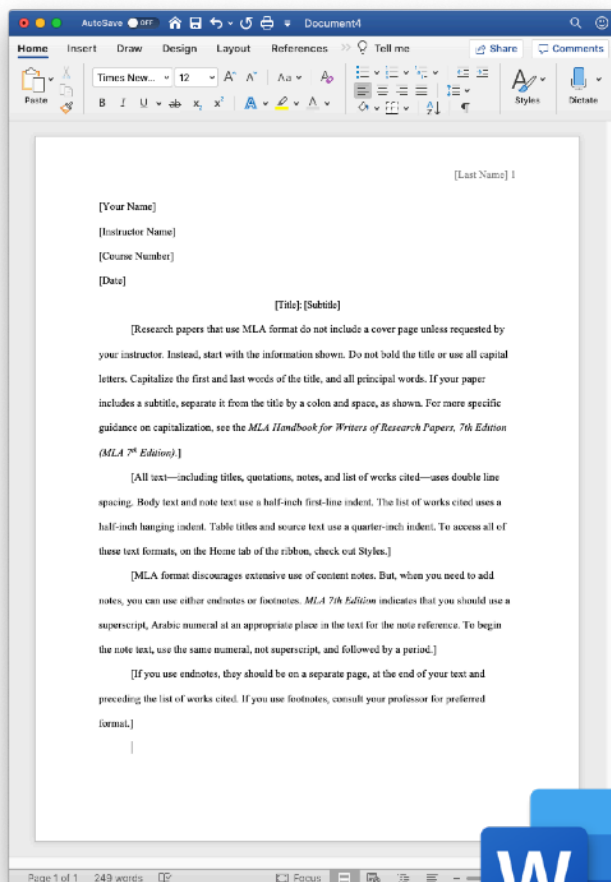# Word vs. Pages Showdown

By Christian Boyce (macman@christianboyce.com, christianboyce.com)
Join my mailing list and get more tips like these.

Compare and contrast!

1. *Simple documents— it's a tie!*
2. *Newsletters, brochures, invitations, cards— Pages wins!*
3. *Longer documents— it's a tie!*
4. *Ease of use— Pages wins!*
5. *Sharing/Compatibility— Word wins!*

