



Coffee Break

Question on Software or Operating system.

What is a PDF file?

PDF (Portable Document Format) is the industry standard for sharing electronic documents.

With PDF, all the fonts, formatting, graphics and colour of any source document are retained, so PDF documents can be opened, viewed and printed by anyone, anywhere in the world, regardless of their computer type or operating system.

You require a special program to open a PDF file on your computer. Due to the code been copyrighted by Adobe Acrobat, Microsoft XP or earlier version of Windows don't have a PDF reader. Adobe Acrobat provided one free for Windows File size: 8.9 meg.

A small PDF reader that is 1.0 meg in size and also free 'FoxIt'. This is available from
www.foxitsoftware.com/pdf/rd_intro.php

To install FoxIt PDF Reader, just UNZIP the downloaded "pdfrd.zip" package into a folder or any place you want, then run **PDFReader.exe**. You can set FoxIt PDF Reader as your default PDF reader, so you can double click on PDF files to open it with FoxIt PDF Reader.



This is the Adobe icon for a PDF file



This is FoxIt icon for a PDF file

If Adobe Acrobat reader is installed then the file associated to a PDF file will display the above icon.

If FoxIt reader is installed then the file associated to a PDF file will display the above icon.

Both have similar features for text copy, Image capture and printing but Adobe is more powerful which accounts for it's size. But for normal file viewing, printing or text copy then FoxIt is the better choice for program size and speed when opening a document.

How to compile a PDF document.

No Microsoft products will save in PDF (Portable Document Format) mainly due to the code been copyrighted by Adobe Acrobat and for Microsoft to provide a save function for a PDF file, Microsoft would need to pay royalties. (Bill Gates won't part with any cash).

OpenOffice document suite program will save in a PDF format.

OpenOffice is a free office suite similar to Microsoft Office, contains word processor, spreadsheet, presentation creator, (similar to PowerPoint) and other features. The software is found at ...

www.mrbass.org/freeware/openoffice/

It is 64 meg in size and is not suitable for dial-up Internet download.

The software can be found on many computer magazine cover CD discs.

If you can't find a copy ask at any Wednesday tutorial session for a copy.