

## The Top 10 SAP Training Sources

You're busy. You're swamped, really. You don't have time to wade through a massive search of all the SAP training options out there. A keyword search for "SAP training" brings up a bewildering mix of web sites, some of them questionable in quality. So here's a quick guide to ten of what the top SAP experts consider the best sources for SAP training, both free and fee-based (free registration may be required in some cases). From functional basics to ABAP programming tips, from must-have books to can't miss tradeshow, we've got you covered with our top nine.

### 1. SCN eLearning

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**Ideal for:** All SAP professionals, particularly junior level.

Why not go to the source? [SCN eLearning](#) offers many free options for learning including online tutorials, webinars, videos, and demos. Of course, eLearning is just a small part of what SCN has to offer for professionals at all SAP skill levels. Forums, wikis, and blog posts from more than 2.3 million members quickly pile up with additional clarifications to keep the SAP conversation going. SCN allows SAP technicians, business users and BI pros to find their way based on their interest. Check out the [SAP training site](#) by subject area on SAP.com and scroll through their deep [online events section](#) which is [searchable by keyword](#). The documentation on [help.sap.com](#) is not to be overlooked either. If you're in a shopping mood, SAP has also launched an [online SAP training and certification store](#) searchable by SAP solution and role.

### 2. Virtual SAP TechEd

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**Ideal for:** Technical SAP pros (ABAP, Basis, NetWeaver).

More heavy duty free materials can be found at [Virtual SAP TechEd](#), where you can access expert-led exercises and classroom training from TechEd ASUG sessions, as well as taped hands-on workshops and [demo-rich lectures](#), which can be filtered by tracks such as "Technology Portfolio Overview" and "Business Intelligence and Performance Management." You can even check out [past DemoJam entries](#) for coding inspiration. Sometimes it's just better to be there. By attending [SAP TechEd](#)



events across the globe this fall, you'll gain access to expert networking sessions where you can engage with SAP speakers and SAP Mentors. At TechEd demo pods, you can test drive some of SAP's newest technology and get a better handle on where SAP is headed next. If you really want to get hands-on, get into the [InnoJam events](#) that take place at TechEd and other SAP events around the world.

### 3. SearchSAP.com

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**Ideal for:** Technical SAP pros plus project managers.

Over at [SearchSAP.com](http://SearchSAP.com), you'll find [free tutorials](#) and solid how-to content, not to mention an extensive [archive of advice](#) from subject matter experts on the technical side of SAP, including ABAP, Basis, and SAP security. There are plenty of white papers to browse in the [SAP Resource Library](#). Also, check out [SAP Community – Toolbox for IT](#), a knowledge sharing SAP community that is part of the ToolBox for IT network. SAP Toolbox offers blogs, wikis, professional networking, white papers, and newsletters geared towards most SAP specialty areas, from hands-on to SAP project management. One handy SAP Toolbox feature? Once registered, you can sign up for [customized email alerts](#) that bring you fresh content and notifications of activity relevant to the area you are trying to learn and master.



### 4. Americas' SAP Users' Group

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**Ideal for:** SAP installation customers in North America.

For a real world perspective, check out the insights from members of [Americas' SAP Users' Group](#) at ASUG.com. In addition to their regular regional and national meetings, ASUG is known to offer some of their webinars to non-members as well – here's their [upcoming calendar](#). The [ASUG 365 Twitter handle](#) is a good place to start if you want to track ASUG news as well as upcoming webinars. [ASUGNews.com](#) is another ASUG-affiliated site that shares customer experiences and takes on SAP's latest technologies. Other SAP user groups around the globe offer similar schedules of webinars and trade shows – here's a global [SAP user group directory](#).

### 5. MichaelManagement.com

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**Ideal for:** SAP users and those who seek configuration training.

Started by SAP consultant Thomas Michael, [MichaelManagement.com](http://MichaelManagement.com) is a go-to site for SAP online training. Geared toward both individuals and project teams, this fee-based training can either help you get started or enhance your current skill set. Michael Management specialties include SAP Financials, Logistics, and HR courses for SAP users. Michael Management has now added a number of SAP configuration courses to their offerings for project team members. They also offer a [free sample training course](#).

