

Feature	BrightPay (Desktop) Only	BrightPay (Desktop) + Connect	BrightPay (Cloud)
General			
Platform	Windows BrightPay for Mac will not be available from tax year 2025/26	Windows BrightPay for Mac will not be available from tax year 2025/26	Access from any device using a web browser
Number of employees	Unlimited* Depending on licence type	Unlimited* Depending on licence type	Up to 250 employees (per employer, including leavers)
Number of employers/clients	Unlimited Depending on licence type	Unlimited Depending on licence type	Unlimited
Number of devices/users	Up to 10 users	Up to 10 users	Unlimited
Multiple users on the same employer	✗	✗	✓
See other users and changes in real time	✗	✗	✓
Pricing	Upfront cost Pay per tax year	Upfront + monthly cost Pay per tax year	Flexible payment options Pay monthly/annually
Security			
Payroll backups	✗	✓	✓
Data hosting	✗ You will need to host your payroll data on your own PC or server	✗ You will need to host your payroll data on your own PC or server	✓ No need to worry about data hosting - data is stored on secure servers
Automatic software updates	✗ Software needs to be installed each tax year, with manual upgrades required as the software is updated	✗ Software needs to be installed each tax year, with manual upgrades required as the software is updated	✓ You will always have the latest version of the software without needing to run upgrades
Payslips			
Pay frequencies	Weekly, Fortnightly, 4-Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly	Weekly, Fortnightly, 4-Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly	Weekly, Fortnightly, 4-Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly
Multiple pay frequencies	✓	✓	✓
Multiple schedules for the same pay frequency	✗	✗	✓
Unlimited additions & deductions	✓	✓	✓
Custom additions & deductions	✓	✓	✓
Import payments, additions and deductions via CSV file	✓ Limited to 5 pay items	✓ Limited to 5 pay items	✓ Import up to 10 pay items
Batch add additions/deductions/notes for multiple employees	✓	✓	✓

*Unlimited employees is subject to fair usage, which is capped at 5,000 employees.

Payslips			
Attachment orders	✓	✓	✓
Expenses and Benefits	✓	✓	✓
Employer calendar	✓	✓	✓
Payments			
Pre-built bank files	Includes 19 file formats ✓	Includes 19 file formats ✓	Includes 56 file formats ✓
Modulr integration to pay employees & HMRC	✓	✓	✓
Statutory Pay			
Statutory payments	✓	✓	✓
Additional statutory pay reports and forms	✓	✓	*Coming 2025
Payroll Journals			
Direct API integration with accounting software	✓	✓	✓
CSV file export for accounting software	✓	✓	✓
Custom CSV file export	✓	✓	✓
Automatic Enrolment			
Automatic employee assessment & alerts	✓	✓	✓
Automatic enrolment letters to employees	✓	✓	✓
Process opt-in, opt-out, and joiner requests	✓	✓	✓
Postponement	✓	✓	✓
Automatic re-enrolment alerts	✓	✓	✓
Direct API integration with pension providers	✓	✓	✓
CSV file integration with pension providers	✓	✓	✓
Approve payments with NEST	✓	✓	✓
HMRC-Recognised			
HMRC submissions (FPS, Additional FPS, NVR, EPS)	✓	✓	✓
Coding notices	✓	✓	✓
Employment Allowance	✓	✓	✓
Apprenticeship Levy	✓	✓	✓
P11Ds & Payrolling of Benefits	✓	✓	✓

Batch Operations			
Batch check for coding notices	✓	✓	✓
Batch finalise payslips	✓	✓	✓
Batch send submissions to HMRC	✓	✓	✓
Employee Portal			
Employee self service portal giving employees access to payslips and payroll documents	✗	✓	✓
Employee requests for annual/unpaid leave	✗	✓	✓
Employee requests to update personal details	✗	✓	✓
Employee leave approval	✗	✓	✓
Mobile app for employees	✗	✓	*Coming 2025
Two-factor authentication for employees	✗	✓	*Coming 2025
Document upload facility	✗	✓	*Coming 2025
Employer Portal			
Employer/client portal	✗	✓	*Coming 2025
Payroll Entry Requests	✗	✓	*Coming 2025
Payroll Approval Requests	✗	✓	*Coming 2025
Client dashboard to access payslips, payroll reports and HMRC payments	✗	✓	*Coming 2025
Reporting			
Custom report builder	✓	✓	✓
Other pre-built reports (e.g. calendar report, annual leave report)	✓	✓	*Coming 2024
CIS			
Construction Industry Scheme (CIS)	✓	✓	✗ Note: You can use a desktop licence free of charge if you need CIS functionality

Still unsure which payroll product to choose?
Check out our quiz to find out which one is right for your business

www.brightpay.co.uk/compare