1. Simple documents— it's a tie!

Word

Pages

Word vs. Pages Showdown

By Christian Boyce (macman@christianboyce.com, christianboyce.com)
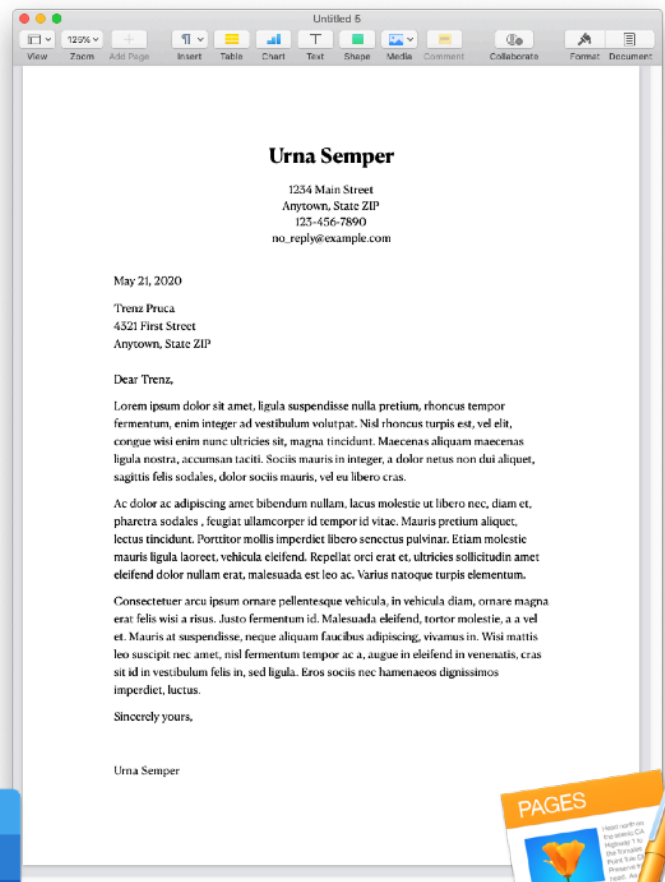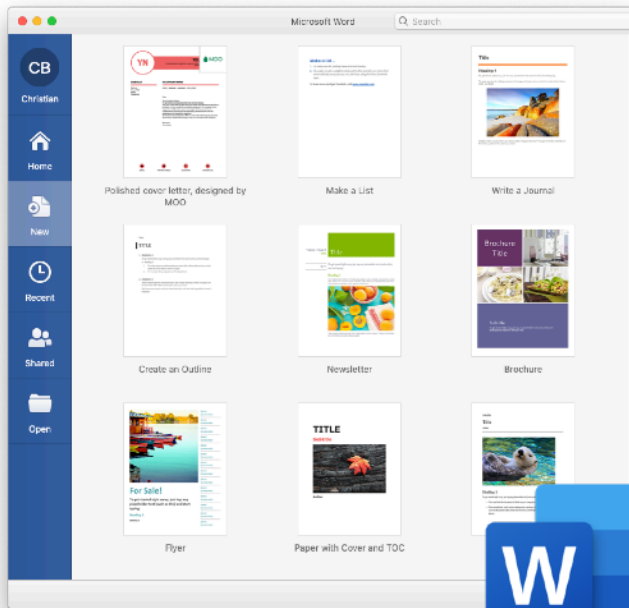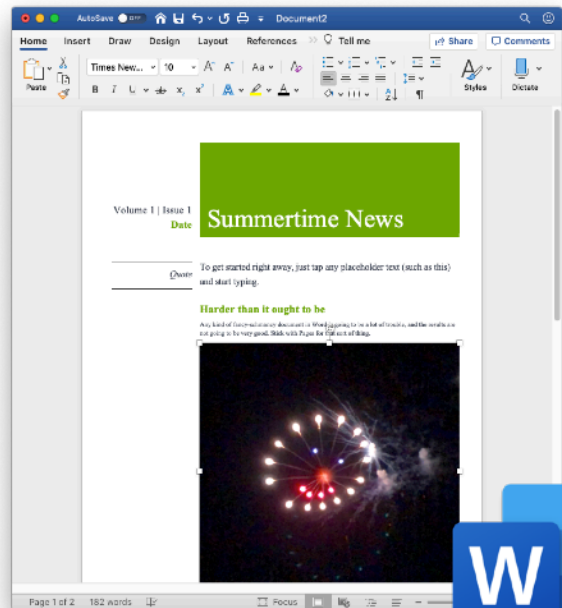Join my mailing list and get more tips like these.

2. Newsletters, brochures, invitations, cards— Pages wins!

Very limited templates

More trouble than it's worth

Templates for days and days!

