

PROADVISOR review

SmartVault™

Overall Rating **9.50**

Product Name

SmartVault



Reviewed By

Susan Gaswirth

sgaswirth@aol.com

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SmartVault is a document management solution that works within QuickBooks, and allows you to enjoy the benefits of going paperless in minutes, literally. SmartVault users can seamlessly scan and attach documents, e-mails, and notes directly to their QuickBooks entries through the utilization of their unique toolbar. SmartVault hosts the storage of the documents for a minimal monthly single user or 5-user packaging fee.

This application offers turnkey data protection and management opportunities to the small to mid-sized business that may not wish to invest in in-house document management solutions. Documents are stored off-site and can be accessed any time or anywhere from QuickBooks or via a Web Browser.

Strengths

SmartVault took about 10 minutes to set up. It was amazingly easy. The set up process was completed in 5 simple steps consisting of registering for a SmartVault account, activation, downloading and installing the SmartVault client, launching into QuickBooks, associating SmartVault with your company file and assigning integrated application rights. The company has put together very good documentation and FAQ's with one of my favorite documents being the document summary for field utilization in QuickBooks. This simple list provides you with thought provoking ideas of all the types of documents one might store where, and presents it in a simple and logical manner which will help you get organized and stay that way.

Limitations

SmartVault is extremely QuickBooks centric. The filing of documents on their website mirror the QuickBooks structure of Employees, Customers, etc., so it is totally logical and intuitive as to where one might find a document stored if you are signing onto SmartVault through a browser and not through QuickBooks. I believe it would be beneficial to provide filing cabinets not linked to QuickBooks for highly confidential documents not meant for all eyes to see particularly since security mirrors the QuickBooks security levels, which are broad at best.

Wish List

None other than what was stated as a limitation.

Product Ratings	Rating
<p>Setup and Installation: Set up and installation was a breeze.</p>	9.5
<p>Interface: The interface is completely seamless.</p>	9.5
<p>Features: SmartVault's functionality allows you to scan and attach documents to over 25 fields in QuickBooks including Customer, Job, Estimate, Invoice, Sales Receipt, Receive Payment, Credit Memo, Refund, Sales Order, Statement Charge, Employee, Liability Check, Non-Payroll Transactions, Home window, Account, Check, Deposit, General Ledger Entry, and To Do. You can attach documents in just about any form for viewing in and outside of QuickBooks.</p>	9.5
<p>Ease of Use/Service and Support The product is easy to use and you can learn it and conquer it in under an hour. However, keep in mind that this is a very young company, and I believe this product will look very differently in a year from now as they continue to receive feedback from the end-user community, and make enhancements to the product based on their suggestions. Keep in mind what this product is geared for which is integrated documents that are associated within QuickBooks. If you keep that perspective, the product will perform as expected.</p>	9.5
<p>Data Security / Privacy Security is determined at both the SmartVault and QuickBooks levels. The end-user will only be performing the functions or have access to the areas that have been defined by the system administrator. Security mirrors the security levels in QuickBooks so if you are wanted to restrict someone to a specific area, remember that they will only be as restricted as they are within QuickBooks.</p>	9.5
<p>Integration with QuickBooks Only one word to say about QuickBooks Integration – Excellent! They have covered all bases there.</p> <p>The QuickBooks integration supports QuickBooks Pro and Premier and Enterprise 2006 – 2009, Canada Version – 2008 & 2009</p>	9.5

Ratings Definitions

10.0 (Perfect):
This exceedingly rare score is reserved for a product that is as perfect as it could be.

9.0 to 9.9 (Spectacular):
A product that receives a rating in this range succeeds at meeting all of its intended users' needs and has no meaningful drawbacks.

8.0 to 8.9 (Excellent):
A product that receives a rating in this range is superior in so many ways that its relatively few drawbacks are not very important.

7.0 to 7.9 (Very good):
While the strengths of a product scoring in this range certainly outweigh its weaknesses, it has some minor faults that certain users should be aware of.

6.0 to 6.9 (Good):
This range represents a product that is above average. Its strengths slightly outweigh its weaknesses, making it good for most uses but not a standout.

5.0 to 5.9 (Average):
A product that scores in this range is functional but unremarkable.

4.0 to 4.9 (Mediocre):
Products in this range are below average. They fall in the middle of the pack for most features, but suffer from a few additional major flaws.

3.0 to 3.9 (Poor):
A customer should probably not consider purchasing a product in this range or lower. There may be one or two specialized circumstances, however, that could justify the purchase of this product for a very low price for a specific demand.

2.0 to 2.9 (Terrible):
A product that receives a rating in this range does not satisfy any of its intended users' needs and has no meaningful strengths.

1.0 to 1.9 (Abysmal):
A product in this range should never have been produced. This product has no redeeming qualities and worse, may actually harm the user or the user's productivity.