Troubleshooting the *Visual LaTeX FAQ*

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The *Visual LaTeX FAQ* makes extensive use of PDF hyperlinks, widgets, and form fields. Not all of these are supported by every PDF viewer. Furthermore, even PDF viewers that support hyperlinks may need to be configured to launch a Web browser when a link to a Web page is activated.

The purpose of this document is to help diagnose problems involving the interactive features of the *Visual LaTeX FAQ*.

Ready? Then let's begin. . .

1. Internal hyperlinks

The simplest form of hyperlink jumps from one page of a document to another page in the same document:

The text "Return to page 1" is a hyperlink. Activating it should take you back to the first page of this document.

If nothing happens then your PDF viewer probably doesn't support any sort of hyperlink. You will get little use out of the *Visual LATEX FAQ* unless you switch to a PDF viewer that supports hyperlinks.

Let's move on to the next test. . .

2. External hyperlinks

The PDF format supports hyperlinks to other documents, including non-PDF documents. All of the hyperlinks in the *Visual LATEX FAQ* refer to Web pages. The following hyperlink points to the UK TEX FAQ home page:

Open a Web browser.

If nothing happens when you activate "Open a Web browser" then one of the following is likely to be the case:

- Your PDF viewer doesn't support external hyperlinks. You will get little use out of the *Visual LATEX FAQ* unless you switch to a PDF viewer that supports hyperlinks.

- You need to tell your PDF viewer which application you want to use as your Web browser. In some of Adobe's PDF viewers, the browser-selection dialog can be found under Edit→Preferences→Internet. The procedure to associate a Web browser with external hyperlinks will of course be different in other PDF viewers.

If your PDF viewer opened a Web browser at the UK TEX FAQ home page, then you'll likely be able to use the *Visual LATEX FAQ*.

There's just one final test to try to make sure...

3. Pop-up notes

Instead of relying upon simple hyperlinks, the *Visual LATEX FAQ* works some PDF magic to convey additional information via tooltips and pop-up notes. Unfortunately, few PDF viewers support all of the requisite PDF mechanisms: Text annotations, Widget annotations, form fields, and JavaScript. See if the following hyperlink works in your PDF viewer:

Fancy, *Visual LATEX FAQ*-style hyperlink

If all goes well, moving the mouse pointer over the "Fancy, *Visual LATEX FAQ*-style hyperlink" text should display a tooltip that reads, "The UK TeX FAQ", and pop up a small window entitled "A pop-up note" and containing a line of text.

Whether or not the tooltip and pop-up note work in your PDF viewer, activating the hyperlink should open a Web browser at the UK TEX FAQ home page. If so, then *Congratulations!*; the *Visual LATEX FAQ* is almost certainly usable with your PDF viewer. If not, then disabling pop-ups (clicking again re-enables them) may solve the problem.