

Meta Title

BUSY vs Tally for Indian Businesses: Which Accounting Software Is Better?

Meta Description

BUSY or TallyPrime? Compare GST filing, reconciliation, inventory, audit trail, mobile access, support, pricing, and industry-specific features.

BUSY vs Tally: Which Accounting Software Is Better for Indian Businesses?

BUSY and TallyPrime are two popular accounting software options for Indian businesses. Both help with accounting, GST compliance, invoicing, inventory, and business reporting. But the right choice depends on what your business needs most.

If your business mainly needs a familiar accounting system with a large user network, TallyPrime can be a suitable option. But if you want GST-focused workflows, detailed reconciliation, mobile app access, multi-GSTIN support, audit trail, industry-specific features, and strong support for SMEs, BUSY can be a more practical choice.

BUSY is especially useful for businesses where accounting is closely connected with GST compliance, billing speed, stock movement, branch control, and day-to-day operations. It is suitable for SMEs, traders, distributors, retailers, manufacturers, CAs, and businesses from industries such as FMCG, garments, pharmacy, chemicals, hardware, mobile stores, sanitaryware, furniture, and more.

This comparison explains the key differences between BUSY and TallyPrime so you can choose the right software for your business.

Key Takeaways

- BUSY and TallyPrime both support Indian businesses with accounting, GST, inventory, and reporting.
- BUSY offers a free Express edition and a 15-day free trial, while TallyPrime offers a 7-day free trial.

- BUSY includes 1 mobile app free for the first year with eligible license purchases.
- BUSY positions deeper GST workflows such as voucher-level reconciliation, Bill-wise ITC Reversal Reports, GSTR-6 support, and Table 8A reconciliation as key differentiators.
- BUSY also supports industry-specific requirements such as batch-wise inventory, expiry tracking, barcode and QR billing, serial number and IMEI tracking, size and colour-wise stock, multi-godown inventory, and scheme management.
- BUSY supports audit trail, user activity logs, access rights, backup options, and business controls that help SMEs maintain better transparency and control over their accounting data.
- TallyPrime is strong for businesses already using the Tally ecosystem or working with accountants trained on Tally.
- BUSY can be a strong choice for GST-focused SMEs, multi-GSTIN businesses, distributors, retailers, manufacturers, industry-specific businesses, and CAs managing multiple clients.

What Are BUSY and TallyPrime?

BUSY is GST-ready accounting software developed for micro, small, and medium businesses in India. It brings accounting, billing, GST workflows, inventory, TDS/TCS, reporting, audit trail, and business controls into one system. BUSY is available on desktop, cloud, and mobile.

TallyPrime is accounting and business management software developed by Tally Solutions. It supports accounting, GST compliance, inventory, payroll, reporting, e-invoicing, and e-way bill workflows. It also has a large user base and partner ecosystem across India.

Both platforms are capable, but they differ in entry cost, GST workflow depth, mobile access, support model, industry-specific readiness, business controls, and suitability for different business types.

Quick Comparison: BUSY vs TallyPrime

Feature	BUSY	TallyPrime
Free plan	Yes, BUSY Express	No permanent free plan

Free trial		15 days	7 days
Starting option	entry	Free Express edition and paid plans	Paid license or rental model
GST workflows	return	GSTR-1/IFF, GSTR-3B, GSTR-4, GSTR-9 and related workflows	GSTR-1, GSTR-3B, GSTR-9 and related workflows
GSTR-2A/2B reconciliation		Available with detailed reconciliation workflows	Available
Bill-wise Reversal Report	ITC	Available	Businesses should verify based on their exact setup
GSTR-6 support		Available for Input Service Distributors	Businesses should verify based on their exact setup
E-invoicing		Yes	Yes
E-way bill		Yes	Yes
Multi-GSTIN support		Yes	Yes
Manufacturing/BO M		Yes	Yes
Industry-specific features		Strong fit for FMCG, garments, pharmacy, chemical, retail, mobile stores, hardware, furniture, sanitaryware, distribution, and more	Suitable for many businesses, but exact workflows may depend on setup or customisation
Inventory controls		Batch, expiry, barcode, QR, serial number, IMEI, size, colour, godown, and parameter-based stock controls	Inventory features available

