



### PRO Active community with a lot of resources

Sketch is hugely popular among designers so there are a lot of well maintained community [resources](#) for everything from iPhone frames to iOS/Android UI elements & icons.

### PRO "Artboards" are great for working on multiple views simultaneously

Artboards let you easily work on multiple views side by side. Great for having a separate artboard on each page for the various responsive sizes.

### PRO Vector based yet pixel aware

You can rescale assets without quality loss, easily export x2 assets for retina designs and design high quality icons & artwork. Being pixel aware lets you set a grid and snap objects to it as well as round to the nearest pixel edge to clean up your layers.

### PRO Designed specifically for web and mobile UI design & workflows

Sketch is essentially a version of Photoshop built from the ground up to suit the workflow of web designers.

### PRO Makes it easy to export assets

Sketch has a built in exporter that supports PDF, JPG and PNG.

### PRO Clean UI

Reactive panels keep the UI for Sketch clean from the sort of clutter the panel system in Photoshop suffers from. The panels in Sketch change based on the object in question, saving you from having to have a multiple separate panels.

### PRO Built-in grid system

You can set the square grid to whatever dimensions you like as well as set thicker lines every x blocks. You can also configure the color of the lines to make them as obvious or subtle as you wish and toggle the grid with a keyboard shortcut (ctrl+g).

### PRO Symbols and shared styles

Sketch lets you re-use the same design in multiple places, with changes synced throughout the various places it is used. You can also create text styles to sync typography changes.

### PRO "Mirror" makes it really easy to test designs on multiple devices

Mirror lets you connect your iPhone to sketch and see how your current artboard looks on mobile. It's really useful as you can live check changes which lets you rapidly iterate mobile design.

### PRO Easily align layers with smart guides

Holding down alt will show the smart guides that show the distances between any layer you hover over to nearby layers or the edges of the artboard. Very useful for checking your spacing or aligning layers.

### CON No Linux version

Sketch is currently only available on Mac, which can make it hard to collaborate if you have teammates using Linux.

### CON License based payment model

Sketch has recently decided to cease development of major version (2.0, 3.0, 4.0) with free updates in between, and has switched to a license based subscription model. A yearly license costs \$99 and includes the latest version of the Sketch software, plus a year of free updates. After this license expires, you can renew for another year of updates - or continue to use the current software without updates.

### CON No Windows support

### CON Buggy releases and lack of quality assurance

The fast rate of change means new releases often break files and cause havoc. Duplicate symbols are really bad in the latest releases so you have to keep updating.

### CON Very feeble raster tools

You have to go elsewhere if you want something more complex than basic vector masking of raster images.

### CON Limited compatibility with Photoshop and Illustrator

Although it is possible to export certain Adobe file types in Sketch, compatibility is mostly hit and miss. For example, some elements seem a little offset in Adobe products.



### PRO Easy to use interface

It's easy to be productive immediately with XD but it also includes a demo so that you can learn about some of the more powerful features.

### PRO Cross platform

It's available on both macOS and Windows.

### PRO Repeat grid is a timesaver

Creating a list of items is simple with "repeat grid." Just create one and use repeat grid to duplicate that item vertically or horizontally. Then drag and drop text or images to create unique entries for each repeated item.

### PRO UI Kits are available for iOS, Material Design, and more

Includes:

- iOS
- Google Material Design
- Windows UWP
- Wireframes

### PRO Share online and gather feedback

Allows mockups to be pushed to the web where collaborators can try the mockup and leave feedback.

### PRO Interactive mockups

XD allows you to wire any object to any destination page so that clicking a button asset will take you to a page that you specify.

Mockups can also simulate a scrolling page or window.

### CON No tools for animation

It is possible to create transitions, but this feature is very limited.

### CON Only good for mockups

XD is not a multi-purpose tool like Sketch. It is not a good tool for logos, icons, or other design assets.



### PRO Works in the browser

PRO Allows for real time collaboration

PRO Has all the core functionality you'd expect from something like Sketch

PRO Integrates with Slack

Provides integration with Slack.

PRO Provides a free version

Does not require a paid subscription for use. Can be used freely with a lot of features. The free use allows very limited collaboration.

PRO Live previews for mobile

Mirrors your designs to your phone in realtime.

CON Inefficient workflow

