Unit-IV Chapter -1 Computer Software in Accounting

Note: The study material is not exhaustive. These are only guidelines; students are requested to refer the reference books.

Most Commonly used Accounting Software in India:

1. Busy:

Busy is accounting software with three primary versions that businesses can choose from to best suit their needs. This application also offers both single-user and multiple users, which makes it a good option for both small and larger-sized companies. It offers special features for companies in industries such as manufacturing, retail, trading and distribution.

Key Features:

- Bill generation and printing
- Automatic GSTIN validation
- Automatic reconciliation
- Annual GST summary
- Inventory and stock management
- Cloud compatibility
- Notification through SMS and Email

Specifications:

- **Price:** Approx. Rs. 7200 per year
- **Platform:** Desktop Application and Mobile Application (Android)
- **Useful for:** SMEs and Agencies

Support Available: Phone and Email through

2. Marg:

Marg is a taxed-based accounting software that offers advanced features for businesses within the pharmaceutical and FMCG industries. This application is also ideal for growing businesses that are preparing to e-file their taxes.

Key Features:

- Automatic bank reconciliation
- Online payment system
- Purchase Order Management
- HR & Payroll
- Inventory Management
- Sales & Distribution Management
- Bank Reconciliation
- GST Billing & Returns

Specifications:

- **Price:** Starting from Rs. 8100 pa. approx.
- **Platform:** Desktop Application
- **Useful for:** SMEs and Agencies

Support Available: Phone, Onsite (chargeable) and Remote

3. ZOHO Books:

Zoho Books provides simplicity in its accounting software. Many businesses rely on it to manage their accounting tasks and organize transactions.

Key Features:

- End-to-end accounting
- Tax compliance
- Mobile app
- Inventory tracking
- Multiple Currency Support
- Time tracking
- 50+reports including profit and loss, inventory summaries and sales tax reports
- 14-day free trial
- Email Integration

Specifications:

- **Price:** Starting from 749 per month approx.
- **Platform:** Desktop Application and Mobile Application (Android/IOS)
- **Useful for:** SMEs and Agencies

Support Available: Phone and Email through

4. ProfitBooks:

This accounting software is fully online and free for single users. This budget-friendly software is helpful for start-up companies and individuals who are preparing for taxes and managing financials. ProfitBooks is an advanced accounting platform that is user-friendly with a high-quality and easy-to-navigate website.

Key Features:

- Expense tracking
- Invoice creation
- Inventory management
- Tax record generation
- Inventory flow tracking
- Ability to create multiple warehouses
- HR & Payroll
- Multi Currency Support
- Notification via SMS & Email
- Multiuser login and Roll based access

Specifications:

- **Price:** Approx. Rs. 6000 per year
- **Platform:** Online (Web Application)
- **Useful For:** SMEs & Agencies

Support Available: E-mail through

5. Logic:

Logic is an enterprise research planning (ERP) software is a complete Retail and Wholesale Finance Management Software. It is suitable software for billing, inventory and account functionalities. It is available in two editions such as Retail Edition and Whole Sale Edition.

Key Features:

- Ledger integration
- Sales forecasts
- Human resources, accounting and inventory management
- Taxation management and auditing

- Collaboration tools
- Document sharing
- Barcode Integration
- POS Invoicing

Specifications:

- **Price:** Subscription based
- **Platform:** Online (Web Application), Desktop and Mobile Application (Android/IOS)

- **Useful For:** SMEs and Agencies

Support Available: Email through

6. Vyapar:

Vyapar is a free application for invoicing, inventory and accounting for businesses. This application is well suited to small and medium-sized companies. This software can be used to create GST bills, fulfill orders, generate GSTR reports, track payment and expenses and for inventory management.

