Classroomscreen alternatives: we compared 28 free classroom screens

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The best free Classroomscreen alternatives for the projector, from MyClassScreen to Lans Cloud, what a good classroom screen needs, and the board we built.

The best free alternative to Classroomscreen for most teachers is MyClassScreen, which says every widget, template and saved board is free with no account; for the strongest privacy promise, Lans Cloud says class lists and layouts never leave your browser. Classroomscreen itself is still the most complete screen, and its free Basic plan includes all 26 widgets. The catch is that its pricing page lists saving and sharing screens under the paid Pro plan.

Peabody (peabody.kids) wrote this guide while rebuilding its own free classroom screen, the Peabody Board, and Peabody is free through the end of 2026. Apart from our own Board, none of these tools are ours, and nobody paid to be listed. Every fact about another tool was read from its own page on 29 October 2026. "Not stated" means the page did not say, which is not the same as "no". Prices are as of that date.

The quick answer: ten classroom screens side by side

- Tool: Classroomscreen · What it costs: Basic is free; Pro is $3 a month, or $36 billed yearly · Sign-in to start: No, per its home page · Best at: The most widgets, templates and backgrounds · Watch for: Saving and sharing screens are listed under Pro
- Tool: MyClassScreen · What it costs: Free, with no premium tier · Sign-in to start: No · Best at: A 43-widget bar and free saved boards · Watch for: Maker not named; ads on its articles
- Tool: Peabody Board · What it costs: Free · Sign-in to start: No · Best at: A noise meter that grows a garden, clap-back signals, twelve boards saved free · Watch for: No drawing, poll, QR or dice yet
- Tool: Lans Cloud · What it costs: Free, no Pro tier · Sign-in to start: No · Best at: Privacy: everything stays in the browser · Watch for: 12 widgets; no groups or poll
- Tool: Sage Teachers · What it costs: Free plan; Pro is £8 a month or £60 a year · Sign-in to start: Yes, Google or email · Best at: A Morning Board and a 20+ widget Whiteboard · Watch for: One saved screen on the free plan
- Tool: Sabura · What it costs: Tools free; Pro price not stated · Sign-in to start: Only to save · Best at: Attendance, a seating grid, the widest list · Watch for: Free dashboards are lost on refresh
- Tool: Class Cortex · What it costs: Free for one class of 30; Pro is AUD $49 a year · Sign-in to start: No · Best at: Squads, XP and live boss battles · Watch for: Free tier is

capped
- Tool: ClassroomTools · What it costs: Free · Sign-in to start: No · Best at: Five core tools that work offline · Watch for: One ad below the tools
- Tool: MinuteBell · What it costs: Free · Sign-in to start: No · Best at: 40+ tools, including a station timer · Watch for: Light ads; separate pages
- Tool: GoTimer · What it costs: Free · Sign-in to start: No · Best at: No ads; tested on Chromebooks · Watch for: Separate tools, not one screen

The full ranked list of 20, with the source for every fact, is on our Top 20 list of classroom screen tools.

What makes a great classroom screen

A classroom screen is one page on the projector that tells a room what to do, for how long, and how loudly. The best ones share a few things.

The five widgets you use every day

A timer, a name picker, a noise meter, a group maker and a place for instructions. AVID's guide lists these uses for a classroom screen: station rotations, independent work, exit tickets, behaviour reminders and whole-class directions. If a screen is missing one of the five, you will end up with a second tab open.

A cue children can read without being told

Work symbols and traffic lights do the talking so you don't have to. Classroomscreen began in 2017 as work symbols, a text box and a timer, built by a Dutch science teacher, and AVID's guide and a Tech & Learning review both list them. A good sign shows a shape and a word, never colour alone.

Saving that doesn't cost money

Rebuilding the same morning screen each day costs minutes. Classroomscreen's pricing page lists saving and sharing screens under Pro. MyClassScreen and Lans Cloud both say they save in your browser with no account. The trade-off is the same for all browser saving: a different computer starts empty unless you share a link.

No ads on the big screen

An ad on a 70-inch screen is seen by every child. Some free tools show them: ClassTools and Online-Stopwatch sell an ad-free upgrade, and Toy Theater's timer page is labelled Advertisement in two places. Check the screen on the projector before class, not at your desk.