Audit trail and controls	Audit trail, user activity logs, access rights, and business controls	Audit trail/Edit Log available
Mobile app	Official BUSY mobile app, with 1 mobile app free for first year on eligible plans	Access depends on Tally's cloud, remote, or ecosystem options
Backup	Google Drive backup through BUSY Agent	Backup options available, including cloud backup features
Support	24/7 support channels and multilingual support claims on BUSY pages	Support available through Tally and partner network
Tally data import	Yes	Not applicable

GST Compliance: BUSY vs TallyPrime

Both BUSY and TallyPrime support GST workflows such as GSTR-1, GSTR-3B, reconciliation, e-invoicing, and e-way bill generation. So the difference is not whether GST is available. The difference is how deep and practical the GST workflow is for regular compliance work.

BUSY positions several GST-focused features as key differentiators, including:

- Voucher and party-wise GSTR-2A vs GSTR-2B reconciliation
- Bill-wise ITC Reversal Reports
- GSTR-6 support for Input Service Distributors
- Table 8A auto-download and reconciliation for GSTR-9
- Electronic cash, credit, and liability ledger visibility
- Return filing status checks for multiple parties
- CBIC circulars and GST notifications access inside the [BUSY software](#)
- GST portal data reconciliation across different return types

For businesses that regularly deal with ITC mismatches, supplier follow-ups, GST notices, and month-end reconciliation pressure, BUSY's GST workflow depth can be a practical advantage.

TallyPrime also supports important GST activities, including GSTR-1, GSTR-3B, GST reconciliation, e-invoicing, and e-way bills. It remains a strong option for businesses that are already comfortable with Tally and have trained staff or consultants using it.

Inventory Management: BUSY vs TallyPrime

Both BUSY and TallyPrime support inventory management. They can help businesses manage stock, sales, purchases, and inventory reports.

BUSY offers several inventory features that are useful for stock-heavy businesses, including:

- Multiple godown inventory
- Batch-wise inventory
- Manufacturing and expiry date tracking
- Serial number and IMEI tracking
- Parameter-based stock management
- Barcode and QR code scan-based billing
- Scheme management for retail and FMCG businesses
- Regional language invoice printing

These features are useful for industries such as pharma, FMCG, electronics, computer hardware, garments, food products, hardware, sanitaryware, mobile stores, furniture, retail, and distribution businesses.

For example, a garment business may need size and colour-wise stock tracking, a pharmacy or FMCG business may need batch and expiry tracking, and a mobile store may need IMEI-wise inventory. [BUSY supports](#) these practical business requirements along with accounting, billing, GST, and reporting.

TallyPrime also offers robust inventory management capabilities and is widely used by trading and manufacturing businesses. However, for businesses that need more ready-to-use inventory controls such as expiry, IMEI, barcode, QR, size, colour, or parameter-based stock handling, BUSY can be more suitable.

Mobile App and Accessibility

BUSY offers an official mobile app for existing BUSY users. Eligible BUSY license purchases include 1 mobile app free for the first year.

The BUSY mobile app supports:

- Invoice creation and sharing
- Quotation, order, receipt, and payment entry
- Barcode and QR code scanning
- WhatsApp invoice sharing
- Ledger access
- Stock, sales, purchase, receivable, and payable reports
- Real-time sync with BUSY Desktop

This is useful for business owners, field sales teams, and accountants who need access to business data outside the office.

TallyPrime can be accessed through cloud or remote access options, and mobile access may depend on the setup or ecosystem used. If a business specifically wants an official mobile app connected with its accounting software, BUSY has a clearer mobile-first advantage.

