

Obsidian is a personal knowledge base and note-taking software application that operates on Markdown files.^{[2][3]} It allows users to make internal links for notes and then to visualize the connections as a graph.^{[4][5]} It is designed to help users organize and structure their thoughts and knowledge in a flexible, non-linear way. The software is free for personal use, with commercial licenses available for pay.^{[2][6]}

History

Obsidian was founded by Shida Li and Erica Xu while quarantining during the COVID-19 pandemic.^[7] Li and Xu, who had met while studying at the University of Waterloo, had already collaborated on several development projects.^[8] Obsidian was initially released on 30 March 2020.^[9] Version 1.0.0 was released in October 2022.^{[10][11]} Version 1.1, which added the Canvas core plugin, released in December 2022.^[12]

Features

Obsidian is built on Electron.^[6] It is a cross-platform application that runs on Windows, Linux, and macOS, as well as mobile operating systems such as Android and iOS.^[6] There is no web-based version of the software.^[8] Obsidian on all platforms can be customized by adding plugins and themes, which enable users to extend the software's functionality with additional features or integration with other tools.^[6] Obsidian differentiates between core plugins, which are released and maintained by the Obsidian team, and community plugins, which are open-sourced through GitHub and are contributed by users.^[13] Examples of community plugins include a Kanban-style task board and a calendar widget.^[3] There are over 200 community made themes to use with the app.

Obsidian operates on a folder of text documents; each new note in Obsidian generates a new text document, and all the documents can be searched from within the app.^{[6][3]} Obsidian allows internal linking between notes and creates an interactive graph that visualizes the relationships between notes.^{[6][8][3]} Text formatting in Obsidian is achieved through Markdown, but Obsidian provides the instantaneous previewing of formatted text.^[6]

Obsidian

<div></div>
<div></div> <div>Obsidian open with a chemistry note, graph view, and calendar</div>
<div>Original author(s)</div> <div>Shida Li · Erica Xu</div>
<div>Developer(s)</div> <div>Dynalist Inc.^[1]</div>
<div>Initial release</div> <div>March 30, 2020</div>
<div>Stable release</div> <div>1.5.12 / March 31, 2024</div>
<div>Written in</div> <div>Electron, JavaScript, HTML, CSS</div>
<div>Platform</div> <div>Windows, macOS, Android, Linux, iOS</div>
<div>Type</div> <div>Personal knowledge base · personal information manager</div>
<div>License</div> <div>Freemium</div>
<div>Website</div> <div>obsidian.md (http://obsidian.md)</div>

An Internet forum and Discord channel are hosted by the developers.^[8]

See also

- Comparison of note-taking software – Comparison of computer software designed for taking notes
- Comparison of wiki software – Software to run a collaborative wiki compared
- Personal wiki – Wiki for a single user
 - List of wiki software § Personal wiki software

References

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External links

- [Obsidian plugins \(https://obsidian.md/plugins\)](https://obsidian.md/plugins)
 - [Official Obsidian forum \(https://forum.obsidian.md/\)](https://forum.obsidian.md/)
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Retrieved from "[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Obsidian_\(software\)&oldid=1216770661](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Obsidian_(software)&oldid=1216770661)"

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