Michael Management also provides [SAP system access](#) if you or your team need to get your feet wet in a hands-on setting.



## 6. ERPTips.com

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**Ideal for:** SAP project teams.

[ERPTips.com](http://ERPTips.com) conducts public and onsite SAP classes aimed squarely at project team members (IT staff and key business users) responsible for understanding the full range of SAP functionality. Widely considered a leader in SAP project team training, ERPTips covers end-to-end business processes, required and optional setup, transaction flows, configuration, and SAP technical knowledge. ERPTips is known for their best-in-class manuals, which feature step-by-step screen shots, detailed instructions, and can also serve as office reference books. ERPTips has also made its library of hands-on SAP articles [available for subscription by subject area](#), with pricing that can work for individuals as well as teams. You can browse by topic prior to purchase.

## 7. ERPGenie.com

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**Ideal for:** Aspiring SAP professionals looking for free virtual content.

Another well-respected online source is [ERPGenie.com](http://ERPGenie.com), started by SAP consultant and author Kevin Wilson. One of the deeper SAP resource sites on the web, ERP Genie has a searchable library of white papers, an [ABAP tips and tricks section](#), and a training reference section with a number of third party training providers to review. Jon Reed's [JonERP.com](http://JonERP.com), another deep resource site for SAP professionals, includes an "[Online SAP Training Site Review](#)" section as well as [several podcasts on SAP training](#).



## 8. Soft SAP skills

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**Ideal for:** Consultancies and project managers.

When considering your SAP training options, overlook "soft SAP skills" at your peril. According to Guy Couillard of OTA, their studies have determined that the most common reason for SAP consultants getting kicked off project sites is NOT technical deficiency but a lack of soft skills. Accordingly, OTA has developed a unique [SAP Soft Skills Training Curriculum](#), including consulting skills training and project leadership courses. Organizational Change Management (OCM) is another area where SAP projects need the most support. OTA to the rescue with their [SAP OCM curriculum](#).

## 9. The Books

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**Ideal for:** Self-directed readers on-the-go.

If hard copy rocks your world, check out these books from [SAP Press](#), including some of the top sellers: [ABAP Basics \(2nd Edition\)](#), [100 Things You Should Know About HR Management with SAP](#), and [SAP Performance Optimization Guide \(6th Edition\)](#). SAP Press is the most respected SAP publisher in the business and you can't go wrong with the titles they publish. There are also some highly ranked SAP books on Amazon, including [100 Things You Should Know About Financial Accounting with SAP](#), [Next Generation ABAP Development \(2nd Edition\)](#) and [Sam's Teach Yourself SAP in 24 Hours](#), an SAP crash course that was recently updated for 2011. One way to navigate the massive 3,000-plus listings of

SAP books on Amazon? Head into the “Books” section on Amazon, then do a search on “SAP” plus the area you are interested in, such as “SAP Financials” or “SAP ABAP”. From there, check out the titles with the best reader reviews, making sure to double check the date of publication before purchasing to ensure the relevance of the information. There are now more than 80 SAP titles [available as Kindle eBooks](#), many of them priced affordably.

## 10. SAP Insider

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**Ideal for:** Experienced SAP business users.

[SAP Insider](#) combines a range of free and paid resources into a mature network of publications and conferences. More recently, SAP Insider established the [Insider Learning Network](#), which is picking up steam as a valuable free SAP resource site that includes regular podcasts and [white papers](#). The quarterly SAP Insider publication, [available free for subscription](#), has a deep online archive [organized by topic area](#). SAP Insider has made its signature with its [topically-focused conferences](#). Conference mainstays include “Managing SAP Projects,” “Financials 2012,” and “HR 2012,” with new shows being added at a regular clip such as “Cloud 2012.” Companion publications such as “Financials Expert” and “CRM Expert” keep the content coming between shows. SAP Insider also publishes the [SAP Professional Journal](#), a subscription-based mainstay for SAP technical professionals.



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