

Testing & Evaluation Sheet	
LibreOffice	
1. Tool Overview	
Name:	LibreOffice
Category:	OfficeSuite
Purpose:	An open source office suite designed for document creation, editing and collaboration
Date Tested	4/23/2025
Status:	Deployed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational - Actively running/maintained <input type="checkbox"/> In Testing - Currently being evaluated or piloted <input type="checkbox"/> Inactive/Deprecated - No longer maintained or functional
Deployment Architecture:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A standalone software - Runs entirely locally (e.g., runs on computer and doesn't depend on external server) <input type="checkbox"/> A locally hosted service with separate server and client component - Run both backend/frontend yourself (e.g., backend could be on a local network, or self-hosted on cloud) <input type="checkbox"/> A service with a local client that's hosted by a third party - You install a client on your device, but it connects to and depends on a remote server (e.g., Signal: install app (client), but Signal's servers handle message relaying, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> A service that is hosted by a third party but can also be self-hosted
Version:	25.2.2
2. Installation & Setup	
OS Compatibility	Desktop: Windows, Linux/GNU, Snap Package, MacOS, Mobile: Portable, Android, Online/Cloud,
Installation Manual:	Yes
Installation Steps:	1. Go to LibreOffice.org

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Go to the download section in the hamburger menu Click either “LibreOffice Stable” or “LibreOffice Fresh” Click “Download” In the Installation Wizard Window click “Modify” and then “Next” Click any of the features you wanted downloaded and then “Next” Click “Finish”
Mention if command-line setup or special configurations are needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No special configurations or command-line installs are required for basic installation, Terminal-based install options are available on Linux
Common Installation Issues & Fixes:	No common issues documented
User Documentation:	Yes
Required Technical Knowledge	Beginner

3. Testing & Evaluation

<u>Category</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Score</u>
Operational Functionality:	<p>Functionality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The tool is mostly non-functional with many broken features and bugs. <input type="checkbox"/> Several broken features or bugs <input type="checkbox"/> Minor bugs or issues <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly functional with few bugs or no bugs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fully functional with no bugs <p>Internet Dependence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Software is able to function completely offline Will also be able to function on 2G & 3G networks <p>Localization & Language Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 55 languages available <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simplified & Traditional Chinese, Japanese, Tibetan, Vietnamese, Korean, They have a active community working to increase the localization ¹ <p>Mobile Accessibility</p>	4.0

¹ <https://wiki.documentfoundation.org/Language>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Android: LibreOffice Viewer (limited editing) • iOS: Not officially supported • Web version: Collabora Online (requires server setup or third-party provider) 	
Usability for Non-Technical Users	<p>Ease of Installation & Deployment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Software is easy to download • Installing takes a couple of steps however there is documentation provided by LibreOffice² • LibreOffice does not document when documentation was last updated • It took ~ 10 minutes to download, the file was 348MB <p>User Onboarding Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, there is quick pop ups about tooltips <p>Technical Experience Level Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a user can use Microsoft Suite then users will be able to transition to this software • Interface is menu driven rather than command driven 	4.3
Security & Privacy Strength	<p>Encryption Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File level encryption is AES 256 is available but would have to download as an extension • Can password protect document • Can use a GSB key <p>Known Strength resilience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LibreOffice is not being blocked by the Great Firewall • No it does not have any circumvention software • No available 3rd party audits <p>Comparison with Known Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No known comparisons <p>Data Minimization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not collect user data during offline use • Usage may be collected in online/cloud variants (opt-in) • When using their website it collects user data. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Note: Does not describe any form of encryption or protection matters to protect user data</i> <p>Privacy Policy Accessibility and Clarity</p>	3.2

² <https://www.libreoffice.org/get-help/install-howto/>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their privacy policy is easy to find, as it is found at the bottom of the homepage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Types of Data Collected: Information such as IP addresses, browser details, email addresses, and crash reports are collected to enhance user experience and improve software quality. • The language in the privacy policy is has some technical jargon making it more difficult to understand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Note: This is a translation of their original document in German</i> 	
Maintenance/Sustainability	<p>Community support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, they have multiple ways to look for answers including FAQ page, forums, wiki, and a live chat feature <p>Development active status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is updated at least once a month • The development team is active and responsive but can vary depending on the complexity of the contribution <p>Funding and Sponsorship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The software is a non-profit organization • According to their 2023 financial report their seem to be financially stable 	4.7
Performance / Effectiveness & Reliability	<p>Testing Environment Setup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Device: HP 11th Gen Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-11800H @ 2.30GHz • OS: Windows 64 • Network: Wifi <p>User Experience Observations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a slight lag when starting up the software • During normal use, not lags or delays noticed <p>Speed & Responsiveness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only during startup is there a slight lag • The average start up time was 0.012 seconds <p>Resource Usage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Idle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ CPU: 0.1% ◦ Memory: 554.7 MB • Active: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ CPU: 4.5% ◦ Memory: 640.2 MB 	4.0

	Network Performance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bandwidth: ~8.6 kB/sec Reliability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not clearly available security 3rd party audits are When running Open/Close Test summary ~40% uptime 	
Deployment Considerations:	Open Source & Transparency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, the code is open for verification Cloud vs. Local Deployment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It can be run locally on your device Dependencies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not require any dependencies to download Dependencies are documented but only needed for modification Post-Deployment Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tool is easy to maintain Forking the Github is easy but contributing changes must go through the gerrit system Merge/Sustainability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They are open to contributions but would follow the Gerrit workflow which is different than Github Pull requests There is a formal way to submit changes through Gerrit 	
4. Testing Scenarios		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Functionality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opens JPEG Files, DOCX, XLSX, HTML Basic text editing Copying & Pasting 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to password protect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>If password is incorrect does not allow access</i> <i>Note: Visual glitch when loading up the document, but was able to load eventually</i> Able to encrypt with GPG keys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Note: If user is on Windows and has not made a private key then it requires the user to download a software to generate the key</i> 	
5. Insights & Recommendations		
Key Findings	Strengths:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Free with no hidden costs ● Works offline ● Basic functions are intuitive if users have used Microsoft software <p>Weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● UI still feels outdated compared to Microsoft ● Some controls are not smooth ● Some formats are not compatible including more advanced Microsoft Office features ● No collaboration
Suggested Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Performance Optimization ● Better Microsoft Office Compatibility ● Collaboration
Alternative Tools:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OnlyOffice
License	<p>Mozilla Public License 2.0.</p> <p>Github: GPL-3.0 license</p>
Cost/Resource Implications	<p>Total Cost of Ownership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Free to use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No hidden fees, no premium features ● The tool is easy to maintain with updates
Why is this useful to civil societies in authoritarian environments?	<p>LibreOffice can operate entirely offline and does not rely on cloud based server or external servers which provides a significant security advantage, particularly in high-risk environments where data privacy and control are critical.</p> <p>It is also not actively being blocked by China's Great Firewall making it a valuable tool as it allows for secure document creation.</p>