



Top Free Tools for Auto Businesses

These are the best-rated free tools that independent auto repair shops can start using right away — focused on scheduling, customer communication, and inventory management.

Calendly (Scheduling)

An intuitive scheduling tool that lets customers book service appointments online. Integrates with Google, Outlook, and iCal calendars. Perfect for busy auto shops looking to streamline customer scheduling. <https://calendly.com>

SimplyBook.me (Scheduling + Communication)

A free online booking platform with built-in SMS and email reminders. Helps reduce missed appointments and improves client communication. <https://simplybook.me>

Zoho Inventory (Inventory Management)

A robust, free inventory tracking system for small businesses. Shops can track parts, reorder items, and manage supplier relationships. <https://www.zoho.com/us/inventory>

Sortly (Inventory Management)

A visual inventory management tool that's easy to set up and use. Helps shops track parts, tools, and materials with photos and barcodes. <https://www.sortly.com>

Tawk.to (Customer Communication)

A completely free live chat widget that can be embedded on a shop's website. Allows real-time communication with customers and potential leads. <https://www.tawk.to>

Implementation Tips

1. Add online scheduling tools (Calendly or SimplyBook.me) directly to your website.
2. Use Tawk.to to offer quick chat responses and increase conversion.
3. Set up Zoho Inventory or Sortly to organize parts and track usage.
4. Document and share these tools with clients to standardize workflow improvements across shops.