

# FEATURE-LEVEL COMPARISON

## Microsoft Project Online vs. Microsoft Planner

### Premium vs. NH360 Portfolio Insights

The following provides a comprehensive comparison of features available in Microsoft Project Online and those currently supported in Microsoft Planner Premium. This is designed to assist in evaluating the functional alignment between platforms, particularly in preparation for the retirement of Project Online in September 2026.

You are encouraged to identify which features represent critical business requirements. The comparison will help determine whether Planner Premium sufficiently meets those needs. This analysis is integrated with NH360 Portfolio Insights, offering enhanced visibility into feature utilization, strategic alignment, and transition readiness across your portfolio.

North Highland can support informed decision-making and ensure continuity in project and portfolio management capabilities during the migration process.

#### 1.1 TASK SCHEDULING FEATURES

FEATURE	PROJECT ONLINE WITH PROJECT PRO	PLANNER PREMIUM	PORTFOLIO INSIGHTS
Dependency Types: FS, SS, FF, SF	Yes	Yes	No
Lead/Lag on Links	Yes	Yes	No
Cross-Project Task Dependencies (external predecessors/successors)	Yes	No	Yes [8]
Multiple predecessors/successors per task	Yes	Yes, but limited [1]	No
Manual vs Auto Scheduling	Yes	No	No
Constraint Types (ASAP/ALAP, SNET/FNET/SNLT/FNLT, MSO/MFO)	Yes	Yes, but limited [2]	No
Deadlines	Yes	Yes [3]	Yes, but limited [8]
Critical Path Visualization	Yes	Yes, but limited [4]	No
Baselines: Existence	Yes	Yes, but limited [5]	Yes [9]
Baselines: Quantity & Granularity	11 [6]	1 [5]	Yes [9]
Schedule from Project Start vs Project Finish	Yes	No	No
Recurring Tasks	Yes	No	No
Subprojects and Master Projects	Yes	No	No
Custom Calendars: Project, Task, Resource	Yes	Yes, but limited [7]	Yes, but limited [10]
Task Splitting	Yes	No	No
Elapsed Durations	Yes	No	No

1. Limited to 20 predecessors and successors per task.
2. Limited to Start-No-Earlier-Than (SNET) and Finish-No-Earlier-Than (FNET) constraints.
3. Implemented as Due Date.
4. Limited to single critical path.
5. Limited to plan level (no task, resource, or assignment baselines).
6. 11 project, task, resource, and assignment baselines.

7. Limited custom calendars as the plan level, no task calendars.
8. Cross-project dependencies apply only to milestones for roadmap and prioritization, not assignments.
9. Unlimited snapshot baselines support financials, resources, metadata and more but excluding tasks, as Portfolio Insights isn't for work management.
10. Capacity templates can be applied to resources.

#### 1.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FEATURES

FEATURE	PROJECT ONLINE WITH PROJECT PRO	PLANNER PREMIUM	PORTFOLIO INSIGHTS
Resource Types: Work, Material, Cost	Yes	Yes, but limited [1]	Yes [3]
Generic Resources	Yes	Yes	Yes
Enterprise Resource Pool	Yes	No	Yes
Resource Capacity Planning and Availability views	Yes	No	Yes
Resource Calendars	Yes	No	Yes [4]
Enterprise Calendars	Yes	No	Yes [4]
Resource Assignment Units	Yes	Yes, but limited [2]	Yes
Max Units per Resource	Yes	No	Yes
Overallocation Detection (red indicators)	Yes	No	Yes
Resource Leveling (manual and automatic)	Yes	No	Yes [5]
Multiple Resource Assignments per task	Yes	Yes	Yes [6]
Resource Cost Rates	Yes	No	Yes
Cost Resources	Yes	No	Yes [3]
Resource Workload Contours	Yes	No	Yes
Effort-Driven Scheduling	Yes	No	No
Formula for Work vs Duration vs Units	Yes	No	No
Timesheets	Yes	No	Yes
Task Updates by Team Members	Yes	Yes	No
Resource Departments / RBS	Yes	No	Yes
Enterprise Custom Fields for Resources	Yes	No	Yes
Resource Skills and Role Matching	Yes	No	Yes
Proposed vs Committed Resource Bookings	Yes	No	Yes
Resource Utilization Reporting	Yes	No	Yes
Team Assignments	Yes	No	Yes
Resource Substitutes (replace generic with named resource)	Yes	Yes	Yes

1. Limited to work resources.
2. Limited to manually reducing daily work hours to simulate part-time assignments.
3. Portfolio Insights offers a more advanced financial engine than traditional cost resources. Portfolio Insights supports work and generic resources in units/FTEs.

4. Utilizes capacity templates for resources but does not allow for resource specific exceptions.
5. Timeline updates can move, crop, and redistribute, with flexible granularity and dimension grouping.
6. Assignments apply to the project as Portfolio Insights isn't for tasks/work management.

#### 1.3 PORTFOLIO AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT FEATURES

FEATURE	PROJECT ONLINE WITH PROJECT PRO	PLANNER PREMIUM	PORTFOLIO INSIGHTS
Master Projects / Sub-Projects	Yes	No	No
Cross-Project Task Dependencies	Yes	No	Yes
Consolidated Portfolio View	Yes	No	Yes
Portfolio Analysis	Yes	No	Yes
Portfolio Prioritization	Yes	No	Yes
Enterprise Project Templates	Yes	No	Yes
Enterprise Project Types	Yes	No	Yes
Workflow Stages / Governance Workflows	Yes	No	Yes
Demand Management via Proposals	Yes	No	Yes
Business Driver Library	Yes	No	Yes
Program-Level Reporting	Yes	No	Yes
Portfolio Dashboards / Views	Yes	No	Yes
Multi-Project Resource Utilization	Yes	No	Yes
Enterprise Custom Fields	Yes	No	Yes
Program Financial Tracking	Yes	No	Yes
Strategic Alignment Scoring	Yes	No	Yes
Portfolio Scenario Modeling	Yes	No	Yes

1. Limited to 10 fields per project, choice fields capped at 20 values, no formulas, no outline codes.
2. Limited to board grid / timeline views.
3. Limited to plan level.

