

FreePDF 2.0

Manual

Latest Version: FreePDF 2.0

Index:

FreePDF License	2
Share FreePDF	2
Setup	3
FreePDF contains not... ..	3
The installation process (technical)	3
Set up a local Port manually	4
Set up the Printer manually.....	4
Deinstall FreePDF	5
Using FreePDF	6
Make PDF Files	6
Configuration	8
During the Setup	8
Settings of the FreePDF Assistant.....	9
FreePDF Converter Settings.....	10
Further Information	11
FreePDF Internals.....	11
Translating FreePDF	12
FreePDF Support	13
FAQ	14

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Setup

FreePDF contains not...

To install FreePDF, GhostScript 7.xx or 8.xx was needed. You can download GhostScript at www.ghostscript.org.

To view PDF Files, use the Adobe Acrobat Reader. Download it at www.adobe.com.

The installation process (technical)

FreePDF is delivered in a self Extracting .exe file with a estimated size of 1 MB.

The FreePDF Installation File contains:

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| - FreePDF.exe | Configuration and conversion |
| - FreePDFa.exe | Assistant, connection to the Windows Printing System |
| - msvbvm50.dll | Microsoft Visual Basic Runtime Library |
| - Setup.exe | same as Uninstall.exe, Installation- and De installation program |
| - DruckNT.txt | Manual to set up the FreePDF Printer (German) |
| - Druck95.txt | Manual to set up the FreePDF Printer (German) |
| - DruckNte.txt | Manual to set up the FreePDF Printer (English) |
| - Druck95e.txt | Manual to set up the FreePDF Printer (English) |
| - DruckNTi.txt | Manual to set up the FreePDF Printer (English) |
| - Druck95i.txt | Manual to set up the FreePDF Printer (English) |
| - FreePDF.pdf | The German manual |
| - FreePDFe.pdf | This Manual |
| - FreePDFi.pdf | The Italian manual |

The installation does the following steps:

- Create a FreePDF folder in Program Files.
- Copy the FreePDF Files to X:\Program Files\FreePDF.
- Register Extension Types .ps and .prn to FreePDF.exe.
- Run FreePDFa.exe.
- Autorun entry of FreePDFa.exe in Hkey_Local_Machine\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run in the Registry.
- Uninstall entry in Control Panes \ Applications.
- Create a Program group FreePDF in the Start Menu

The FreePDF Setup tries to create a Printer Port named C:\Program Files\freepdf\freepdf.ps. Under Windows NT, 2000 and XP this works automatically, under Windows 95, 98 and „me“ the User have to make this by assistance.

After this the Setup tries to setup the FreePDF Printer. Under Windows 2000 and Windows XP this works automatically. Under all other Windows Versions this Printer must be installed by the User. Please follow the Steps of the Setup Manual.

Set up a local Port manually

Open the Properties of an installed Printer. Under „General“ or „Ports“ you will find a Button to add a new Port.

Please add a „Local Port“. Write the following in the next text Field (c:\ must be you Windows Drive):

C:\Program Files\FreePDF\FreePDF.ps

Set up the Printer manually

To Set up the FreePDF Printer manually do this:

1. Select Start, Control Panel, Printers
 2. Select "Add Printer"
 3. Install a Local Printer
 4. Use an "Apple"
 5. Choose an "Apple Color LW 12/660", "Apple Laserwriter 12/600" or "Apple Laserwriter"
 6. Choose "Next"
 7. Choose the Printer Port "C:\PROGRA~1\Freepdf\freepdf.ps" or "C:\Program Files\Freepdf\freepdf.ps"
 8. Name this Printer "FreePDF"
 9. Do not share this Printer
 10. Print a test page
- Instead of the Apple Printer you can use any other PostScript Printer. Maybe you get a better PDF.
 - To make a DinA0 PDF try the Printer „HP DesignJet 3500CP PS3“.

