**Microsoft PowerPoint**

**Microsoft PowerPoint** is a [presentation program](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presentation_program) currently developed by [Microsoft](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft), for use on both Microsoft Windows and Apple Macintosh operating systems. PowerPoint, initially named "Presenter", was created by [Forethought Inc.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forethought_Inc.). Microsoft's version of PowerPoint was officially launched on May 22, 1990, as a part of the [Microsoft Office](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Office) suite. PowerPoint is useful for helping develop the slide-based presentation format and is currently one of the most commonly used slide-based presentation programs available. Microsoft has also released the PowerPoint mobile application for use on Apple and Android mobile operating systems.

Originally designed for the [Macintosh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macintosh) computer, the initial release was called "Presenter", developed by Thomas Ruskin and Dennis Austin of [Forethought, Inc.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forethought,_Inc.) In 1987, it was renamed to "PowerPoint" due to problems with trademarks, the idea for the name coming from [Robert Gaskins](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Gaskins).

By then some experts believed that "desktop presentations", using computers to create [flip charts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flip_chart) and [overhead transparencies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transparency_(projection)), could become as large a market as [desktop publishing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desktop_publishing).That year Forethought was bought by Microsoft for $14 million ($29.5 million in present-day terms), and became Microsoft's Graphics Business Unit, which continued to develop the software further. Microsoft's version of PowerPoint was officially launched on May 22, 1990, the same day that Microsoft released [Windows 3.0](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Windows_3.0).

PowerPoint introduced many new changes with the release of PowerPoint 97. It incorporated the [Visual Basic for Applications](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visual_Basic_for_Applications) (VBA) language, underlying all macro generation in Office 97.

PowerPoint 2000 (and the rest of the [Microsoft Office 2000](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Office_2000) suite) introduced a clipboard that could hold multiple objects at once, and the Office Assistant was made less intrusive.

PowerPoint 2002 massively overhauled the animation engine, allowing users to create more advanced and custom animations.

PowerPoint 2007 makes it possible to remove image backgrounds, and provides additional special effects for pictures, such as "Pencil effects".

As of 2012, various versions of PowerPoint claim about 95% of the presentation software market share, with installations on at least 1 billion computers.