

Sheet1

Windows Word Processors

The Windows word processors that met the requirements for the PC/Computing 200 contained at least seven of these ten basic characteristics: a customizable button bar; frames or objects for laying out text and graphics; outlining; a macro language; the ability to lay out text in newspaper columns; dynamic data exchange; object linking and embedding; drawing and/or charting functions; the ability to wrap text around graphics; and a stylesheet or macro for envelope printing.

Product

Word for Windows 2.0
Microsoft Corp.
One Microsoft Way
Redmond, WA 98052-6399
(800) 426-9400
(206) 882-8080
Price: \$495

Ami Pro 2.0
Lotus Development Corp.
1000 Abernathy Rd. NE
Building 400, Suite 1700
Atlanta, GA 30328
(404) 391-0011
Price: \$495

WordPerfect 5.1 for Windows
WordPerfect Corp.
1555 N. Technology Way
Orem, UT 84057
(800) 451-5151
(801) 225-5000
Price: \$495

Lotus Write 2.0
Lotus Development Corp.
1000 Abernathy Rd. NE
Building 400, Suite 1700
Atlanta, GA 30328
(404) 391-0011
Price: \$199

Evaluation	Score
<p>Top-ranking Word for Windows makes business tasks as easy as a mouse click with such features as envelope printing, a highly sophisticated mail-merge system, and drag-and-drop editing. WinWord edged out Ami Pro in printing by just a few seconds. It can't compete with Ami when it comes to desktop publishing, however, because it doesn't jump text from one frame to another or place text over a graphic.</p>	88.60
<p>Ami Pro is superior to Word for Windows in desktop publishing features. Its frames make page layout particularly easy, and it has drawing and graphing functions to boot. The program's Power Fields let you insert macros and other commands into a document to automate document creation. We'd like to see more help for WordPerfect users, though, as well as an online tutorial.</p>	87.90
<p>WordPerfect for Windows is a strong, capable program notable for such features as master documents, an equation editor, and math functions, as well as the ease with which the program accomplishes basic indexing and revision marking. Not surprisingly, it has the best support for WordPerfect for DOS users, and we were happy with WordPerfect's 24-hour technical support.</p>	75.50
<p>Lotus Write is amazing. This \$199 program includes many advanced features, including a customizable button bar, DDE, and OLE, that we'd expect only in a more expensive program. Like Ami Pro, Lotus Write ships with Adobe Type Manager, and it scored well on the speed tests. Lotus Write is missing some key features--notably tables, indexing, and drawing and charting--but it's a great program for the price.</p>	66.90