

CELEBRATING

25 YEARS

OF THE PDF

15th June 1993 was a special date in technology history as it was when Adobe released the first version of their Acrobat software, launching the now world-famous PDF file format.

It's amazing how fast 25 years have passed, we discuss various aspects of the PDF throughout this infographic and celebrate its silver jubilee!

The Collins English Dictionary nicely summarises exactly what a PDF is:

"PDF files are computer documents which look exactly like the original documents, regardless of which software or operating system was used to create them. PDF is an abbreviation for 'Portable Document Format'."

WHY WAS THE PDF CREATED?

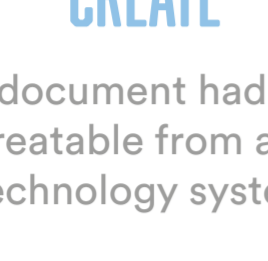
There were many reasons the PDF was created back in 1993. A list of just some of the reasons is provided below:

PAPERLESS OFFICE

Adobe had a dream of the paperless office

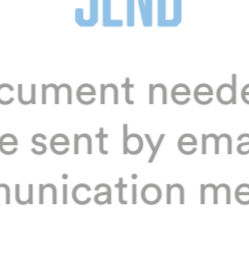
UNIVERSAL VIEWING

The recipient views exactly the same document irrespective of their technology frameset



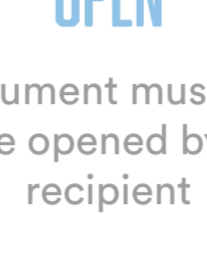
CREATE

The document had to be creatable from any technology system



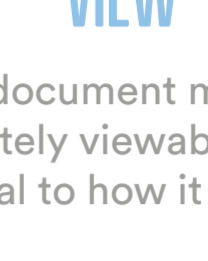
SEND

The document needed to be able to be sent by email & other communication methods



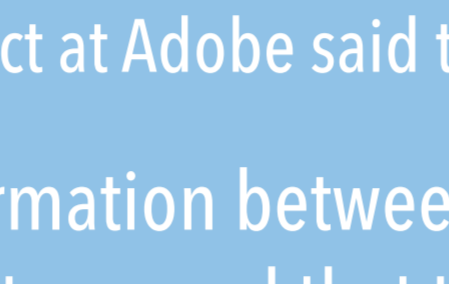
OPEN

The document must be able to be opened by the recipient



VIEW

The document must be completely viewable and be identical to how it was sent



Leonard Rosenthol, a PDF Architect at Adobe said the PDF project team set out to fix: the inability to exchange information between machines, between systems, between users in a way that ensured that the file would look the same everywhere it went.

25 YEARS OF THE PDF

15TH JUNE 1993

Adobe Acrobat 1.0 launched to the technology market by Adobe

SEPTEMBER 1994

The first MacOS compliant version of PDF is launched

NOVEMBER 1994

Adobe Acrobat 2.0 launched, this fully supports PDF v1.1

NOVEMBER 1994

With V2.0 Adobe Reader becomes free, creating mass downloads

NOVEMBER 1996

Adobe Acrobat 3.0 launched, this offers significant improvements for the pre-print industry

2ND JULY 2008

PDF becomes ISO standard ISO 32000-1

PDFPro

26TH OCTOBER 2014

PDF Pro (online PDF editing software) is launched!

THE BENEFITS OF CONVERTING TO A PDF FORMAT

There are many benefits of using the PDF format, we have listed these below. These are also backed up by our unique poll results:



PASSWORD PROTECTION

files can be protected by passwords



INDUSTRY STANDARD

PDF is here to stay and is an industry standard worldwide



SMALL FILE SIZE

the high compression of PDF files allows them to be saved with much smaller file sizes



FORMAT CONSISTENCY

unlike other tools (e.g. Word), the format of a PDF remains the same across viewers



OPERATING SYSTEM INDEPENDENCE

PDFs are cross-platform and can be viewed on PCs/Macs as well as iOS and Android, etc.

