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Free Software PDF Readers

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The Portable Document Format

The Portable Document Format (PDF) is a popular format to publish formatted text and documents. There are several different versions of it, some qualifying as an Open Standard, some certified by ISO and some encumbered by software patents. You might want to promote the versions that are Open Standards, because Open Standards guarantee interoperability, competition and choice.

Open Standards and PDF

PDF was created by Adobe Systems in 1993 and has been published in several versions since then. Standards based on subsets of the PDF specifications have also been published. PDFreaders.org features an overview of the different PDF versions and their status as an Open Standard.

What to do?

First of all start using a free PDF reader today! This will strengthen the Free Software Community and will give us a chance to represent more people and their wish for Open Standards.

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And last but not least: Spread the word.

Thank you!

The List

The list of PDF Readers aims to be a complete overview of Free Software applications with viewing PDF files as its primary function for the major desktop platforms. The readers in the list are not only free themselves, but have also no dependencies on any proprietary software. Recommended readers are marked with a green background and the operating system that is detected is emphasised for the user.

Readers	Windows	MacOSX	Free Operating Systems ^[1]
BePDF	-	-	Download
ePDFView	-	-	Download
Evince	-	-	Download
gv	-	-	Download
KPDF	-	-	Download
MuPDF	Download	-	-
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About PDFreaders.org

This initiative originated in the Fellowship of the Free Software Foundation Europe (FSFE). The coordinators of this initiative are Hannes Hauswedell and Jan-Hendrik Peters.

If you have any feedback, please contact us at feedback@pdfreaders.org

