



- Questions
- Tags
- Users
- Badges
- Unanswered
- Ask Question

Stack Overflow is a question and answer site for professional and enthusiast programmers. It's 100% free, no registration required.

Take the 2-minute tour

## PDF conversion service



▲ 2 I need to develop a service able to convert MS Office and Open Office documents to PDF. And the PDF's also need to be commentable when opened in ADOBE Reader.

▼ I have used a piece of software from www.neevia.com. And it does the conversion, but is not able to make the PDF's commentable and is therefore useless in my scenario.

★ 1 Ideally I would like a piece of software that is monitoring a directory, and when a file is committed to that directory, the software detects this, fetches the file, converts it, and puts it in another directory. This way I can programmatically put the file I want converted in the IN folder and monitor the OUT folder to fetch the file when converted.

So do anyone know a piece of software capable of converting MS Office and Open Office files to commentable PDF's?

pdf service ms-office openoffice.org file-conversion

share improve this question

edited Nov 12 '09 at 21:22

Martin Beckett 64.2k 10 117 201

asked Nov 6 '09 at 13:36

Thelmdal 43 6

add a comment

### 6 Answers

active oldest votes

▲ 2 It sounds like you're after the "Extend Features In Acrobat Reader" document rights feature that's part of Acrobat Professional. If you want a programmatic way of doing it then Adobe LiveCycle is the only game in town. This is one of the features that Adobe keeps for itself and no third party is legally allowed to provide it.

▼ share improve this answer

answered Nov 6 '09 at 22:51

yu-chen-pdfonline-com 116 2

add a comment



▲ 1 You could programmatically, using office automation, print documents to a postscript printer driver to get a postscript file, then use GhostScript to convert the PS file to PDF. Not sure of the commentable features supported by Adobe Reader as opposed to the full version of Acrobat, but it should create a reasonably well supported PDF file.

share improve this answer

answered Nov 6 '09 at 13:41

Mark Redman 11.6k 13 44 98

add a comment

asked 5 years ago

viewed 460 times

active 2 years ago

**Novetta**  
based in Reston, VA

**2 open jobs**

**Front End Developer**  
Springfield, VA  
javascript htm5 bootstrap

**Full Stack Developer**  
Springfield, VA  
java javascript angularjs

[view company page](#)

### Related

- 5 Generate ODT/DOC(X) and convert to PDF, without OO.o/MS
- 2 pdf to ebook conversion
- 2 Blacklining of pdf files
- 1 Server side library for conversion of office files to pdf with added stamp/watermark
- 8 What is a good option for converting Office Documents to PDF or Image
- 1 From MS Office to PDF
- 0 How to get rid of the white background of MS Visio files by PDF-Conversion?
- 1 How to convert a MS Office DOC/XLS/PPT & PDF to image on Android
- 1 Automate Word/Powerpoint to PDF
- 0 How can I convert old xif image files (Pagis, Xerox) to PDF (or another format.)

Web2PDF

converted by Web2PDFConvert.com

▲ **A-PDF** may do what you want, it's web site claims it can convert office docs into PDF including batch conversion with watching a folder.

0

share improve this answer

answered Nov 6 '09 at 13:58



**Ian Ringrose**  
21.6k ● 21 ● 141 ● 236

add a comment

▲ Both Office 2007 and OpenOffice can save directly to PDF, so you could automate that process.

0

However, changing the "document rights" of the PDF to allow commenting is something that only Adobe Acrobat can do. (This is Adobe's way of selling more product). There are other 3rd-party tools out there that claim to be able to do it (google change pdf +"document rights"), but I can't vouch for any of them.

share improve this answer

answered Nov 6 '09 at 13:59



**Gary McGill**  
9,325 ● 8 ● 51 ● 91

[imgtly.com/?q=change+pdf+%2B%22document+rights%22](http://imgtly.com/?q=change+pdf+%2B%22document+rights%22) – Corv Nov 6 '09 at 14:14

I am actually willing to buy Acrobat Pro to get this functionality, but it seems they do not offer any kind of software running as a service that is capable of automating this process easily. – [Thelmdal](#) Nov 6 '09 at 14:19

add a comment

▲ I believe the commentable features are part of the PDF software, and not the file. Adobe Professional will allow to add comments, while the reader has less capabilities.

