

COMPARISON Odoo, Quickbooks Online, Sage, Xero









2023

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Comparing Accounting Softwares	4
Odoo	4
Quickbooks	5
Sage	6
Xero	7

Features Comparison	
General Accounting	
Accounts Receivable	
Acounts payable	
Extras	
Reporting	
Usability, Pricing & Conditions	
User Interface	
Different Solutions, Different Needs	43
Value Proposition	
Conclusion	



#### Introducing Accounting offers available today

Historically, accounting has been considered as a dull and unexciting aspect of business. Nonetheless, as a business evolves, the accounting department will become arguably one of the most important components for its success. This is why providing the accounting team with the tools they need in order to monitor these factors effectively is critical for the financial health of the organization.

Many accounting software options are available on the market, offering numerous features and reporting functions that accountants require, but how does one decide which is best? The ideal solution is accounting software that can be integrated with other commercial solutions. This will result in significant time and resource savings for the organization.

In this white paper, we have chosen to compare the biggest players on the market, namely Odoo, Quickbooks, Sage, and Xero. For a balanced comparison of the most widely used accounting solutions, we have compiled a table outlining the essential features an accounting software should encompass. The categories are as follows: General Accounting, Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, Bank and Cash, Extras, and Reporting. These categories encompass almost everything a company needs to manage its finances. We have also included a comprehensive list of the pricing conditions and usability analysis for each solution.

> But first, let's discover the different solutions



#### Odoo

Created to disrupt the enterprise landscape and finally provide a simple solution for complex needs, Odoo has become one of the most popular business solutions. With more than 82 business apps fully integrated, and thousands of community modules, the open-source software caters to every sector and company size, becoming a major player on the market. Odoo is available in three editions: Community, Enterprise, and Online.

#### Quickbooks

Quickbooks, developed by the financial software company Intuit in 1994, is an accounting software solution for small and medium businesses. In 2014, the software was divided and industry-specific were incorporated into separate options to enhance its appeal. Quickbooks is now seen as one of the most widely used accounting software in the US. Quickbooks is available in two versions: Enterprise and Online. The Enterprise version is available online via additional hosting or locally. In this comparison, we will showcase Quickbooks using Online Essentials.



#### Sage

Created in 1981, Sage was initially designed as a stand-alone accounting software solution. Since its inception, Sage has been significantly expanded to include a greater scope of both accounting and general business management features. Today, Sage offers a range of business management software products for businesses of all sizes. It has two editions: Sage One Accountant Edition, tailored for freelance accountants and bookkeepers, and Sage Online Edition, specifically designed for SMBs. In this comparison, we chose to compare the features of the Sage Business Cloud Accounting.

#### Xero

Xero originated in New Zealand in 2006 and was co-founded in 2006 by a business manager and an accountant. Dissatisfied with the traditional desktop accounting software, they decided to develop their own webbased solution. Since then, Xero has grown to accommodate both the European and US markets, while also expanding its features and mobile functionality. In 2014, Xero was featured on the Forbes 100 Most Innovative Growth Companies. Xero is available only through their SaaS offer. In this comparison, we chose the Standard Plan of Xero.





Accounting is the language of business.

	Odoo
General Scope	
Multi-currency	✓
Consolidation	√1
Multi-User	✓
Multiple Journals	✓
Number of Languages	85
Supported Countries <sup>2</sup>	80+
Access Rights	
Access Rights per Screen	✓
Access Rights per Field	✓
Customizable Validation Steps	✓
Third-Party Integration	
Availability of an API	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
Spreadsheet Integration	√3
Import: Excel or CSV	✓
Expert: Excel or CSV	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
Customer Portal	✓

1. Odoo Consolidation is available on testing.

2. Quickbooks is dedicated to the U.S. market. Xero is supported in 5 countries: Australia, New Zealand, US, South Africa, and the UK. Sage Business Cloud Accounting is available in 15 countries: Australia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Kenya, Malaysia, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Switzerland, UK, and the U.S.

3. Available with Odoo Studio (extra price).

4. Integrated with MS Excel.

5. Add-on required for this feature.



Accounts receivable is the lifeblood of any business.

