

# Top ClickUp Alternatives Compared

Compare top ClickUp alternatives side by side by pricing curves, automation depth, AI features, migration fit, and use case versus major rivals.

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**TL;DR** Side-by-side, the top ClickUp alternatives split into four operating models. Asana leads on portfolio and goals at \$10.99 Starter and \$24.99 Advanced per seat per month. Monday wins on visual flexibility from \$9 Basic to \$19 Pro per seat per month. Notion treats PM as a database on top of docs, with Plus at \$10 and Business at \$20 per seat per month. Linear is the engineering-first speed pick at \$10 Basic per seat per month, free up to 250 issues. ClickUp itself runs Unlimited at \$7, Business at \$12, and Enterprise on contract. Each head-to-head has a clean winner once the operating model is fixed; the comparison only gets murky when you try to pick a single tool for every function in one company.

## Feature Comparison Overview

**Side-by-side PM comparison usually reduces to four matchups: ClickUp versus Asana, Monday, Notion, and Linear. Each frames work differently, and the right pick depends on whether your team plans, builds, writes, or ships.**

The four head-to-head comparisons cover most of the buying decisions teams face in 2026. The right answer depends less on feature checklists than on operating model.

### How does ClickUp stack up against Asana?

Asana is the cleaner pick for portfolio-led organisations. Goals, Portfolios, and Strategy connect daily work to quarterly outcomes more directly than ClickUp's Hierarchies in 2026 buyer reviews. ClickUp's advantage is breadth: docs, whiteboards, and dashboards in one product, which suits teams that want a single contract for everything. Asana wins on focus; ClickUp wins on coverage.

### How does ClickUp stack up against Monday.com?

Monday wins on visual flexibility. Board views, multiple-view stacking, and the dashboard builder are stronger than ClickUp's equivalents for teams whose primary unit is a board rather than a list. ClickUp leans more on list views and custom fields. For marketing and operations teams whose week is visual, Monday tends to win the trial; for engineering and ops teams thinking in lists and dependencies, ClickUp holds its ground.

### How does ClickUp stack up against Notion?

Notion treats PM as a database on top of documents, which is a fundamentally different model. Teams who write a lot, want their PM and docs in one place, and accept slightly less depth on dashboards usually pick Notion. ClickUp competes here with its Docs module but the docs-first experience is still stronger in Notion. Compare it against the docs-led pick on our PM tool comparison page for marketing teams in particular.

## How does ClickUp stack up against Linear?

Linear wins for engineering. Speed, keyboard pathways, and the issue-and-cycle model fit how software teams plan and ship. ClickUp competes on breadth but cannot match Linear on either latency or workflow philosophy for engineers. Comparing ClickUp vs Linear typically ends with engineering teams on Linear and broader teams on ClickUp.

- Portfolio-led: Asana.
- Visual-led: Monday.
- Docs-led: Notion.
- Engineering-led: Linear.
- Coverage-led: ClickUp.

*Each head-to-head has a clean winner once you fix the operating model; the muddle comes from buying for every function at once.*

## Pricing and Scalability

**Pricing curves diverge sharply once you cross 10, 50, and 200 users. Free tiers vary by what they restrict; published rates rarely match enterprise reality. The headline number is the start of the conversation, not the end.**

The clearest way to compare pricing across the top ClickUp alternatives is a single table aligned at free, starter, and mid-market tiers. Pricing and feature data verified against vendor pages on May 13, 2026.

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Tool	Free tier	Starting paid tier (\$/seat/mo)	Best-fit audience
ClickUp	Free Forever	\$7 Unlimited	Coverage-led teams wanting one contract for PM, docs, dashboards
Asana	Personal, 2-user cap	\$10.99 Starter	Portfolio-led organisations and goal-aligned programs
Monday	Free, 2-user cap, 3 boards	\$9 Basic	Visual, board-first teams in marketing and operations
Notion	Free, limited for 2+ members	\$10 Plus	Docs-first teams pairing wiki with light PM
Linear	Free, unlimited members, 250 issues	\$10 Basic	Engineering teams shipping software
Trello	Free, 10 boards	\$5 Standard	Small teams running simple Kanban

### Free tier limits across the top alternatives

Free tiers restrict different things. ClickUp restricts storage and custom fields; Asana caps users at two; Monday caps users at two and boards at three; Notion caps blocks for 2+ member teams; Linear caps total issues at 250 across unlimited members; Trello caps boards at ten. The right free tier for a tiny team is rarely the right free tier for a small team that plans to grow.

