

What's New in b.suite

Version 1.0 - Release date:

Editor, OCR, and printing

- `.docx` files exported by esysuite now open correctly in b.suite.
- OCR now accepts PDF and WEBP files in addition to the image formats already supported.
- During ODT import, the canonical CBFS encoding of mathematical formulas is better preserved.
- Braille storage of mathematical formulas in grade 0 has been harmonized.
- Added print output from the editor File menu.

Preferences and Dictionary

- Added a setting to choose the preferred dictionary opened by default.

Explorer and Bluetooth

- Added file sending and receiving via Bluetooth from the explorer.

Interface, braille, and speech

- Added a dialog box showing battery information, time, and date, available with the `F12` shortcut.
- Application selector button shortcuts are now displayed correctly on the braille display.
- Speech and braille feedback in the update dialog box has been improved.
- Read-only message fields remain focusable, making them easier to consult with the keyboard and in braille.
- Read-only editable lines better respect their read-only mode, and speech avoids redundant announcements.
- Dialogs containing a read-only text area associate labels better and duplicate the required buttons to improve braille navigation.
- Long messages in Daisy, Eole, Music, and Settings are now displayed in a multi-line box, making them easier to read visually.

Beta 10 - Release date: 07/07/2026

Mathematics

- If primary braille is French full spelling or contracted braille and secondary braille is French CBFS mathematical braille, dot 6 alone no longer switches to secondary braille, in order to respect number writing. Dot 6 followed by dot 3 must be used to indicate the start of a mathematical formula. However, if primary braille is French computer braille, the start of a math formula can still be indicated either by dot 6 alone or by dot 6 followed by dot 3.
- When importing an ODT file containing mathematics, if primary braille is French contracted braille, math formulas are now written correctly.

- Added support for elements including different table forms, matrices, systems of equations, real part, imaginary part, dotted derivative, partial derivative, Laplacian, d'Alembertian, nabla, and bounded product.
- Improved math evaluation in the editor: calculations now work better when the cursor is placed at the end of a formula.
- Fixed display of large braces.
- Expanded StarMath support for several complex cases, including some large blocks, matrices, and operator aliases.
- Fixed several mathematical calculations and notations, especially around trigonometric and statistical functions.
- Fixed StarMath import of complex integrals containing exponents, factorials, and compact differentials such as dx .
- Lists of CBFS formulas separated by commas or semicolons now better accept comparators and full equations.

Homework

- Added a new **Homework** application to manage assignments due by date and optionally by subject.

Documents and Editor

- Improved Markdown import, with more reliable support for paragraphs and many formatting cases.
- Error messages are now clearer when conversion to Markdown fails.
- ODT import now handles line breaks inside paragraphs and style interpretation more accurately.

Interface and Services

- b.suite can now report at startup that an update is available, depending on the setting selected in preferences.
- Wikipedia access is more reliable thanks to better handling of temporary errors and service limitations.
- The `Ctrl+Backspace` shortcut can also return to the application selector on laptop PC keyboards where `Ctrl+0` cannot be used.
- Language switching in settings is more reliable and avoids some duplicate triggers.
- Braille display of several dialog boxes has been improved, especially for read-only text areas and update messages.
- Various fixes to translations, keyboard shortcuts, and braille display rendering improve overall interface consistency.

Beta 9 - Release date: 09/06/2026

Mathematics

- Improved support for trigonometric functions with exponents in mathematical braille (CBFS, UEB, Nemeth).
- Fixed StarMath parsing for exponentiated functions and adjacent operators, as well as for limit bounds.
- Added new mathematical notations and functions in the editor, with better support for $\exp(x)$, fraction calculation, and fraction mode.
- Fixed StarMath parsing for function arguments spanning fractions, with more reliable braille rendering for simple fractions.
- StarMath parsing errors no longer interrupt ODT file loading.

