FREE TRADE PLAYBOOK

Accounting, Bookkeeping & Payroll: the top time-savers

30
hours a week for one client
top claim

6 AI tools that can take busywork off accountants, bookkeepers and payroll firms. What each one does, what it costs, how to start, and where we got the facts.

Built from 15 accounting and bookkeeping firms listings in the BusyWorkBots directory, as of November 1, 2026. 2 of them show a sourced hours number.

#	Tool	What it does	Hours saved	Price	Setup
1	**Botkeeper Bookkeeping Helper** Other busywork	Software plus staff that sorts transactions and reconciles accounts for clients.	30 hours a week for one client (vendor claim)	Check site	Easy
2	**Invoice Data Entry Bot** Billing and invoices	Reads invoices, fills in the fields, and flags duplicate payments.	24 hours a week across the team	Check site	Needs setup
3	**Dext** Bookkeeping	Snap receipts and bills; it pulls the data into your books.	Not stated	$31.50/mo	Easy
4	**Gusto** Payroll	Runs payroll and files payroll taxes for you.	Not stated	Simple $49/mo + $6/person	Easy
5	**Karbon** Email	Practice management with email, tasks, and client requests.	Not stated	Team $59/user/mo billed yearly	Easy
6	**Timesheet Reminder** Email follow-up	Reminds staff every week to send in their timesheets.	Not stated	n8n free to self-host (cloud from $20/mo) More on card	Medium

How we picked these 6. We take up to 3 listings that have a sourced hours number, biggest first. Then one listing per chore, easiest setup first. We make sure you see both free DIY templates and software when the trade has both. We do not test every tool.

How to read hours. Hours are the numbers the maker, an owner, or a case study gave. The source is on each card. “Not stated” means we have no sourced number, so we do not guess one.

How to read price. Price comes from each listing. “Check site” means we could not find a public price. Always confirm on the maker’s site.

TOOLS 1–3 OF 6

1 Botkeeper Bookkeeping Helper

Other busywork | Setup: Easy | Software or service

What it does Software plus staff that sorts transactions and reconciles accounts for clients.

Good if Stuck sorting transactions all week?

Hours saved **30 hours a week for one client** Vendor claim.

Price **Check site**

Setup Book a demo, connect client books, and review its work before you sign off.

Source: botkeeper.com/en/tm2accountingsolutions
Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/botkeeper-bookkeeping-helper/

2 Invoice Data Entry Bot

Billing and invoices | Setup: Needs setup | Free DIY template

What it does Reads invoices, fills in the fields, and flags duplicate payments.

Good if Typing in invoices by hand?

Hours saved **24 hours a week across the team** From 30 hours a week down to 6; consultant case study.

Price **Check site**

Setup Start with invoice intake: send invoices to one inbox, let AI pull the fields, and review the odd ones.

Source: elevate-ai.ai/case-studies/accounting-firm-automation
Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/invoice-data-entry-bot/

3 Dext

Bookkeeping | Setup: Easy | Software or service

What it does Snap receipts and bills; it pulls the data into your books.

Good if Shoebox of receipts?

Hours saved Not stated

Price **$31.50/mo** ($25.21/mo billed yearly)

Setup

1. Start the trial.
2. Connect QuickBooks or Xero.
3. Snap your first receipt.

Source: dext.com/us/business/pricing Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/dext/

TOOLS 4–6 OF 6

4 Gusto

Payroll | Setup: Easy | Software or service

What it does	Runs payroll and files payroll taxes for you.
Good if	Payroll and tax filings stress you out?
Hours saved	Not stated
Price	**Simple $49/mo + $6/person**
Setup	1. Sign up. 2. Add your team. 3. Run your first payroll.

Source: gusto.com/product/pricing Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/gusto/

5 Karbon

Email | Setup: Easy | Software or service

What it does	Practice management with email, tasks, and client requests.
Good if	Client work lost in email?
Hours saved	Not stated
Price	**Team $59/user/mo billed yearly** ($79 monthly)
Setup	1. Book a demo or trial. 2. Connect email. 3. Set up a work template.

Source: karbonhq.com/pricing Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/karbon/

6 Timesheet Reminder

Email follow-up | Setup: Medium | Free DIY template

What it does	Reminds staff every week to send in their timesheets.
Good if	Late timesheets holding up payroll?
Hours saved	Not stated
Price	**n8n free to self-host (cloud from $20/mo); other apps extra**
Setup	Find the weekly timesheet reminders workflow on the page, import it, add staff emails to a sheet.

Source: flowgrammer.ca/n8n-workflows/finance-accounting
Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/timesheet-reminder/

START HERE

Your first 7 days

You do not need all 6 tools. Pick one chore, try one tool, and count the hours before and after.

Day 1	**Count your chores.** Write down the 3 chores that eat the most time. Next to each, write the hours it takes in a normal week. This is your starting line.
Day 2	**Pick one tool.** Start with just one. On this list, Botkeeper Bookkeeping Helper is the easiest to set up (setup: Easy). Pick the one that fits your biggest chore, not the one with the biggest hours number.
Day 3	**Check price and claims.** Open the source link on the tool's card. Ask the maker for the price in writing. Remember: hours saved are the maker's or owner's numbers, not ours.
Day 4	**Try it small.** Use it on a few real jobs only. If it writes messages, read every one before it goes out.
Day 5	**Fix the words.** Change anything that does not sound like you. Write down every mistake it made.
Day 6	**Run it for a normal day.** Keep a person ready to step in. Note how long the chore took this time.
Day 7	**Count again.** Compare to Day 1. Keep it, change it, or drop it. Then pick your next chore.

Test it before you buy it. Free one-page kits with questions to ask the maker, a test script, and a 7-day trial plan:

- Invoice chasing kit busyworkbots.com/test-kits/invoice-chasing/

How to count your hours: for one normal week, write down each time you do the chore and how many minutes it took. Add them up.

NEXT STEP

Not sure where to start? We can help.

Free Busywork Audit

Pick your industry and the chores that eat your week. Get a one-page report of tools from our directory, with the hours each listing reports. Free. No email needed.

Take the free audit →

https://busyworkbots.com/free-audit/

Want it set up for you?

TimeGentic runs BusyWorkBots. Book a Free Profit Leak Check and we will look at where your business loses time and money.

Book Free Profit Leak Check →

https://timegentic.ai

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