

MADCAP FLARE DESKTOP 2025

What's New

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1

Introduction 4

CHAPTER 2

Flare Online 5

 Why? 6

 What is Different? 7

 Flare Online vs. Flare Desktop 11

CHAPTER 3

Upcoming Deprecated Features 13

APPENDIX

PDFs 14

 Tutorials 14

 Cheat Sheets 15

 User Guides 16

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

Flare Desktop 2025 release notes can be found [here](#).

Following are the new features available in Flare Desktop 2025.

For more information about each feature discussed in this manual, open the Help system and refer to the "What's New" topic. Links are provided in some feature descriptions, taking you to topics that contain additional information and steps.



"Flare Online" on page 5

- MadCap Central renamed Flare Online
- Text and logo changes in areas of interface where integration with Flare Online occurs
- Think of legacy Flare as Flare Desktop



Maintain Tracked Changes in Topic Reviews

- There is a new option when accepting review files in Flare Desktop. You can choose to accept a topic and maintain the tracked changes in the topic (i.e., you are not forced to accept or reject them). They will display as tracked changes in your topic.

For details, see the Flare Online Help system.



"Upcoming Deprecated Features" on page 13

- List of features that will be deprecated
- Recommended replacements for deprecated features

CHAPTER 2

Flare Online

For years Flare users have had the option of integrating with MadCap Central to enhance the potential of their projects, output, and more. Starting with this version, MadCap Central is now known as Flare Online. It's the same cloud-based application that you've come to know (with some exciting new collaborative authoring benefits also now available); it just has a new name and a somewhat new look. As far as legacy Flare is concerned, you can now think of it as Flare Desktop.

This chapter discusses the following:

Why?	6
What is Different?	7
Flare Online vs. Flare Desktop	11

I Why?

The reason for this change is that, over time, Central has grown so much in terms of authoring features that it really has morphed into a cloud-based version of Flare. A Flare author could start a project, work only in the cloud (without ever needing or touching Flare Desktop), and end up with state-of-the art online and print-based outputs.

What is Different?

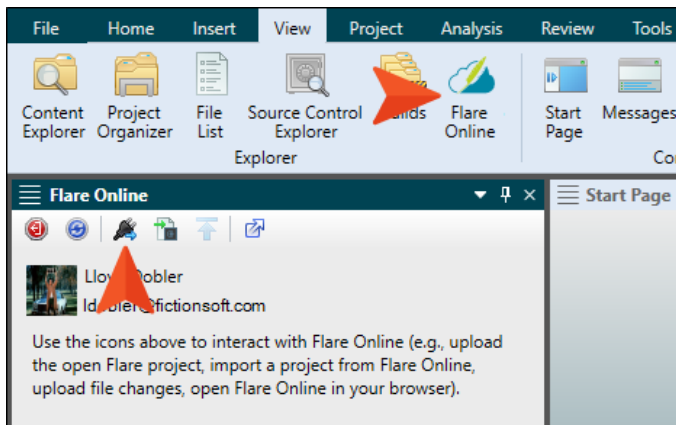
In the interfaces for both Flare Online and Flare Desktop, you will notice that the text "Central" has been replaced throughout with "Flare Online." There might be a few "corner" locations where Central is still used, or behind-the-scenes occurrences. Mostly, however, the new term replaces the old term.

Along with the text changes, there is a new color scheme and logo for Flare Online.

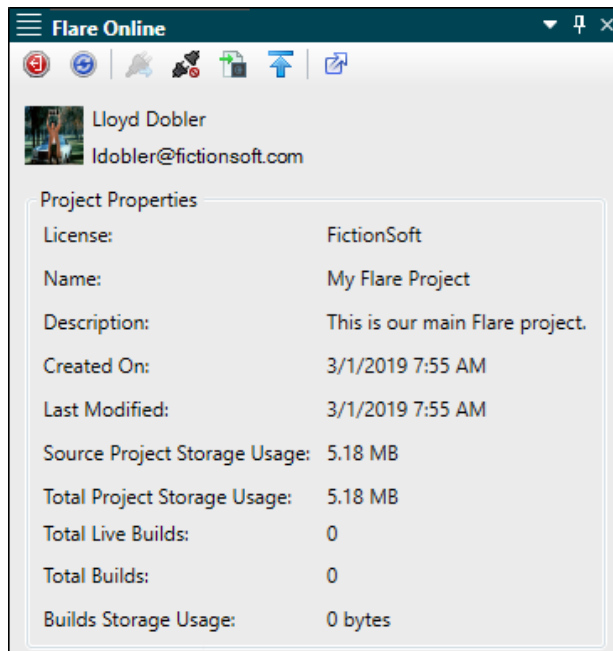


In Flare Desktop, you will notice these changes in locations, such as:


- Log in option in the upper-right corner of the interface
- Flare Online option in the View ribbon



- Flare Online window pane




- Reviews wizard and window panes

 Send Files for Review Wizard?×

Send Files for Review...





Select files to send for review...





Review Package Name:

Review Package Description:

Files:

	Name	Folder	
	Procedures.htm	Content/C-Procedure-Topics/	
	Procedure1.htm	Content/C-Procedure-Topics/	
	Procedure2.htm	Content/C-Procedure-Topics/	
	Procedure3.htm	Content/C-Procedure-Topics/	





All snippets that are part of a topic will initially be included in the review. However, in the Files grid you can remove any snippets to exclude them from the review. Excluded snippets will still be visible (but read-only) in the topic.