	Odoo
Customer Invoice	
Proforma Invoices	✓
Multiple Taxes per Line	$\checkmark$
Advanced Taxes (fixed, tax of taxes, etc.)	$\checkmark$
Discounts	$\checkmark$
Pricelists	$\checkmark$
Multi-Step Payments Terms	$\checkmark$
Cash Discounts	$\checkmark$
Outstanding Payments Reconciliation	$\checkmark$
Emails Discussion as Attachment	$\checkmark$
Configurable Email Templates	$\checkmark$
Send Invoices	
Generate a PDF Invoice	$\checkmark$
Batch Send Invoices by Email	$\checkmark$
Post Invoices by Standard Mail	$\checkmark$
Online Payments	
Credit Cards	✓
PayPal	$\checkmark$
SEPA Direct Debit	$\checkmark$

1. Included for an additional fee.

	Odoo
Customer Statements	
Aged Receivable Balance	✓
Customer Statements	✓
Automated Follow-up Letters	✓
Automated Follow-up Actions	✓
Unpaid Fees and Penalties	√1
Third-Party Debits Recovery	<b>X</b> <sup>1</sup>
Recurring Revenues	
Automated Recurring Invoices	✓
Subscription Upsell / Renewal	✓
KPIs: Churn, MRR, Upsells, etc²	✓
Alerts for Contract Renewal	✓
Miscellaneous	
Automated COGS Entries	✓
Automated Deferred Revenue	✓

Available with Community module.
 Such as MRR, Chrun, CAC Ratio, CLTV, etc. It's about recurring KPI, not custom KPI.



~

Accounts payable is like a teenager: it's perpetually hungry and often finds itself in troublesome situations.

	Odoo
Vendor Bills	
Billing Control (Purchase Orders / Receptions)	✓
Multiple Taxes per Line	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
Purchase Agreements	✓
Multi-Step Payment Terms	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
Fleet Bills & Disallow Expenses	✓
Peppol / UBL Support	✓
Artificial Intelligence	
Bills OCR Recognition	✓
Learning Intelligence	✓
Payment Data from OCR	✓
Realtime OCR (<10 minutes)	✓
Vendor Payments	
Aged Payable Report	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
Print Checks	✓
Automate Wire Transfer (SEPA)	✓
ACH Transfers	✓

1. Available with add-on.

**2**. Available with Quickbooks Payments.

	Odoo
Expenses	
Employee Expenses Report	✓
Expenses Validation Flow	✓
Mobile App for Expenses	✓
Miscellaneous	
Assets Management	✓
Bank & Cash	
Bank Interfaces	✓
Import Statements: QIF	✓
Import Statements: OFX	✓
Import Statements: CSV	✓
Import Statements: Coda	✓
Import Statements: Camt.053	✓
Deposit Tickets	✓
Efficiency	
Reconcile while Matching	✓
Misc. Operations while Matching	✓
Automated Rules	✓
Bank Reconciliation Reports	✓
Automated Currencies Rate Update	✓

1. Available with QuickBooks Online Payroll.



Budgeting has only one rule: don't go over budget!

	Odoo
Analytic Accounting / Grouping	
Analytic / Cost Accounting	✓
Multi-Level Analytic Accounting	✓
Multiple Plans	✓
Budgets	
General Budgets	✓
Analytic Budgets	✓
Payroll	
Payroll	√1
Valuation	
Standard Price	✓
Average Price	✓
FIFO	✓
Perpetual Inventory Valuation	✓

 Odoo includes a payroll engine, but not useable out-of-the-box as it requires heavy configurations. **1**. Quickbooks offers import of payroll tax tables for an additional fee.

2. Available with add-on.

**3**. Available with Quickbooks Online PLUS.

26



Life is like accounting: everything must be balanced.

