

How to work with links in PDF documents

Many PDF documents can contain so-called Link Annotations (see PDF32000 specification, p.394, 12.5.6.5 Link Annotations). For readers of the PDF document these objects may be presented as links to other pages within the same document or external destinations. Combined with bookmarks which are used to build a table of contents for PDF document, links help document authors to create a solid doc viewing experience.

When it comes to own PDF viewer implementation or if you just want to read whether there are any links on PDF page, Apitron PDF Rasterizer for .NET provides a uniform way to read, highlight or navigate using page links.

In short, a PDF Link Annotation object used to create a link is just a marker that defines which region of the page can interact with the used and trigger navigation. It doesn't contain any text or other data except its "hot" region and target definition that in PDF terms is called Destination. But you don't have to dive into the details of PDF format to use our API, because we provided a very clear and simple way to use this feature.

The first link navigates the reader to the [second page](#) and the next one to the [third page](#), later both links will be highlighted on resulting image using our component.