Five minutes' work, using a Pages template

Word vs. Pages Showdown

By Christian Boyce (macman@christianboyce.com, christianboyce.com)
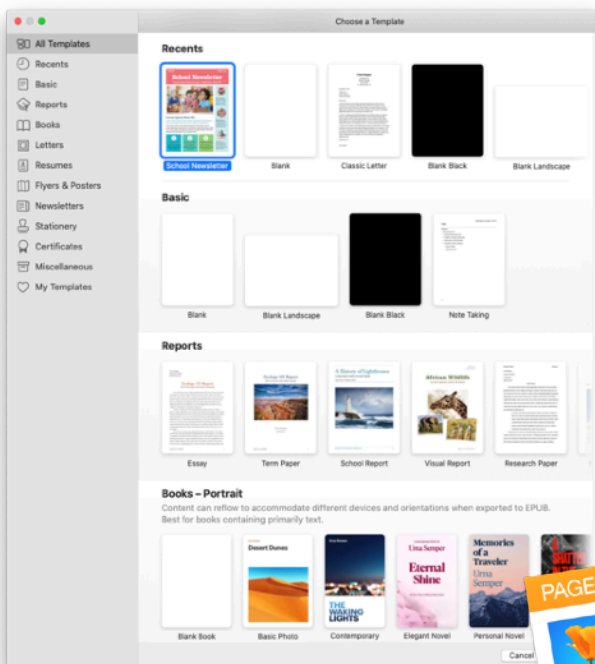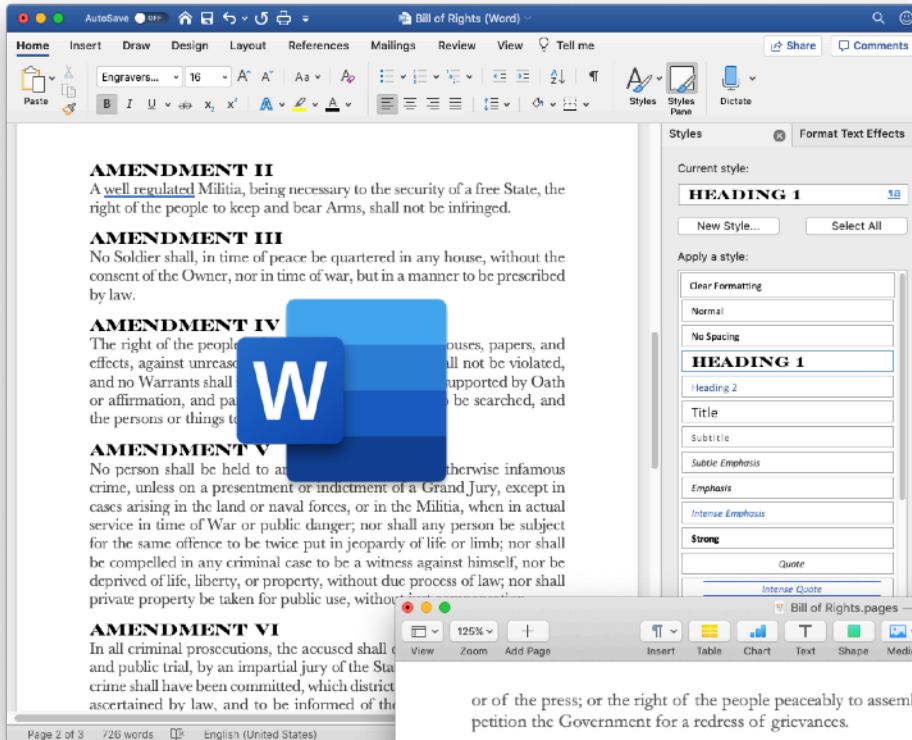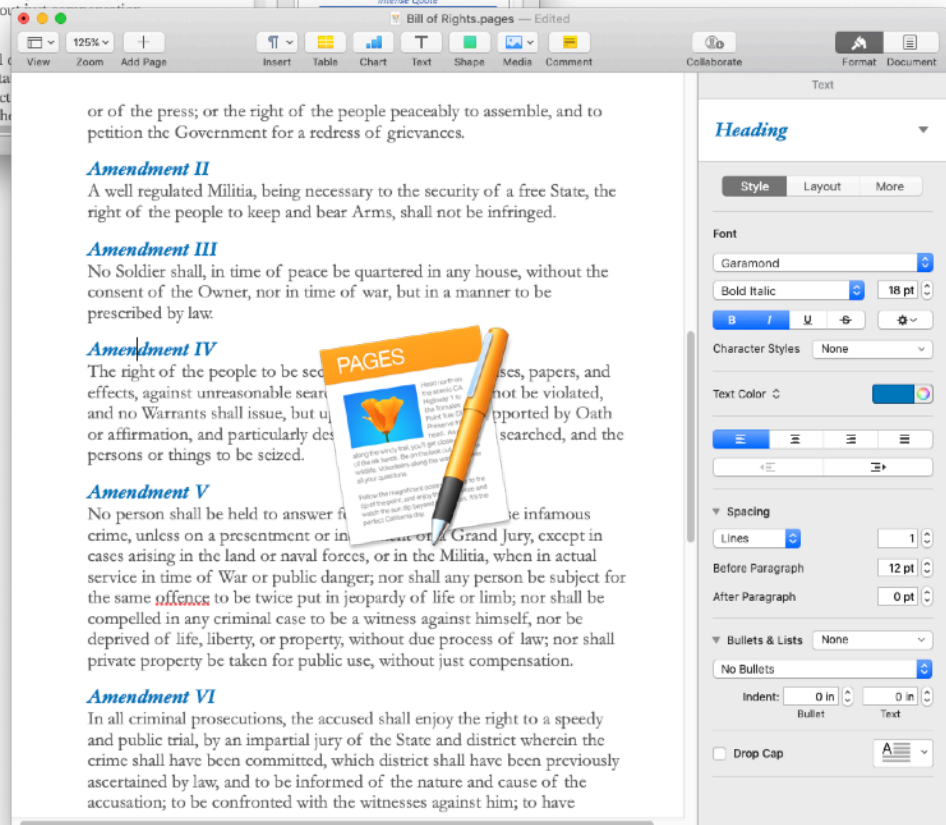Join my mailing list and get more tips like these.

