



MTDify Starter Edition – Quick User Guide

(For the free Starter Edition for documentation visit <https://mtdify.uk/docs>)

Welcome to MTDify Starter

MTDify Starter is a **lightweight, free** bookkeeping tool designed for simple, personal, or hobby-business record keeping.

It runs privately on your own computer, with no login accounts, no cloud storage, and no subscriptions.

This guide shows you everything you need to know to get started.

Thank you, for using our software

<https://mtdify.uk>

To upgrade to the full software visit our shop – [MTDify Local Edition](#)

1. What's Included in Starter

Starter gives you the essentials:

- Add income
- Add expenses
- Use simple categories
- View totals and summaries
- Export income and expenses as CSV
- Store your bookkeeping data locally on your device

Starter is designed to be **simple**, **private**, and **lightweight**.

2. What's NOT Included in Starter

These features are **NOT** available in the free Starter version:

- Uploading receipts
- Automatic backups
- Recurring payments
- Category download/export
- Multi-business features
- Extra tools available in Local Edition
- Support (Starter is self-service only)

If you need any of these, you can upgrade to [MTDify Local Edition](https://mtdify.uk) anytime.

3. Running MTDify Starter (Windows)

Step 1 — Extract the ZIP file you downloaded

Right-click → **Extract All**.

Step 2 — Open the folder named

MTDifyStarter

Step 3 — Open MTDify

Double-click:

MTDifyStarter.exe

A small window will appear, and your browser will open at:

http://127.0.0.1:8000

Optional: Create a Desktop Shortcut

Because the EXE must stay in its folder:

1. Right-click **MTDifyStarter.exe**
2. Select **Send to** → **Desktop (create shortcut)**

4. Running MTDify Starter (macOS)

Step 1 – Open the extracted folder

Look for:

MTDifyStarter

Step 2 – Run the app

Double-click the file named:

MTDifyStarter

If macOS shows a security warning:

- Right-click the app
- Choose **Open**
- Click **Open** again in the popup

Your browser will open automatically.

After the software opens in the browser use the hard refresh command on Mac to make sure the page loads correctly:

Command + Shift + R (⌘ + Shift + R)

Or alternatively:

Command + Option + R (⌘ + Option + R)

5. Default Login

Starter includes a ready-made login so you can begin immediately:

Email: demo@example.com

Password: demo123

You can create your own superuser account in the Admin area:

<http://127.0.0.1:8000/admin>

This is optional but recommended.

6. Creating Your Own User Account

1. Log in using the default account
2. Visit: <http://127.0.0.1:8000/admin>
3. Click **Users**
4. Click **Add User**

5. Enter: email, password, first/last name
6. Under **Permissions**, tick: **Superuser status**
7. Save and log out
8. Log back in using your new account

(You may delete the default user if you prefer but it is handy to keep in case you forget your password.)

7. Your Data (Very Important)

Your bookkeeping is stored in a single file inside the program folder:

db.sqlite3

This file contains all your:

- income
- expenses
- categories
- user accounts

Starter does **not** include automatic backups.

To back up your records:

Simply copy **db.sqlite3** to:

- a USB stick
- cloud storage

- an external drive
- a secure folder

8. Updating Starter

When a new version is released:

1. Download the latest ZIP
2. Extract it into a new folder
3. Copy your existing `db.sqlite3` into the new folder
4. Open MTDifyStarter.exe

Your data will appear instantly.

9. Moving Starter to a New Computer

1. Download Starter on the new computer
2. Copy your existing `db.sqlite3`
3. Paste it into the new Starter folder
4. Open MTDifyStarter.exe

Everything transfers with that one file.

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10. Troubleshooting (Starter Edition)

Starter is a simple offline app, so most issues are minor:

✗ **The app won't open**

Make sure you extracted the ZIP and are opening:

`MTDifyStarter.exe`

(not the ZIP itself)

✗ **Browser didn't open automatically**

Open your browser manually and visit:

`http://127.0.0.1:8000`

✗ **Lost password**

Log in using the default account:

`demo@example.com`

`demo123`

✗ **Data missing**

You probably opened a new installation folder.

Copy your `db.sqlite3` into the correct folder.

Starter Edition is **free** and only includes online support. For more documentation, visit <https://mtdify.uk/docs>

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