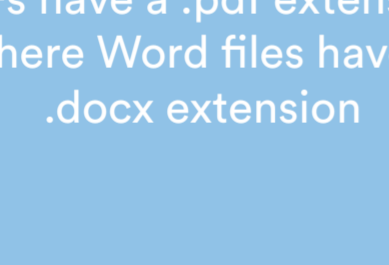


MULTI-DIMENSIONAL

PDFs allow various types of content, e.g. as well as text – 3D models, animations, audio files, buttons, hyperlinks, images, interactive fields, vector graphics, videos, etc.

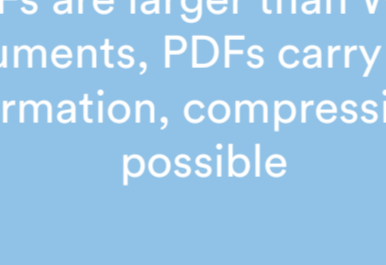
PDF VS MICROSOFT WORD

PDF from Adobe and Word from Microsoft are two of the most popular file formats in use around the world. Here are some comparisons between the two formats:



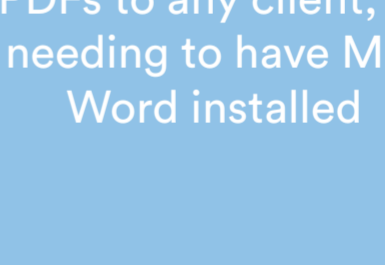
FILE EXTENSION

PDFs have a .pdf extension, whereas Word files have a .docx extension



FILE SIZE

PDFs are larger than Word documents, PDFs carry more information, compression is possible



FREE VIEWING

Send PDFs to any client, without them needing to have Microsoft Word installed



OPEN FORMAT

PDF is an open format, whereas .docx requires Microsoft Word, editors such as PDF Pro are available to edit PDFs at lower prices than Adobe Acrobat



SECURITY

PDFs leave an electronic trail when edited, Word documents don't – this means PDFs are admissible in law courts for example

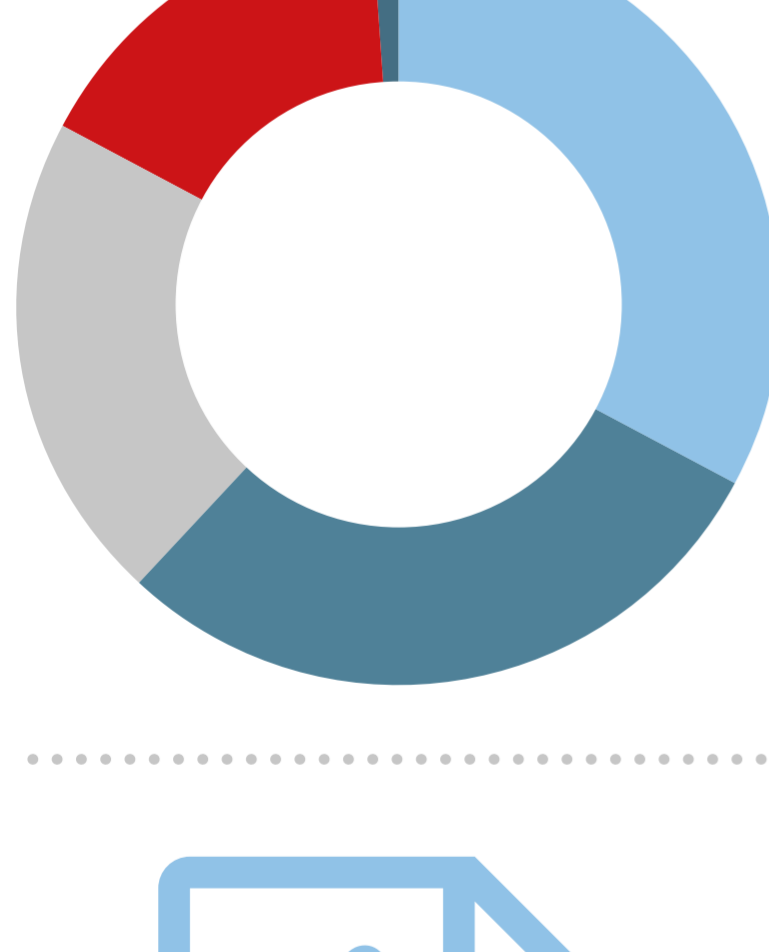


UNIVERSAL VIEW

PDFs look the same on any device, Word documents may look different when viewed on Windows/Mac devices or in different versions of Word, etc.

