as a tool for my own sanity has turned into something my whole team now uses regularly. It's nothing fancy, but it's saved us countless hours of tedious work.

## How It Actually Works

You just head to the website, upload your files, and boom - it shows you exactly what changed between them. It breaks everything down by sheet and highlights all the different cells. You can export the differences to a CSV if you need to share what changed with someone else.

The coolest part? Everything happens in your browser. No servers involved. Your data never leaves your computer - something I was paranoid about when handling financial projections and client data.

## Real-World Uses That Saved My Bacon

Last week, our VP asked for "minor revisions" to a quarterly report. When I ran the original and revised versions through ExCompTool, I discovered she'd actually changed over 200 cells - including some key performance metrics. Caught it before the board meeting!

My colleague, my friend uses it regularly to compare different versions of campaign tracking spreadsheets. Honestly, anyone who deals with Excel files and revisions can probably find a use for it.

## Try It If You're Interested

If this sounds useful, you can check it out here: <https://excomptool.ctraltadel.net/>

I've also put together some basic documentation on GitHub (nothing too technical): <https://github.com/CaptNBoomStr/ExCompTool>

I built this tool to scratch my own itch, but I'd love to hear if it helps you too. It's completely free - I'm just happy if it saves someone else from the Excel comparison hell I lived through!

## **Final Thoughts**

Look, I'm not a professional developer. This is just a tool I built because I needed it. It's not perfect, and I'm still tweaking things based on feedback from friends and colleagues. But if you've ever muttered curse words while comparing Excel files, give it a try - it might just save your sanity too.