3. Longer documents— it's a tie!

You need extra stuff when making longer documents. Word and Pages have what you need (but it's nicer in Pages).

- Styles? *Check.*
- Page numbering? *Check.*
- Headers and Footers? *Check.*
- Footnotes? *Check.*

Word vs. Pages Showdown

By Christian Boyce (macman@christianboyce.com, christianboyce.com)
Join my mailing list and get more tips like these.

4. Ease of use— Pages wins!

Table tools— Word can do calculations, but they aren't live and there's no "fill right" so you have to insert the formula over and over. Word doesn't align text the way you'd expect. style.

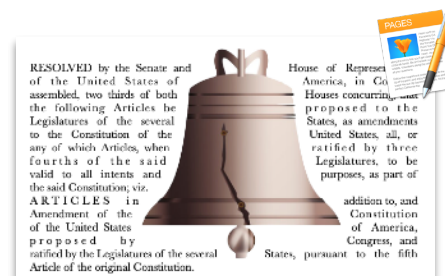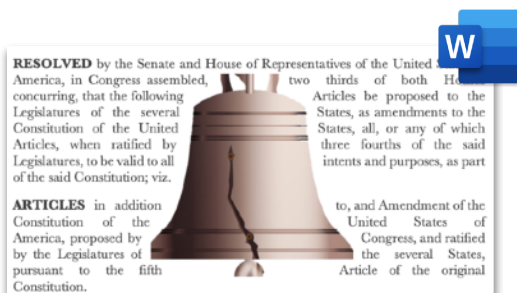| Sales by Region	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter
North	100	200	300
South	125	225	325
East	110	110	95
West	200	300	400
Totals	535	835	1120

Page can do calculations and they *are* live and there is a "fill right" so you only have to enter the formula in one cell. Alignment is exactly as you'd expect: text is left aligned, numbers are right aligned. Conditional formatting automatically highlights cells according to your rules.

