

HOW TO REPAIR DAMAGED/CORRUPTED/BROKEN PDF FILES

Recover Damaged/Corrupted/Broken PDF Files with 4 Easy Methods

I have several hundreds of damaged pdf files and want to repair them. I need to know how to repair them, for example with software!

PDF files are one of the most common file formats supported and widely used around the globe. This format is used to save and share the data while preventing modification. There are numerous numbers of commercial and personal use reading software available to use PDF files. The excessive use of this file format sometimes leads this to corruption. Imagine working on an important document and due to any of the possible reasons, the PDF file gets corrupt. It will disrupt the workflow and might cause delays in deadlines or maybe you end up losing the work. Don't worry! We're here to solve the issue for you. This article describes several ways how one can recover the damaged or corrupted pdf file and make it useful for them again.

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Causes of PDF Damage/Corruption

The inordinate use of PDF files all over the world can corrupt the PDF file anytime. We have identified and listed below the most common and possible reasons for its damage or corruption:

Improper Download

Downloading the PDF files with an unreliable internet connection can lead to a failed or incomplete downloads which destroy the structure of the file and it gets corrupted.

Corrupted Drives or Social Media

If you place your file in the corrupted hard drive and USB drive or upload it somewhere on social media, then it may corrupt your file as well.

Unexpected System Shutdown

Sometimes, while working on your computer, you experience a sudden shutdown of your computer or laptop because of electricity disruption or a system error. If this happens and you're working on a PDF file or sending it somewhere, there is a high possibility that it may get corrupt.

Virus

One of the common reasons for corrupted and damaged PDF files is the existence of viral or malicious files in the system.

Incompatible Programs

Opening the PDF files with Incompatible programs can also damage the files.

The PDF file gets corrupt due to any of the above-mentioned reasons. If you are experiencing the sample situation and tired of this, you can easily repair your PDF with the methods discussed below.

Sample Copy

Method 1: Update Adobe Reader

The first step to troubleshoot the corrupt Adobe pdf file is to update the Adobe Reader software. For that, follow the steps below:

1. Launch **Adobe Reader**
2. Click on the **Help** button
3. Now, press the **Check for Updates** option

If there is an update available, it will show the message “There are updates to install”. Restart the software after installing all updates. It will repair the corrupted Adobe pdf file and if it does not try the next method.

Method 2: Try Other PDF Readers

When you are facing trouble while accessing your PDF files, before searching on how to repair a PDF file check whether the problem is with the PDF reader or file. You can open it with other PDF reader tools to check the problematic area.

There are several PDF readers available online. Select the compatible one and try opening your file in it. If the PDF file does not open with other PDF readers as well, try the next method to repair the corrupted PDF file.

Method 3: Recover Damaged Files from File History

The previous version of the inaccessible PDF file can easily be restored from the in-built backup utility tool of Windows 10. To do so, please follow the below-given steps:

Step 1: Open Update and Security

Go to the Start menu by pressing the Windows button and select settings to reach update and security

