A writer is only as good as the software tools they use to succeed. Luckily, there's no shortage of tools to help writers be their best selves.

Even the most prolific writers amongst us make mistakes. That's why novelists work closely with their editors throughout the process.

However, editing software is a must for writers who don't have editors on our side. Choosing which one fits your needs can be a huge help.

I've tried several different options throughout my career and have come to rely on the ones that work best for me. But every writer is different, and every platform offers something distinct.

Let's look at the top 7 best editing software available and determine which one might be right for you.

Grammarly

<u>Grammarly</u> is one of the most popular editing tools for writers currently on the market. Beyond helping with grammar and spelling, Grammarly offers suggestions for clearer and more precise writing styles.

The app offers a free and paid version — the one you choose depends on the level of review you want. The premium version provides suggestions that identify and replace complicated sentences, refresh repetitive language, and ensure accurate spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

For new copywriters and editors, Grammarly can help you simplify your language and streamline your writing projects. I've been using Grammarly for years, and it has revolutionized my writing.

From novices to professionals, this is one of the writing tools that can amplify your writing skills.

Grammarly's top features include:

- Tone suggestions to ensure you make a good impression
- Full-sentence rewrites to reduce hard-to-read sentences and clean up wordy phrases
- Assistance catching typos, punctuation issues, and confused words
- Integration into top apps, including Google, Microsoft, Slack, and various browsers
- Use suggestions to boost clarity and make your writing easier to read.

Hemingway App

The <u>Hemingway App</u> is a fan favorite for copywriters because it's easy and free. It's designed to help writers identify their lengthy language and shorten it.

Like its namesake, who was not a fan of poetic prose and flowery words, the app helps writers simplify. This kind of simplification is perfect for copywriters or marketing writers.

Simply open the Hemingway app in your browser and watch it generate suggestions. It provides feedback on reading level, simple alternatives, adverbs, and hard-to-read sentences.

The more you edit your writing, the fewer suggestions you'll see. If you need some help before turning a project in, the Hemingway App is fast, effective, and free.

I have often used the Hemingway App when writing ad copy or landing pages. Since short and specific writing isn't my background, it's always helpful to have this tool on my side.

Hemingway App top features include:

- Highlighting passive voice
- Showcasing the use of adverbs
- Suggestions for alternatives to complex sentences
- Suggestions for sentence structure
- In-browsers editor you can use anywhere

ProWritingAid

Though I've never used the ProWritingAid tool, many copywriters I know use it consistently. For writers that like to refresh their memory of writing tools and want suggestions on how to improve their style, ProWritingAid can help.

Like Grammarly, there is both a paid and a free version. The free version offers the usual suggestions with some word count caps and document restrictions.

Overall, the tool is excellent for improving your writing style and adding confidence to your phrases. It's very similar to Grammarly but doesn't integrate as easily into tools you're likely already using — like Google Docs, browser, and Microsoft products.

Paying a monthly fee opens writers up to other tools, including an analysis report, unlimited word count, and collaboration options. At only \$10 a month, it's an effective tool to have on your side if you need a simple editor to review your work.

ProWritingAid top features include:

Helpful transition suggestions

- Highlighting repetitive phrases or sentences
- Highlighting vague wording and passive voice
- Simplifying tips for over-complicated sentences
- Hand-coded by copy editors and writers

Wordtune

Using unique AI tools and language models, <u>Wordtunes</u> takes your words and turns them into compelling versions of themselves. It goes beyond grammar and spelling fixes, using AI to generate additional quotes, research, and much more.

Wordtune is especially great for new writers who find their work often needs to be more varied. Its suggestions allow you to see new ways to phrase things and incorporate those changes into your work.

Some of the benefits of a paid version are helping you with casual and formal tones, shortening your text, and helping you rewrite paragraphs for more efficiency. The free version offers some of these features, but it limits how much writing it will review.

In general, I find Wordtune to be an excellent tool for new writers. It's easy to get stuck in a rut of writing in a similar tone, and copywriters have to break free of that for their clients; Wordtune can help with that.

WordTune top features include:

- Smart Al auto-competition options
- Provides Al-generated examples for your writing
- Suggests opposing opinions
- Pulls statistics and facts writers can add to their document
- Helps writers expand on topics by pulling additional information from the web

Scrivener

Though primarily for authors and fiction writers, <u>Scrivener</u> is a great writing tool if you need an extra incentive. It's especially great if you need help storyboarding your work or keeping a formal outline intact.

One of the best features is your ability to write in any order and rearrange sections when the time comes. The drag-and-drop feature is perfect for writers working on long articles, whitepapers, or novels.

An added bonus for writers that conduct a lot of research is the ability to keep the material on the same screen. Your research, notes, or transcripts can live on the right side of your screen while you type your article into the left. Though it doesn't offer many editing options other than grammar and punctuation, Scrivener is an incredible tool for writers working on long-form pieces. I use Scrivener for my long-form pieces and Grammarly to help me edit — the two combined help me immensely.

Scrivener's top features include:

- Allows writers to break writing into scenes or chapters and rearrange them as needed
- Color coding to track different ideas, scenes, characters, or points of view
- Import research documents, links, and other information within the app
- Full-screen composition to reduce distractions
- Set word count goals and track your progress at-a-glance.

Autocrit

Autocrit is an all-in-one tool that helps writers achieve their best work. Like Scrivener, Autocrit is a writing platform that provides many interactive editing tools, including an overall word score.

The Writer's Desk allows you to use tools like character profiles and note cards. At the same time, the editor is designed to analyze your writing for repetition, grammar, punctuation, and more.

But the best part for newbie writers is the opportunity to build a community. Autocrit has a built-in community forum where writers gather to discuss everything from accountability to critiquing each other's work.

More than just an editing tool, Autocrit helps writers build a community and project manage their work. Like the other options, there are free and paid versions, each with its own tools and potential restrictions.

Autocrit's top features include:

- Dialogue suggestions and deep analysis of your writing style
- Repetition detection and highlighting of complicated phrases
- Dynamic summarizing
- Pacing and momentum analysis for reader engagement
- Reviewing words and offering suggestions for replacements.

Wordrake

Wordrake touts itself as the "Writing Assistant for Professionals." An editing software at its core, the tool aims to help polish communications with in-line editing.

Similar to the rest, Wordrake helps writers with clarity and precision, generating context-specific feedback based on Al suggestions. The app integrates with Google Docs or Microsoft Word, so you can keep writing with familiar tools.

For copywriters working in formal industries like government or legal — Wordrake can be a huge help. While it is a paid-only software, its knowledge of its core industries may make it worth the price.

Many different writing tools are available, but only a few are specific to an industry. Investing in Wordrake could be a huge help for copywriters, or communication professionals, that need help developing their professional voice.

Wordrake's top features include:

- Direct integration into Microsoft Word
- Remove redundant words and phrases and correct usage errors
- Ability to bypass editing of quotes
- Simplicity mode to prioritize familiar word choices
- Reduce wordiness and meet word count
- Focus on plain language to reduce legalese or unnecessary jargon.

Which editing tool should I use?

The editing tool you use should work for your writing style. For example, if you primarily need help with sentence structure and grammar, something simple like Grammarly or Wordtune will work for you.

If your problem is trimming your writing, the Hemingway App is a great way to go. Or maybe you need extra motivation and community to lean on? Autocrit it is!

Writers all have different needs and the tools you use are highly dependent on what they are. Whatever you choose, make sure it checks the most important boxes on your list!