Northline Studio: Five-Seat Team Comparison

Analysis of Trello, Asana, ClickUp, Notion, and monday.com

This report is based solely on official pricing and help pages for a fictional five-seat studio.
Check Date: 2026-11-01 | Analyst: Manus AI

Monthly Equivalent Under Annual Billing (Official Display)

Product	Named Paid Plan	Official Display Price (Annual Billing, USD)
Trello	**Standard**	$5 USD per user/month ($6 billed monthly)
Asana	**Starter**	$10.99 per user/member per month
ClickUp	**Core**	$9 per user/month
Notion	**Plus**	$10 per member / month (with "Pay yearly" selected)
monday.com	**Standard**	$12 per seat/month (e.g., $1,440/year for 10 seats)

*Vendor plans vary in features; tiers are not directly comparable across products.

Five-Seat Annual Arithmetic (Analyst Calculation)

Product	Calculation Logic	Annual Total (USD)	Arithmetic Validity
Trello	5 seats × $5 × 12 mo	**$300.00**	Valid (Analyst calc)
Asana	5 seats × $10.99 × 12 mo	**$659.40**	Valid (5-seat plan supported)
ClickUp	5 seats × $9 × 12 mo	**$540.00**	Valid (Analyst calc)
Notion	5 seats × $10 × 12 mo	**$600.00**	Valid (Per-seat billing)
monday.com	5 seats × $12 × 12 mo	**$720.00**	Valid (5-seat bucket supported)

*Calculations exclude taxes and exchange rates; these are not vendor-displayed invoice totals.

Seat Minimums and Guest Access Caveats

Seat and Billing Rules

- **Asana:** 2-seat minimum; explicitly offers 3, 4, and 5-seat plans.
- **monday.com:** 3-seat minimum; "bucket" pricing in multiples of 5 (e.g., 5-seat option).
- **Notion/Trello/ClickUp:** No explicit five-seat minimum or band pricing found in reviewed materials.

Guest Access (External Collaborators)

- **Trello:** Single-board guests free; multi-board guests are billable members.
- **Asana:** Unlimited free guests on Starter; restricted access to shared work only.
- **ClickUp:** View-only guests free; permission guests limited (Core: 5 + 2 per member).
- **monday.com:** 4:1 ratio (up to 3 guests free; every group of 4 counts as 1 billed seat).

*Guest definitions and permission scopes vary significantly by vendor.

Data Export Availability Status

Product	Verification	Official Help Center Findings
Trello	**Verified**	JSON board export verified for all; CSV limited to Premium+.
Asana	**Verified**	JSON and CSV project export verified for Starter and higher.
ClickUp	*Unknown (Core)*	General export documented, but Core-specific table was missing.
Notion	**Verified**	Verified HTML, Markdown, and CSV export for whole workspace.
monday.com	**Verified**	Verified account ZIP and Excel board export (100k item limit).

*Verification is based strictly on plan-specific official help documentation.

Residual Unknowns and Source Boundaries

Upfront Payment Timing

While Asana and monday.com specify annual billing, the exact timing of the full "upfront" charge was not explicitly stated in retrieved text.

Plan Name Transitions

ClickUp mentions workspace upgrades; the final availability of the "Core" plan name for all new workspaces requires live verification.

Taxes and Regionals

All costs are in USD; final invoices will vary by billing country and applicable local taxes (e.g., VAT).

Numeric Guest Limits

The "10" external guest limit for Notion Plus was not unambiguously mapped to the Plus tier in the accessible official text.

Export Granularity

Detailed export field mapping for ClickUp Core was missing from official vendor availability tables.

Minimum Seat Enforcement

No explicit 5-seat minimum or band pricing was found for Trello, ClickUp, or Notion in public materials.

*Analysis as of 2026-11-01. No signup or contact was performed.