

Acrobat Reader Installation

RedHat Linux is no longer shipped with a version of the Acrobat Reader. Instead, several less capable programs are included for displaying .pdf files. Fortunately, it is easy to install **acroread**, the .pdf reader from Adobe. This document describes the installation process.

Table of Contents

Download and Install the Package.....	1
Fix Up Internationalization.....	1
Test the Package Installation	2
Configure the Gnome Desktop	2
Configure Mozilla.....	2

Download and Install the Package

Open a shell window, as an ordinary user, and enter the following commands:

```
cd /tmp
scp 'whitechuck:/opt/download/acroread*' .
su

    enter your root password at this point

rpm -Uhv acroread*.rpm
```

Fix Up Internationalization

For some reason, this version of **acroread** does not work correctly with the defaults set by RedHat. This is easily corrected.

As root, place the acroread shell script under local source control:

```
cd /usr/lib/Acrobat5/bin
ci -l acroread
```

With your favorite editor, edit **acroread**. Just after the comment that starts the file, enter two lines:

```
LANG=C
export LANG
```

You can use **rcsdiff -c** to verify that your editing is correct:

```
rcsdiff -c acroread
```

Test the Package Installation

Open a shell window as an ordinary user, and enter the command:

```
acroread
```

If the Acrobat Reader comes up, your installation is a success.

Configure the Gnome Desktop

To get full use of the Acrobat Reader, we will next make it the default reader that the desktop uses to open a .pdf file. Perform the following menu operations:

```
Main => Preferences => File Types and Programs
```

At this point the "File Types and Programs" window will appear; continue:

```
Documents => Published Materials => PDF document
```

Press the **Edit** button

and the "Edit file type" window will appear.

From

```
Default action
```

choose

```
Adobe Acrobat Reader
```

Test this by opening a Nautilus window (it may be on your desktop as *username's Home* where *username* is your username). Click on the image of a .pdf file, and the the Acrobat Reader should start.

Configure Mozilla

In order to have Mozilla use the Acrobat Reader, we need to configure **acroread** to be the helper application for Mozilla to use whenever it receives a .pdf file. Perform the following operations on the Mozilla menus:

```
Edit => Preferences
```

to bring up the "Preferences" window.

Select

```
Helper Applications
```

to open a list of applications.

Press

New Type

Fill in the form that appears as follows

Description of type: Adobe PDF file
File extension: pdf
MIME type: application/pdf
Application to use: /usr/bin/acroread

You can test this by opening a .pdf file with the browser. For example, the RFPK HOWTO documents are available in .pdf form on the Software Team page:
<http://whitechuck.rfpk.washington.edu/soft/index.html>

Notes

1. <http://whitechuck.rfpk.washington.edu/soft/index.html>

