

PDF solution comparison

Power PDF Advanced 2 vs. Adobe Acrobat Standard DC and Adobe Acrobat Pro DC

Executive summary

Features	Adobe Acrobat Standard DC*	Adobe Acrobat Pro DC*	Power PDF Advanced 2
Compatibility			
Microsoft Office style ribbon user interface to minimise learning curve and maximise productivity			•
Microsoft Windows 10 touch-enabled device support with "Touch Mode" option	No "Touch Mode" option	No "Touch Mode" option	•
Compatible with Microsoft Windows 7, 8, 8.1, 10	•	•	•
Compatible with Microsoft Office 2010, 2013 and 2016	•	•	•
Integrated create and convert add-ons for Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and Internet Explorer	No PDF conversion	No PDF conversion	•
Right-mouse shortcuts for Windows Explorer and Internet Explorer	•	•	•
Support for viewing and annotating PDF within Internet Explorer	•	•	•
PDF Create add-ons in Firefox and Chrome	•	•	•
Supports OpenText eDOCS, HP WorkSite, Livelink, OpenText Enterprise Connect, NetDocuments, Worldox, EMC Documentum, Xerox DocuShare, Therefore, HP Trim, Office 365 and SharePoint Document Management Systems (DMS)	•	•	•
Supports Dropbox, Evernote, Box, Google Drive and Microsoft OneDrive cloud storage services	No Evernote and Google Drive	No Evernote and Google Drive	•
Supports LexisNexis CaseMap	•	•	•
Support for movies and audio embedded in a PDF	•	•	•
Support for Microsoft Silverlight			•
Support for viewing the latest Adobe PDF portfolio animations and graphics	•	•	•
PDF/A compliance checking for the full range of PDF/A-1, PDF/A-2 and PDF/A-3 levels		•	•
Online Help to ensure users have access to the latest information	•	•	•

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Features	Adobe Acrobat Standard DC*	Adobe Acrobat Pro DC*	Power PDF Advanced 2
PDF creation			
Create PDF documents from any application that prints	•	•	•
Create PDF documents directly from your scanner	•	•	•
One-click professional scanning with auto find-and-mark technology			•
Proofread text recognition results automatically after scanning and review and correct suspected errors			•
One-step PDF creation from Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint	•	•	•
Create and send PDF-to-email attachment with Microsoft Outlook	•	•	•
One-step PDF creation and archive of Microsoft Outlook and Lotus Notes emails	•	•	•
One-step PDF creation from web pages from Internet Explorer, Firefox and Chrome	•	•	•
Retain hyperlinks embedded in web pages when converting to PDF	•	•	•
Batch create PDF from multiple files and file types	•	•	•
Watched folder processing to automate routine PDF and TIFF creation tasks from a wide range of formats			•
Create a single PDF document by merging multiple files	•	•	•
Support for creating PDF Version 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7 files	•	•	•
Create ISO-standard PDF/A files (PDF/A-1, PDF/A-2, and PDF/A-3 levels)	•	•	•
Create and send PDF Portfolios		•	•
Create PDF-MRC high compression colour PDF image files (up to 8 times smaller)	•	•	•
Create Assistant desktop utility or similar			•
Customisable PDF creation profiles	•	•	•
Merge PDF image files with PDF text files	•	•	•
Insert pre-made and custom watermarks at creation	•	•	•
Apply security settings at creation	•	•	•
Add custom headers & footers to PDF documents (page numbering)	•	•	•
Adjust compression levels for smaller files	•	•	•
Preserve hyperlinks and metadata, add bookmarks and comments from Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint	•	•	•
Add passwords with 128-bit and 256-bit AES secure encryption and permission controls to PDF files	•	•	•
Create and apply self-sign digital signatures	•	•	•

