

CONFERENCE

Product Showcase

Draftsmith by PerfectIt

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The creators of PerfectIt have introduced Draftsmith, a new tool that provides text suggestions for improvement of original written material. Specifically, it uses ChatGPT to help writers refine their draft material before it is sent to a copy editor. The product is a Microsoft Word 365 add-in available from the Microsoft Store, and thus a Microsoft account is required to install it.

As a Word add-in, Draftsmith fully integrates with Word. With track changes turned on, any changes made are tracked with the writer's username. Notably, the product does not work with Google Docs, other similar Office applications, or earlier versions of Word.

Once installed, the writer signs in to Draftsmith by clicking any button on its tab on the Word ribbon and enters the email address and password created during account setup. Each button on the tab opens a set of suggestion buttons in the Draftsmith tab. The grouped buttons (see Figure 1) generally follow the draft writing process:

- Pre-Edit group: Fluency Enhancer and Dictation Fixer
- Revise group: Engagement Tuner, Word Count Trimmer, and Empathy Tuner
- Simplify group: Readability Tuner and Plain English Converter
- Review group: Editing Helper

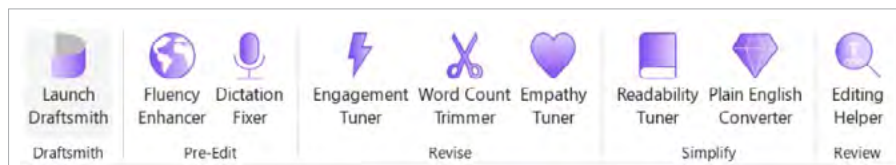


Figure 1. Draftsmith tab buttons

When a tab button is selected, 3 default functions for that writing stage are shown in the panel, with the currently active function outlined with a darker border (see Figure 2).

When a button is clicked, Draftsmith selects the sentence in which the cursor is placed and applies the func-



Figure 2. Function buttons on the Draftsmith panel

tion to that sentence, offering suggestions for changes in the lower part of the panel. To replace the selected sentence with Draftsmith's suggestion, the writer clicks "Replace Text." The change is made in the writer's document and Draftsmith automatically moves to the next sentence. If the suggestion is not wanted, the writer clicks the Next button to skip to the next sentence. If the writer wants to see a different suggestion, the "refresh" icon is selected.

For anyone concerned about the ethics of authoring using artificial intelligence (AI), PerfectIt notes that Draftsmith works in a secure environment using secure Microsoft backend servers. Only single sentences (or selected text, up to 400 words) are ever sent for checking. No data are saved, stored, or used for training AI.

Draftsmith is priced for ad hoc use—subscriptions can be purchased monthly (eg, while self-editing or working on a specific project) without committing to an annual subscription. For more regular use, an annual subscription option is available.

Overall, as a tool for medical writers, Draftsmith can be particularly useful for simplifying dense sentences/paragraphs, rewording complex concepts, and reducing word count. The direct integration with Word may be considered a game changer, as using ChatGPT independently requires frequent toggling between Word and the browser window and copying/pasting. Thus, Draftsmith may save the writer valuable time and enhance productivity.

Author declaration and disclosures: The authors note no commercial associations that may pose a conflict of interest in relation to this article.

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