Deinstall FreePDF

To remove FreePDF and all its files do this:

- Select Applications in the Windows Control Panel, then FreePDF and remove it
- Remove the FreePDF printer in the Printer Settings
- Remove the FreePDF Printer Port by using any other Printer, Ports, select the port C:\Program Files\FreePDF\FreePDF.ps and remove it.
- Delete C:\Program Files\FreePDF in the Windows Explorer

Using FreePDF

Make PDF Files

There are three ways to make PDF Files using FreePDF:

1. Printing on the FreePDF Printer
2. Double-click a .ps File
3. Multi Document Mode
4. Interleaf 7 or higher: Publish

1. Printing on the FreePDF Printer

The usual way to print under Windows is select Files, Print, select the FreePDF Printer and start the Printing Process.

A New PDF File will be created on your Desktop and opens in the Adobe Acrobat Reader.

2. Double-click a PostScript File

You can open any .ps File with FreePDF and make a PDF File of it.

Inkjet Printers and "GDI" Printers are not "PostScript" Printers. FreePDF cannot convert Print Files of non-PostScript Printers.

3. Multi Document Mode

FreePDF Supports multiple printing to a single PDF File

Do this:

1. Select in the FreePDF Task Icon "Multi Document Mode"
2. Print on the FreePDF Printer
3. After printed all Documents select the Task Icon again and click "End Multi Document Mode – Create PDF File"
The PDF File will be created now in the direction the PDF Files was printed.

4. Interleaf 7 or higher: Publish

Interleaf or Quicksilver is a Product of Broadvision that is used in technical Documentation.

Setup

To make FreePDF running with Interleaf you have to set it as the "Adobe Acrobat Distiller". Choose Tools, Preferences and the lowest Option (Publish). Search for the FreePDF.exe enter the complete Path. Save this settings and apply it.

Using

Use the Switch "Publish" to make a PDF File

- Choose the Format PDF
- Choose Send to . (Dot), for the same Directory.
- Deselect "send message to".
- Start the conversion.

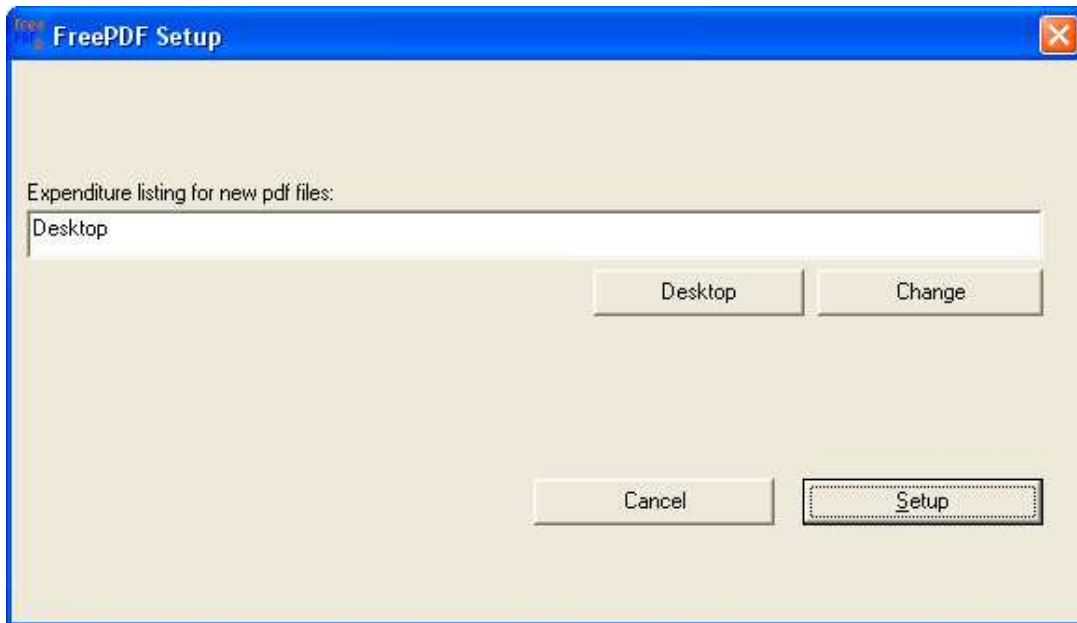
FreePDF can resolve document internal links in a PDF File. Cross document Links are not exported by Interleaf.