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Features	Adobe Acrobat Standard DC*	Adobe Acrobat Pro DC*	Power PDF Advanced 2
PDF security and signing			
Microsoft Crypto API/3rd party digital signature compatibility	●	●	●
Add, manage, view and navigate document digital signatures	●	●	●
Drag and drop security profiles to quickly and easily secure documents			●
Support for FileOpen-protected documents (digital rights management)	Requires an add-on	Requires an add-on	●
View protected PDF files and apply protection to PDF documents using Microsoft Active Directory Rights Management Services (AD RMS)			●
Enable server side protection to be applied to PDF documents stored on SharePoint 2007/2010/2013 using AD RMS			●
Redact text and graphics from PDF files		●	●
Apply redaction text properties including colour, redaction codes and custom overlay text		●	●
Inspect document to remove comments and metadata (private data)	●	●	●
Organise and manage a library of security profiles	●	●	●
Organise and manage a library of digital signatures	●	●	●
Organise and manage a library of PDF security envelopes			●
PDF conversion			
Convert PDF to Word (.doc, .docx)	●	●	●
Convert PDF to Excel workbooks and worksheets (.xls, .xlsx)	Only .xlsx workbooks	Only .xlsx workbooks	●
Convert multipage PDF table or spreadsheet into a single Microsoft Excel document	●	●	●
Convert PDF to PowerPoint (.pptx)		●	●
Convert PDF to WordPerfect (.wpd)			●
Convert PDF to XPS (.xps)			●
Convert XPS to PDF	●	●	●
Auto-detects scanned (image) PDF files and offers to convert them to searchable PDF files			●
Convert scanned (image) PDF files to searchable PDF files (text over image)	●	●	●
Convert scanned (image) PDF files to editable PDF files and other formats	●	●	●
Convert scanned colour (image) PDF files to compressed MRC-PDF files (average 8x smaller)	●	●	●
Proofread and correct text after OCR conversion to searchable PDF	●	●	●

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Features	Adobe Acrobat Standard DC*	Adobe Acrobat Pro DC*	Power PDF Advanced 2
Batch conversion of PDF files to target formats		●	●
Batch convert to single page TIFF files		●	●
Batch TIFF converter utility			●
Superior conversion accuracy with OmniPage OCR engine	Other OCR	Other OCR	●
Convert Assistant desktop utility or similar			●
Retains layout and column flow	●	●	●
Retains headers and footers in Microsoft Word	●	●	●
Retains hyperlinks (.doc, .docx, .wpd, .xls, .xlsx)	Only for .doc and .docx	Only for .doc and .docx	●
Extract tables from a PDF file and place into Excel or Word	●	●	●
Convert a select area of a page using OCR and convert to Word, Excel, PowerPoint, WordPerfect—for scanned (image) PDF files as well as text-based PDF files			●
Convert and save PDF to audio file (.mp3)			●
PDF editing and assembly			
Edit your PDF files like in a word processor using the Advanced Editor			●
Manage pages in a document (reorder, insert, extract, crop, rotate and delete pages)	●	●	●
Assemble documents in document assembly view (insert, extract, replace, delete, split, renumber, manage headers/ footers, drag and drop pages)	●	●	●
Tabbed document previews lets you see all your document pages in a floating dialog box to make the most of your screen real estate			●
Batch process multiple documents at a time with varied commands (insert, extract and delete pages; apply watermarks and stamps; search and redact; remove document elements; and print)		●	●
Create custom batch sequence workflows and apply them as watched folder commands			●
Add, manage, view and navigate document bookmarks	●	●	●
Create a table of contents from bookmarks			●
Support for XMP (Extensible Metadata Platform) metadata in the document	●	●	●
Edit, cut, copy and paste text	●	●	●
Move, resize, rotate, flip, order, group, set transparency, cut, copy and paste graphics and images	●	●	●
Document splitting by page range, blank page, page contents, bookmarks, or file size	Fewer options	Fewer options	●
Maintain document links and bookmarking when replacing pages in a document	●	●	●