Key Features:

- GST compatibility
- Automatic backup of files
- Free trial for premium features
- Availability on mobile applications and PCs

- Activity Tracking
- GST Compatible
- Invoice creation and printing
- Financial Reporting

Specifications:

- **Price:** PC + Mobile: Approx. Rs. 1999 per year, Only Mobile: Approx. Rs. 599 per year
- **Platform:** Desktop Application and Mobile Application (Android)
- **Useful For:** Small and medium sized enterprises

Support Available: Phone, WhatsApp Chat and Email through

7. Saral:

Saral is accounting software that helps small businesses completely monitor their finances, inventory and service and billing. The application is popular among several industries, including retail, distribution and timber.

Key Features:

- GST enabled accounting
- Invoicing
- Inventory Management

- Analytical Views and Reports
- Taxation Management
- HR & Payroll
- Warehouse Management
- Banking Integration
- Mobile App Integration

Specifications:

- **Price:** Starting from Rs. 7500 pa. approx.
- **Platform:** Desktop Application and Mobile Application (Android/IOS)
- **Useful For:** SMEs and Agencies

Support Available: Phone, Email, Live Chat on website, Remote Access and On site

8. Book Keeper:

Bookkeeper is a GST accounting application catered to businesses within the industries of retailers, wholesalers, distributors and manufacturers. This application allows users to access it both from their mobile devices and desktops.

Key Features

- Create and Send Invoices
- GST Compliance
- Smart Inventory Management
- Tracking of Expenses & Profits
- Synchronization across devices
- Free Updates
- Multi Users Support

Specifications:

- **Price:** Starting from Rs. 2950 pa. approx.
- **Platform:** Desktop Application & Mobile Application (Android/IOS)
- **Useful for:** SMEs and Agencies

Support Available: Phone and Email through

9. Quick Books:

QuickBooks is online accounting software with an easy-to-use interface and tools. It offers more than 40 reports, including profit and loss account, balance sheet and cash flow statement. It helps manage day-to-day transactions, billing, invoicing, inventory and budgeting. It comes with mobile support for iOS and Android users.

Key Features:

- Creates and sends professional GST invoices
- Generates GSTR1and GSTR2 reports
- Designs and create quotations
- Tracks sales, invoices, supplier bills and payments
- Tracks cash flows with P&L and balance sheet
- Imports transactions automatically with online banking

Specifications:

- **Price:** Approx. Rs. 5000 per year
- **Platform:** Desktop Application and Mobile Application (Android)
- **Useful For:** Small and medium sized enterprises

Support Available: Phone, Email and Remote

10. SAP:

SAP ERP is one of the leading enterprise resource planning software solutions, which aims to provide a smooth flow of data and communication within the internal and external aspect of your organization. It is initially designed to help large companies in consolidating data and managing operations, but recently, many small enterprises are already using the platform in improving their operations. SAP ERP helps you manage your most valuable assets to keep your business running forward while improving customer satisfaction. It helps in automating financial operations and keeping good records of inflows and outflows to guarantee regulatory compliance. SAP ERP also helps in maximizing opportunities for the company and analyzing possible weak points. It manages cost-saving processes by streamlining the flow of materials and provides reliable support and administration with regards to human resources. With SAP ERP, you are given full control of your business' crucial applications and information which you can organize and use to make your business always on top of its competitors. You can even access and manage the different functionalities in your firm anywhere with its online support system. It is designed with flexibility to cope with the vital changes in the operation and needs of your business.

The main benefits of SAP ERP are its stable functionalities and security. The other features are as under:

- Manages Payments
- Regulates Finances
- Administers Productions
- Supports Human Resources
- Offers Technical Capabilities

11. FreeAgent:

FreeAgent is a cloud based accounting software aimed at helping small businesses keep on top of their bookkeeping and accounts records. The easy layout helps with navigating around the software and allowing you to have key information about your business in a few small clicks. FreeAgent is packed full of big features for small businesses. The software helps business owners take care of their day-to-day admin, from managing expenses, running RTI-compliant payroll and time tracking, to creating and sending invoices and monitoring cash flow. On top of this, FreeAgent has a personalized 'Tax Timeline' of upcoming deadlines

and amounts due, as well as the functionality to file VAT, RTI and Self Assessment returns directly to HMRC. FreeAgent is also Making Tax Digital compatible.