	Odoo
Legal Statements	
Profit & Loss	✓
Balance Sheet	✓
Cashflow Statement	✓
General Ledger	✓
Tax Reports	✓
Tax Audit Report	✓
Reports	
Pivot Table on Multiple Dimensions	✓
Customizable Reports	✓
Customizable Dashboards	✓
Annotate Reports	✓
Customizable KPI's	✓
Predefined Executive Summary	✓
Perpetual Fiscal Year Closing	✓



	Odoo
UI	
Full Web Interface	✓
Mobile App	✓
Android App	✓
iPhone App	✓
Market Place	
App Store / Add-ons	✓
Other (integrated) solutions	
eCommerce	✓
Expenses	✓
Inventory	✓
Manufacturing	✓
Operations (project, timesheet, etc.)	✓
Human Resources	✓
Document Management	✓
Subscriptions	✓
Point of Sale	✓
Purchase	✓
Sales	✓

1. Integrated with Shopify and WooCommerce.

	Odoo
Subjective Ratings	
Navigation and Search	5/5
Data Entry	5/5
Reconciliation Tool	5/5
Mobile App	4/5
Reports Flexibility	4/5
Pricing and Conditions	
Monthly Pricing	Free <sup>1</sup>
Number of Users	Unlimited
Contract Duration	Monthly
Free Trial	✓
User Satisfaction	
Rating on g2Crowd	4,3 / 5
Rating on GetApp	4,2/5
Rating on Capterra	4,1/5
Brand Exposure	3/5

 Odoo Accounting is free for unlimited users, as long as you use solely the Accounting app. Access ALL Odoo Apps for only 24,90€/user/month. 1. Xero costs \$70 per month if you need multiple currencies. Available with Quickbooks Payments.

2. +2 accountant users.

**3**. +1\$/month for each additional user.



Regarding efficiency and end-user satisfaction, fine-tuned usability is one of the most important factors in any software platform. This is especially true for accounting software, given that users often dedicate the majority of their time working within the application. To provide functionality, speed, and convenience to an accounting team, a software solution must maintain a balance between ease of use and a robust set of features. A strong functional design is then critical in providing a positive user experience and optimizing user efficiency.

Usability is qualitatively measured as the ability to anticipate a user's potential actions and needs. This includes ensuring that all the elements in the interface are easy to access, understand, and use. Well-designed software establishes familiarity by maintaining a consistent interface and predictable interactions, so users feel comfortable with the system, which will allow them to complete their desired tasks quickly. This aids users in executing actions swiftly and enhances their overall efficiency in their daily tasks. Best practices also include having a simple and consistent interface (common elements), as well as a page layout based on hierarchical importance and flow.

In the next section, we will take a look at screenshots of the back-ends of these four products to compare the layouts of their Dashboards and Bank Reconciliation interfaces.



New Accounting Dashboard Bank Reconcilation		C	Q Journal B	ank 🛪 🝸 Not Ma	atched x S	earch	•		1-	8/8 < >	P
Balance	\$ 9.944,87	Validate	To Check								
01/01/2023	\$ 96,67	Account					Partner	Date	Debit		Credit
R:9772938 10/07 AX 9415116318 T:5 BRT: 100.00 C/ croip 01/01/2023 Deco Addict NV/2023/00002	\$ 750,00	101401 Bank R:9772938 10		116318 T-5 BRT: 10	0.00 C/ cro	D		01/01/2023	\$ 96,67		
11/01/2023 ast Year Interests	\$ 102,78	400000 Produ Due amount	uct Sales					New		s	100,00
D1/01/2023 Azure Interior First \$ 2,000.00 of Invoice 2023/00001	\$ 2.000,00	500000 Cost o Bank Fees	of Goods Sold					New	\$ 3,33		
D1/01/2023 Azure Interior Prepayment	\$ 650,00										
01/01/2023 Bank Fees	\$ -32,58	Match Exis	sting Entries	Batch Payments	Manual O	perations	Discuss				
3ank - 2023-01-01/1	\$ 6.378,00					Q. 1	learch			1-40 / 40+	< >
01/01/2023 Azure Interior NV/2023/00002 and INV/2023/00003	\$ 1.275,00	Account		Partner		Date	Journal Entry	Label	Open Amount in Curre	Open Amount	
01/01/2023	\$ 5.103,00	211000 Accos	unt Payable	Azure Interior		25/10/2023	RBILL/2023/10/0001		\$ 34,50	\$ 34,50	View
nitial balance		101403 Outst	tanding Recei	YourCompany, Ma	irc Demo	25/10/2023	PBNK1/2023/00004 (INV/2	Customer Payment \$ 707.	2 \$ 707,25	\$ 707,25	View
		101403 Outst	tanding Recei	YourCompany, Mit	tchell Admin	25/10/2023	PBNK1/2023/00003 (\$000	Customer Payment \$ 15,9	9 \$ 15.992,44	\$ 856,75	View
		101403 Outst	tanding Recei			25/10/2023	PBNK1/2023/00002 (Combi.	Customer Payment \$ 34.7	0 \$ 34,70	\$ 34,70	View
		101403 Outst	tanding Recei			25/10/2023	PBNK1/2023/00001 (Combi.	Customer Payment \$ 21.0	\$ 21,00	\$ 21,00	View
		121000 Accos	unt Receivable	Deco Addict		25/10/2023	INV/2023/00044	INV/2023/00044	\$ 8.050,00	\$ 431,26	View
		121000 Accos	unt Receivable	YourCompany, Joe	el Willis	25/10/2023	INV/2023/00043 (subscripti	INV/2023/00043	\$ 80,50	\$ 80,50	View

