



ZIP is far more than a desktop compression utility. It is the invisible packaging layer behind modern documents, mobile apps, browser extensions, game mods, e-books, and enterprise software. This directory highlights one hundred widely used applications where ZIP—or a ZIP-derived format—is essential to how files are stored, distributed, or executed.

JUMP TO SECTION

[Office & productivity \(1–25\)](#)

[Mobile applications \(26–47\)](#)

[Browsers & extensions \(51–65\)](#)

[Gaming & creative \(66–85\)](#)

[E-media & developer tools \(86–100\)](#)

[Apps 1–25](#)

Document, Office, & Productivity Suites

These desktop and cloud productivity tools rely heavily on the OpenXML (.docx, .xlsx, .pptx) and OpenDocument (.odt, .ods, .odp) standards. If you change their file extensions to .zip, you will find a pristine directory of XML text files, folder structures, and media sub-directories.

1 Microsoft Word

Text documents are packaged as OpenXML ZIP archives.

2 Microsoft Excel

Spreadsheets are zipped collections of cell data and XML configurations.

3 Microsoft PowerPoint

Every presentation slide deck is a renamed archive.

4 Microsoft Visio

Diagramming software using zipped XML files (.vsdx).

5 LibreOffice Writer

Natively saves to the ZIP-based OpenDocument Text format (.odt).

6 LibreOffice Calc

Saves spreadsheets inside an OpenDocument Spreadsheet archive (.ods).

7 LibreOffice Impress

Keeps multimedia presentations in a zipped layout (.odp).

8 LibreOffice Draw

Vector graphics app that bundles its canvas assets inside a ZIP envelope.

9 Apache OpenOffice Writer

Legacy open-source word processor using .odt ZIP wrappers.

10 Apache OpenOffice Calc

Relies on compressed XML architectures for data preservation.

11 Apache OpenOffice Impress

Bundles slides, master templates, and media files into a standard archive.

12 Google Docs

Generates and processes files using compressed OpenXML downloading pipelines.

13 Google Sheets

Exports massive web data grids cleanly into the standard zipped .xlsx structure.

14 Google Slides

Downloads visual presentations as standardized, unpacked-ready zip formats.

15 Apple Pages

Mac text documents are structured as compressed folder packages containing data indexes.

16 Apple Numbers

Saves tabular data arrays inside a compressed macOS package architecture.

17 Apple Keynote

Compresses presentation layouts, audio cues, and fonts into a unified package container.

18 WPS Office Writer

Cross-platform office suite that processes zipped document packages natively.

19 WPS Office Spreadsheets

Heavily utilizes OpenXML file decompression routines to read sheets.

20 WPS Office Presentation

Executes and edits zipped template sets seamlessly.

21 OnlyOffice Document Editor

Web-first collaborative suite treating documents as raw OpenXML ZIP folders.

22 OnlyOffice Spreadsheet Editor

Renders cell grids directly from a compressed XML source.

23 OnlyOffice Presentation Editor

Processes slides via a standardized, zipped file layout.

24 Adobe InDesign

Uses the .idml (InDesign Markup Language) Interchange file for cross-version compatibility, which is a pure ZIP container.

25 Corel WordPerfect

Modern iterations ingest and decompose OpenXML ZIP frameworks for full data parity.

Global Mobile Applications

Every application downloaded onto a modern smartphone is a compressed package. Android apps are built as .apk or .aab packages, while iOS apps run on .ipa packages. Beneath these naming conventions, they are standard ZIP containers holding application assets, system permissions, and compiled machine code.

#	Application	Category	Core ZIP architecture
26	WhatsApp	Social & Communication	Runs entirely from compiled mobile application packages (.apk / .aab / .ipa) containing code, icons, and UI assets.
27	Facebook		
28	Instagram		
29	Snapchat		
30	Telegram		
31	Reddit		
32	Threads		
33	X (formerly Twitter)		
34	YouTube	Media & Streaming	Unpacks audio-visual frameworks and internal rendering libraries directly from its app archive package.
35	Spotify		
36	Netflix		
37	CapCut		
38	Gmail	Productivity & Workspace	Leverages background ZIP container structures to safely distribute secure app manifest files.
39	Google Maps		
40	Zoom		

#	Application	Category	Core ZIP architecture
41	LinkedIn	Lifestyle & Services	Distributes complex local localization assets, sounds, and user layout variations via its zipped app core.
42	Microsoft Teams		
43	Uber		
44	Airbnb		
45	Tinder		
46	Amazon Shopping		
47	Duolingo		
Note: Mobile app packages (.apk, .aab, .ipa) are ZIP-based containers. The architecture description applies to each app in its category row (shown once per group in the table).			

Apps 51-65

Web Browsers & Extensions

To add themes, adblockers, or developer toolkits to a browser, the ecosystem relies on web extension packages. For Chromium-based browsers, these are .crx files; for Firefox, they are .xpi files. Both are simply ZIP files with extra digital signature verification headers.

51 Google Chrome

Unpacks and mounts user configurations from signed .crx files.

52 Microsoft Edge

Inherits and executes identical Chromium-standard zipped archive modules.

53 Mozilla Firefox

Relies heavily on .xpi add-ons, which are structurally 100% standard ZIP files.

54 Opera Browser

Utilizes the same zipped extension parsing architecture to handle user enhancements.

55 Brave Browser

Decompresses privacy shield updates and extensions via native archive pipelines.

