

Introduction :

This script was developed to smoothen the process of exporting Illustrator file into multiple PDF files at once, while each PDF can use its own PDF export settings. While its main purpose is indeed to do multiple PDF export at once, as it allows to save multiple export profile it also speeds up the process of exporting single PDF file, specially when you need standarized file names and PDF settings.

This version is adding the support of datasets, as well as improving the file naming possibilities. It also supports the merging of multiple artboards to export into single PDF file (one artboard per page). The export method was rebuild from scratch to improve stability and reduce the risks of damaging the original .AI file.

The scipt was developped in Javascript, using Adobe ExtendScript Toolkit CC.

Change log :

Profile manager window change list (backward compatible with export profiles created using previous version of the script) :

- Prefix and Suffix can be composed from text of a named text object in the Illustrator file (making it possible to use data from dataset)
- Prefix and Suffix composed from text in symbol or named text object can select the priority between symbol and named text
- Prefix and Suffix number of composing elements is increased from 3 to 5

Exporter main window change list :

- Design change to display more artboards at once
- New export mode selector, to choose between export into as many PDF file as number of artboards or export into a single PDF
- In case of Illustrator file using datasets : a new list displays all the datasets to allow their selection for export.
- In case of Illustrator file using datasets : a new file naming selector and custom text separator

Usage change list :

- Upon starting the script will check if your file is saved, and if not it will pop-up an alert window to let you choose between “Cancel” or “Save”.
- Error check : it will check for any missing parameters and pop-up an alert window to let you know what is missing before attempting to export files
- File naming check : the prefixes and suffixes texts will be checked for forbidden caracters in naming files (on Windows filesystem)

Export process change list :

- To prevent any unwanted .AI file damage arising from any bug wathever the culprit (Illustrator, Windows, the script itself...), all the text vectorization is done on temporary PDF file rather than in the .AI document itself. As a result, the export takes a bit longer than in previous versions.



MULTI-PDF Exporter

For Adobe Illustrator

Instruction Manual

Script version : v3.5
Document date : 20221215

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Installation :

Same as all Illustrator script, copy/paste the script file into the folder :
C:\Program Files\Adobe\Adobe Illustrator 2022\Presets\en_US\Scripts
(Change the red text according to your Illustrator version and language)

Use :

Once installed, you can launch it by going into Illustrator menu : File > Scripts > Corius_MultiPDF-Exporter - v3-5
If you prefer not to install it, you can still use it with the keyboard shortcut Ctrl+F12 and browsing to the file.

Note : the script will automatically prompt you to save your Illustrator file before anything else, in order to easily get back to the original state after the script finishes in case of any problem

Main interface : The Export Window - Case without dataset

Corius' MultiPDF-Exporter - [v3.5]

CORIUS Photo 星龍攝影

OPEN PROFILE MANAGER

How many export batch ? 1

Export 1

Export Profile: PDF preset: Vectorize all texts

Prefix: Suffix:

Example: Multiple file (1 per artboard)

Folder: \ExportPDF Browse...

Tip: if the save path starts with '\' the files will be saved in a subfolder of current Illustrator file

#	Artboard name
1	135700
2	135701
3	135704
4	135705
5	135706
6	135707

Cancel Export

First, select how many different PDF export settings you need with the top drop-down selector :

How many export batch ? 1

Then if you have already prepared some Export Profiles you can select the ones you need from the drop-down selector :

Export Profile:

The profile selection will then auto-fill the PDF preset to use for the export, the prefix and suffix for the file name, as well

as the folder path to save the PDF into. If you have not yet prepared Export Profiles, or don't want to use one, just prepare the export setting by selecting the PDF preset, type-in the prefix and suffix.

Then select the export mode with this drop-down selector :

Multiple file (1 per artboard)

and type-in or browse to the saving path for your files.

Finally, in the displayed list of all the artboards, select the ones you want to export, and click on the **Export** button.

Note : After the profile selection, you still can tweak all the settings as much as you want, it won't edit the stored profile, only the resulting PDF export.

Note : The PDF file naming will be as following

- For the export mode selector on [Multiple file (1 per artboard)] : [Prefix][Artboard name][Suffix]
- For the export mode selector on [Single file (all artboards in 1 PDF file)] : [Prefix][Illustrator file name][Suffix]

Note : As shown by the “Tip” below the export path textfield, if you type-in a path starting with ‘\’ then the PDF will be exported into a subfolder of the folder containing your Illustrator file

Main interface : The Export Window - Case with dataset

Corius' MultiPDF-Exporter - [v3.5]

OPEN PROFILE MANAGER

How many export batch ? 1

Naming pattern Artboard[TEXT]Dataset Separator TXT

Example: BusinessCard-RectoTAGGART Saul

Export 1

Export Profile: PDF preset: Vectorize all texts

Prefix: Suffix:

Example: Multiple file (1 per artboard)

Folder: \ExportPDF Browse...

Tip: if the save path starts with '\' the files will be saved in a subfolder of current Illustrator file

Cancel Export

#	Artboard name
1	BusinessCard-Recto
2	BusinessCard-Verso

#	Dataset name
1	TAGGART Saul
2	TAGGART Robert
3	RAINSATHA Marcia
4	RAINSATHA Richard

First, select how many different PDF export settings you need with the top drop-down selector :

How many export batch ? 1

Then if you have already prepared some Export Profiles you can select the ones you need from the drop-down selector :

Export Profile:

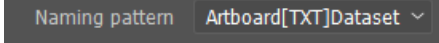
The profile selection will then auto-fill the PDF preset to use for the export, the prefix and suffix for the file name, as well as the folder path to save the PDF into. If you have not yet prepared Export Profiles, or don't want to use one, just prepare the export setting by selecting the PDF preset, type-in the prefix and suffix.