PDF STATISTICS

Here are some useful statistics to back up why the PDF is such a popular format around the world:



Users love converting popular formats to PDF. Over a 7-day period the most popular formats converted to PDF, using PDF Pro, were:

- JPG – 33%
- Word – 29%
- Tiff – 21%
- PNG – 16%
- Excel – 1%



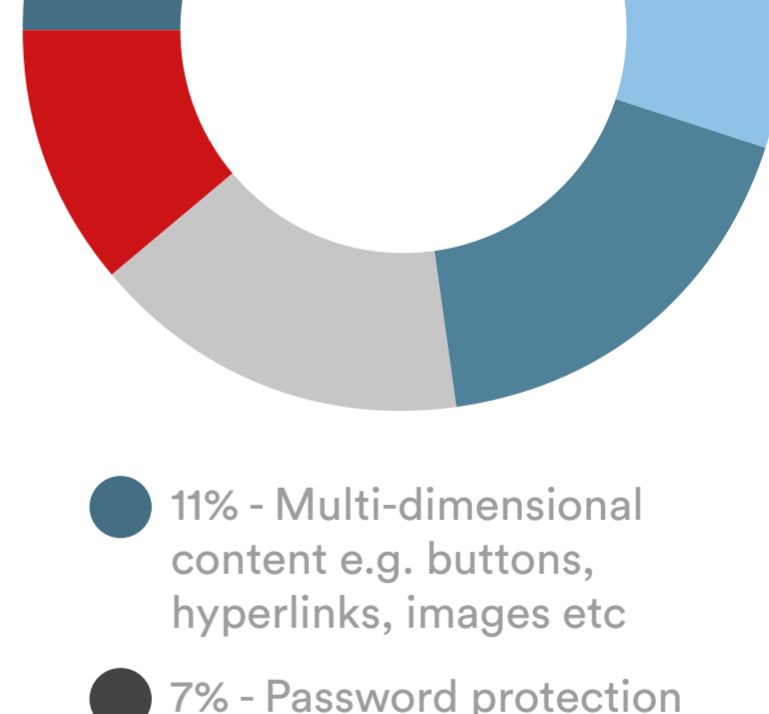
200 BILLION PDFS OPENED IN 2017



8 BILLION ELECTRONIC & DIGITAL SIGNATURES USING PDF IN 2017

In a PDF Pro poll, we asked "What are some of the main reasons you prefer to use the PDF format? (Check all that apply)", the results were:

- 30% - Format remains the same across viewers
- 18% - Industry standard worldwide
- 16% - Small file size compared to other formats
- 11% - Cross-platform / Operating system independence



THE BENEFITS OF USING PDF PRO

Now that we have discussed the PDF at length, here are some great reasons to use PDF Pro, our product which enhances the benefits and usability of PDFs even further!



100% ONLINE

works on any browser, no downloads needed, access PDF Pro anywhere



CREATE & CONVERT PDFS

convert various formats from a PDF and also to a PDF



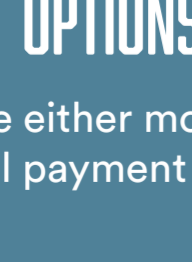
EASY TO USE

no training is required; PDF Pro is simple to use and highly intuitive



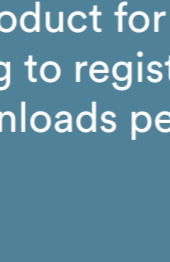
EDIT & REVIEW PDFS

add/erase/highlight text, add images/signatures, manipulate PDFs



FLEXIBLE PAYMENT OPTIONS

choose either monthly or annual payment options



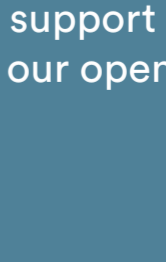
FREE TRIAL

try our product for free, without needing to register, 3 x free downloads per month



SAVE & SECURE PDFS

full password management for your PDFs



SUPPORT

product support is available during our opening hours

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