Customer Support

BUSY promotes 24/7 customer support and multilingual support through phone, email, WhatsApp, and partner channels. This can be helpful for SMEs that need assistance with setup, GST configuration, data migration, inventory setup, or day-to-day use.

TallyPrime also has a large partner and support ecosystem across India. Many accountants and bookkeepers are already trained in Tally, which can make hiring and onboarding easier for businesses that use it.

For businesses choosing new software, BUSY's support model and multilingual availability can be a useful advantage, especially for regional SMEs and CA-led client setups.

Manufacturing and Advanced Business Features

Both BUSY and TallyPrime support manufacturing workflows such as BOM, production, and job work.

BUSY also supports advanced features such as:

- BOM and production planning
- Production variance reports
- Job work support
- Multi-branch management
- Multi-GSTIN management

- Payroll management
- Cost centre and reporting controls
- Data binding with hard disk
- Audit trail
- User activity logs
- User-definable access rights
- Access control for multiple users
- Scheduled Google Drive backup through BUSY Agent
- Business data backup options

These features make BUSY useful for businesses that want accounting, billing, inventory, GST compliance, production, audit trail, backup, and business controls in one platform.

Data Migration from Tally to BUSY

A common concern for businesses switching software is whether old data can be moved safely. BUSY supports data import from Tally, which helps businesses shift existing accounting records without starting from zero.

This is useful for businesses already using Tally but looking for stronger GST workflows, better mobile access, industry-specific inventory features, audit trail, or a different support experience.

Before migration, businesses should still review their data quality, voucher structure, masters, GSTIN details, ledgers, and inventory setup. Clean data makes the migration smoother and reduces post-migration errors.

When Should You Choose BUSY?

BUSY can be a better fit if:

- You want a free Express edition to start with basic accounting.
- You want 1 mobile app free for the first year with an eligible license purchase.
- You need detailed GST reconciliation and ITC review workflows.
- You manage multiple GSTINs, branches, or companies.
- You are a CA managing multiple client accounts.
- You need inventory features such as batch, expiry, barcode, QR, IMEI, size, colour, or parameter-based stock control.
- You need industry-specific features for FMCG, garments, pharmacy, chemicals, retail, mobile stores, hardware, sanitaryware, furniture, or distribution.
- You want audit trail, user activity logs, access rights, and business controls for

better transparency.

- You want scheduled Google Drive backup through BUSY Agent.
- You want multilingual support and easier assistance for SME users.
- You want billing, accounting, inventory, GST, audit trail, backup, and mobile access in one connected system.

When Can TallyPrime Be a Good Choice?

TallyPrime can be a good fit if:

- Your business is already using Tally and your team is comfortable with it.
- Your accountant or consultant works mainly on Tally.
- You need a widely known accounting platform with a large user base.
- You already depend on Tally-specific customisations, add-ons, or partner services.
- You prefer to continue with an existing Tally setup instead of migrating.

TallyPrime remains a valid choice for many Indian businesses. The decision should be based on your actual use case, not just brand familiarity.

BUSY vs Tally: Which One Is Better?

There is no single answer for every business.

For businesses that want a familiar accounting platform with a large ecosystem, TallyPrime remains a strong option. But for GST-focused SMEs, distributors, retailers, manufacturers, multi-GSTIN businesses, industry-specific businesses, and CAs who want deeper reconciliation, mobile app access, audit trail, inventory depth, support, and practical business controls, BUSY can be the stronger choice.

A good way to decide is to compare both tools on these points:

Evaluation Area	What to Check
GST compliance	Does the software support the GST returns, reconciliation, and ITC reports your business needs?
Inventory	Does it support your stock structure, batches, expiry, barcode, QR, or IMEI needs?
Industry fit	Does it support your business type, such as FMCG, garments, pharmacy, retail, mobile store, sanitaryware, or manufacturing?