Most of the breaks creating a PDF file depends on the Font System of Interleaf. Try to use PostScript Fonts instead of Interleaf Fonts to solve this Problems.

.

Configuration

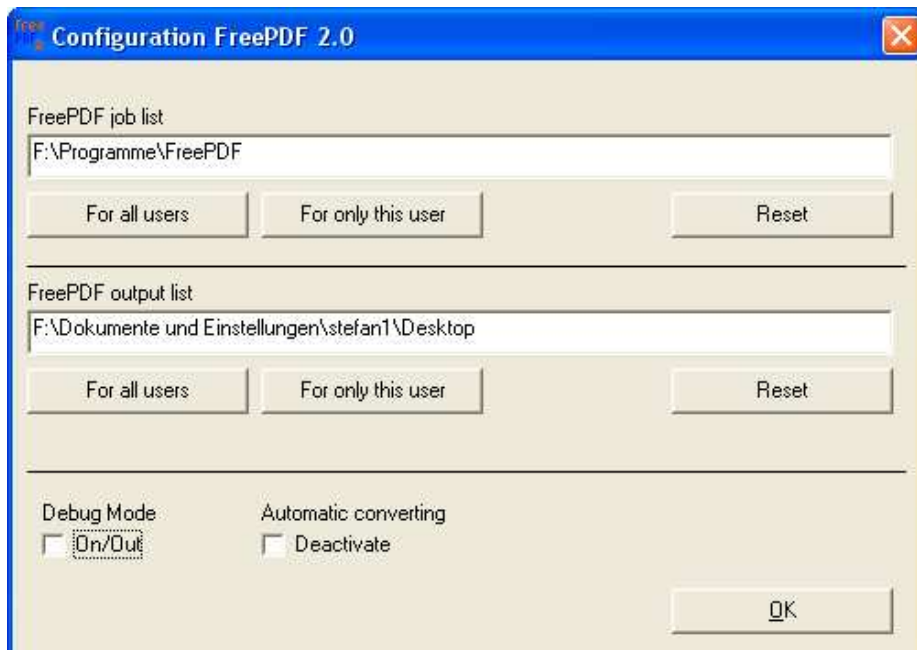
FreePDF can be configured on three places.



During the Setup

- A new PDF File is normally placed on the User Desktop. You can use any other place.

Settings of the FreePDF Assistant



(Settings dependent of the Task Icon Application FreePDF Assistant)

Choose „FreePDF Assistant Settings“ on the Task Icon Menu.

- If you change the FreePDF Working Dir you have to change the FreePDF Printers Local Port too!

Make a Local Port for the Printer with the Destination Dir and the File name “freepdf.ps”.

This settings can be set for the current user or for all users. To make a Setting for all users, you have to be an Administrator..

- The Priority of multiple Settings:
 1. Current User - highest priority
 2. All Users

Use the Debug Mode to find errors. The Debug Mode writes Log Files in c:\.

If you like to convert all PDF Files after manually select the Properties, deactivate the Automatic Converting.

FreePDF Converter Settings



Use the Task Icon to open the FreePDF Settings.

- Bitmap-Font dpi: Resolution of non printable Fonts. Normally special characters like Symbols.
- PDF Compatibility: PDF Documents for Acrobat 3, 4 or 5
- Quality: Use the Quality "High" for all Printing and Prepress Quality. The "Medium" and "Small File" settings makes smaller Files, but a less Quality.
- Don's Overwrite: If a PDF with the same Filename exists, FreePDF makes a File „Filename(1).pdf“.
- View new PDF: Open the PDF after creation in Adobes Acrobat Reader.
- Auto run: Started by double-click FreePDF runs the conversion after 3 sec. automatically.