Music

- Support for spoken or sung note names and lyrics.
- File editing and playback can now be done in section view.
- In reading and playback mode, part names can be hidden, which makes learning easier, especially when presenting one measure at a time.
- The order of an instrument's sub-parts (for example right hand / left hand for piano) can be reversed to make some scores easier to learn.
- Option to announce the current measure number during playback.
- Restored the effect of transposition in the player.
- Support for irregular rhythmic groupings: duplets, quadruplets, quintuplets, etc. (previously only regular triplets were handled).
- Fixed handling of variable tempos within a piece.
- Improved handling of lyrics displayed before or after each section.
- Improved handling of rests spanning several measures.
- Improved handling of global key signatures in scores, for more faithful music import and export.
- First, second, third, and fourth endings are now preceded by a space to avoid confusion with other notations (fourth, seventh, etc.).
- Added a tag to correct the pronunciation of certain syllables by speech synthesis, improving liaisons and other special cases.
- Better graphical positioning of titles and subtitles.

Documents and Editor

- Importing ODT files now generates a table of contents and correctly recognizes headings defined through paragraph styles.
- DOCX table import is now aligned with ODT rendering for a structure that is more faithful on opening.
- Support for `.pdf` , `.docx` , `.pptx` , `.xlsx` , and `.xls` files when converting to Markdown from the explorer.
- Fixed reversed zoom shortcuts in the editor.

Interface and Access

- More readable braille display in some dialog boxes: spaces are shown more clearly in lists and checkboxes use more compact values.
- Access to the built-in documentation and What's New directly from the application settings.
- Automatic update now starts without an unexpected UAC elevation prompt.

Beta 8 - Release date: 29/04/2026

Mathematics

- Improved input and reading of mathematical formulas, with better support for fractions, integrals, matrices, limits, derivatives, and other complex notations.
- Added new mathematical notations usable in the editor, especially for bounded sums, bounded integrals, prime operators, $\pm$ and $\mp$ operators, as well as several advanced notations.

Documents and Editor

- More reliable ODT import, especially for documents containing mathematics or tables.
- ODT export of tables from the editor.
- Better support for DOCX files, fixing several cases that could cause broken formatting or a crash on opening.
- The editor can now import Markdown files (`.md` , `.markdown`) into b.suite.
- Added the `File > Import as...` and `File > Export as...` commands to make it easier to choose the format and import/export options.

Navigation and Explorer

- Improved navigation between open documents with the `Ctrl+1` to `Ctrl+9` shortcuts.
- New documents now open to the right of already opened documents, for a more natural organization.
- Improved explorer with more efficient incremental search and better handling of multi-selection mode, the recycle bin, ZIP archives, and copy, move, and restore dialogs.

Interface and System

- Added an `extended standby` button in the shutdown dialog.
- Added a setting to avoid truncating words in the user interface.
- b.suite now prevents accidental opening of a second instance.

Beta 7 - Release date: 10/02/2026

- Added the built-in update system to make downloading and installing new versions easier.
- Improved overall stability of the editor, speech synthesis, and the Music application.
- Fixed issues related to secondary braille detection.
- Faster application startup.

Beta 6 - Release date: 23/09/2025

- Added the French b.suite user documentation to the installation.
- Fixed b.suite startup so it opens correctly in full-screen or maximized mode, including after a first installation.
- Improvements in the Music application with better handling of playback, file closing, and saves.
- Added access to the music documentation from preferences.
- Improved explorer with braille presentation of the USB drive ejection menu.
- Translation and label fixes in several parts of the application.

Beta 1 - Release date: 16/12/2024

- Major improvement to mathematics handling in the editor, with support for many notations and operators.
- Beginning of UEB math braille support.
- Improved file explorer with better handling of USB drives, the recycle bin, and deletion errors.
- Accessibility and navigation fixes in menus, editing areas, and the dictionary.

- Improved editor with better handling of selections, word navigation, and BRF documents.
- Integration and improvement of several applications and services, including Daisy, Eole, Music, and Weather.