Audit trail and controls	Does it help you track changes, user activity, access rights, and compliance-ready records?
Mobile access	Can owners, accountants, and field teams access business data easily?
Support	Is support available in a way your team can actually use?
Migration	Can your existing data be imported without heavy manual work?

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1. Is BUSY better than Tally for GST filing in India?

BUSY can be better for businesses that need deeper GST reconciliation and ITC review workflows. It highlights features such as voucher-level GSTR-2A vs GSTR-2B reconciliation, Bill-wise ITC Reversal Reports, GSTR-6 support, Table 8A reconciliation, and GST portal data comparison. TallyPrime also supports major GST workflows, so the better choice depends on your compliance depth and business needs.

Q2. Is BUSY cheaper than TallyPrime?

BUSY offers a free Express edition and paid plans for advanced features. TallyPrime generally follows a paid license or rental model. The final cost depends on the plan, number of users, deployment model, renewal, support, mobile access, and add-on requirements.

Q3. Can BUSY import data from Tally?

Yes. BUSY supports data import from Tally, which helps businesses move existing accounting records without entering everything manually again. Before migration, it is better to review masters, ledgers, vouchers, GSTIN details, and inventory data.

Q4. Does BUSY have a mobile app?

Yes. BUSY offers an official mobile app for existing BUSY users. The app supports invoice creation and sharing, barcode and QR scanning, ledger access, stock reports, receivables, payables, quotations, orders, receipts, and payments.

Q5. Does TallyPrime support GST reconciliation?

Yes. TallyPrime supports GST reconciliation, including GSTR-2A and GSTR-2B reconciliation. BUSY, however, positions deeper GST reconciliation workflows and additional GST reports as key differentiators.

Q6. Which software is better for Chartered Accountants?

Both BUSY and TallyPrime can be used by Chartered Accountants. BUSY can be especially useful for CAs who manage multiple SMEs, GSTINs, branches, and reconciliation-heavy clients. TallyPrime can be suitable for CAs already working with the Tally ecosystem.

Q7. Does BUSY support e-invoicing and e-way bills?

Yes. BUSY supports e-invoicing and e-way bill workflows. TallyPrime also supports e-invoicing and e-way bill workflows.

Q8. Which software is better for inventory-heavy businesses?

BUSY can be a strong choice for inventory-heavy businesses because it supports features such as multiple godowns, batch-wise inventory, expiry tracking, serial number and IMEI tracking, barcode and QR scanning, size and colour-wise stock, and parameter-based stock management. TallyPrime also supports inventory, but businesses should compare the exact features they need before choosing.

Q9. Does BUSY offer industry-specific accounting software features?

Yes. BUSY supports industry-specific requirements for businesses such as FMCG, garments, pharmacy, retail, chemicals, mobile stores, hardware, furniture, sanitaryware, and distribution. These features can include batch tracking, expiry management, barcode billing, size and colour-wise stock, IMEI tracking, scheme management, multi-godown inventory, GST billing, and industry-specific reports.

Q10. Does BUSY support audit trail?

Yes. BUSY supports audit trail features that help businesses track changes in vouchers and masters. It also supports business control features such as user activity logs, user-definable access rights, backup options, and data security controls.

Conclusion

BUSY and TallyPrime are both capable accounting software options for Indian businesses. TallyPrime has a strong user base, a wide ecosystem, and familiarity

among accountants. BUSY stands out for GST-focused workflows, detailed reconciliation, mobile app access, multi-GSTIN support, industry-specific features, inventory depth, audit trail, backup options, and SME-friendly support.

For businesses already invested in TallyPrime, continuing with Tally may make sense. But for SMEs, traders, distributors, manufacturers, retailers, pharmacy businesses, garment businesses, FMCG distributors, mobile stores, hardware businesses, sanitaryware businesses, and CAs choosing new accounting software or planning a switch, BUSY can be a more practical and GST-focused option.

The best choice should be based on your GST workload, inventory complexity, industry-specific needs, user access requirements, audit trail expectations, support needs, and long-term business growth.