

HandyToolSmart – CSV Data Compare

Windows EXE • Simple User Guide

What it does

CSV Data Compare is a Windows desktop application for comparing two CSV files. It compares records using one or more Primary Key columns and shows missing records, changed values, duplicate keys, and an AI-Ready Analysis summary.

1. Download and start the application

1. Download the CSV Data Compare ZIP package.
2. Extract the ZIP file to a folder on your Windows PC.
3. Open the extracted folder.
4. Double-click the CSV Data Compare .exe file.
5. The application opens in your web browser as a local application.

The application runs locally on your computer. Your CSV files are processed by the local application.

Note: Windows SmartScreen may show a warning for an unsigned/new EXE. If you obtained the file from a trusted HandyToolSmart source, use Windows' More info → Run anyway option when appropriate.

2. Upload the two CSV files

The screenshot shows the 'CSV Data Compare' application window. The title bar reads 'CSV Data Compare — Local App'. The interface has a light purple header with 'HandyToolSmart' on the left and 'CSV Data Compare' in the center, with a subtitle 'Compare two CSV files using one or more Primary Key columns.' Below the header, there are two main sections. The first section, '1. Upload Files', contains two file upload boxes. 'File 1' has the filename 'customers_old.csv' and 'File 2' has 'customers_new.csv'. The second section, '2. Select Primary Key Column(s)', features a list of checkboxes for 'CUSTOMER_ID', 'CUSTOMER_NAME', and 'REGION'. To the right of these checkboxes, there is instructional text: 'Select one or more columns. Use Ctrl/Shift for multiple selections.' At the bottom left of the form area is a prominent purple button labeled 'Compare Files'. In the bottom right corner of the application window, the word 'ILLUSTRATIVE' is written in small capital letters.

Illustrative screenshot — your actual filenames and results will differ.

Select your first CSV under File 1 and your second CSV under File 2. The files should contain a header row.

3. Select the Primary Key

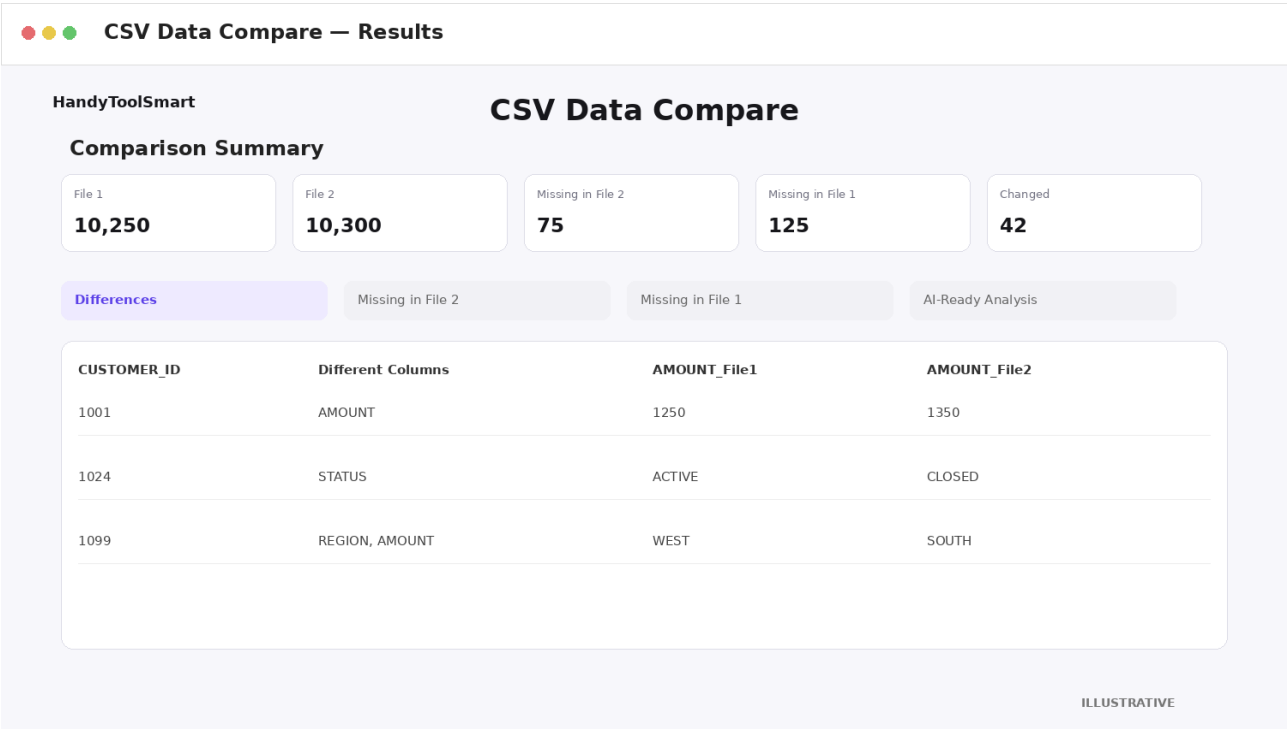
Select one or more columns that uniquely identify a record. Only columns common to both CSV files can be used.