56 Vivaldi Browser

Parses UI custom themes and tracking blocks out of compressed user directory blocks.

57 Tor Browser

Implements secure privacy script layers by checking Gecko-based archive modules.

58 Safari

Mac and iOS extension workflows rely on compressed developer asset bundles to run.

59 Chromium

The base open-source platform that reads and handles zipped browser plugin folders natively.

60 Epic Privacy Browser

Unpacks its native ad-blocking lists from integrated extension blocks.

61 Avast Secure Browser

Sandboxes and reads security add-ons straight from individual zip volumes.

62 Yandex Browser

Ingests third-party web tools through compressed Chromium extension directories.

63 Samsung Internet

Parses global mobile browser extensions out of specialized ZIP containers.

64 DuckDuckGo Browser

Keeps tracking-protection extensions safely packed within compressed distribution files.

65 Arc Browser

The modern Chromium-derived browser that natively decompresses extension data in the background.

Apps 66–85

Gaming, 3D Design, & Creative Environments

Whether keeping complex model data paths intact or managing thousands of tiny game mod files, the gaming and creative world uses customized ZIP setups like .unitypackage, .3mf, or .jar containers to bundle assets efficiently.

66 Minecraft

Java edition operates natively via .jar execution engines, while community mods and world saves are bundled inside standard ZIP folders.

67 Unity Game Engine

Shares assets, code packages, and asset store plug-ins as compressed .unitypackage archives.

68 Unreal Engine

Compresses large asset blocks and structural meshes inside virtualized archive pipelines.

69 Godot Engine

Packages and exports lightweight gaming resources inside open standard file compression volumes.

70 Blender

Supports compressing native project files internally to save data on multi-gigabyte models.

71 Ultimaker Cura

Popular 3D printer slicer that relies on the .3mf (3D Manufacturing Format) container—a ZIP archive storing models, color data, and print properties.

72 PrusaSlicer

Uses the .3mf standard to wrap spatial coordinate text and printer parameters into one file.

73 Bambu Studio

Leverages modern .3mf ZIP structures to send multi-color printing designs seamlessly to machinery.

74 Sketch

The vector design application for UI design; .sketch files are simply renamed ZIP files packed full of JSON metadata and PNG textures.

75 Procreate

The iPad illustration giant; its exportable .brush and .brushset files are renamed ZIP archives containing brush tip textures and settings.

76 Adobe Photoshop

Integrates lossless internal ZIP compression options to compress layers down within .psd files.

77 World of Warcraft

Distributes user-made interface overhauls and massive combat add-ons inside standard zipped layouts.

78 Roblox Studio

Relies on compressed asset directories to stream environment assets into the cloud player instantly.

79 The Sims 4

Manages thousands of community custom content configurations via compiled archive folders.

80 Cities: Skylines

Handles custom maps, traffic layouts, and architectural models packed inside ZIP folders.

81 Euro Truck Simulator 2

Uses custom .scs map files, which are functionally uncompressed or zipped archive tables.

82 Kerbal Space Program

Installs custom aerospace parts and flight tracking mods by expanding standard zipped directories.

83 FreeCAD

Saves detailed parametric 3D models into a compressed, structural document bundle format.

84 KiCad

Open-source electronics suite that uses compressed file paths to manage schematic libraries.

85 OpenSCAD

Compresses extensive code scripts for complex solid 3D CAD calculations.

[Apps 86–100](#)

E-Media, Enterprise Systems, & Developer Tools

From digital entertainment to back-end servers, ZIP acts as a reliable packaging layer. For example, an EPUB file is essentially a responsive website zipped inside a box.

86 Calibre

The premier e-book archive software that reads, writes, and unpacks .epub ZIP containers continuously.

87 Apple Books

Displays digital literature by unzipping HTML and CSS contents on the fly.

88 Google Play Books

Parses standard .epub data packets to render fluid, scale-ready text across screens.

89 Adobe Digital Editions

An e-reading environment optimized to read compressed text and image paths.

90 CDisplayEx

A comic book viewer built explicitly to display sequential JPG files inside a .cbz format (where the "Z" stands for ZIP).

91 ComicRack

Automatically processes and extracts image-heavy folders disguised under the .cbz name.

92 Google Earth Pro

Merges coordinate instructions (.kml) and custom graphic assets into compressed .kmz files.

93 IntelliJ IDEA

Runs on the Java platform, using and compiling Java Archives (.jar), which are strictly standard ZIP files under the hood.

94 Eclipse IDE

An extensible software workspace built completely out of core Java Archive modules.

95 NetBeans IDE

Heavy-duty development suite that handles and references external libraries via standard JAR frameworks.

96 Apache Tomcat

Java-based application server that deploys web tools by automatically unzipping .war (Web Archive) containers.

97 Jenkins

CI/CD automation server distributed as a single, fully executable Java Archive package.

98 Burp Suite

A cybersecurity industry favorite for penetration testing, executed out of a portable JAR container.

99 Charles Proxy

Web debugging tool that uses Java archive formatting to manage its local platform assets.

100 Android Studio

The software program responsible for organizing, building, and signing the final .apk and .aab ZIP packages distributed to billions of mobile devices.

NeoZip helps you create, verify, and optionally prove archives – whether you are working with office documents, developer JARs, or custom ZIP workflows.

[Visit NeoZip](#) [NeoWare products](#)

New to ZIP in software? Read [ZIP Files Are Everywhere in Software](#) for context on why the format endures.