

**NAME**

ps2ascii – Ghostscript translator from PostScript or PDF to ASCII

**SYNOPSIS**

**ps2ascii** [ *input.ps* [ *output.txt* ] ]

**ps2ascii** *input.pdf* [ *output.txt* ]

**DESCRIPTION**

**ps2ascii** uses **gs**(1) to extract ASCII text from **PostScript**(tm) or Adobe **Portable Document Format** (PDF) files. If no files are specified on the command line, **gs** reads from standard input; but PDF input must come from an explicitly-named file, not standard input. If no output file is specified, the ASCII text is written to standard output.

**ps2ascii** doesn't look at font encoding, and isn't very good at dealing with kerning, so for PostScript (but not currently PDF), you might consider **pstotext** (see below).

**FILES**

Run "**gs -h**" to find the location of Ghostscript documentation on your system, from which you can get more details.

**SEE ALSO**

pstotext(1), <http://www.research.digital.com/SRC/virtualpaper/pstotext.html>

**VERSION**

This document was last revised for Ghostscript version 9.27.

**AUTHOR**

Artifex Software, Inc. are the primary maintainers of Ghostscript. David M. Jones <[dmjones@theory.lcs.mit.edu](mailto:dmjones@theory.lcs.mit.edu)> made substantial improvements to **ps2ascii**.