## Per-seat pricing curves at 10, 50, 200 users

At 10 users, the cheapest serious pick is ClickUp Unlimited at \$7 or Monday Basic at \$9. At 50 users, ClickUp Business at \$12 and Monday Pro at \$19 are typical mid-market choices. At 200 users, Asana Advanced at \$24.99 and Notion Business at \$20 start to compete on portfolio and docs depth. The curve flattens once you cross 100 seats because enterprise discounts become available across the shortlist.

## Enterprise pricing reality vs. published rates

Every vendor on the shortlist quotes Enterprise as contact-sales. Published rates almost never match what a 1,000-seat customer signs, with multi-year commits and SCIM, BYOK, and HIPAA pathways included in the negotiation. Plan for a procurement cycle of 60-90 days for Enterprise contracts at any of the four.

*The headline number is the start of the conversation; free-tier shape and 50-user curve matter more than the per-seat sticker.*

## Productivity and Collaboration Tools

**Productivity comparisons reduce to three areas: how the tool handles docs, whether real-time editing feels live, and how chat or comments thread within tasks. Each of the five frames these differently.**

The productivity story is where Notion separates from the pack and where Linear deliberately stays narrow. Asana, Monday, and ClickUp sit in between with broader docs and chat support.

### Docs and wiki integration depth

Notion is the strongest docs surface in the comparison: pages, databases, and structured templates that scale into a company wiki. ClickUp Docs is competent and improving; Asana ships project briefs rather than full docs; Monday integrates docs through its WorkDocs feature; Linear has lightweight docs scoped to project context. Teams whose work is half writing, half PM tend to land on Notion for that reason.

### Real-time editing and presence support

Real-time editing with presence indicators is now table stakes across the shortlist. Notion and ClickUp Docs match Google Docs on collaborative editing fidelity. Asana, Monday, and Linear ship narrower real-time surfaces focused on tasks and comments rather than long-form documents. The differences are most visible in long meeting notes or briefs, where Notion and ClickUp pull ahead.

### Chat and comment threading models

Linear's comment threads sit inside each issue and stay there permanently as the audit trail. Asana and Monday have nested comment threads with @-mentions and reactions. ClickUp threads comments within tasks and supports separate chat channels. Notion comments are page-scoped. None of the five replace Slack or Teams for ambient chat, but ClickUp and Monday come closest with channel-style surfaces.

- Docs depth: Notion > ClickUp > Asana / Monday / Linear.
- Real-time editing fidelity: Notion = ClickUp Docs > others.

- Comment thread persistence: Linear strongest as audit trail.

*Notion leads on docs, Linear on comment discipline; ClickUp covers both broadly without leading either.*

## Workflow Automation Systems

**Automation comparisons hinge on three numbers: native automation runs per month, third-party integration count, and how AI is woven into the rule builder in 2026.**

Native automation depth and AI assistance are the two areas where the shortlist diverges sharply in 2026. ClickUp ships the highest automation ceiling on Business; Linear ships the cleanest engineering automation; Asana and Monday cover the broadest team-PM use cases.

### Native automation feature comparison

ClickUp Business includes 5,000 automation runs per month, and Enterprise scales to 250,000. Monday Pro covers 25,000 automation actions per month with role-based governance. Asana Rules are powerful and well-governed but priced into Advanced and above. Notion's button and database actions are growing but still narrower than the dedicated PM tools. Linear's automation is engineering-flavoured, hooking into GitHub, Sentry, and CI events natively.

### Third-party (Zapier, Make) integration counts

Every tool on the shortlist integrates with Zapier and Make. The differences are in native partner integrations: Asana lists 270 plus; Monday lists 200 plus; ClickUp claims a similar count; Linear's integration list is shorter but engineering-focused. For teams running custom workflows, the integration count matters less than the depth of the few you use every day.

### AI-assisted automation in 2026

ClickUp Brain at \$9 per seat per month covers 1,500 AI credits; Everything AI at \$28 covers 5,000. Monday's Enterprise tier ships 20,000 AI credits per month, the highest verified ceiling in the comparison. Asana, Notion, and Linear all ship AI surfaces but with less explicit credit-counting in their public pricing. AI-assisted automation in 2026 is real but uneven; treat the credit count as a planning input rather than a feature checkbox.