Then select the export mode with this drop-down selector :

Multiple file (1 per artboard)

Then, type-in or browse to the saving path for your files.

Then, in the displayed list of all the artboards select the ones you want to export, and in the displayed list of all the datasets select the ones you want to use with each export profiles and artboards.

Finally, in this drop-down list selector  select the naming method of all exported file between 2 or 3 possible choice :

- **[Artboard[TXT]Dataset]** : The base for the file name will be **[Artboard name][Text in 'Separator TXT' textfield][Dataset name]**
- **[Dataset[TXT] Artboard]** : The base for the file name will be **[Dataset name][Text in 'Separator TXT' textfield][Artboard name]**
- **[Dataset]** : available only when you have only one artboard, the base for the file name will be **[Dataset name]**

Note : After the profile selection, you still can tweak all the settings as much as you want, it won't edit the stored profile, only the resulting PDF export.

Note : As shown by the "Tip" below the export path textfield, if you type-in a path starting with '\' then the PDF will be exported into a subfolder of the folder containing your Illustrator file

Note : The export mode will work in the following way :

- **[Multiple file (1 per artboard)]** : Total number of PDF files will be **[Number of selected Artboard] × [Number of selected dataset] × [Number of export profile]**
- **[Single file (all artboards in 1 PDF file)]** : Total number of PDF files will be **[Number of selected dataset] × [Number of export profile]**

Note : The naming of the exported files will take into consideration the Naming Pattern configuration as well as the export mode selector, and of course the prefix and suffix configuration :

- **[Multiple file (1 per artboard)] + [Artboard[TXT]Dataset]** : The file names will be **[Prefix][Artboard name][Text in 'Separator TXT' textfield][Dataset name][Suffix]**
- **[Multiple file (1 per artboard)] + [Dataset[TXT] Artboard]** : The file names will be **[Prefix][Dataset name][Text in 'Separator TXT' textfield][Artboard name][Suffix]**
- **[Multiple file (1 per artboard)] + [Dataset]** : The file names will be **[Prefix][Dataset name][Suffix]**
- **[Single file (all artboards in 1 PDF file)] + [Artboard[TXT]Dataset]** : The file names will be **[Prefix][.AI file name][Text in 'Separator TXT' textfield][Dataset name][Suffix]**
- **[Single file (all artboards in 1 PDF file)] + [Dataset[TXT] Artboard]** : The file names will be **[Prefix][Dataset name][Text in 'Separator TXT' textfield][.AI file name][Suffix]**
- **[Single file (all artboards in 1 PDF file)] + [Dataset]** : The file names will be **[Prefix][Dataset name][Suffix]**

Second Interface: The Profile Manager Window

Corius' MultiPDF-Exporter --- Profile Manager - [v1.0]

Select Profile: aw-P

Profile name: aw-P

[Profile configuration]

PDF preset: HBF-Press Quality ☒ Vectorize all texts

[Prefix]

☒ Custom text ☐ Text in symbol (or artboard) ☐ Text in artboard (or symbol) [+]

[Suffix]

☒ Custom text ☐ Text in symbol (or artboard) ☐ Text in artboard (or symbol) [+]

[PDF Export Path]

\ExportTestDataset Browse...

Delete profile Cancel Save profile

First, select the profile you want to edit with the profile drop-down list selector or select “New” and type-in a name to create a new profile.

Select Profile: New

Note : if you want to create a new profile, be sure to select [New] otherwise the settings you change will overwrite the current selected profile.

Note : all settings in this window are optional, you could for example have a profile with only the name Prefix auto-filled, letting you choose the PDF preset each time in the main Exporter Window

You can set a PDF preset, and check the checkbox to have the script automatically convert all the texts in your Illustrator file into vector outline for the PDF export.

You can configure PDF file name prefix and suffix, each with up to 5 elements :

- [Custom text] : self explanatory
- [Text in symbol (or artboard)] : type the name of the symbol to search for in the Illustrator file, to have the text it contains be used in the Prefix (or Suffix). If the script can't find a symbol with the specified name, it will try to find a named textfield within the concerned artboard and use its text instead.
- [Text in artboard (or symbol)] : type the name of the textfield to search for in the Illustrator file within the artboard limits, and have the text it contains be used in the Prefix (or Suffix). If the script can't find a textfield with the specified name and within the artboard, it will try to find a symbol with this name and use its text instead.

Note : for the named textfield, the script will disregard any textfield with the correct name if said textfield is outside the artboard to export or if said textfield is hidden (either because the layer it sits on is hidden, or because the textfield itself is hidden), whereas the symbol doesn't even need to be used at all, as long as the symbol exists in the symbol panel of your Illustrator file it can be used by the export script.

Note : the name of the symbol as well as the name of the textfield are not case-sensitive. If you type "DATE" then symbols and textfields named "DATE" / "Date" / "date" / "dATe" can all work.

The Export Path works here in the same way it does in the main interface :

You can specify an absolute path (example : "C:\Documents\Artworks\Exports")

or a relative path (example : "\Exports"). If you set a relative path, the exported files will be placed in a subfolder of the folder containing the Illustrator file you are exporting. If your Illustrator file is in "C:\Documents\Artworks", then the exported files will be in for this example in "C:\Documents\Artworks\Exports". If the subfolder doesn't exist, it will be created automatically.

When you have setted all the configuration save the profile by clicking on the [Save profile] button. The [Cancel] button will close the window without saving any change, and the [Delete profile] button will delete the currently selected profile from the saved profiles database.

Once this window is closed, you get back to the Main interface, and you can use the newly saved profiles.