# Quickbooks

Intuit duickbooks. + New	■ Acme US + Acme US		A My Experts 🕜 Help C	入 众 尊 🕓
Dashboard >	Get things done Business overview			
	PROFIT AND LOSS Last 30 days	EXPENSES Last 30 days V	BANK ACCOUNTS	
			1000 Cash on hand S Reviewed	
	-\$17,500 Net income for last 30 days	\$18,000.00 Total expenses	Bank balance \$0 In QuickBooks \$922.050.00	
	100% categorized		1010 Checking Account	
xpenses >		• \$10,000.00 6010 Online Ma	In QuickBooks \$153,300.00	
ayroll >	\$500	• \$6,000.00 6020 Subscripti	2001 Credit Card	
	\$18,000 Expenses See profit and loss report	• \$2,000.00 6090 Depreciation	In QuickBooks -\$500.00	
	see profit and loss report		Connect accounts Go to registers ~	
	INVOICES	SALES Last 30 days √	CAPITAL Hide	
	\$147,344 Unpaid Last 365 days	\$0.00	You may be eligible for a loan up to	
	\$147.344 \$0	Total sales — Sales	\$150K, depending on your business	
apital >	Overdue Not due yet	\$1	health and needs. Conditions apply	
	<b>S0 Paid</b> Last 30 days	\$0 \$0	e° e	
	\$0 \$0	\$-0	Start your Submit Get a	
surance	Not deposited Deposited	\$1	application application decision	



Account to Reconcile: 11000-00 Accounts Receivable Account Reconciliation Checks and Bank Debits - Cleared 22 for 109,716.13 Statement Date: Mar 31, 2020 Show: All, Deposits and Bank Credits First 💙 Deposits and Bank Credits - Cleared 100 for 300,443.73 Status Reference Deposit/Bank Credit Check/Bank Debit Date Payee/Description 1 10122 7,578.42 Jan 1, 2020 Teesdale Real Estate 10122 10,970.42 Jan 1, 2020 Armstrong Landscaping 3,550.68 10209 Jan 1, 2020 Cummings Construction 10321 27,030.00 Jan 1, 2020 Holland Properties, Inc. 10202 1,907.58 Jan 4, 2020 Cummings Construction 10124 2,383.94 Jan 9, 2020 Armstrong Landscaping 10110 890.36 Jan 15, 2020 Mosley Country Club 4,565.83 Jan 18, 2020 Saia's Neighborhood Nursery 10117 10111 858.53 Jan 26, 2020 Holland Properties, Inc. 77.22 Jan 26, 2020 Retail (Cash) Sales 10112 10119 9,645.26 Jan 26, 2020 Armstrong Landscaping 10209 7,102.00 Jan 26, 2020 Snowden Interior Design 10113 645.72 Jan 28, 2020 Williams Industries 10114 1,801.48 Jan 29, 2020 Retail (Cash) Sales 10115 173.01 Jan 29, 2020 Retail (Cash) Sales 10120 4,281.47 Jan 29, 2020 Archer Scapes and Ponds 10121 2,329.67 Jan 29, 2020 Saia's Neighborhood Nursery 358.02 Jan 30, 2020 Retail (Cash) Sales 10217 10116 6,942.91 Jan 31, 2020 McKay Construction 10123 19,077.88 Jan 31, 2020 Archer Scapes and Ponds 1,292.10 10322 Jan 31, 2020 Dash Business Systems 10201 494.87 Feb 3, 2020 Snowden Interior Design