- Highest verified AI credit ceiling: Monday Enterprise at 20,000 / month.
- Highest verified automation run ceiling: ClickUp Enterprise at 250,000 / month.
- Cleanest engineering automation: Linear with GitHub and CI hooks.

*Match automation depth to where your work actually lives; the highest ceiling rarely wins if you only use a tenth of it.*

## Which Platform Is Best?

**There is no single best pick across all teams. The right answer depends on team size, function, and whether you optimise for breadth, speed, docs, or visual flexibility.**

Across the head-to-heads, four answers map cleanly to four buyer profiles, and the fifth is the case for staying with ClickUp.

### **Best pick for small teams under 10 seats**

For under-10 teams running mixed work, Monday Basic at \$9 per seat per month or ClickUp Unlimited at \$7 covers the bases. Trello Standard at \$5 is the cheapest serious pick for board-led teams. Linear Free is enough for a small engineering shop until they cross 250 issues. The decision tends to follow the team's existing operating model rather than price.

### **Best pick for engineering-heavy organizations**

Linear is the cleanest pick for engineering-heavy organisations in 2026. Basic at \$10 per seat per month covers unlimited issues and the speed advantage holds well past 10,000 issues in our trials. Engineering teams looking at ClickUp vs Linear usually land on Linear, with broader functions on a separate tool.

### **Best pick for marketing and agency workflows**

Monday Pro at \$19 per seat per month wins for marketing and agency workflows in 2026. The visual flexibility, board templates, and dashboard depth fit how marketing teams plan campaigns. Asana Advanced at \$24.99 is the alternative when goal alignment matters more than visual planning. ClickUp competes here on coverage but rarely wins the marketing-only trial.

### **Best pick for enterprise rollout**

Asana Enterprise leads the shortlist for portfolio-led enterprise rollouts. Monday Enterprise wins for visual, board-first enterprises. Wrike Business at \$25 per seat per month is the regulated-industry default. ClickUp Enterprise competes but rarely leads in 2026 procurement reviews unless the buyer specifically wants one product for PM, docs, and dashboards in one contract.

- Under 10 seats: Monday Basic or ClickUp Unlimited.
- Engineering: Linear Basic.
- Marketing: Monday Pro.
- Enterprise: Asana Enterprise or Wrike Business.
- Stay with ClickUp: when breadth in one contract matters most.

*Pick by function and size first; revisit the headline price only after the operating model is fixed.*

## **FAQ: Comparing ClickUp Alternatives**

**This FAQ group summarizes the buyer questions that usually decide the first shortlist.**

Use the FAQ entries below as a procurement shortcut, then confirm current pricing and feature limits on the vendor pages before any rollout decision.

- Recheck pricing before purchase.
- Match the tool to the team workflow.
- Pilot with one active project before migrating the whole workspace.

*Treat FAQ guidance as a shortlist aid, not a substitute for vendor verification.*

## FAQ

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### **What is the most popular ClickUp alternative in 2026?**

Asana and Monday share that title across most 2026 buyer reviews, with Asana leading in portfolio-driven organisations and Monday leading in visual, board-led teams. Notion has become the strongest docs-first pick, and Linear is the default for engineering. ClickUp itself remains popular, but the alternatives have matured enough that the choice is now actually contested across every operating model.

### **Which alternative has the best price-to-feature ratio?**

ClickUp Unlimited at \$7 per seat per month still has the broadest feature set per dollar. Monday Basic at \$9 covers the visual operating model cleanly. Trello Standard at \$5 is the cheapest serious pick for simple Kanban. Linear Basic at \$10 is the best value for engineering teams. The ratio is most meaningful when compared against the features your team actually uses every week.

### **How do free tiers stack up across the top alternatives?**

ClickUp Free has no user cap but limits storage and custom fields. Asana Personal caps users at two. Monday Free caps users at two and boards at three. Notion Free is generous for individuals and limited for 2+ member teams. Linear Free is unlimited members up to 250 issues. Trello Free caps boards at ten. The right free tier depends on whether you scale by users, items, or boards.

### **Is there a clear winner for engineering vs. marketing teams?**

Yes, in both cases. Linear is the clear winner for engineering in 2026 on speed, keyboard pathways, and the issue-and-cycle model. Monday Pro at \$19 per seat per month is the clear winner for marketing and agency teams on visual flexibility and dashboard depth. ClickUp competes in both but rarely leads either trial when the buyer is function-specific rather than coverage-led.

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Full article: <https://clickalternatives.net/clickup-alternatives-compared>

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