Further Information

FreePDF Internals

Printing on the FreePDF printer starts this process:

- The Windows Printer writes the File C:\Program Files\FreePDF\FreePDF.ps
- The FreePDF Assistant (FreePDFA.exe) recognizes this file and rename it after the printing process to Step1.ps
- The FreePDF Assistant opens the file for Reading the Originally Filename included in the PostScript File. This will be the PDF Filename and is not in all cases a good name.
- The FreePDF Assistant move Step1.ps to the Desktop and name it „Filename“.ps
- The FreePDF Assistant runs FreePDF.exe
- FreePDF.exe runs GhostScript with the necessary switches (Depends on Configuration)

If a .PS or .PRN File was double-clicked the following process runs:

- Windows runs FreePDF.exe (the converting Application)
- FreePDF waits for User action
- User is running the conversion
- FreePDF.exe runs GhostScript with the necessary switches (Depends on Configuration)

If a Interleaf file is published the following process runs:

- Interleaf makes a Worldview File of the File/Book
- Interleaf makes a PostScript File of the Worldview File
- Interleaf runs FreePDF for converting the PostScript File to a PDF
- Interleaf moves the PDF File to the Destination Dir

Translating FreePDF

FreePDF is principally multilingual. That means, with low work FreePDF can be translated to an new language.

If you like to translate FreePDF you have to make this:

1. Translate the FreePDF Textmodule (120 texts)
2. Translate the Manuals (This Manual and 2 short Manuals to create a Windows Printer)
3. I will release a Installation Set for your Language
4. You share this Installation File in your language zone on your Homepage
5. You are responsible for publishing and advertising
6. You publish a Email Address for helping users in your language
7. You set a Link to <http://shbox.de> :-)

Once your Email and Homepage Address is compiled, it should not be changed.

Other People can make a Translation too, if they think they can do it in a better way.

FreePDF Support

If you have Problems installing or using FreePDF, you get the following sources:

- This Manual
- The FreePDF Help and Supporting System www.shbox.de/freepdf.htm (This time German only)

This are NOT FreePDF Problems:

Bad Fonts, Quality of PDF etc..

(Bad, failing or pixeled fonts)

- Read the FreePDF Support System www.shbox.de/freepdf.htm
- Problem depends on GhostScript or the Microsoft Windows Printing System

Missed Printerdriver

FreePDF do not contain any Printer Driver.

- Read the FreePDF Support System www.shbox.de/freepdf.htm
- Use your Windows installation CD-ROM or download a PostScript Printer driver from www.adobe.com

Unsupported Functions:

- Secure PDF (\Rightarrow use Adobe Acrobat)
- Change PDF (\Rightarrow use Adobe Acrobat)
- Add links to PDF (\Rightarrow use Adobe Acrobat)
- Add Bookmarks (\Rightarrow use Adobe Acrobat)
- Use FreePDF for a Batch Job like Serial Letters (Does not work – use Adobe Acrobat)

FAQ

Question: Is it allowed to use FreePDF in an commercial environment?

Answer: Yes. But please make sure, that your GhostScript version is even free for a Commercial environment

Question: Is there a Network installation Version of FreePDF?

Answer.: No.

Question: Can I run FreePDF on a Windows Terminal Server?

Answer.: Principally yes. But read this Manual and the tips in www.shbox.de/freepdf.htm

Question: The Quality of the PDF File is not height enough

Answer.: Please read www.shbox.de

Question: Where is the newest Version of this Manual?

Answer.: At www.shbox.de/freepdfe.pdf

Question: Is it possible to get the FreePDF source code?

Answer.: No. Its Freeware – not Open Source!.