Where names and sound go

A class list is children's names, and a noise meter listens to a room. The tools that explain themselves say the list stays in the browser and the microphone becomes a loudness number that is never recorded. Lans Cloud, ClassroomTools, GoTimer and MinuteBell say so. Classroomscreen's sound level page doesn't say anything about microphone privacy, so ask your school before relying on it.

The best classroom screens, one by one

Classroomscreen

The benchmark. It has 26 widgets, including a timer, sound level, traffic light, work symbols, group maker, randomizer with a wheel, poll, drawing, QR code and dice, plus backgrounds from photos to animated GIFs and a template library. Its group maker can keep students apart or together. Limit: the pricing page lists saving and sharing screens, custom backgrounds and unlimited name lists under Pro, and the free account saves three name lists.

MyClassScreen

The closest free copy. Its page says the widget bar holds 43 widgets, including a live poll, an exit ticket, a This or That prompt and an attention signal that plays a chime, bell or clap. Boards save in your browser under My Boards, and a layout link moves one to another computer. Limit: the page does not name who makes it, and its QR widget uses an outside QR image service.

Lans Cloud

The most private. Its page says no account, no Pro tier and no ads, and that the noise meter turns room sound into a number and discards the audio. Its 12 widgets include small human ones: class jobs, a word list and birthdays. Limit: no group maker, poll, QR code or dice, and a new computer starts fresh.

Sage Teachers

Built by a teacher for primary classrooms, with about 95 apps. Its Whiteboard puts a timer, name picker, scoreboard and 20+ widgets on one board, and the Morning Board shows the date, weather, word of the day, a fact and the timetable on one slide. Limit: you sign in with Google or email, and the free plan keeps one saved screen.

Sabura

The widest free list: visual timetable, attendance, a drag-and-drop seating grid, group splitter, scoreboard, work symbols, noise monitor, webcam, QR code, dice and a Canva connection. Limit: free dashboards are temporary and lost on refresh; saving needs the paid Pro plan,

whose price the page doesn't state.

Class Cortex

A screen that is also a game. It adds XP, squads and live Boss Battles that students join with a QR code, and its page says rosters and scores stay in the browser. Limit: the free tier is one class of up to 30 students, and it is more a game layer than a calm screen.

ClassroomTools

Five plain tools: noise meter, timer, group maker, name picker and scoreboard. Its page says they all work offline once loaded. Limit: one ad sits below the tools, and the page doesn't name its maker.

MinuteBell and GoTimer

Two big toolboxes of separate pages rather than one screen. MinuteBell has 40+ tools, including a sequence timer for stations, and shares timers and wheels by link. GoTimer says its tools carry no ads and were tested on Chromebooks. Limit: MinuteBell shows light ads, and neither describes one arranged board.

Noise meters on their own

Bouncy Balls makes on-screen balls bounce with the room's sound and offers a beep or a "shush". FixAndTest's noise meter shows a sleeping monster, a face, bubbles or a bar, and adds up "quiet time earned". Limit: each does one job, so you need a second tab for the timer.

Eight ways teachers use a classroom screen

1. Arrival. Put the first task, the clock and today's plan up before the bell, so children start without being told.
2. Centers. A big timer, the stations in order and a name picker for who goes first.
3. Silent work. One work sign on the screen, changed when the activity changes.
4. A quiet challenge. Set a noise limit and ask the class to stay under it for ten minutes.
5. Test day. A quiet timer, the real clock, a red light and one clear note.
6. Sub day. Put the day's schedule on the screen so a substitute and the children share the same plan.
7. Exit ticket. Ask for a thumbs-up, thumbs-sideways or thumbs-down and count the hands.
8. Helper of the day. Pick one name from the class list and leave it on the board.

How to choose

- You want the most complete screen and don't mind rebuilding it: Classroomscreen's free Basic plan.
- You want a free copy that saves with no account: MyClassScreen.

- Privacy comes first: Lans Cloud, or any tool whose page says lists stay in the browser.
- You teach primary and want a morning board: Sage Teachers.
- You want squads and games, or only a few tools on a Chromebook: Class Cortex, or GoTimer and ClassroomTools.
- You are tired of ads on the projector: check each tool on the big screen first. Peabody's Board, Lans Cloud, GoTimer and Class Cortex say they have none.

