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Microsoft Word



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Introduction to Microsoft Word

Microsoft Word is one of the most popular word processing programs in the world. It is part of the **Microsoft Office** suite and is widely used for creating, editing, formatting, and sharing documents. Word provides a variety of tools to enhance productivity, such as text formatting, tables, images, templates, and collaboration features.

The Clipboard in Microsoft Word

The **Clipboard** is a temporary storage area that allows users to copy, cut, and paste text, images, and other content within a document or across different applications. It plays a crucial role in improving workflow efficiency by enabling quick duplication or movement of content.

Key Clipboard Functions:

1. **Cut (Ctrl + X)** – Removes the selected content from the document and stores it in the Clipboard.
2. **Copy (Ctrl + C)** – Copies the selected content to the Clipboard without removing it from the document.
3. **Paste (Ctrl + V)** – Inserts the copied or cut content from the Clipboard into the document.
4. **Clipboard History (Windows + V)** – Allows users to view and select from multiple copied items if enabled in Windows settings.

Font in Microsoft Word

When working with fonts in Microsoft Word, you can modify various attributes to enhance your text.

1. Font Type (Typeface)

- A typeface refers to the overall design of the characters.
- Examples: *Times New Roman*, *Arial*, *Calibri*, *Verdana*.
- Fonts can be categorized into:
 - **Serif Fonts** (e.g., Times New Roman) – Have small strokes at the ends of letters, making them more traditional.
 - **Sans-serif Fonts** (e.g., Arial) – Do not have strokes, offering a cleaner and modern look.

2. Font Size

- Measured in **points (pt)**, where 1 point = 1/72 of an inch.
- Standard sizes:
 - **12 pt** – Common for regular text.
 - **14-16 pt** – Suitable for headings.
 - **10 pt or below** – Often used for footnotes or small print.

3. Font Style

- **Bold (B)** – Used for emphasis or headings.
- **Italic (I)** – Used for highlighting specific words, foreign terms, or quotes.
- **Underline (U)** – Used to emphasize text, though less commonly in professional documents.

4. Font Color

- Change the text color to highlight key points.
- Avoid excessive color use for professional documents.

5. Text Effects

- Add **Shadow, Glow, Reflection, and Outline** for stylistic enhancements.
- Found in the **Home** tab → **Font group** → **Text Effects and Typography**.

6. **Font Dialog Box (Advanced Settings)**

- Open with **Ctrl + D** or **Home Tab** → **Font Group** → **Expand Button**.
- Options include:
 - **Strikethrough** – Draws a line through text.
 - **Superscript** – Raises text above the normal line (e.g., X²).
 - **Subscript** – Lowers text below the normal line (e.g., H₂O).
 - **Small Caps** – Converts lowercase letters to smaller uppercase versions.

How to Change Font in Microsoft Word

1. **Select the text** you want to modify.
2. **Go to the "Home" tab** in the Ribbon.
3. **Locate the "Font" group** (left side).
4. **Choose a font type** from the drop-down menu.
5. **Adjust size, style, and color** as needed.

Best Practices for Using Fonts

- Use **consistent fonts** throughout your document.
- Choose professional fonts for formal documents (**Calibri, Times New Roman, Arial**).
- Avoid excessive font variations in one document.

- Maintain readability by using appropriate font sizes and spacing.

Paragraph Formatting Features in Microsoft Word

Microsoft Word provides several tools to format paragraphs, located in the **Home** tab → **Paragraph** group.

1. Paragraph Alignment

Determines how text is positioned within the margins:

- **Left Alignment (Ctrl + L)** – Aligns text to the left (default for most documents).
- **Center Alignment (Ctrl + E)** – Centers text in the middle (useful for titles).
- **Right Alignment (Ctrl + R)** – Aligns text to the right (often used for dates).
- **Justify (Ctrl + J)** – Distributes text evenly across the width of the page, making both edges straight.

2. Line Spacing

Controls the vertical space between lines in a paragraph.

- **Single (1.0)** – Default spacing, tightest format.
- **1.5 Lines** – Increases readability, commonly used in reports.
- **Double (2.0)** – Often used in academic papers.
- **Custom Spacing** – Allows users to set specific values.
- Found in **Home** → **Paragraph** → **Line and Paragraph Spacing**.

3. Indentation

Indentation controls how far a paragraph starts from the margin.

- **First Line Indent** – Indents the first line only (used in essays and books).
- **Hanging Indent** – Indents all lines except the first (used in bibliographies).
- **Left Indent** – Moves the entire paragraph to the right.
- **Right Indent** – Moves the paragraph to the left from the right margin.
- Adjust using **Home** → **Paragraph** → **Increase/Decrease Indent** or **Ruler**.

4. Paragraph Spacing

- Adds space before or after paragraphs to improve readability.
- Adjust using **Home** → **Paragraph** → **Line and Paragraph Spacing** → **Add Space Before/After Paragraph**.

5. Bullets and Numbering

Used for lists and organizing information.

- **Bullets** (•, ○, ✓) – Used for unordered lists.
- **Numbering** (1, 2, 3) – Used for ordered lists.
- **Multilevel Lists** – Create hierarchical lists (e.g., headings and sub-points).
- Found in **Home** → **Paragraph** → **Bullets/Numbering**.

6. Borders and Shading

- **Borders** – Add lines around paragraphs for emphasis.
- **Shading** – Highlights paragraphs with a background color.
- Found in **Home** → **Paragraph** → **Borders/Shading**.

- How to Apply Paragraph Formatting

1. **Select the paragraph** you want to modify.
2. **Go to the "Home" tab** in the Ribbon.
3. **Locate the "Paragraph" group** and choose the desired formatting options (alignment, spacing, indentation, etc.).

- Best Practices for Paragraph Formatting

- Use **consistent spacing and alignment** for a professional look.
- Avoid excessive **line breaks** (pressing Enter too often).
- Use **proper indentation** for structured writing.
- **Justify text** in formal documents for a clean layout.
- Apply **bullets or numbering** for clarity in lists.