4. Utilized via Power Automate. Limited to board / grid / timeline views.

5. Custom reporting required using QData.

6. Not available in V7.

7. Applies to resource assignments using QData.

8. Not available in V7.

#### 1.4 REPORTING AND ANALYTICS FEATURES

FEATURE	PROJECT ONLINE WITH PROJECT PRO	PLANNER PREMIUM	PORTFOLIO INSIGHTS
Built-in Reporting Views	Yes	Yes, but limited [1]	Yes
Dashboards (out-of-the-box)	Yes	Yes, but limited [2]	Yes
Visual Reports (Excel, PivotTables, Charts)	Yes	No	Yes, but limited [4]
Custom Reports (in-app)	Yes	No	Yes [6]
Printable Reports (direct from app)	Yes	No	Yes
Timeline Reporting (presentation mode)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Burndown Reports	Yes	No	Yes [5]
Custom Fields in Reports	Yes	Yes, but limited	Yes [5]
Workload Reports (resource usage, availability)	Yes	No	Yes
Cost Reports (budget vs. actuals)	Yes	No	Yes
Earned Value Management (EVM) Reports	Yes	No	Yes, but limited [5]
Baseline vs. Actual Variance Reporting	Yes	Yes, but limited [3]	Yes, but limited [5]
Power BI Integration	Yes	Yes	Yes
QData / QData Analytics	Yes	Yes	Yes
Export to Excel	Yes	Yes	Yes
Export to PDF	Yes	No	Yes
Custom visuals (charts, graphs)	Yes	No	Yes, but limited [5]
Drill-down Analytics	Yes	No	Yes, but limited [5]

1. Limited to 10 fields per project, choice fields capped at 20 values, no formulas, no outline codes.
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#### 1.5 CUSTOMIZATION AND AUTOMATION FEATURES

FEATURE	PROJECT ONLINE WITH PROJECT PRO	PLANNER PREMIUM	PORTFOLIO INSIGHTS
Custom Task Fields	Yes	Yes, but limited [1]	Yes [6]
Custom Resource Fields	Yes	No	Yes
Custom Project (Metadata) Fields	Yes	No	Yes
Enterprise Custom Fields	Yes	No	Yes
Formulas in Custom Fields	Yes	No	Yes
Lookup Tables (controlled vocabularies)	Yes	No	Yes
Graphical Indicators	Yes	Yes, but limited [2]	Yes
View Customization (task, resource, usage)	Yes	No	Yes
Table Customization (columns, grouping, filters)	Yes	Yes, but limited [3]	Yes
Gantt Chart Customization (bar styles, text, colors)	Yes	No	Yes
Reports Customization (in-app)	Yes	No	Yes, but limited [7,8]
Templates (schedules)	Yes	Yes, but limited [4]	No
Enterprise Project Types (EPTs)	Yes	No	Yes
Custom Permissions and Security Categories	Yes	No	Yes
Macros / VBA Customization	Yes	No	No
Customizable User Interface	Yes	No	Yes, but limited [8]
VBA Macros	Yes	No	No
REST API	Yes	Yes	Yes
QData Feeds	Yes	Yes	Yes
Power Platform Integration	Yes	Yes	Yes
Custom Reports via Power BI	Yes	Yes	Yes
Automated Workflows (approvals, governance)	Yes [5]	Yes [5]	Yes
Data Export (Excel, XML, CSV)	Yes	Yes	Yes

1. Limited to 10 fields per project, choice fields capped at 20 values, no formulas, no outline codes.

5. Via Microsoft Power Automate. Limited to board / grid / timeline views.

2. Limited to board grid / timeline views.

6. Custom reporting required using QData.

3. Limited to plan level.

7. Not available in V7.

4. Limited to copying existing projects.

8. Not available in V7.

#### 1.6 TRANSITION AND SUPPORT FEATURES

FEATURE	PROJECT ONLINE WITH PROJECT PRO	PLANNER PREMIUM	PORTFOLIO INSIGHTS
Migration Support	Yes	Yes	Yes
Customization Migration	Yes	Yes	Yes
Automated Data Migration	Yes	Yes	Yes
Custom Reports Migration	Yes	Yes	Yes

1. Microsoft is retiring Project Online by September 30, 2026, prompting organizations to transition to a new project and portfolio management solution to avoid losing access to their data.

2. This shift presents an opportunity to re-examine current tools, processes, and alignment technology with broader strategic goals, as organizations prepare for the transition.

3. Many organizations are already transitioning to Microsoft Planner Premium, NH360 Portfolio Insights, or other solutions, which can provide a smoother transition and better serve strategic goals.

4. North Highland can support informed decision-making and ensure continuity in project and portfolio management capabilities during the migration process.

5. North Highland can help with the evaluation and selection of Microsoft Project Online, Microsoft Planner Premium, NH360 Portfolio Insights, or other solutions, guiding you through the implementation, migration, and enterprise transformation.