- Use one key when it uniquely identifies each record, such as CUSTOMER_ID.
- Use multiple keys when a combination identifies a record, such as CUSTOMER_ID + REGION.
- Use Ctrl or Shift to select multiple columns.

4. Compare the files

Click **Compare Files**. The application compares matching records and identifies differences between the files.

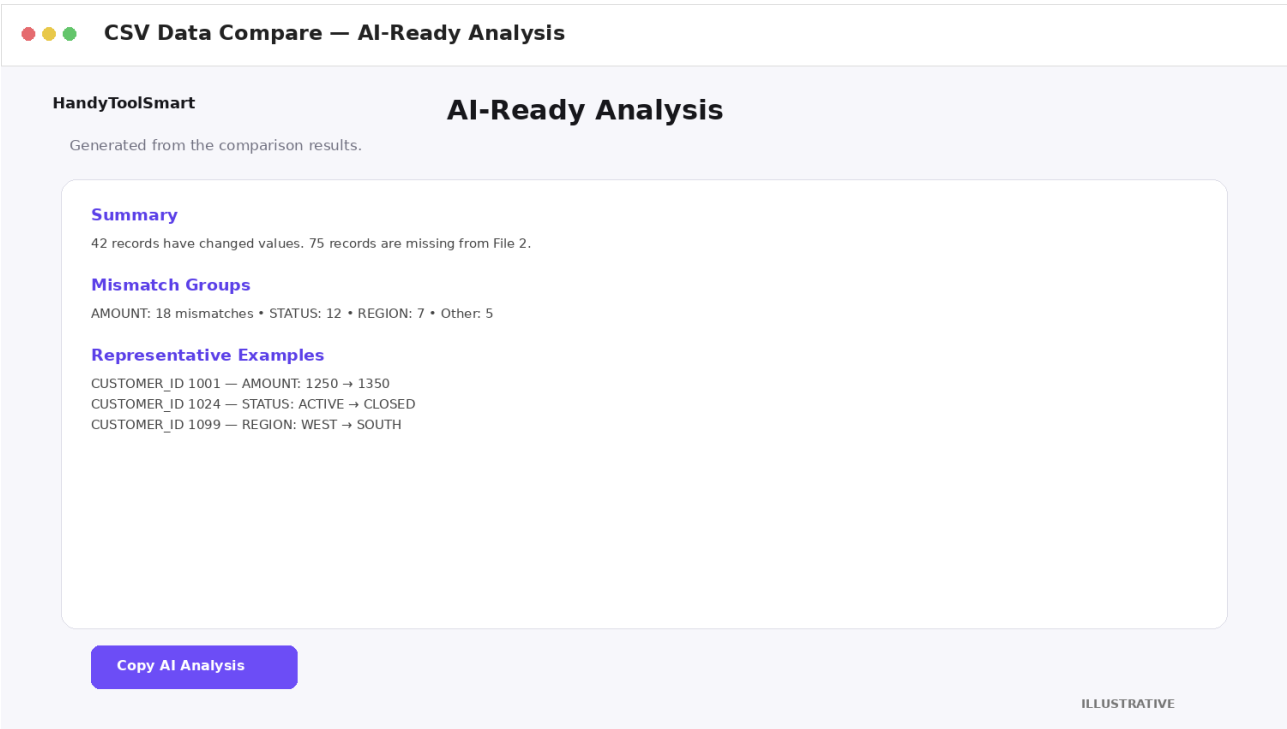
5. Understand the results



Illustrative results screen.

- File 1 / File 2 — number of records read from each file.
- Missing in File 2 — records found in File 1 but not File 2.
- Missing in File 1 — records found in File 2 but not File 1.
- Changed — matching records where one or more non-key columns have different values.
- Differences — shows the changed columns and the File 1/File 2 values.
- Duplicate keys — indicates duplicate Primary Key records.

6. Use AI-Ready Analysis



Illustrative AI-Ready Analysis screen.

The AI-Ready Analysis creates a concise, structured summary from the comparison results. It groups mismatches by column and provides representative examples. You can copy the analysis and use it with your preferred AI assistant.

The analysis itself does not require an AI API key; it is generated locally from the comparison results.

7. Example workflow

- Open the CSV Data Compare EXE.
- Select customers_old.csv as File 1.
- Select customers_new.csv as File 2.
- Select CUSTOMER_ID as the Primary Key.
- Click Compare Files.
- Review missing records, changed values, and duplicate-key information.
- Open AI-Ready Analysis and copy the summary if you want an AI assistant to explain the differences.

Important

CSV Data Compare is a local Windows application. It does not need an internet connection or an AI API key for the comparison or local AI-Ready Analysis. Always review results before taking action on your source files.

Troubleshooting

- If the EXE does not start, make sure you extracted the complete ZIP package before running it.
- If Windows shows a SmartScreen warning, verify that you downloaded the package from a trusted HandyToolSmart source.
- If no Primary Key columns appear, check that both CSV files have header rows and common column names.
- If the comparison reports duplicate keys, choose a more appropriate Primary Key or use multiple key columns.
- If the browser window does not open automatically, check whether the application is still running and then retry the EXE.