Key Features

- Estimates & Invoices
- Expenses Tracking
- Time Tracking (Record all your time with the in-built stopwatch or smart timesheets.)

- Cash flow Management
- Bank Reconciliation
- Keep an eye on the all your project incomes and expenses

Specifications:

- **Price:** Starting from US $10 per month approx.
- **Platform:** Desktop Application and Mobile Application (Android/IOS)

- **Useful For:** Small and medium sized enterprises

Support Available: Phone and Email through

12. Giddh:

Giddh is an inventive tool crafted for undertaking accounts, invoicing, and other related activities. The Giddh is a great and powerful software for invoices and billing. With its beautiful templates and customization options. Giddh is one of the top invoice software for all kinds of business owners. Giddh is the latest cloud accounting software that provides all the accounting solutions like Cash management, Inventory, Invoicing, Ratio analysis, P&L, Bank Reconciliation, Ledger, and has Tally plug in for a hassle free switch.

Key Features:

- Bank Reconciliation
- GST Compliance
- Multi Currency
- Billing & Invoicing
- Inventory Management
- Invoice Management

- Receipt Management
- Reports & Analysis
- Import Data
- Anywhere Anytime
- Overview of customers, vendors and their business information at one place

Specifications:

- **Price:** starting from Rs. 4000 per year approx..
- **Platform:** Desktop Application and Mobile Application (Android/IOS)

- **Useful For:** Small and medium sized enterprises

Support Available: Phone and Email through

Key Points should be considered before choosing Accounting Software

Consider Your Business Requirements: While looking for the right software to fulfil your accounting needs, it is really important to take your business operations and requirements into account. There are a variety of options in the market but choosing a software which provides assistance in the fields you require, is to be considered. It is also advisable to choose accounting software based on the industry your business belongs to. As mentioned before, there are specialized software products designed for specific industries and businesses. Choosing a specialized software for your business is a smart investment as it provides tools that will provide assistance.

No matter how sophisticated and state-of-the-art a software is, it is merely a tool to help you in your accounting needs. Therefore, if its functions are complex and redundant, it is of no use to your business.

Cloud-Based Vs On-Premises: With cloud computing emerging as a deciding factor when it comes to modern software solutions for businesses, it is important to consider its benefits for your enterprise. Cloud-based applications bring a gamut of benefits for modern businesses; whether small, medium or large. They can be accessed remotely and come with their own servers. This means that the cost of getting separate servers can be saved. Moreover, the software can automatically be upgraded on the server end by the service provider, saving you the time, cost and resources that would have been spent on upkeep and maintenance. One of the most prominent features of cloud-based applications is that it can be accessed on any device; laptops, tablets and smartphone. Moreover, the classified and crucial data will be secure at the data centre, far from your physical site ensuring safety, in case of any mishap.

Budget: While there is state-of-the-art accounting software list available in the market, it is important to look at both the budget and the functionality. There are software solutions available for all budgets. Application packages with the most basic functionalities and tools are available at a very reasonable price in the market. The cost of specialized software solutions varies depending upon the tools and features that they provide. Therefore, it is important to carefully select the one that fits your budget while also fulfilling your organizational requirements.

Add-on Features: Add-on features in software solutions provide the extra legroom for additional ease and flexibility. For instance, a software solution may provide remote access, and options for online payments through third-party software integration.

There are some software applications in top accounting software lists that provide integration with tax software for better compliance-based recordkeeping and report management.

Accountant's Opinion: Last but perhaps the most crucial of all, it is highly recommended to take your accountant's advice before choosing a software. In the end, it will be the job of your accountants to work with the accounting software. Hence, they would have a better perspective on which software is best for the business. In addition, they would also need a first-hand understanding of the software through product demos.