

App Store complaint report

Fantastical Calendar · Flexibits Inc. · current version 4.2.4

Generated 2026-10-23 from the 300 most recent public App Store reviews across 3 storefronts (2022-06-17 to 2026-10-19).

Metric	Value
Reviews analysed	300 (300 classified by AI)
Average stars (these reviews)	2.91
Reviews with a complaint	198 (66%)
Storefronts	GB 150, CA 100, US 50
All-time App Store rating (US)	4.22 from 24,690 ratings

Complaint categories

Category	Reviews	Avg severity (0-3)	Most affected versions
Pricing / subscription	138	2.3	3.7.5 (14), 3.7.12 (8), 3.7.7 (8)
Bugs	69	2.3	3.7.5 (7), 4.2 (4), 4.1.18 (4)
Feature requests	63	2.1	3.7.5 (4), 4.1.18 (3), 4.2 (3)
UX / design	25	2.1	3.8.20 (2), 3.7.5 (2), 4.1.4 (1)
Performance	14	2.4	4.2 (1), 4.1.4 (1), 4.0.12 (1)
Crashes / freezes	12	2.7	3.8.3 (2), 4.2 (1), 4.1.4 (1)
Ads	4	2.6	4.1.12 (1), 4.1.6 (1), 3.8.16 (1)

Trend by version (newest first)

Version	Reviews	Avg stars	Complaint share
4.2.3	7	4.7	14%
4.2.2	7	3.7	43%
4.2.1	6	3.7	33%
4.2	8	2.9	75%
4.1.19	6	4.7	17%
4.1.18	9	3.8	56%
4.1.17	6	3.8	50%
4.1.16	13	2.9	62%

Representative quotes

Pricing / subscription

“\$56 a year to use a watch complication! 🤔 – After using Fantastical for several years, I was disappointed to discover that Apple Watch functionality is now tied to a \$56/year Premium subscription/paywall. Worse, the Watch pairing process doesn’t work: the Watc” (1★, v4.2, US, 2026-09-17)

“Subscription price increased to 10\$/month – Great app but 10\$/month for a calendar is too much. With the greed and the new price increases i’ll have to quit using it. Unfortunate since i discovered it a few months ago.” (1★, v3.7.6, CA, 2023-01-20)

Bugs

"This app has just declined – I used to love this app. But it now crashes easily. I hate the constant upgrade ads. I would easily buy this app outright for a reason price but the monthly subscription is just too expensive. The app just does not seem to work as " (1★, v4.1.6, CA, 2026-01-17)

"Cannot repeat calendar events bug – Fantastical is probably the best calendar app and I have been using it for years but, as other reviewers have mentioned, the option to repeat events is now broken. You can set a repeat interval but it does not save it. I hav" (2★, v3.7.5, GB, 2023-01-14)

Feature requests

"Happily switched to BusyCal – After about 6 years of using this app with generally positive feelings, the development team decided to add a 'natural language parser' that puts what it deems a location/day/time in its proper field. While this seems like a good " (1★, v4.2.1, US, 2026-09-28)

"Charging for "premium" features? – This is a paid app. I have purchased it separately on my iPhone, iPad, and Android. Over time, this company has started paywalling certain features. Today, I was unable to add an invitee to a meeting. Apparently, this is a pr" (1★, v4.2, US, 2026-09-14)

UX / design

"Better than Calendar – I'm not a very demanding calendar user and the free version of Fantastical is better than the standard Calendar apps for me. The main benefits for me are a better design/layout and the ability to switch between "All Calendars" and my one" (4★, v3.8.20, GB, 2024-07-28)

"Fantastic NLP but too expensive – I have used Fantastical since before it turned into a subscription model, and have always loved its features, especially the incredibly good NLP, the customisation, and the clean UI. For mainly the templates I bought the year!" (3★, v4.0.18, CA, 2025-09-11)

Performance

"Lost all my data – Been using Fantastical for years but for the last few days it's not opening, have tried reinstalling etc but it either won't load at all or loads but nothing is clickable." (1★, v3.7.2, GB, 2022-10-30)

"Buggy and flawed – A lot changed since 2024. The app now gets stuck and won't load half the time. First Seed Calendar is my new Fantastical as of today" (1★, v4.2, GB, 2026-09-19)

Crashes / freezes

"Keeps crashing – The app keeps crashing, when I start the app it freezes immediately.... I reinstalled it once and the issue keeps occurring" (1★, v4.1.4, GB, 2025-12-04)

"Updated now crashes on iOS 17.0.2 – Updated today now the widget and the app crashes totally unusable" (1★, v3.8.3, GB, 2023-09-28)

Ads

"After 12 years, I can no longer do it. – Honestly, not much comes close to Fantastical as far as quality, aesthetic and features for Calendar apps for iOS and MacOS. I have been using exclusively this app for the past 12 years. I can no longer accept the CONS" (2★, v4.1.12, CA, 2026-05-19)

"Too much upsell – An ok calendar app made worse by recent interruptive sheets asking to subscribe with seemingly no way to say no forever. The user experience has been made seriously worse. I think about 50% of the time I open my calendar I have to spend 5 sec" (2★, v3.8.16, GB, 2024-05-18)

The 10 most important fixes

1. Justify or adjust the price [Pricing / subscription · 122 reviews · avg severity 2.4/3 · versions 3.7.5, 3.7.12]
Test a cheaper tier, annual discount or one-time purchase; show what paid users get.

