


# Revu Tutorial: Comparing Documents

Bluebeam PDF Revu will automatically compare two PDF drawings and highlight the differences between them. This feature is very useful for AEC professionals that receive revisions of drawings and plans and need to quickly determine the changes.

To compare two PDF documents go to menu *Document/Compare Documents*. A dialog box will open allowing you to select the two documents to compare. If the two documents you wish to compare are already open in Revu, the dialog box will default to select these two PDFs. To compare two documents stored on your computer, use the browse button  to search for the PDF files you wish to use.



Select **Document A** as your base document, and **Document B** as the revised document. You have the option of comparing all pages in the two documents or selecting a page range.

Manual alignment allows you to select a window area of the PDF or points on the PDF to compare by selecting **Select Window** or **Pick Points**. This will align the documents before the comparison is made.

When the comparison is run, Revu defaults to show the two PDFs in split screen view. Depending on your preference this can be turned on or off by checking or un-checking the box next to **Split-screen view (synchronize)** under **Other view options**.

## Advanced Comparison Options

The **Advanced** button in the Compare Documents dialog allows you to customize the comparison and make adjustments to specific properties within the function. Depending on how the PDFs were created, adjustments in this dialog box may be required in order for the comparison analysis to be accurate.

After clicking on the **Advanced** button in the Document Comparison dialog, you will have the option of adjusting the document Type, Grid Size, Pixel Density, Color Sensitivity, Margin, Rendering, and Markup settings.

### Type

In the Type drop down menu you will have the option of selecting whether your PDF is Printed or Scanned.

### Grid Size and Pixel Density

To refine the Grid Size and Pixel Density detection, and increase the sensitivity of the comparison, use the slide bars. For example, moving the Grid Size bar to the left (small) will allow you to detect smaller changes between documents. In the same regard, moving the Pixel Density slide bar to the left (low) reduces the number of pixels required to make an accurate comparison.

### Color Sensitivity

When working with a black and white drawing, it is best to move the Color Sensitivity slide bar towards Low. When working with a colored drawing, or when color markups are included, the slide bar should be shifted towards High for higher color sensitivity.

### Margin

Define a margin to exclude areas on the document that you do not wish to compare.

### Offset

Offset allows you to enter a distance for the alignment of your PDF files so that they match up in closer proximity.

### Pixel Proximity

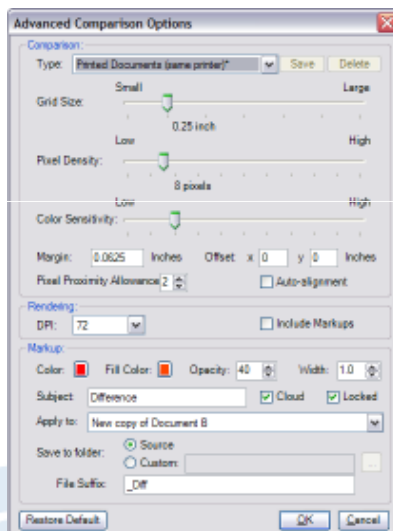
The lower the Pixel Proximity the more sensitive the detection will become. If you are comparing documents created from the same source a lower pixel proximity (such as 1) may suffice, however if comparing two PDF files created from different sources, a higher pixel proximity (such as 3) may be suitable.

### Rendering

It is recommended that the Rendering DPI be kept low at 72. Check the box **Include Markups** if you would like to include markups that have not been flattened, in the comparison.

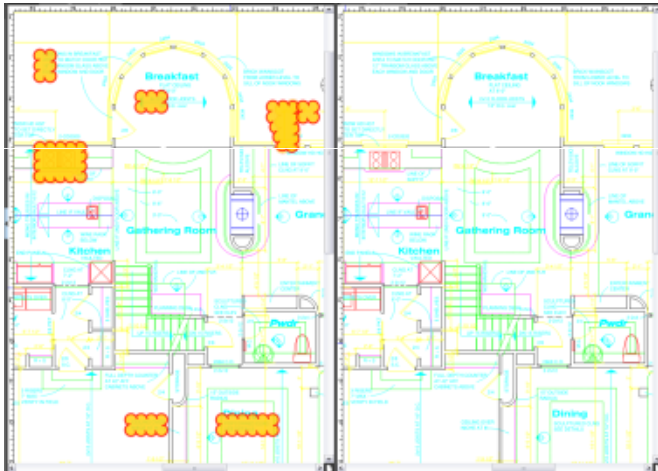
### Markup

The Markup section of the Advanced dialog allows you to define the properties of the cloud markups that will be used to indicate the differences between the two PDFs, and select which PDF the clouds are applied to. The clouds can be applied to the original document or to a copy of the original document. If the **New copy** option is selected, you must indicate where you want the new file to be saved in the **Save to folder** section. File Suffix, allows you to specify a suffix for the new file name.



Click **OK** twice to run the comparison.

Revu will then open the two PDFs, side by side in Split View. The differences will be indicated on Document B using shaded clouds. Depending on your settings within the Advanced dialog, the callouts will either appear on the original PDF, or on a copy of the original PDF.



Each cloud is automatically added to the Markups list, where you can itemize each line, creating a customized check list. This list can be summarized and exported in Excel or PDF.

Subject	Location	Color	Page	Comments	Lock	Status	Check...	Author	Date
Length M...		Orange	Page P...	0'-5"	<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bluebeam	1/29/...
Highlight		Yellow	Page P...		<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bluebeam	1/29/...
Arrow		Blue	Page P...		<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bluebeam	1/29/...
Cloud		Pink	Page P...		<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bluebeam	1/29/...
Cloud		Green	Page P...		<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bluebeam	1/29/...
Callout		Red	Page P...		<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bluebeam	1/29/...

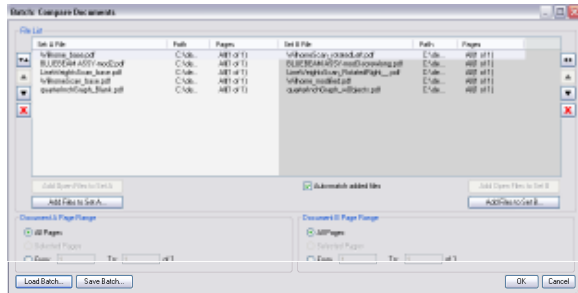
## Batch Comparison

The same process can be done for multiple documents using Batch Processing. You can access this through *File/Batch Processing/Compare Documents*.

Using the batch wizard, select the PDF files you want to compare. Set A is for all of your base documents and Set B is for your revised documents.

Once you've selected your documents, use the batch wizard to organize and order your selected documents, prior to running the batch.

For files frequently revised, save the batch for quick setup in the future. The **Auto-match added files** option will look for PDF files with similar names and automatically match them in Set A and Set B. When finished click **OK**.



Next, the Compare Documents dialog will appear. To review each document comparison use the arrows within the Select Document A section.

Unlike the Compare Documents feature for a single comparison, the batch comparison does not open each set of PDFs in Revu. It runs the comparison in the background and provides a summary of its findings.

To generate a Summary Report of the findings, check the box next to **Create Report**. Choose between a PDF report or a CSV report. PDF output gives you the option of creating hyperlinks of the changes in each document comparison. This proves extremely handy when comparing a high volume of PDF documents, as the hyperlinks within the summary report link directly back to the PDF document created to highlight these differences.