TOC:

< Back

Next >

Send

Close

File Reviews					
Inbox					
Sent Files					
		Status	Info	File	Packag
		Closed		Basic-Steps.htm	Topic
		Closed		Getting-Started...	Topic
		Closed		Whats-New.htm	Topic
		Closed		Feature1.htm	Topic
		Closed		Feature2.htm	Topic
		Closed		Feature3.htm	Topic
		Closed		Features.htm	Topic

- Target destination

Target Editor Build View Publish Open Build Log				
Destinations				
<div> <div>Edit Destination</div> <div>New Destination...</div> <div>View Published Help System</div> </div>				
Destination	Publish	Target	Elasticsearch Destination	View URL
Flare Online	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	https://madcapsoftware....		
DocBibleOnline	<input type="checkbox"/>	file:///\\fs1\Source\Doc...		
MyDestination	<input type="checkbox"/>	ftp://ftp.myftpserver.co...		http://www

I Flare Online vs. Flare Desktop

If Flare Online is becoming more and more a standalone version of Flare Online in the cloud, then the obvious question is "Do I need Flare Desktop at all?" The answer to that is going to be different, depending on your needs. Some people might only need Flare Online. Others might only need Flare Desktop. And still others might need both, involving the movement of content between the two applications.

- **Flare Online** is a great choice if you want a very simplified process with the most essential documentation elements, as well as the special offerings that are available only in the cloud (e.g., hosting output, collaborative authoring, analytics).
- **Flare Desktop** is ideal if you must work locally and need advanced authoring features that have been developed over decades (e.g., context-sensitive Help, meta tags, heavy customization of print-based outputs).

To make an informed decision, you should consider the benefits of both applications.

Flare Online Benefits

- Collaborative authoring
- Integrate with ChatGPT (AI Assist)
- Configure single sign-on (SSO)
- Host output with custom domains and vanities
- Publish private output
- View analytics on output
- Assign user permissions
- Use integrated checklists
- Collaborate with reviewers
- Create and manage tasks
- Integrate with Slack
- Easy cloud-based translation process
- Customize dashboards and widgets
- Communicate via message center

Flare Desktop Benefits

- Highly specialized authoring features
- Editor structure bars
- Dynamic topic preview
- Full-featured text editor
- Heavy-duty print-based customization
- Micro content (enhanced search, chatbots, etc)
- Context-sensitive help
- Link viewer
- Advanced cascading stylesheet editing
- Integrated responsive web design
- Learning and development integration
- Various search engine choices
- Creation of publishing destinations

CHAPTER 3

Upcoming Deprecated Features

Following are features that will be removed in a future release of MadCap Flare Desktop, alongside features that we recommend as replacements.

Deprecated Features	Recommended Replacements
DITA Output	Clean XHTML Output or HTML5 Output
Feedback	Flare Online Analytics
Pulse	Flare Online Analytics
Toolstrip	Ribbons
WebHelp and WebHelp Plus	HTML5 Output

To provide feedback on these deprecated lists, please send an email to:
supportplanrep@madcapsoftware.com.

APPENDIX

PDFs

The following PDFs are available for download from the Help system.

I Tutorials

Autonumbers Tutorial

Back-to-Top Button Tutorial

Context-Sensitive Help Tutorial

Custom Toolbar Tutorial

eLearning Tutorial—Basic

eLearning Tutorial—Advanced

Getting Started Tutorial

Image Tooltips Tutorial

Lists Tutorial

Meta Tags Tutorial

Micro Content Tutorial—Basic

Micro Content Tutorial—Advanced

Responsive Output Tutorial

Single-Sourcing Tutorial

Snippet Conditions Tutorial

Styles Tutorials

Tables Tutorial

Word Import Tutorial

Cheat Sheets

Context-Sensitive Help Cheat Sheet

Folders and Files Cheat Sheet

Learning & Development Cheat Sheet

Lists Cheat Sheet

Micro Content Cheat Sheet

Print-Based Output Cheat Sheet

Search Cheat Sheet

Shortcuts Cheat Sheet

Structure Bars Cheat Sheet

Styles Cheat Sheet

User Guides

Accessibility Guide

Analysis and Reports Guide

Architecture Guide

Autonumbers Guide

Branding Guide

Condition Tags Guide

Context-Sensitive Help Guide

Eclipse Help Guide

eLearning Guide

Getting Started Guide

Global Project Linking Guide

HTML5 Guide

Images Guide

Import Guide

Indexing Guide

Key Features Guide

Lists Guide

*MadCap Flare Online
Integration Guide*

Meta Tags Guide

Micro Content Guide

Navigation Links Guide

Plug-In API Guide

Print-Based Output Guide

Project Creation Guide

QR Codes Guide

*Reviews & Contributions With
Contributor Guide*

Scripting Guide

Search Guide

SharePoint Guide

Skins Guide

Snippets Guide

Source Control Guide: Git

*Source Control Guide:
Perforce Helix Core*

*Source Control Guide:
Subversion*

*Source Control Guide: Team
Foundation Server*

Styles Guide

Tables Guide

Tables of Contents Guide

Targets Guide

Template Pages Guide

Templates Guide

Topics Guide

Touring the Workspace Guide

*Transition From FrameMaker
Guide*

*Translation and Localization
Guide*

Variables Guide

Videos Guide

What's New Guide