

One month with Microsoft's AI vision of the future: Copilot Pro

Microsoft's Copilot Pro launched last month as a \$20 monthly subscription that provides access to AI-powered features inside some Office apps, alongside priority access to the latest OpenAI models and improved image generation.

I've been testing Copilot Pro over the past month to see if it's worth the \$20 subscription for my daily needs and just how good or bad the AI image and text generation is across Office apps like Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Some of the Copilot Pro features are a little disappointing right now, whereas others are truly useful improvements that I'm not sure I want to live without.

Let's dig into everything you get with Copilot Pro right now.

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medium shot, shallow depth of field.”

a:hover]:text-black [>a:hover]:shadow-underline-black dark:[>a:hover]:text-gray-e9 dark:[>a:hover]:shadow-underline-gray-63 [>a]:shadow-underline-gray-13 dark:[>a]:shadow-underline-gray-63”>The giant piece of bacon I didn’t ask for.

a:hover]:text-black [>a:hover]:shadow-underline-black dark:[>a:hover]:text-gray-e9 dark:[>a:hover]:shadow-underline-gray-63 [>a]:shadow-underline-gray-13 dark:[>a]:shadow-underline-gray-63”>“An illustrated image of a UPS delivery man from 1910. In the style of early Japanese cartoons.”

a:hover]:shadow-highlight-franklin dark:[>a:hover]:shadow-highlight-franklin [>a]:shadow-underline-black dark:[>a]:shadow-underline-white”>Copilot in Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and Outlook

Copilot Pro isn’t all about image generation, though. This subscription unlocks the AI capabilities inside Office apps. Inside Word, you can use Copilot to generate text, which can be helpful for getting an outline of a document started or refining paragraphs.

If you have numerical data, you can also get Copilot to visualize this data as a graph or table, which is particularly useful for making text-heavy documents a little easier to read. If you highlight text, a little Copilot logo appears to nudge you into selecting it to rewrite that text or visualize it. If you select an entire paragraph, Copilot will try to rewrite it with different options you can cycle through and pick.

[Screenshot by Tom Warren / The Verge](#)

Like the image generation, the paragraph rewriting can be a little hit-and-miss, introducing different meaning to sentences by swapping out words. Overall, I didn't find that it improved my writing. For someone who doesn't write regularly, it might be a lot more useful.

Copilot in Outlook has been super useful to me personally. I use it every day to check summaries of emails, which helpfully appear at the top of emails. This might even tempt me to buy Copilot Pro just for this feature because it saves me so much time when I'm planning a project with multiple people.

[Screenshot by Tom Warren / The Verge](#)

It's also really helpful when you have a long-running email thread to just get a quick summary of all the key information. You can also use Copilot in Outlook to generate emails or craft replies. Much like Word, there's a rewrite tool here that lets you write a draft email that's then analyzed to produce suggestions for improving the tone or clarity of an email.

Copilot in PowerPoint is equally useful if you're not used to creating presentations. You can ask it to generate slides in a particular style, and you'll get an entire deck back within seconds. Designer is part of this feature, so you can dig into each individual slide and modify the images or text.

As someone who hates creating presentations, this is something I will absolutely use in the future. It certainly beats the PowerPoint templates you can find online. I did run into some PowerPoint slide generation issues, though, particularly where Copilot would sit there saying, "Still working on it," and not finish generating the slides.

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Copilot in Excel seems to be the most limited part of the Copilot Pro experience right now. You need your data neatly arranged in a table. Otherwise, Copilot will want to convert it. Once you have data that works with Copilot, you can create visualizations, use data insights to create pivot tables, or even get formula suggestions. Copilot for Excel is still in preview, so I'd expect we'll see even more functionality here over time.

The final example of Copilot inside Office apps is OneNote. Much like Word, you can draft notes or plans here and easily rewrite text. Copilot also offers summaries of your notes, which can be particularly amusing if you attempt to summarize shorthand notes or incomplete notes that only make sense to your brain.