JATE +	CHK #	PAYEE	AMOUNT	1	DATE +	CHK#	PAYEE		TYPE	: AM	IOUNT
0/18/2022	1118	259 Board of Water and	1,985.21	1	12/06/2022				DEP		5,891.00
11/30/2022	1137	Jim Adams	1,797.23	1	2/08/2022				DEP		4,090.52
11/30/2022	1138	Nancy Ford	786.70	1	12/12/2022				DEP		5,306.00
11/30/2022	1139	Ray Kramer	2,765.38	1	12/14/2022				DEP		7,931.96
12/07/2022	1140	260 First Security Insur	575.00	1	12/16/2022				DEP		1,622.88
12/12/2022	1141	253 Chicago Office Su	7,367.00	1	12/19/2022				DEP		90,000.00
12/13/2022	1142	258 Worldwide Manage	4,800.00	1	2/27/2022				DEP		12,000.00
12/13/2022	1143	259 Board of Water an	1,360.25	1	2/27/2022				DEP		5,835.00
12/13/2022	1144	255 Interstate Motor Fr	778.75						-		
12/13/2022	E-53430	252 Velocity Sporting G	35,392.70								
12/14/2022	1145	256 Internal Revenue S	3,066.32						_		
12/14/2022	1146	256 Internal Revenue S	10.30								
12/14/2022	1147	257 State of Illinois	60.96								
12/15/2022	1148	257 State of Illinois	590.86								
12/15/2022	1149	Jim Adams	1,740.90								
12/15/2022	1150	Nancy Ford	1,297.32								
12/15/2022	1151	Ray Kramer	2,765.38								
12/20/2022	1152	260 First Security Insur	1,710.00								
2/27/2022	1153	254 University Athletic	1,590.00								
12/28/2022	1154	255 Interstate Motor Fr	738.15								
2/29/2022	E-53431	252 Velocity Sporting G	22,064.70								
12/31/2022	1155	Jim Adams	1,746.85								
12/31/2022	1156	Nancy Ford	1,504.32 🔻								
ghlight Marked			Mark All Unmark All		<u>G</u> o To					Columns to	Display
ning Balance		77,087.72					Modif		ervice Charge		-25.50
you have marked of Deposits and O		114.842.36							inding Balance		110,366.82
Checks and Pay		60,355.05						C	leared Balance		131,549.53
								D	lifference		-21,182.71
									Reconcil	e <u>N</u> ow	Leave
											1



US)   Dashboard Business Accounting	Projects	Contacts		A 0 👯
Demo Company (US)		Your last login:	<u>6 hours ago</u> from Malaysia	
Checking Account	:	Account watchlist		
		Account This	month YTD	
Reconciled Statement balance (Jun 24)	1,608.77		500.00 10,453.75	
		Entertainment (620)	0.00 53.60	
0-0-0-0-0 <sup>0</sup>		Inventory (140) Sales (400) 9.	0.00 0.00 576.29 28.427.03	
	0-0-0-0	Seres (444) 3,	510.25 20,421.03	
Jun 2 Jun 9 Jun 16	Jun 23	Invoices owed to you		
Savings Account				
987654321		Now cales involce	Draft invoices 1,100.00	
		8 Awai	ting payment 2,985.13 4 Overdue 790.58	
No transactions imported Balance in Xero	(2,700.00)		4 Overage 750.50	
Import a bank statement to get started Statement balance	0.00			
		Older Jun 16-22 This week Jun 30-Jul 6	Jul 7-13 Future	

