

Summary

This licensing brief addresses commonly asked questions about licensing Microsoft® Office Professional Plus for Office 365 through Microsoft Volume Licensing programs. Office Professional Plus for Office 365 is part of the Microsoft Office 365 Online Services offering. This brief will help clarify the differences between use rights for Microsoft Office 2010 acquired as a subscription service as part of the Microsoft Office 365 Online Services offering and use rights for Microsoft Office acquired as a software product under a desktop application license (typically, a perpetual license).

This brief only addresses questions about Microsoft Office Professional Plus for Office 365 use rights. For more information on desktop application licenses for Microsoft Office, see the “*Licensing Microsoft Office Software in Volume Licensing*” brief.

Details

Per-User Microsoft Office Licensing

Microsoft Office Professional Plus for Office 365 is licensed on a “per-user” basis. Users must assign each Microsoft Office license to a single named user before using the software. Each user that is assigned a license may then install and use one copy of Microsoft Office per device, on up to five devices. Customers may only use Office Professional Plus for Office 365 locally.

Remote Access for Microsoft Office

With Remote Use Rights, a company may install Microsoft Office on a single device such as a server and then allow users to access Microsoft Office remotely from licensed desktops (or as the primary user of the licensed device hosting the session) as if the desktop application was installed locally on their desktops. Remote Use Rights are granted under desktop application licenses for Microsoft Office acquired through Microsoft Volume Licensing.

Contrary to the software licensed under desktop application licenses for Microsoft Office, Office Professional Plus for Office 365 may not be deployed on a server or desktop and accessed remotely from another desktop. Customers may only use Office Professional Plus for Office 365 locally. Remote Use Rights are not available under Office Professional Plus for Office 365 licenses.

Examples of remote access technology used under desktop application licenses for Microsoft Office, but not supported for Office Professional Plus for Office 365 include Remote Desktop Services (RDS) and Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI).

Microsoft | Volume Licensing

Rather than enabling our traditional Remote Use Rights, we have adopted per-user licensing. As noted above, each licensed Office Professional Plus for Office 365 user may deploy and use one copy of Microsoft Office per device, on up to five devices. Customers may deploy and use Office Professional Plus for Office 365 anywhere, on a company managed device or on a third-party device.

Although remote access and use generally is not permitted under Office Professional Plus for Office 365 license terms, customers may still permit such access for purposes of providing support services.

Office Professional Plus for Office 365 licenses available through Volume Licensing

Office Professional Plus for Office 365 is licensed on a per-user/subscription basis through Microsoft Volume Licensing.

The following is the list of Microsoft Office components available with Office Professional Plus for Office 365 licenses:

Microsoft Office Components	Office Professional Plus for Office 365
Microsoft Access® database software	•
Microsoft Excel® spreadsheet software	•
Microsoft InfoPath® information-gathering program	•
Microsoft Lync™ Server	•
Microsoft OneNote® note-taking program	•
Microsoft Outlook® messaging and collaboration client	•
Microsoft Office Web Apps*	•
Microsoft PowerPoint® presentation graphics program	•
Microsoft Publisher	•
Microsoft SharePoint® Workspace	•
Microsoft Word	•

*User subscription licenses for Office Professional Plus for Office 365 permit access rights to Office Web Apps licensed under desktop application software products, and the corresponding online subscription services. Those rights expire when the subscription services end.

Acquiring Office Professional Plus for Office 365 in Volume Licensing

Unlike Microsoft Office acquired as a software product under desktop application licenses, which customers may acquire in all Volume Licensing programs, Office Professional Plus for Office 365 is only available in Microsoft Enterprise Agreement and Microsoft Enterprise Subscription Agreement programs.

Customers with agreements in other Volume Licensing programs may license Office Professional Plus for Office 365 through the Microsoft Online Services Agreement.

Online Services Downgrade Rights

In Online Services customers have access to the latest technology with the newest features and releases. As with all Subscription Services, Microsoft generally offers only the latest version of the service at a time. Therefore, downgrade rights are not available with Office Professional Plus for Office 365 licenses.

Online Services Benefits

The Online Services benefits vary by product, and the following are descriptions of the key benefits applicable to Office Professional Plus for Office 365.

New Versions Rights

New Version Rights means customers have the right to upgrade to the latest version of a particular product. Microsoft will release new features or new versions of Office Professional Plus for Office 365 services from time to time. Customers with active User Subscription Licenses (USLs) have access to these new features or versions.

Roaming Use Rights

Under Software Assurance coverage on desktop application licenses for Microsoft Office products, users may remotely access the software running on servers from a qualifying third-party device (i.e., a device not controlled or managed, directly or indirectly, by the company or its affiliates (e.g. airport kiosk)) under Roaming Use Rights. Under Roaming Use Rights, users may not install and use the copy of Microsoft Office locally on a qualifying third-party device or access and use the Microsoft Office software on the qualifying third-party device on company premises.

Roaming Use Rights are not applicable to Office Professional Plus for Office 365. Users may install Office Professional Plus for Office 365 only on a physical desktop rather than on a server, and remote access and use is not permitted. However, each licensed Office Professional Plus for Office 365 user may deploy and use one copy of Microsoft Office per device, on up to five devices. Customers may also deploy and use Office Professional Plus for Office 365 anywhere, on a company managed device or on a third-party device.

Home Use Rights

Under the Home Use Program, customers' employees who have devices with Microsoft Office products under desktop application licenses with Software Assurance coverage may acquire licenses for the corresponding Home Use Program Office software for installation and use on their home computer.

