

QuickBooks Vs. Peachtree

Product Features	Peachtree Pro	QuickBooks Pro
List Price	\$229	\$229
Max Number of Users	1	1
Accounts Receivable		
Accounts Payable		
Automated Purchase Orders	-	-
Fixed Asset Management	-	-
Automatic Check Signing	-	
General Ledger		
Job Costing and Forecasting		-
Multiple Customizable Dashboards		-
Industry Specific Features	-	-
Serial Number Inventory Management	-	-

Introduction

QuickBooks holds 89 percent of the small business accounting software market in the United States. However, Sage's small business product, Peachtree - now Sage 50, is another popular product that is giving QuickBooks a run for their money. Both products have their own individual strengths and weaknesses. In this paper they will be evaluated individually and on those key differences.

At BrainSell we want to help you find the right solution for your organization's individual needs. That is why we build these white papers from a neutral standpoint and highlight all pros and cons of every software solution with an un-biased approach.

Why Accounting Software?

As a small business owner, you have more important things to focus on than accounting software. Life is hectic and owning your own business makes it exponentially more so. So, while accounting software programs can't take away all your burdens, they can make a stressful part of your job a much easier.

Sage Peachtree and Intuit QuickBooks own the largest

part of small business accounting software market. They are both excellent solutions, and the answer to a lot of small business's bookkeeping nightmares.

QuickBooks is typically viewed as the easiest accounting software to implement with a high user adoption rate. It has held on to this title because it is known an intuitive solution, especially for someone with little to no background in accounting. Many small business owners are plagued with double-entry data errors and recoil at the thought of bookkeeping, afraid of mistakes and endlessly frustrating accounting sessions. That fear and hesitation is a large part of QuickBooks success. They are the market standard for small business accounting solutions because they have a great reputation as an easy to adapt solution.



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But there is another option, and it has been giving QuickBooks a run for its money. Sage recently released Peachtree in 2013 under a newly rebranded name: Sage50. Sage has taken major strides in usability for their flagship small-business solution. Sage50 (formerly Peachtree) now offers intuitive features like a Setup Advisor and Sage Advisor, these features follow user activity while simultaneously explaining how the software can handle different tasks. This is a great interactive tool for users to understand functionality and troubleshoot - in real time.

Product features	Peachtree Complete	Peachtree Premium	QuickBooks Premier
List Price	\$699	\$1199	\$749/two; \$999/three
Max Number of Users	5	5	3
Accounts Receivable			
Accounts Payable			
Automated Purchase Orders			
Fixed Asset Management			
Automatic Check Signing	-	-	
General Ledger			
Job Costing and Forecasting			
Multiple Customizable Dashboards			
Industry Specific Features	-		
Serial Number Inventory Management	-		-

Multi-User Solutions

Cost Comparison

Pricing is a big factor in choosing your software solution, especially for smaller businesses where cost is understandably a bigger factor. Both Pro level products - the single user solutions - for QuickBooks and PeachTree have the same price point: \$229. It isn't until another rung up the ladder that the pricing begins to differ.

Peachtree Complete for a single user is \$299. The comparable QuickBooks solution - QuickBooks Premier, has a higher price point of \$399.

You have the option of adding up to 5 users on PeachTree Complete, but with that comes a price jump up to \$699. QuickBooks Premier has a multi-user pricing system which increases incrementally per person. For a second user it is \$749, for a third user it is \$999.

This price comparison would be more easily interpreted if the products offered mirrored each other... but there are some differences. There are discrepancies with the tool set between Peachtree Complete and QuickBooks Premier.

For example, Intuit has included a wide array of features around the QuickBooks Premier product, including six industry-exclusive variants. Sage only offers those variants for Peachtree in their Premium software line - and there are only four to Intuit's six.



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Sage's Peachtree Premium comes with a premium price tag: \$499 for a single user and \$1,199 for users 2 through 5.

Even though that is a steeper price to pay, Sage definitely packs in more features in Peachtree Premium than QuickBooks Premier.

