FREE GUIDE · OPEN-SOURCE SWAPS

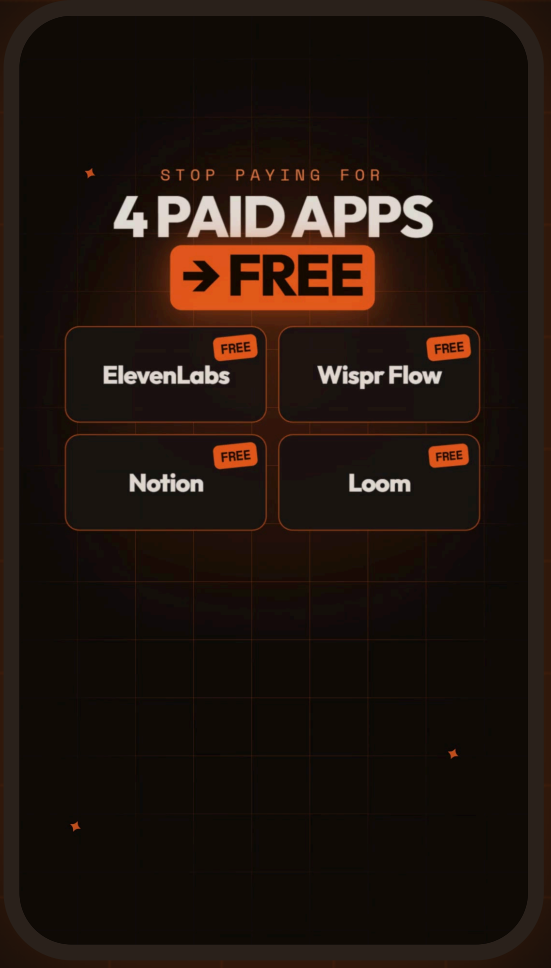
4 paid apps you can replace for free.

Every tool here is open source, has a free version you download and run on your own computer, and its limits are listed honestly, so you know exactly what's free and what isn't.

💻 Windows, Mac & Linux

🔗 Download links inside

✅ Checked 23 Nov 2026



The reel this guide goes with

01 · AT A GLANCE

The 4 swaps

Paid app → free swap

What each one does, in two words.

~~ElevenLabs~~ AI voices	→	**VoiceStudio** AI voices, on your PC
~~Wispr Flow~~ voice typing	→	**OpenWhispr** voice typing, offline
~~Notion~~ notes & docs	→	**AppFlowy** notes, docs, boards
~~Loom~~ screen recording	→	**Cap** record, edit, share

Can I use it for client work?

For paid jobs, this is the part to read twice.

✓ **OpenWhispr**

Yes. MIT licence, "free for personal and commercial use".

✓ **AppFlowy**

Yes, the free Personal plan has no stated commercial ban. Teams usually need the paid Pro plan.

! **VoiceStudio**

The app is fine, but the **default voice model is non-commercial**. Pick a model with a commercial licence in the Model Manager.

! **Cap**

The free version is **personal use only**. For business you need the Desktop License ($29 a year or $58 once).

Does it run on my computer?

Tool	Windows	Mac	Linux
VoiceStudio	✓	✓ Apple Silicon	✓
OpenWhispr	✓	✓	✓
AppFlowy	✓	✓	✓
Cap	✓	✓	✓

VoiceStudio on Intel Macs only works with a remote backend. AppFlowy also has iPhone and Android apps.

02 · THE TOOLS

Links, what's free, what's paid

Click **Download** to get the app. The **GitHub** button opens the source code page.

01 · AI VOICES

AGPL-3.0 · ~117k ★

VoiceStudio

Replaces ~~ElevenLabs~~

Voice cloning, voice design, video dubbing, transcription and audiobooks, running on your own hardware.

⬇ Download **GitHub**

FREE

- ✓ The full desktop app
- ✓ Runs on your computer
- ✓ No account needed
- ✓ Works offline once models are downloaded

OPTIONAL PAID

- $ VoiceStudio Pro: closed-source build with a commercial licence for client work
- $ VoiceStudio Cloud API (coming soon)

> **Before client work:** the default OmniVoice model is CC-BY-NC (non-commercial). Check each model's licence in the Model Manager. A good graphics card (NVIDIA, or AMD on Windows) makes it much faster.

02 · VOICE TYPING

MIT · ~12k ★

OpenWhispr

Replaces ~~Wispr Flow~~

Press a hotkey, talk, and it types what you said into any app. Local models keep your audio on your device.

⬇ Download **GitHub**

FREE

- ✓ Everything that runs on your device
- ✓ No account, no word limit
- ✓ Works offline with local models
- ✓ Free Cloud tier: 2,000 words a week

OPTIONAL PAID

- $ Cloud plans: unlimited cloud transcription, sync, more meeting hours
- $ Your own AI API keys (the provider charges you)

03 · NOTES & DOCS

AGPL-3.0 · ~79k ★

AppFlowy

Replaces ~~Notion~~

Notes, docs, wikis and project boards in one workspace, with a desktop app and phone apps.

⬇ Download **GitHub**

FREE · PERSONAL PLAN

- ✓ The desktop app
- ✓ 100 MB storage, 7 MB per upload
- ✓ 7 days of version history
- ✓ AI features as a limited trial

PAID · PRO PLAN

- $ $12 per member a month (billed yearly) or $16 monthly
- $ Unlimited storage and uploads
- $ 90 days of history, team members

04 · SCREEN RECORDING

AGPL-3.0 (mostly) · ~25k ★

Cap

Replaces ~~Loom~~

Record your screen, edit it in Studio Mode and export it, or share it with a link.

⬇ Download **GitHub**

FREE · PERSONAL USE

- ✓ Full recorder and editor
- ✓ 4K export at 60fps
- ✓ 25 share links a month (up to 5 min each)

PAID

- $ Desktop License: $29 a year or $58 once, for commercial use
- $ Cap Pro: $12 per user a month, for unlimited links and cloud storage

> **Using it for work?** The free version is personal use only. Any paid plan includes commercial rights.

Prices are from each tool's pricing page on 23 Nov 2026 and may change. Star counts are rounded.

03 · QUICK ANSWERS

FAQ

Are these really free?

Yes, each one has a free version you can download and keep using. Some offer optional paid extras such as cloud storage, team plans or commercial licences. Those are listed in each card above.

Why only 4 tools?

Many "free alternative" lists include tools that still need paid credits, a paid account or your own server. These four run on your own computer for free.

Is open source safe to install?

Download only from the official links in this guide (each project's own releases or download page). The code is public on GitHub, so anyone can check it.

What does AGPL or MIT mean?

They're open-source licences. MIT lets you use the app for almost anything. AGPL also lets you use it freely; its extra rules mostly matter if you change the code and offer it to others as a service.

SAVE THIS

Four tools. Zero subscriptions to start.

Try one this week, and check the licence before you use it for a client.