What's this?     Bank statements     Account transactions       What's this?     Bank statements     Account transactions       What's this?     Bank statement lines    then match with your transactions in Xero       Spent *     Received *     Spent *     Received *       Options +     Options +     Match     Create     Transfer     Discuss       3 Jun     6.187.50     +     26 May     6.187.50
What's this?     image: mark statement lines    then match with your transactions in Xero       Spent *     Received *       Options *     Match       3 Jun     6.187.50
Review your bank statement lines Spent * Received * Options * 3.Jun 6.187.50 (Attach Create Transfer Discuss Find & Match
Spert Received - Options - Match Create Transfer Discuss Find & Match 3 Jun 6,187.50 - 26 May 6,187.50
Options - Match Create Transfer Discuss Find & Match 3 Jun 6,187.50 - 26 May 6,187.50
3 Jun 6,187.50 + 26 May 6,187.50
Ridgeway University 0025 More details
Options - Match Create Transfer Discuss Find & Match
6 Jun 4,500.00 Who Name of the contact What Choose the account 💌
SMART Agency 01950210 Eft More details Why Enter a description

**Different** solutions, Different needs

When choosing the right software for your business, it is important to assess several criteria based on your specific needs.

### Business Scope and User-friendliness



## 1/

**Business Scope** measures a software's capacity to meet your business needs comprehensively through its features and its flexibility in customizability and integration with other tools.

**User-Friendliness** measures how straightforward and user-friendly a software solution is for your team to navigate, requiring minimal training or complex procedures. Additionally, it evaluates how hassle-free the software is to set up, considering factors like time, effort, and resource requirements for initial configuration within your organization.

**Odoo** is a robust solution addressing a wide range of business needs, extending beyond accounting functions. The platform is designed to streamline operations and replace the need for disjointed, non-integrated software applications. Odoo shines as a highly customizable, all-in-one solution with a multitude of applications. Its open-source nature empowers a thriving community, resulting in a vast repository of community-contributed applications. Compared to its competitors, which lack certain crucial features, Odoo provides a high-quality bill management solution.

**Sage** provides a comprehensive solution with advanced accounting features but may encounter limitations in terms of customization. Additionally, Sage offers a wide range of other business solutions, including payroll, people management, and more. In the realm of integration, Sage offers robust inventory reporting, which facilitates efficient tracking and management. This capability aids your business in controlling asset value and making informed decisions.

**Xero** and **Quickbooks** are considered out-of-the-box solutions. Both solutions offer specialized accounting software but are lacking more advanced features. They don't provide an all-in-one solution for businesses aiming to extend beyond accounting. However, Xero offers comprehensive estimating and invoicing, allowing users to quickly generate precise invoices, improving cash flow management and billing processes.

In terms of user-friendliness, **Odoo** provides intuitive interfaces, making the solution suitable for users with diverse technical backgrounds. The straightforward setup ensures a hassle-free experience for every business.

**Quickbooks**, **Sage**, and **Xero**, on the other hand, are considered less userfriendly and can be challenging to set up. Their interfaces might require more time and effort for users to become familiar with them. Sage's system might be difficult for non-accountants to navigate the system, while Quickbooks suffers from a lack of direct professional support and system crashes, making the product hard to use for daily operations.

This is why it's important to consider the specific needs and scale of your business when assessing which solution is the best fit, as the ease of use and setup can vary significantly among these options.



#### User-friendliness





Ultimately, the choice depends on your organization's unique needs, scale, and the balance needed between customization, ease of use, and setup.

**If you are in search of a specialized accounting solution**, then Odoo, Xero, Sage, and Quickbooks could be a good fit. With their advanced accounting features, these systems are particularly well-suited for complex accounting environments and provide efficient solutions for every accounting needs.

**If you have more extensive requirements**, you may find Odoo as the most appealing solution. Its advanced features can accommodate any process. The possibilities in terms of customization and the extensive suite of integrated business applications make it the best solution for businesses with requirements beyond accounting. Furthermore, Odoo excels in user-friendliness and ease of setup, making it a suitable choice for small and medium-sized businesses.

Curious about another app? 🏷

Discover Odoo available White papers!



This comparaison was compiled by Odoo SA. We did our best to make it objective and fair based on the information available online. If you find mistakes or missing features, please report it to whitepapers@odoo.com and we will update the online version. Our goal is to have a continuously updated comparaison of the main competitors to be as accurate as possible.