Sales by Region	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter
North	100	200	300
South	125	225	325
East	110	110	95
West	200	300	400
Totals	535	835	1120

Adding images— yes, you can insert images into a Word document… but if you want to manipulate the picture (knock out the background, change the text wrapping options, resize the image) it's clumsy as anything. Plus the menus change all the time, and the icons are lousy. Compare to Pages, where everything is easy and clean, and it works the way you'd guess it would. Even where both apps have the same feature (background removal), Pages' implantation works perfectly, and Word's doesn't.
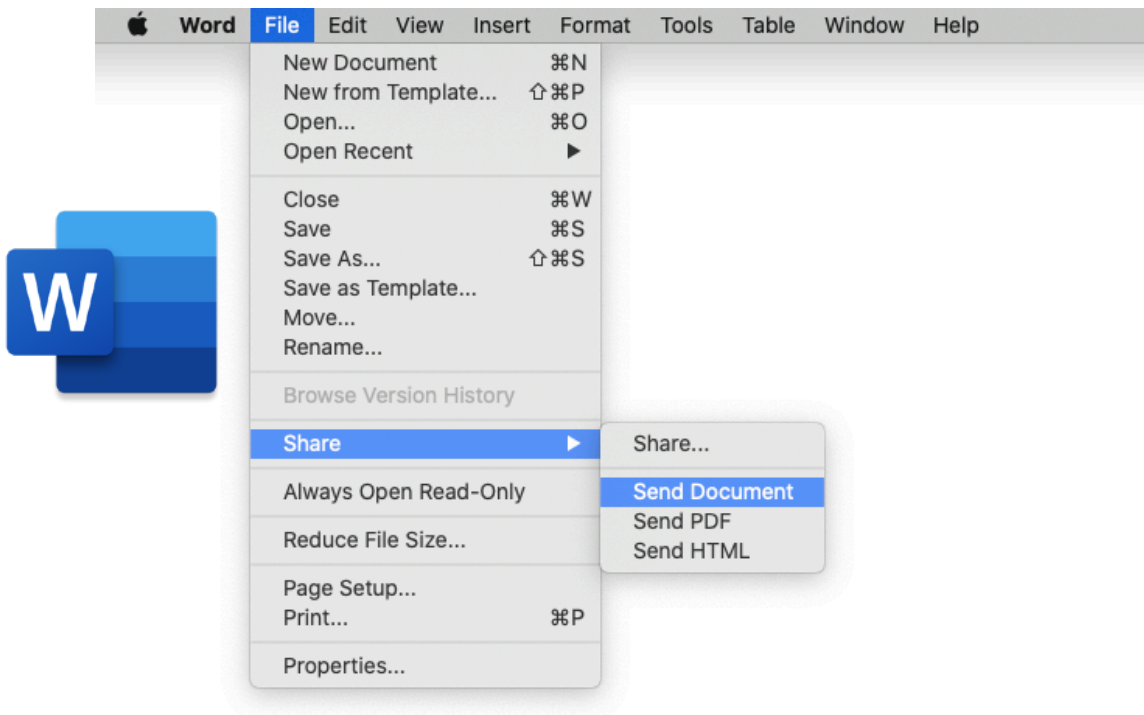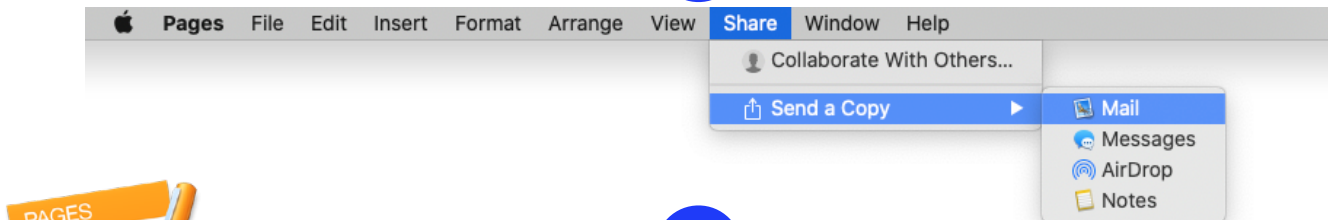
Word vs. Pages Showdown

By Christian Boyce (macman@christianboyce.com, christianboyce.com)
Join my mailing list and get more tips like these.

5. Sharing/Compatibility—Word wins! (But it's close)