NEW FEATURES IN WORD 2016

1. **Tell Me:** Word's new **Tell me what you want to do** box on the ribbon (pictured below) allows you to locate commands and tools, or bypass Word's menus altogether. Instead of navigating menus, you can enter words or phrases into the **Tell Me** box to access the features or commands you want to use.



For example, you might type compress pictures in the **Tell Me** box, and then select **Compress Pictures** to launch the **Compress Pictures** dialog box. The advantage of using the **Tell Me** tool is you don't need to use (or memorize) Word's menus; in essence, you simply search for the tools you want rather than navigate menus.

2. Smart Lookup: The new Smart Lookup allows you to look up, define, or research words or phrases in Word documents. For example, highlighting and right-clicking the phrase "Indigo Bunting" and then selecting Smart Lookup from the resulting pop-up menu produces multiple web-based search results (powered by Microsoft Bing), as suggested in the screenshot below.

The advantage of this tool is you can look up, define, or research the words or phrases directly from within Word 2016, without having to switch to an internet browser.



3. Ink Equation: The new Ink Equation tool allows you to create complex mathematical equations using your finger, touch stylus, or mouse to draw freehand, and the resulting equation is translated into computer text. To use this tool, from Word's Insert tab, select Equation, Ink Equation to launch the equation canvas, and then draw your equation, as suggested in the screenshot below.

4. **Improved version history:** Word 2016 now keeps a separate file each time you save a document to your OneDrive, and it enables you to revert to any previous version of that document. To use this feature, save the document to your OneDrive, and then press the **Activity** button located near the top right corner of the Word window (this tool looks like a clock, as pictured below) to see a list of dates and times the file has previously been saved.



Select a specific version to view or revert to that earlier version of the document.

5. **Co-authoring in real time:** Documents you save on OneDrive or SharePoint, and then share with your colleagues, can be edited (using Word 2016 or Word Online) in real time, so you and your colleagues will be able to see everyone's edits instantly. (Previously, Word's document-sharing tool updated one another's document at predetermined intervals, such as every 15 minutes.) Instructions for using this feature are explained in the "Simpler Sharing" item below.

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6. Simpler sharing: Word 2016 provides a new **Share** button (pictured in the screenshot above, to the left of the **Activity** button), which enables you to quickly share your documents saved on SharePoint, OneDrive, or OneDrive for Business as a link or email attachment. To share a document, save your Word document online to your OneDrive or SharePoint account, click **Share** to generate a link or an email invitation, and send that link or email invitation to your colleagues (as pictured above). Your colleagues can then open the document and agree to share and view all changes to the document in real time (when prompted). Thereafter, all approved editors are listed in the **Share** dialog box (as pictured below), and all document edits appear instantly for all users editing the document.

7. New preset shape fill formats: Word 2016 has new preset transparent or semitransparent formats that you can apply to the shapes you insert from the **Shapes** gallery (as shown below). These transparent formats allow any background text or objects to be viewed through the shape, an example of which is shown below, in which a transparent Flowchart: Multidocuments shape partially floats atop the image of a computer monitor.

8. New Draw tab: Word 2016's new Draw tab (pictured below) provides an assortment of drawing and inking tools to help you mark up or illustrate a document. If your computer or device is touch-enabled, the Draw tab is turned on automatically; otherwise, you can turn on the Draw tab by selecting Customize Ribbon from the File, Options menu, and then checking the Draw tab box, and clicking OK.

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To draw lines or highlight text in Word 2016, from the **Draw** tab, click a pen type to select it, or click (or tap) the pen type twice to select it and apply a specific thickness, color, or effect. Users can choose from five pen thickness settings (ranging from 0.25 mm to 3.5 mm) and 256 million colors, and the available special effects (only available on touch-enabled devices) include Bronze, Galaxy, Gold, Lava, Ocean, Rainbow, Rose Gold, and Silver. A few comments about these drawing tools are presented below:

- Ink behaves like shapes: Once you have drawn a shape using the Draw tools, it behaves like the other shapes already included in Word. You can select the shape, copy it, move it, resize it, change its color, rotate its position, and so on.
- Tilt your stylus to shade: When drawing with the Pencil tool (using a digital stylus or pen mouse), you can tilt the stylus to produce a shading effect, similar to that of a real pencil.
- Add more pens: You can add pens to the Draw tab and customize them for future use (so you don't have to constantly define your favorite pen settings).
- Use your finger: On touch-enabled devices, you can use your finger as a stylus, though thin or precise lines can be more difficult to draw with your finger.
- Animate your inked images: An Ink Replay feature allows you to replay your ink strokes as an animation.
- Start Inking tool: A new Start Inking tool shows up on the Review tab if you have a touch-enabled computer or device; otherwise, you can add the Start Inking icon to a custom group on any tab, such as the Draw tab, as I have done in the far right of the screenshot to the left.