What we built, and why

We built the Peabody Board so a teacher can have a projector screen that saves for free, with no ads and no sign-in, and then we rebuilt it on 29 October 2026 around what this comparison found. The Peabody Board has fourteen widgets you drag and resize on a 16 by 9 grid, or move with the arrow keys, and F fills the screen. The new parts:

- A noise meter that grows a garden. The Quiet Garden listens only after you press Listen. Every calm moment adds to the day's quiet minutes, and a plant grows from a seed to a sprout, leaves, a bud and a flower at ten quiet minutes, with another flower every ten minutes after that. A loud moment never takes anything away: the plant just stops growing, and the words say "Getting loud" or "Too loud". It also comes as a light or a bar. The sound is measured in the browser and never recorded or sent; only the day's count of quiet minutes is kept.
- Attention signals, including a game. A chime, a rain stick, and a 5-4-3-2-1 count that ends on "Eyes on me", all made in the browser with no sound files. Clap back plays a short rhythm while big dots light in time, then shows "Your turn" while a dot keeps the beat, and the class claps it back; Next makes it longer, up to level five. Every signal is a picture as well as a sound, so it works with the sound off.
- Work symbols, groups and a scoreboard. Eight signs drawn as shapes with words (Silent, Whisper, Partner talk, Group talk, Ask a neighbor, Hands up, Move and share, Listen); balanced groups from your class list, dealt one card at a time; and a scoreboard for two to six teams with big +1 and +5 buttons and the leader named in words, not just colour.
- Backdrops that follow the season. Falling leaves in autumn, snow in winter, rain in spring and a meadow in summer, drawn in code so nothing is downloaded, plus night stars, three gradients and graph, dot and lined paper. Still stops them moving, and they stand still for anyone whose computer asks for less motion.
- Twelve boards, saved free. Name your boards, flip through them like a deck with Page Up and Page Down, duplicate or delete one (with Undo), and save a board to a file to open on another computer. The thing Classroomscreen's pricing page lists under Pro is free here because it never leaves your browser.

It still has the timer in seven looks, the stopwatch, a note, a Today checklist, the hand-set voice-level light, links, a helper of the day and a picker that doesn't repeat a name until

everyone has had a turn, and the Morning, Centers and Test day layouts now use the new widgets, joined by three new ones: Reading groups, Indoor recess and a Clean-up race. Your class list, the groups and team names stay on your computer and out of links and files unless you tick a box.

Being honest, it is still not everything Classroomscreen is. It has about half as many widgets: there is no drawing, poll, QR code, dice, webcam or uploaded picture background on the Board yet. On our Top 20 list it now ranks third, behind Classroomscreen and MyClassScreen. Where it leads is the part that costs other tools money or trust: saving, sharing, no ads, and a noise meter that rewards a calm room instead of scolding a loud one.

Peabody also makes free stories and learning games for children. Try the Board at teach.peabody.kids.

Questions

What is the best free alternative to Classroomscreen?

MyClassScreen is the closest free copy: its page says every widget, template and saved board is free, with no account. Lans Cloud has fewer widgets but says nothing leaves your browser. Classroomscreen's own Basic plan is free too, though its pricing page lists saving screens under Pro.

Is there a classroom screen that doesn't need a login?

Yes. MyClassScreen, Lans Cloud, ClassroomTools, GoTimer and Peabody's Board say no account is needed. Sage Teachers asks you to sign in with Google or email, and Sabura needs an account to save a layout.

Do classroom screens record the room?

The ones that explain their noise meters say no. Lans Cloud, ClassroomTools, GoTimer and MinuteBell say the microphone is measured in the browser, not recorded or uploaded, and so does Peabody's Quiet Garden. Classroomscreen's sound level page says nothing about it, so check with your school.

Where are my students' names kept?

It depends on the tool. Lans Cloud, ClassroomTools, GoTimer, MinuteBell and Class Cortex say lists stay in your browser. Classroomscreen and Sage Teachers save class lists to an account, and their pages don't say where those lists are kept, so use first names or initials if you are unsure.

Can I use a classroom screen on an interactive panel or a Chromebook?

Every screen here runs in a web browser, so a Chromebook or a panel with a browser works. GoTimer says its tools were tested on Chromebooks, and Class Cortex has a Performance Mode for slow panels.

Is Peabody's Board free?

Yes. Peabody, including the Board and all of its teacher tools, is free through the end of 2026, with no sign-in and no ads.

Free at peabody.kids/blog/classroomscreen-alternatives