SHOPLAUNCH STUDIO · LOCAL SHOPS · 11 NOVEMBER 2026

A Squarespace alternative: the template is not the website

Squarespace raised US prices in July 2026 — Core from $23 to $29 a month on annual billing — by email, with no announcement. Three years of Core is $1,044; Plus is $1,764. And the export is a WordPress file that leaves the design.

WHAT SQUARESPACE CHARGES

Basic — Templates, 2 contributors · 2% on goods, 7% on digital	**$19/mo**
Core — Unlimited contributors, CSS/JS · 0% goods, 5% digital	**$29/mo**
Plus — Lower card rates, 1% on digital	**$49/mo**
Advanced — Lowest card rates, 0% on digital	**$99/mo**
Paid monthly — Basic $25 · Core $39 · Plus $65 · Advanced $139	**+32–40%**
Card processing — 2.9% + 30¢ on Basic and Core, through Squarespace Payments	**on top**

THREE YEARS, ALL IN

Basic: 36 × $19	$684
Core: 36 × $29	$1,044
Plus: 36 × $49	$1,764
Core paid month by month: 36 × $39	$1,404
40 hours of your time at $25 (our assumption)	$1,000
Squarespace Core, three years, all in	**$2,044**
Squarespace Plus, three years, all in	**$2,764**
ShopLaunch Local Pack, paid once	**$199**
Difference still in your account	**$1,845–$2,565**

Keep them if

· You sell online: products, shipping, tax, invoices.
· You need scheduling, courses, member areas or gated content.
· You want a blog or portfolio you will keep adding to.
· You want to control the design yourself, and enjoy it.

Choose the $199 page if

· It is a five-section shop page that has to be right tomorrow.
· You have noticed that the plan is for a store you do not run.
· You want to move host later by copying a folder, not rebuilding.
· You would like the menu and the photos dealt with by someone else.

What the $199 Local Pack is — built by us, handed over the next business day

+ A mobile page on a real URL — hours, prices, photos, tap-to-call, directions
+ A digital menu with one QR code per table, print-ready
+ Three print-ready posters: window hours, counter QR, menu board
+ Five Instagram posts, 1080×1080, with the captions written
+ An edit key, so you change a price or a closing time yourself
+ The files — HTML, CSS and images — on a URL you own

Three things to get in writing before you pay for another year

Your renewal notice, not an article — Squarespace raised US prices in July 2026 and then emailed that some rises were an error. Get your figure in writing.
Which transaction fee applies — 2% on goods at Basic, 7% on courses and memberships; 0% and 5% at Core. Name what you sell before you agree.
The export, and what stays behind — One WordPress XML. Style settings and custom CSS do not come, and there is no HTML export.

$199 once. No subscription, no fee ladder, no design you cannot take.

We do not sell checkout, courses, member areas or scheduling — if you sell online, keep Squarespace for that and buy the page for the rest.

shoplaunch-app.pages.dev/vs/squarespace · shoplaunch-app.pages.dev/calc · $49 / $199 / $499 once

Sources, read 11 November 2026: squarespace.com/pricing — Basic $25 monthly / $19 annual, Core $39 / $29, Plus $65 / $49, Advanced $139 / $99, before tax, no free plan, 14 days free. Transaction fees and card rates from Squarespace's own fee pages: 2% goods at Basic and 0% from Core, 7% / 5% / 1% / 0% on digital products, card rates 2.9% + 30¢ at Basic and Core. The July 2026 increase and the 23 July correction email are reported by PetaPixel (17 July 2026) and Web Blend (7 August 2026), not announced by Squarespace. Export limitation from Squarespace's help page on exporting site content. The 40 hours and the $25 an hour are ShopLaunch's estimate, not a vendor figure. Prices are US list, before tax; Squarespace prices by country.