

# N6 (NUD\*IST 6)

## Features and Benefits

[Read about the features and benefits of our N6 software.](#)

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Released in 2002, N6 (NUD\*IST 6) set the benchmark for qualitative research software designed to handle large volumes of information.

NVivo 7 now supersedes N6 as the latest software in the NUD\*IST product line.

### Documents can grow as your project grows

Want to bring in text from the Internet, an email, or a database? Just cut and paste them in as new or appended documents. From email messages, and extracts from reports, to quotes from focus groups - you can add to or edit documents at any stage, while maintaining coding you've already completed.

### Work with photos, videos, and diaries

Are some of your records non-text data? N6 doesn't just help with text-based documents - it can also accommodate visual imagery and other project material such as interview recordings, newspaper clippings and so on. You can use 'external' documents to represent any information required for your project. Importantly, this non-text data can be coded, have associated memos, be searched on and explored for patterns – just as your text files can be.

### Capture and organize your ideas

N6 stores and manages ideas in nodes, which are "containers" for concepts, topics and categories. Before you start, create nodes to store and order topics your project is investigating. Alternatively, create the nodes while you work.

### Record your thoughts as you work

Had an insight and want to note it before you forget it? Just create or select a node, code the selected text and keep thinking. N6 stores the idea with a pointer to the text you coded and any description you have added. So you can always go back to it when you're ready.

### Qualitative questions and confident answers

N6 offers both simple and pattern-based text searches, and these can be saved and rerun as required. Code the results of searches at new nodes, so you can keep asking further questions. You'll be building clear evidence of your findings at the same time.

### Reflect, review and revisit

With N6, coding isn't the end of the analytic road, but the first step to understanding a concept or category. And when it's time to reflect, you can review your coding for a topic; revise the coding and record further ideas; rethink your coding in context - or go back to the source. You can use the "Code on" feature to make new categories and continue to review and re-code the gathered data as you move towards your conclusions.

### Manage large amounts of information

N6 easily supports projects that have large volumes of data. It includes robust tools for processing and automatically coding large data sets. With N6 you can:

- Link qualitative and quantitative data by importing from and exporting to statistics and database programs such as SPSS, Excel, and Access.
- Search for specific text and set N6 to autocode that data.
- Use the Command Assistant to automate large scale or repetitive processes.
- Set up very large projects quickly, check coder reliability or replicate searches in different contexts. Command files can be conveniently stored, edited and reused throughout the project.

### Take a bird's eye view

Take a bird's eye view of your coding by creating a matrix. It's a dynamic representation of your data – so you can click on a link anywhere in the matrix and be taken directly to the source.

The screenshot shows the 'Matrix Viewer: Node Search' window. The title bar indicates 'Showing: Number of text-units coded'. The interface includes fields for Node, Description, Rows, and Columns, along with 'Make Report...' and 'Export Matrix...' buttons. Below these fields is a matrix table with the following data:

	love	cuddles	company	develop~	sleep	mother
20s	0	0	0	0	0	0
30s	12	16	19	20	0	29
40s	0	0	6	2	0	0

We've listed the full range of features in N6 below:

- Copy and paste or import documents.
- Import many new documents in one action to save time.
- Edit documents at any stage, while maintaining coding you've already completed.
- Copy and paste text from a range of sources: the Internet, an email, or a database.
- Automate coding and searching with full command language.
- Use the Command Assistant to automate large scale or repetitive processes.
- Code and search on your own memos and notes.
- Code units of text, lines of text, sentences and paragraphs.
- Use "external" documents to represent non-text data such as audio files.
- Code non-text data, write memos, explore patterns and search for answers just as you would with text.
- Store and manage concepts, topics, and categories in 'containers' called nodes.
- Display all your nodes, so you can see the ideas emerging, and review and revise your growing analysis framework.
- Store attributes data like gender, income and location.
- Use node search tools to ask qualitative questions using attribute information.
- Rethink in context, expand the text, or go back to the source.
- "Code on" to make new, more subtle categories as you work.
- Link qualitative and quantitative data by importing from and exporting to statistics and database programs such as SPSS.
- Check coder reliability or replicate searches in different contexts.
- Store, edit and reuse Command Files.
- Store and rerun searches of your text and nodes, then code the results of searches at new nodes.
- Create a matrix to show patterns of coding and see a live link to the text it refers to.