Under Office Professional Plus for Office 365, each licensed user may deploy and use one copy of Microsoft Office per device, on up to five devices. Home Use Program is not applicable to Office Professional Plus for Office 365 licenses, since Office Professional Plus for Office 365 already may be deployed and used anywhere, on a company managed device or third-party devices, including home devices.

Microsoft Office Multi-Language Pack

Microsoft Office Multi-Language Pack provides the flexibility to customize Microsoft Office for multilingual needs. Customers licensed for Office Professional Plus for Office 365 may deploy and use the latest version of the Office Multi-Language Pack.

Frequently Asked Questions

Office Professional Plus is offered as a software product and under subscription services. Aren't those the same product?

No. The products both offer a great productivity experience, but they should not be considered the same product. Office Professional Plus for Office 365 is a per-user subscription service offering and not a desktop application software product. This means that a user must have an active subscription in order to use the software. The user can install and use the software on up to five different devices while the subscription is active. Perpetual rights are typically available under a desktop application license. This means the customer has the right to use the software for as long as they wish (as long as they comply with other licensing conditions); however, that license is assigned to a single device that may be used by different users (one at a time). Think of these two products as two different ways to consume Microsoft Office—the customer may choose the offering that best fits their needs.

I have two work devices. Do I need to assign a separate license for each device?

No, Office Professional Plus for Office 365 is a per-user license and may be deployed and used by that user on up to five devices. Licenses are assigned to the named user and not to the devices.

I have a personal laptop device I like using at work for meetings. How should I license this device if I want to use Office Professional Plus for Office 365?

Customers licensed for Office Professional Plus for Office 365 may deploy and use Office on up to five devices, anywhere, either company managed or third party devices. Customer may deploy one of five permitted copies on a personal laptop device and work from it anywhere, at home or at work.

I use Office remotely installed on a server using Remote Desktop Services (RDS). May I deploy Office Professional Plus for Office 365 on a server for Remote Desktop Services (RDS) use?

Remote Use Rights are not available with Office Professional Plus for Office 365 licenses. Office Professional Plus for Office 365 may not be deployed on a server, but only on a physical desktop. The user authentication for Office Professional Plus for Office 365 software will not work when deploying the software in a server environment. Examples of remote access scenarios not supported under Office Professional Plus for Office 365 include Remote Desktop Services (RDS) and Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI).

I am using Office Professional Plus 2007. May I use this software product in place of my Office Professional Plus for Office 365 license? Aren't those the same product?

No. There are no downgrade rights for Office Professional Plus for Office 365. In addition, Office Professional Plus for Office 365 is a per-user subscription service and not a desktop application software license (like Office Professional Plus 2007). Therefore, customer needs to deploy the user authenticated software provided to Office 365 users.

Our company has a mixed deployment of Office Professional Plus 2007 and Office Professional Plus 2010 under a Select Plus agreement. May I use Office Professional Plus 2010 in place of my Office Professional Plus for Office 365 license? Aren't those the same product?

No. Office Professional Plus for Office 365 is a per-user subscription service and not a desktop application software product (like Office Professional Plus 2010). Therefore, customer needs to deploy the user authenticated software provided to Office 365 users.

There is a one-time exception during the introduction of Office Professional Plus for Office 365 to Enterprise and Enterprise Subscription customers. If those customers have deployed Office Professional Plus 2010 under their Enterprise or Enterprise Subscription agreement, they may use Office Professional Plus 2010 software in place of Office Professional Plus for Office 365 user authenticated software. Although those customers may be allowed to use Office Professional Plus 2010 software, they are still required to comply with the use rights under their Office Professional Subscription license and no perpetual software rights apply.

Microsoft | Volume Licensing

All customers will need to comply with Online Services upgrade requirements in the next release. For more information on Online Services upgrade requirements, see the Microsoft Product Use Rights (PUR).

Appendix: Microsoft Office as Software Product

Customers may license Office Professional Plus as a software product or a subscription service. Those are two different Microsoft Office offerings with similar functionality. See below the main differences between the two offerings.

	Microsoft Office as a Software Product	Microsoft Office as a Subscription Service
Licensing Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per device 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per user, one copy on up to five devices at a time.
Product Editions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Standard, Office Professional Plus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Professional Plus
Licensing Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Volume Licensing programs* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enterprise Agreement Enterprise Subscription Agreement Microsoft Online Services Agreement
Downgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> User may downgrade to earlier version of same Microsoft Office edition licensed for device. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Downgrade rights are not applicable.
Remote Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remote Use Rights permitted including via Remote Desktop Services (RDS) or Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI); Software Assurance Roaming Use Rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users may deploy Office Professional Plus for Office 365 only on a physical device with user-enabled authentication. Users may install one copy of the software on up to five devices and use Microsoft Office locally on those devices from anywhere.
Home Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work At Home (WAH) licenses Software Assurance Home Use Program (HUP) Software Assurance Roaming Use Rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users may install one or more copies on home devices on up to five devices per user license. Subscription Services licenses allow using Microsoft Office from anywhere.
Multi-Language Pack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users may deploy Multi-Language Pack. License may be acquired in Open or Select Volume Licensing programs. License is available as an Office Software Assurance benefit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-Language Pack is compatible with Office Professional Plus for Office 365. Users may deploy it with user authenticated software. The Multi-Language Pack is included with Office Professional Plus for Office 365 (USLs).