

NAME

pdftops – Portable Document Format (PDF) to PostScript converter (version 3.03)

SYNOPSIS

pdftops [options] <PDF-file> [<PS-file>]

DESCRIPTION

Pdftops converts Portable Document Format (PDF) files to PostScript so they can be printed.

Pdftops reads the PDF file, *PDF-file*, and writes a PostScript file, *PS-file*. If *PS-file* is not specified, pdftops converts *file.pdf* to *file.ps* (or *file.eps* with the `-eps` option). If *PS-file* is `'-'`, the PostScript is sent to stdout.

OPTIONS

-f *number*

Specifies the first page to print.

-l *number*

Specifies the last page to print.

-level1 Generate Level 1 PostScript. The resulting PostScript files will be significantly larger (if they contain images), but will print on Level 1 printers. This also converts all images to black and white. No more than one of the PostScript level options (`-level1`, `-level1sep`, `-level2`, `-level2sep`, `-level3`, `-level3sep`) may be given.

-level1sep

Generate Level 1 separable PostScript. All colors are converted to CMYK. Images are written with separate stream data for the four components.

-level2 Generate Level 2 PostScript. Level 2 supports color images and image compression. This is the default setting.

-level2sep

Generate Level 2 separable PostScript. All colors are converted to CMYK. The PostScript separation convention operators are used to handle custom (spot) colors.

-level3 Generate Level 3 PostScript. This enables all Level 2 features plus CID font embedding.

-level3sep

Generate Level 3 separable PostScript. The separation handling is the same as for `-level2sep`.

-eps Generate an Encapsulated PostScript (EPS) file. An EPS file contains a single image, so if you use this option with a multi-page PDF file, you must use `-f` and `-l` to specify a single page. No more than one of the mode options (`-eps`, `-form`) may be given.

-form Generate a PostScript form which can be imported by software that understands forms. A form contains a single page, so if you use this option with a multi-page PDF file, you must use `-f` and `-l` to specify a single page. The `-level1` option cannot be used with `-form`. No more than one of the mode options (`-eps`, `-form`) may be given.

-opi Generate OPI comments for all images and forms which have OPI information. (This option is only available if pdftops was compiled with OPI support.)

-binary

Write binary data in Level 1 PostScript. By default, pdftops writes hex-encoded data in Level 1 PostScript. Binary data is non-standard in Level 1 PostScript but reduces the file size and can be useful when Level 1 PostScript is required only for its restricted use of PostScript operators.

-r *number*

Set the resolution in DPI when pdftops rasterizes images with transparencies or, for Level 1 PostScript, when pdftops rasterizes images with color masks. By default, pdftops rasterizes images to 300 DPI.

-noembt1

By default, any Type 1 fonts which are embedded in the PDF file are copied into the PostScript file. This option causes pdftops to substitute base fonts instead. Embedded fonts make PostScript files larger, but may be necessary for readable output.

-noembtt

By default, any TrueType fonts which are embedded in the PDF file are copied into the PostScript file. This option causes pdftops to substitute base fonts instead. Embedded fonts make PostScript files larger, but may be necessary for readable output. Also, some PostScript interpreters do not have TrueType rasterizers.

-noembcidps

By default, any CID PostScript fonts which are embedded in the PDF file are copied into the PostScript file. This option disables that embedding. No attempt is made to substitute for non-embedded CID PostScript fonts.

-noembcidtt

By default, any CID TrueType fonts which are embedded in the PDF file are copied into the PostScript file. This option disables that embedding. No attempt is made to substitute for non-embedded CID TrueType fonts.

-passfonts

By default, references to non-embedded 8-bit fonts in the PDF file are substituted with the closest "Helvetica", "Times-Roman", or "Courier" font. This option passes references to non-embedded fonts through to the PostScript file.

-aaRaster *yes | no*

Enable or disable raster anti-aliasing. This defaults to "no". pdftops may need to rasterize transparencies and pattern image masks in the PDF. If the PostScript will be printed, leave -aaRaster disabled and set -r to the resolution of the printer. If the PostScript will be viewed, enabling -aaRaster may make rasterized text easier to read.

-optimizecolorspace

By default, bitmap images in the PDF pass through to the output PostScript in their original color space, which produces predictable results. This option converts RGB and CMYK images into Gray images if every pixel of the image has equal components. This can fix problems when doing color separations of PDFs that contain embedded black and white images encoded as RGB.

-preload

preload images and forms

-paper *size*

Set the paper size to one of "letter", "legal", "A4", or "A3". This can also be set to "match", which will set the paper size of each page to match the size specified in the PDF file. If none the -paper, -paperw, or -paperh options are specified the default is to match the paper size.

-paperw *size*

Set the paper width, in points.

-paperh *size*

Set the paper height, in points.

-origpagesizes

This option is the same as "-paper match".

-nocrop

By default, output is cropped to the CropBox specified in the PDF file. This option disables cropping.

-expand

Expand PDF pages smaller than the paper to fill the paper. By default, these pages are not scaled.

-noshrink

Don't scale PDF pages which are larger than the paper. By default, pages larger than the paper are shrunk to fit.

-nocenter

By default, PDF pages smaller than the paper (after any scaling) are centered on the paper. This option causes them to be aligned to the lower-left corner of the paper instead.

-duplex

Set the Duplex pagedevice entry in the PostScript file. This tells duplex-capable printers to enable duplexing.

-opw *password*

Specify the owner password for the PDF file. Providing this will bypass all security restrictions.

-upw *password*

Specify the user password for the PDF file.

-overprint

Enable overprinting.

-q

Don't print any messages or errors.

-v

Print copyright and version information.

-h

Print usage information. (**-help** and **--help** are equivalent.)

EXIT CODES

The Xpdf tools use the following exit codes:

- | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|
| 0 | No error. |
| 1 | Error opening a PDF file. |
| 2 | Error opening an output file. |
| 3 | Error related to PDF permissions. |
| 99 | Other error. |

AUTHOR

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SEE ALSO

pdfdetach(1), **pdffonts(1)**, **pdfimages(1)**, **pdfinfo(1)**, **pdftocairo(1)**, **pdftohtml(1)**, **pdftoppm(1)**, **pdftotext(1)**, **pdfseparate(1)**, **pdfsig(1)**, **pdfunite(1)**