

Comparison of Zoho and Odoo

Category	Odoo	Zoho
Licensing Model	User-based license. One user license = access to all modules.	Module-wise + entity-wise licensing. Each module and each entity (company) requires separate licenses.
Multi-Company / Multi-Country	Supported out-of-the-box with a single user license.	Not supported on a single license. Each company/entity requires additional licenses.
Customization Capability	Highly customizable (Python-based backend, huge library support).	Limited customization (Zoho Deluge scripting language). For advanced customization, Zoho Creator is required.
Community Support	1 lakh+ global community. Large contributor and developer base.	Very limited community support due to proprietary scripting environment.
Deployment Options	Flexible: Voodoo Cloud + On-premise + Private Cloud. Preferred by government clients for on-premise.	No on-premise option. Must be hosted only on Zoho cloud.
Portal Users (Customer / Vendor)	Unlimited portal users free of cost . Highly customizable portal.	Limited portal functionality. In many cases, portal users are chargeable.
Approval Users (Non-paid)	Approvers can be created as portal users (free). Workflow and audit trail still supported.	Approval users generally require licenses. Limited scope for portal-based approval models.
Workflow & Automation	Flexible, fully customizable workflows with Python, API, and custom logic.	Restricted by scripting limitations. Advanced workflows require Zoho Creator.
Reporting (Excel/PDF)	Fully customizable reports (Python libraries, QWeb templates, XLSX, PDF).	Limited reporting. Complex reports require Zoho Creator.
Integration Capability	Supports any encryption/decryption (AES, RSA, SHA, etc.). Native Python libraries. Easy third-party integration.	Limited encryption/decryption support due to Deluge scripting. Integration complexity is high.
Data Scalability	No record limitations. Can handle millions of records without extra cost.	Record creation limits exist. Bulk record creation often requires additional purchase.

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Technology Stack	Modern, open-source, Python-based, thousands of libraries available.	Proprietary tech stack using Deluge scripting, limited libraries.
Vendor & Customer Portal Features	Advanced dashboards, document sharing, transaction visibility, messaging—all customizable.	Basic portal with limited customization and restricted features.
Government Suitability	Strong fit because on-premise deployment, audit trail, data localisation support.	Not preferred for government; no on-premise and limited control over data.