"Not worth the money – Used for a couple of years and it worked well however my renewal has come up and the subscription has gone from £38.99 to £59.99. That's more than paying for Microsoft office for the year. The app is already made and t" (1★, GB)

2. Ease paywall pressure [Pricing / subscription · 48 reviews · avg severity 2.4/3 · versions 4.1.16, 3.8.16]

Keep core features usable for free users or explain clearly what is paid; show the paywall less often.
"It used to meet my needs – I paid for this and valued it. Well, nothing lasts forever and I didn't expect all the fancy new features of the newer subscription versions, but I expected not to have ads for all the things I can't do shoved in " (2★, GB)

3. Soften the redesign backlash [UX / design · 40 reviews · avg severity 2.4/3 · versions 4.2, 3.7.8]

Explain the change in-app, restore the most-missed option, or offer a setting for the old behaviour.

"Fantastican't – This update disabled the ability to reschedule an event without a subscription, which makes the app unusable. I've been using Busycal for years and I do like the user interface, but the subscription fee is way to high for a " (1★, GB)

4. Fix features broken by the latest update [Bugs · 22 reviews · avg severity 2.3/3 · versions 3.7.5, 3.8]

Add regression tests for the features users name in these reviews before the next release.

"Used to be a good app – This used to be a good app and that's the reason why I took the premium subscription. After the last few updates the widgets stopped working and disappeared. Would not recommend it again and cancelling my subscriptio" (1★, CA)

5. Ship the most requested feature [Feature requests · 24 reviews · avg severity 1.9/3 · versions 4.1.18, 4.2.1]

Read the quotes below for the exact request; consider a public roadmap.

"Location Recommendations – Can you please add an option to disable location recommendations? The frequency with which this prompt appears and takes over the app screen is extremely frustrating. In my experience, it has only been useful for" (3★, CA)

6. Stop data / progress loss [Bugs · 19 reviews · avg severity 2.5/3 · versions 3.7.5, 4.1.16]

Reproduce sync and restore paths; add server-side backup and a visible "restore" option.

"It WAS great, I've now deleted it!! – I'm really disappointed. I was previously a fantastical user, deleted it when it went to subscription. However, I thought bugger it, I re-downloaded it as I'd read and seen some good reviews. I really" (1★, GB)

7. Answer support requests [Bugs · 9 reviews · avg severity 2.5/3 · versions 4.1.18, 3.8.11]

Add an in-app contact option and reply to these App Store reviews; Apple lets developers respond publicly.

"Suddenly some sync – I've been in contact with customer support for almost a month. Suddenly my Microsoft accounts won't sync between my Mac and iPhone. I was promised a fix in the latest Mac released but it still isn't working. Checking on" (1★, CA)

8. Fix notifications [Bugs · 9 reviews · avg severity 2.3/3 · versions 4.1.16, 4.1.12]

Check notification delivery and let users control frequency in settings.

"If I could go back in time – I would never bought the subscription. The amount of bugs I'm facing with this app is unlimited. Lately it completely stopped sending me notifications. Today I completely deleted it after missing an important a" (1★, GB)

9. Fix in-use crashes and freezes [Crashes / freezes · 8 reviews · avg severity 2.5/3 · versions 4.0.12, 4.1.15]

Match quoted actions to crash reports; ship a hotfix for the top stack trace.

"Looks good on initial opening but... – Hefty charge to use one's calendars especially when the app doesn't work properly. It crashes every time you try to change the calendar set which is to change the calendars used by the app." (1★, GB)

10. Improve content quality [Feature requests · 9 reviews · avg severity 2.1/3 · versions 3.8.19, 4.2.1]

Review the content areas users name; add a "report a problem" button on content.

"Good but... – Everything works great, except I don't get on with the natural language input and find I have to keep correcting things because it's getting it wrong. I've asked the developers to include a toggle, so it can simply be switched o" (3★, GB)

Method: the most recent public App Store reviews across up to 6 storefronts, collected via a third-party Apify scraper, plus the iTunes Lookup API. Reviewer names are not included. Each review was classified by TypeSafe Jev AI (7 complaint categories, 18 specific issues, severity 0-3); fixes are the specific issues ranked by number of complaining reviews × average severity. Advice lines are generic starting points; the quotes are the evidence. AI can misclassify: check the quotes. Not affiliated with Apple. Reply within 7 days for one free clarification.