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Manage document layers. Turn on/off, show/hide and lock/unlock layers in PDF files created by programs such as AutoCAD, Microsoft Visio and Microsoft Project. Select and merge layers, view and modify properties of layers and even control layers for printing.	No merge	•	•
PDF Optimizer for reduced file sizes		•	•
Reduce the file size of one or a batch of PDF files	•	•	•
Custom actions for bookmarks or hyperlinks (open a file, play a sound, go to a web page, etc.)	•	•	•
Attach application files or sounds to a PDF	•	•	•
Fix PDF/A compliance problems with the compliance checker or via the Save As PDF/A command		•	•
Bates stamping with advanced formatting and page positioning		•	•
PDF review and collaboration			
Perform intelligent Looks Like Search™ to quickly find content, like phone numbers, email addresses and Social Security numbers, via an alphanumeric pattern rather than exact text. Choose from predefined patterns or create your own patterns.		Only via redaction tool; No pattern creation	•
Automatically highlight, cross-out, underline or redact search results for faster, easier PDF review and editing		Only redaction	•
Preview PDF email attachments in Microsoft Outlook	•	•	•
Instant access to frequently used PDF files and online PDF files (URLs) with favourites menu	•	•	•
Side-by-side document comparison (PDF to PDF and PDF to Word)		PDF to PDF only	•
Open and save files through the File menu to DMS	Varies per DMS	Varies per DMS	•
Open and save files through the File menu to popular cloud document storage services: Box, Dropbox, Evernote, Google Drive and Microsoft OneDrive	Via Home view; No Evernote and Google Drive	Via Home view; No Evernote and Google Drive	•
Save, track and open revisions within a PDF document			•
Add, manage, view and navigate document digital signatures	•	•	•
Familiar comment and markup tools (notes, text boxes, typewriter, callouts, highlight, text underline, cross-out, stamps)	•	•	•
Automatically populate comments with highlighted and annotated text	•	•	•
Create notes in PDF files by speaking using Dragon Notes			•
Create new stamps from selected page elements	Only from objects	Only from objects	•
Select date and time formats for new dynamic stamps			•
Apply stamps to one or all pages	Only to one page at a time	Only to one page at a time	•

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Organise and manage a library of stamps	●	●	●
Spellchecking for comments and form fields	●	●	●
Migrate comments from one PDF file to another for ease of collaboration and review	●	●	●
Drawing (comment) tools including lines, arrow, rectangles, pencil, oval, polygon and cloud	●	●	●
Measuring tool (with save as comment)	●	●	●
Print with comments and form fields	●	●	●
Organise and manage a library of watermarks	●	●	●
Working with PDF files			
PDF viewing of all PDF types	●	●	●
“Find a tool” search capability	●	●	●
Customisable Quick Access Toolbar with shortcuts to the features and capabilities for each user	●	●	●
Advanced search and indexing for documents, text within a document, comments and bookmarks	Basic indexing	●	●
Search results list and screen highlighting of found words in the document	●	●	●
iFilter utility for SharePoint for indexing and rapidly finding PDFs on SharePoint 2007/2010/2013	●	●	●
Open PDF files created from Microsoft Office without having to save them first	●	●	●
Limit file open and save locations to certain folders only			●
Send a PDF file to a fax machine via email			●
Support for network scanning and eCopy ShareScan with monitored Scan Inboxes			●
PDF forms			
Automatic conversion of a PDF file into a fillable PDF form	●	●	●
Draw and edit form controls (text fields, buttons, drop down lists, check boxes and radio buttons)	●	●	●
Edit text and object attributes (font, colour, line weight, display and print options)	●	●	●
Create digital signatures fields on forms	●	●	●
Custom actions on form objects (import form data, play a sound, open a file, open a web page, etc.)	●	●	●
Export form data from one or multiple filled in PDF forms	●	●	●
Support for Adobe dynamic forms (XFA)	●	●	●
JavaScript support	●	●	●
Set tab order for form fields	●	●	●

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Features	Adobe Acrobat Standard DC*	Adobe Acrobat Pro DC*	Power PDF Advanced 2
Accessibility			
Work with an accessible user interface	●	●	●
Create tagged, accessible PDF files	●	●	●
Adjustable high-contrast mode for PDF documents	●	●	●
Edit PDF tags		●	●
Adjust or fully define reading order of document content using the Reading Order panel		●	●
Verify accessibility of PDF documents		●	●
Read document aloud—Text-to-speech capability	Uses voices installed on the system	Uses voices installed on the system	●
Deployment and customisation			
Support for Citrix and Remote Desktop Services (thin client deployment/use)	●	●	●
Support for Microsoft Application Virtualization	●	●	●
Installation Customization Kit to easily control the deployable options for each department	●	●	●
Read only mode to enforce compliance and help control best practices and regulatory mandates			●
Install or disable plugins and application functions (Customization Kit)	●	●	●
Install selected DMS connectors only (Customization Kit)			●
API capabilities (programming interface)	●	●	●

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For more information on Power PDF, please visit nuance.co.uk.

About Nuance Communications, Inc.

Nuance Communications, Inc. is a leading provider of voice and language solutions for businesses and consumers around the world. Its technologies, applications and services make the user experience more compelling by transforming the way people interact with devices and systems. Every day, millions of users and thousands of businesses experience Nuance's proven applications. For more information, please visit: www.nuance.co.uk.