0

share improve this answer

answered Nov 12 '09 at 21:26



**David Robbins**  
6,993 ● 4 ● 34 ● 71

add a comment

▲ Hmm, you can develop your own or just buy it off the shelf. My company (shameless plug) has a product that does server based PDF Conversion for common Office formats and can be invoked via a web service.

0

[Blogged about it here](#). Making office work reliably on the server (32bit/64bit, Win2K3/Win2K8) is challenging to say the least.

share improve this answer

answered Dec 3 '09 at 14:28



**Muhimbi**  
2,207 ● 1 ● 13 ● 26

add a comment

## Your Answer

**B** *I* [link](#) [quote](#) [code](#) [image](#) [list](#) [table](#) [undo](#) [redo](#)

## Hot Network Questions

- What is available to mitigate the damage of physical blows?
- Why do soft drinks fizz?
- Does the Sun actually move on its own, or does it move with the Solar system?
- Why are PDF/X files better than "standard" PDFs?
- Are older mathematics textbooks still "valid"?
- When can I use "thy" instead of "your"?
- Which symmetric cipher is best for studying?
- Using "C-x/" to access registers?
- Is dew and water vapour the same?
- CentOS/Redhat kickstart script cdrom mount point
- Google Chrome suddenly increased size (see picture)
- Do capos exist that can be disabled without removing them from the guitar?
- Number of times contacted/Mewed
- Compare 2 numerals and copy only similar part sed/grep/awk
- What problem do algebraic data types solve?
- Using "et al." in maths papers
- are there certain criteria for the utensil we use for washing hands?
- How can this be enough to fund a scholarship in perpetuity?
- Is it 'OK' to use the root user as a normal user?
- Title Agencies that Accept Bitcoin?
- Shapefile of Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate with district boundaries
- How to determine Output format of a template in Content Delivery
- Is there a design pattern or a better way to refactoring this?
- Views random 1 image after refresh

Sign up or [log in](#)

Post as a guest

-  Sign up using Google
-  Sign up using Facebook
-  Sign up using Stack Exchange

**Name**

**Email**

[Post Your Answer](#)

By posting your answer, you agree to the [privacy policy](#) and [terms of service](#).

Not the answer you're looking for? Browse other questions tagged [pdf](#) [service](#) [ms-office](#) [openoffice.org](#) [file-conversion](#) or [ask your own question](#).

 [question feed](#)

[tour](#) [help](#) [blog](#) [chat](#) [data](#) [legal](#) [privacy policy](#) [work here](#) [advertising info](#) [mobile](#) [contact us](#) [feedback](#)

**TECHNOLOGY**

- Stack Overflow
- Server Fault
- Super User
- Web Applications
- Ask Ubuntu
- Webmasters
- Game Development
- TeX - LaTeX
- Programmers
- Unix & Linux
- Ask Different (Apple)
- WordPress Development
- Geographic Information Systems
- Electrical Engineering
- Android Enthusiasts
- Information Security

- Database Administrators
- Drupal Answers
- SharePoint
- User Experience
- Mathematica
- Salesforce
- more (14)**

**LIFE / ARTS**

- Photography
- Science Fiction & Fantasy
- Graphic Design
- Seasoned Advice (cooking)
- Home Improvement
- Personal Finance & Money
- Academia
- more (10)**

**CULTURE / RECREATION**

- English Language & Usage
- Skeptics
- Mi Yodeya (Judaism)
- Travel
- Christianity
- Arqade (gaming)
- Bicycles
- Role-playing Games
- more (21)**

**SCIENCE**

- Mathematics
- Cross Validated (stats)
- Theoretical Computer Science
- Physics
- MathOverflow
- more (7)**

**OTHER**

- Stack Apps
- Meta Stack Exchange
- Area 51
- Stack Overflow Careers

site design / logo © 2015 stack exchange inc; user contributions licensed under [cc by-sa 3.0](#) with [attribution required](#)  
rev 2015.6.22.2665