



Current Version: Inspiration 12.1

Released: 7 September 2026

New Feature Comparison

New Features Added	Benefit	Inspiration 12.1	Inspiration 11.0	Inspiration 10.11
Native Windows ARM Support With support from Microsoft's App Assure team, Inspiration is optimised to run natively on Windows ARM devices, such as those powered by Snapdragon® processors.	Inspiration runs natively on Windows ARM devices for the best possible performance.	✓		
Equation Editor Seamlessly insert LaTeX-based mathematical formulas into notes or add them as symbols. If you do not know the LaTeX code, search the Formula Dictionary by name to find and insert any of 500 popular formulas.	Designed for STEM users, the Equation Editor ensures technical notation is typeset accurately and consistently.	✓		
Notes – New Look and Features Add bulleted or numbered lists and insert multiple images into your notes.	Structure notes with bulleted or numbered lists to support writing and note-taking, and add more than one image to each note.	✓		

Task Tracker Add due dates to checklist items in any view. See all upcoming tasks in one place using the Task Tracker or the automatically generated Upcoming Tasks Due diagram.	Organise tasks, manage deadlines and keep projects on track.	☒		
Auto Save When enabled, Auto Save saves the file automatically after 4 seconds of inactivity.	Protects your work automatically and reduces the risk of losing recent changes.	☒		
Version History When Auto Save is enabled, Inspiration automatically captures a snapshot every 5 minutes.	View your progress and restore your work to any point within the previous hour.	☒		
Redesigned Starter Screen A new Recent Files section and clearly signposted areas make key tools easier to access.	Return to recent work quickly and understand the purpose of each Inspiration view at a glance.	☒		

Exam Mode This enhanced on/off feature allows students to use Inspiration in school, college or university exams where spelling assistance is prohibited. Exam Mode disables the spell checker and Word Guide and displays a prominent red 'Exam Mode' bar for invigilators. It also creates a Word document specially formatted for submission to the exam board.	If Inspiration is a student's normal way of working, Exam Mode enables its use as a word-processing access arrangement. For JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) compliance, it provides: - A 4-digit invigilator PIN to lock or unlock Exam Mode - The option to disable text-to-speech, as well as the spell checker and thesaurus - No built-in AI as standard - Continued access to Outline, Diagram and Map Views - Full offline operation	☒		
Presentation Manager Improved formatting for generated slides.	Create more polished and consistently formatted presentations.	☒		

Preset Themes for Diagram and Map Views Choose from predefined themes to style maps and diagrams.	Apply effective, visually appealing colour coding to maps and diagrams with one click. Themes can reduce visual stress, organise information, engage visual thinkers and support memory retention, while removing the effort of styling each visual element individually.	☒ Enhanced Font formatting is retained when switching between themes.	☒	
New Symbol Library New symbol libraries have been added, and existing libraries have been updated.	Symbols and images provide visual cues that support comprehension and retention. Familiar favourites remain, while most of the library now features more modern and engaging graphics.	☒	☒	
User Interface Updates A redesigned Starter Screen appears when the software launches or when New is selected from the File menu.	The updated Starter Screen includes a Recent Files list for quicker access to projects. Modernised Diagram View defaults also create a more engaging experience.	☒	☒	

Inspiration Flow – Free Add-on Convert Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Markdown, XML, XHTML and OPML files into Inspiration documents.	Provides an ideal format for non-linear visual thinkers who prefer to process, organise and analyse information spatially and creatively. It also offers a starting structure for research or writing.	✓	✓	✓
Dragon Command Pack – Paid Add-on The Inspiration Dragon Command Pack contains more than 200 custom commands created specifically for Inspiration.	This optional add-on enables Dragon Professional users to control Inspiration and compose text with natural voice commands, without memorising application-specific commands.	✓	✓	✓
Updated User Interface The main toolbar icons have been refreshed and enlarged. Open Sans is now the default font in Diagram and Outline Views, while Comic Sans remains the default in Map View.	The refreshed design gives the interface a more modern appearance, while larger toolbar icons improve visibility.	✓	✓	✓

DiagramSync Reorder the Outline View with one click to match the visual arrangement in Diagram or Map View. Inspiration determines the appropriate order for web or tree diagrams, including clockwise, left-to-right and top-to-bottom layouts.	Quickly updates the outline to reflect visually organised ideas – particularly helpful for users with dyslexia or anyone who prefers visual thinking. Mixed diagram styles are also supported.	✓	✓	✓
Citation Collection Tool and Bibliography Generator Add source references and hyperlinks to your work.	Add multiple citations to each symbol or branch to record information sources. Inspiration then generates a bibliography automatically in Outline View.	✓	✓	✓
Create a Diagram and Outline by Importing an .rtf or .txt File Import a file that uses heading styles to create a hierarchical diagram and linked outline automatically. Notes can also be included. In Microsoft Word or Google Docs, save the source file in .rtf format before importing it.	Quickly turn notes from a word processor or text editor into a diagram and structured outline. Once imported, visually reorganise and edit the content to begin research, writing or revision.	✓	✓	✓

Unicode Support Type or paste international characters, then export them to Word or PowerPoint.	Supports multilingual users, including those for whom English is not their first language.	☒	☒	☒
Presentation Themes Older Presentation Manager themes have been replaced with modern designs for creating slide decks.	Choose from engaging themes to create more visually appealing presentations.	☒	☒	☒
Drag and Drop Files from the Desktop Drop files directly into Inspiration documents. Graphic, video and audio files are embedded; all other supported file types are linked.	Add visual and audio cues, files and supporting resources to Inspiration documents more quickly.	☒	☒	☒
Set a Default Background Colour Set the default background colour for Diagram or Map documents from the Default Settings menu, without creating a template. A separate colour can be set for Outline View.	Users with visual impairments or visual stress can quickly apply a preferred background colour to all their documents.	☒	☒	☒

Embedded Video Playback The video playback window is now larger.	Makes longer videos embedded in Inspiration files easier to watch.	☒	☒	☒
Import Inspiration Maps for iOS Files Picture symbols from Inspiration Maps are now retained when files are imported into Inspiration.	Visual cues used to explain ideas in Inspiration Maps remain intact after import.	☒	☒	☒