The two largest instances of Peachtree and QuickBooks are Quantum and Enterprise, respectively. While they have the highest price point, they are far and away the most highly equipped solutions that are ideal for small businesses seeking to have more than 5 users. QuickBooks's Enterprise and Peachtree Quantum solutions are ideal for businesses managing more complex finances. They are also suited for companies currently using QuickBooks Pro or Premier who want more flexibility, to get more done faster. Or if you think you will need more customer, product and vendor information than the smaller solutions allow. If you are looking to have 3 or more simultaneous users then these larger solutions are your best option.

Both Peachtree Quantum and QuickBooks Enterprise are suited for organizations looking for a solution that can accommodate employees in more specialized roles and functions. They are also good for companies with multiple locations that need tracking and management.

These solutions are also great because they can really serve as an alternative to other accounting and business management solutions that cost thousands of dollars.

They are both robust and feature rich - either option equipped with all your financial management needs.

Product Features	Peachtree Quantum	QuickBooks Enterprise
List Price	From \$2,999	\$600 per user
Number of Users	4-40	5-50
Accounts Receivable		
Accounts Payable		
Automated Purchase Orders		
Fixed Asset Management		
Automatic Check Signing		
General Ledger		
Job Costing and Forecasting		
Multiple Customizable Dashboards		
Industry Specific Features		
Serial Number Inventory Management		

Multi-User Solutions



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Essential features

For any size company when you are tracking financials there is absolutely nothing more paramount than accuracy. This is also true for usability or quality reporting. You want your software to be completely accurate and also intuitive enough for anyone to be able to use, and capable of producing high level reports.

There are free accounting management solutions that are either cheap or free and available online - but they are incredibly limited in scope and features, and leave you open to inaccurate data and risk. In usability and depth QuickBooks and Peachtree are worth their weight in gold. They are the risk-free options provided to all small-business owners looking for a better accounting solution.

Both versions of QuickBooks boast well-developed and intuitive invoicing systems. QuickBooks Premier includes the ability to track data from different departments, locations or funds, all in one report. Batch invoicing is another new feature that QuickBooks offers, allowing one invoice to be created and applied to everyone in a group.

From top to bottom, QuickBooks has updated features to keep pace with software and technology trends enabling easier online integration. So now, all of QuickBooks can be used in conjunction with your online banking and web-based email account (e.g., Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo! Mail). These resources can now also be connected via QuickBooks Sync to Intuit's online servers, making for a seamless information stream.

Peachtree, is better suited for a heavy amount of specific small business tasks. It also boasts a highly customizable tool set. Each version of Peachtree can manage workflow analysis, volume pricing, complicated inventory concerns and vendor reports. Peachtree has also teamed up with business intelligence firm Alchemex to provide Excel-based business intelligence summaries for Complete and Premium users.

Peachtree allows you to keep an eye on cash flow with preset alerts that send email notifications when inventory amounts get too low or an account's balance passes a predetermined threshold. Arguably the most valuable tool Peachtree offers is its Internal Accounting Review that audits your data to detect common accounting mistakes. This is huge for a small business owner who has no accounting or finance background. The Internal Accounting review tool ensures that your hard earned money is not falling through the cracks.

Conclusion

So while neither of these solutions is particularly cheap, the services they provide are absolutely invaluable. Your return on investment will be tangible in dollars, time saved and peace of mind.



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QuickBooks is great for service-oriented businesses and organizations; arguably, inventory control is where it falls short. Peachtree is really strong inventory management solution.

There are industry-specific versions for both Peachtree and QuickBooks: QuickBooks offers six industry versions while Peachtree has five.

Pricing for both products is very close. QuickBooks has an online version that is incredibly affordable, but limited and more appropriate for home finances. QuickBooks also has a Mac version and both products are dependable and good choices for most small businesses.

Contact Us

If you are interested in learning more about either QuickBooks or Peachtree you can contact us directly at BrainSell by emailing sales@brainsell.net or call us at 978.887.3870.