

The Coherent PDF Command Line Tools allow you to manipulate existing PDF files in a variety of ways. For example:

- Merge PDF files together, or split them apart
- Encrypt and decrypt
- Scale, crop and rotate pages
- Read and set document info and metadata
- Copy, add or remove bookmarks
- Stamp logos, text, dates, page numbers
- Add or remove attachments
- Losslessly compress PDF files

The `cpdf` tool has been available commercially since 2007, and is widely used in industry and government. The same technology is used in the [Proview PDF Editor](#) for the mac.

Now we're releasing them for free, under a [special not-for-commercial-use license](#) *If you like the tools and want to use them commercially, or need support, licenses are available from [Coherent Graphics Ltd](#). Commercial use involves anything other than private, personal use. Charities and educational institutions still require a license, but one may be obtained at greatly reduced cost - [ask us](#). If you're still not sure if you need a license, [ask us](#).*

Download binaries now for Windows, Mac, or Linux

Pre-built binaries are available for Windows, Mac OS 10.6 and later, Linux 32 bit Intel and Linux 64 bit intel.

[Download pre-built tools now](#)

Build from source

Look at the [source repository](#) README for details. You'll need to install the [OCaml](#) toolchain, and a couple of simple dependencies, but it's simple to build.

User Manual

A comprehensive user manual can be found as a [PDF document](#), or [browsable online](#). A paper copy can be obtained from [Amazon](#) for \$9.99.

Examples

In all cases, on Microsoft Windows, substitute `cpdf.exe` for `cpdf`.

Select some pages from a file `in.pdf` and write to `out.pdf` :

```
cpdf in.pdf 1-3,12-end -o out.pdf
```

Merge some files together:

```
cpdf one.pdf two.pdf three.pdf -o merged.pdf
```

Split a file into single-page files `page001.pdf` , `page002.pdf` etc:

```
cpdf -split in.pdf -o page%%.pdf
```

Encrypt a file with 128 bit AES encryption with an owner password but blank user password:

```
cpdf -encrypt AES "pass" "" in.pdf -o out.pdf
```

Output some information about a file:

```
cpdf -info file.pdf

Encryption: Not encrypted
Permissions:
Linearized: true
Version: 1.4
Pages: 8
Title: catalogueproduit-UK.qxd
Author: James Peterson
Subject:
Keywords:
Creator: QuarkXPress: pictwpstops filter 1.0
Producer: Acrobat Distiller 6.0 for Macintosh
Created: D:20060926213913+02'00'
Modified: D:20060926213913+02'00'
```

Output information about each page:

```
cpdf -page-info file.pdf

Page 1:
MediaBox: 0.000000 0.000000 768.000000 1366.000000
CropBox:
BleedBox: 0.000000 0.000000 768.000000 1366.000000
TrimBox: 0.000000 0.000000 768.000000 1366.000000
ArtBox: 0.000000 0.000000 768.000000 1366.000000
Rotation: 0
Page 2:
MediaBox: 0.000000 0.000000 768.000000 1366.000000
CropBox:
BleedBox: 0.000000 0.000000 768.000000 1366.000000
TrimBox: 0.000000 0.000000 768.000000 1366.000000
ArtBox: 0.000000 0.000000 768.000000 1366.000000
Rotation: 0
```

Scale pages to A4 paper:

```
cpdf -scale-to-fit a4portrait in.pdf -o out.pdf
```

Crop a file:

```
cpdf -crop "20mm 20mm 300mm 300mm" in.pdf -o out.pdf
```

Add some text with page numbers:

```
cpdf -add-text "Page %Page of %EndPage" -top 100pt -font "Times-R
```

Stamp one PDF file over each page of another:

```
cpdf -stamp-on logo.pdf in.pdf -o out.pdf
```

Attach a file to page 5:

```
cpdf -attach-file sheet.xls -to-page 5 in.pdf -o out.pdf
```

Combine several commands together using AND: flip a file vertically and stamp text, then encrypt.

```
cpdf in.pdf -vflip AND -add-text "Page %Page" AND -encrypt 128bit
```

Compress a file without loss of information:

```
cpdf -squeeze in.pdf -o out.pdf
```

Support

If you discover a bug, you can [raise an issue in our issue tracker](#), or [email for support](#).

Please note, though, that we prioritise support for paying customers.

FAQs

Q. My command works, but fails when I put it in a Windows Batch file.

A. Some `cpdf` commands use `%` as a special character. Use `%%` instead.

Q. I want to express thanks for this free program, but I'm not a commercial user. What can I do?

A. You can buy a copy of the User Manual on [Amazon](#) for \$9.99.