

## Comparison: BOI FreeDa vs. MS Excel

Criterion	BOI FreeDa	Microsoft Excel
→ Time-to-value	Implementation is possible in just a few weeks	Ready to use immediately, as it is already in use almost everywhere
→ Audit trail & compliance	Out of the box: audit trail, versioning, traceable changes including user/time stamps	No integrated versioning or audit trails; changes only traceable via manual logs
→ Governance & roles	Fine-grained role and rights management	No role or rights management; files can be shared freely
→ Maintenance processes	Standardized 2-, 4-, and 6-eye processes, including change view	No standardized review or approval processes
→ Validation logic	Automatic assurance of database conformity for all changes; configurable rules and check mechanisms	Manual checks, complex rules only via macros or formulas for advanced users
→ Data consistency	Uniform data, centrally edited, no duplicates or version conflicts	High susceptibility to errors: duplicates, typos, different versions in circulation
→ Multi-user operation	Optimized for many simultaneous users with high data loads	Only possible to a limited extent (e.g., via SharePoint/OneDrive, prone to errors)
→ Excel integration	Import/export workflows with Excel integration	Excel is the maintenance environment itself
→ APIs & integration	Standardized APIs and interfaces for integration into business processes	No standardized interfaces, mostly manual steps
→ UI/UX for specialist areas	Optimized for table maintenance without database knowledge	Very familiar, user-friendly, but not suitable for complex review and approval processes
→ Scalability & performance	Proven architecture for large amounts of data and many concurrent users (100+)	Suitable for small amounts of data; confusing and slow with large tables

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<p>→ Total cost of ownership</p>	<p>Plannable: license + implementation + operation</p>	<p>Low initial costs, but high hidden costs due to errors, non-standardizable workflows, unnecessary communication, manual corrections</p>
<p>→ Risk</p>	<p>Low: production-tested, audit-proof, and stable</p>	<p>High: Prone to errors, version conflicts, lack of compliance</p>