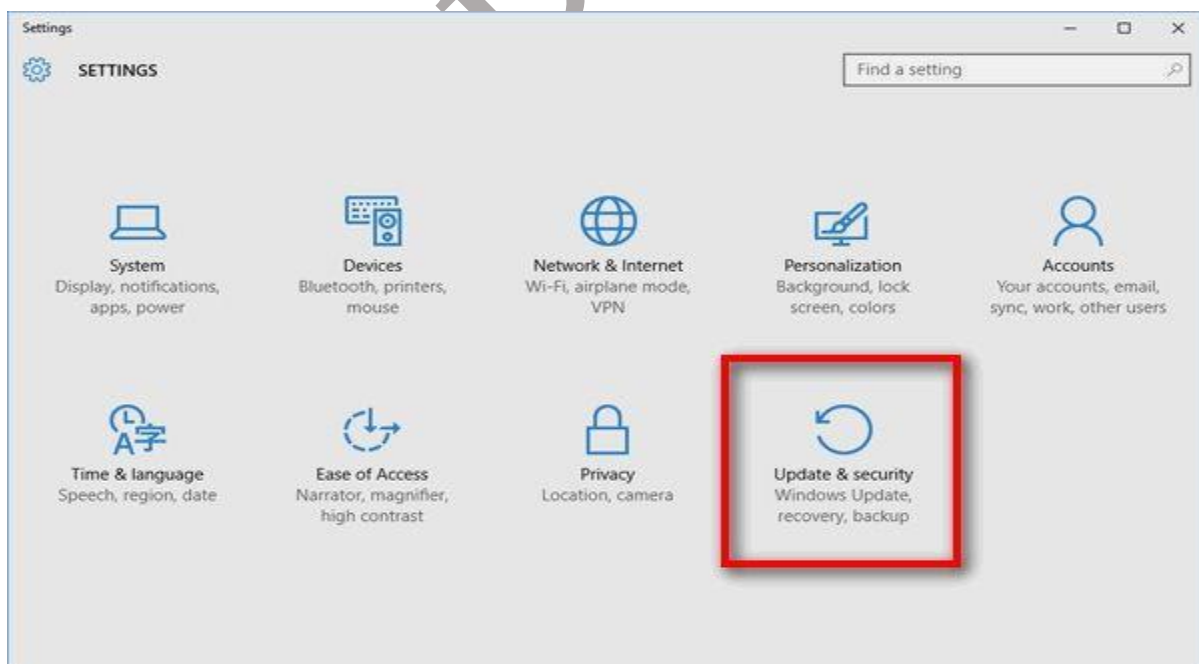


Figure 1: Open Update and Security

Step 2: Access the PDF file after restoring the backup

You can use the File History feature to restore the previous version of the file if you have not taken the backup yet.

Step 1: Right-click on the file in Windows Explorer and click on "Properties."

Step 2: Navigate to the previous versions tab to restore.

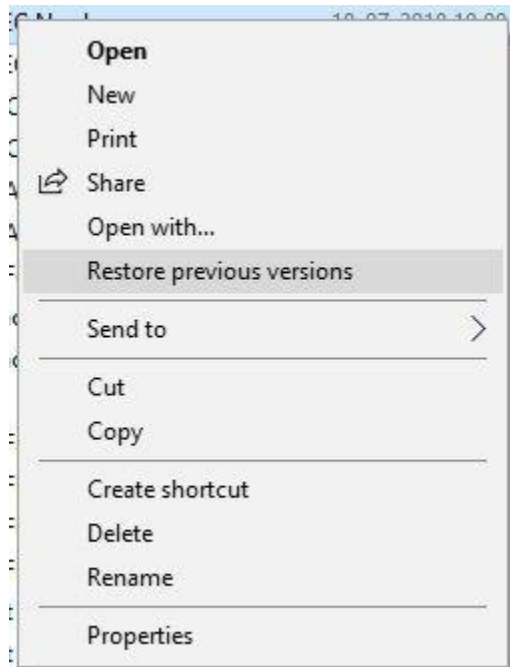


Figure 2: Restore Previous Versions

You can check the previous versions of your PDF file. To do so, right-click the file and check the correct version of the file to restore it in the system.

If the file was is not restored from the previous versions as well, try to repair it online with the online PDF Repairing tools.

Method 4: Recover Damaged Files with Online PDF File Repair

There are various online tools used for repairing the corrupted pdf files. We have tried to mention some of them below:

Sejda

To repair the damaged/corrupted PDF files online with the free online tool, you can use "Sejda". It repairs the PDF file up to 200 pages or 50 MB size of the document. It allows 3 tasks per hour and deletes the files after 2 hours to ensure the privacy

Follow the below-given steps to repair the corrupted PDF file with "Sejda":

Step 1: Select Files

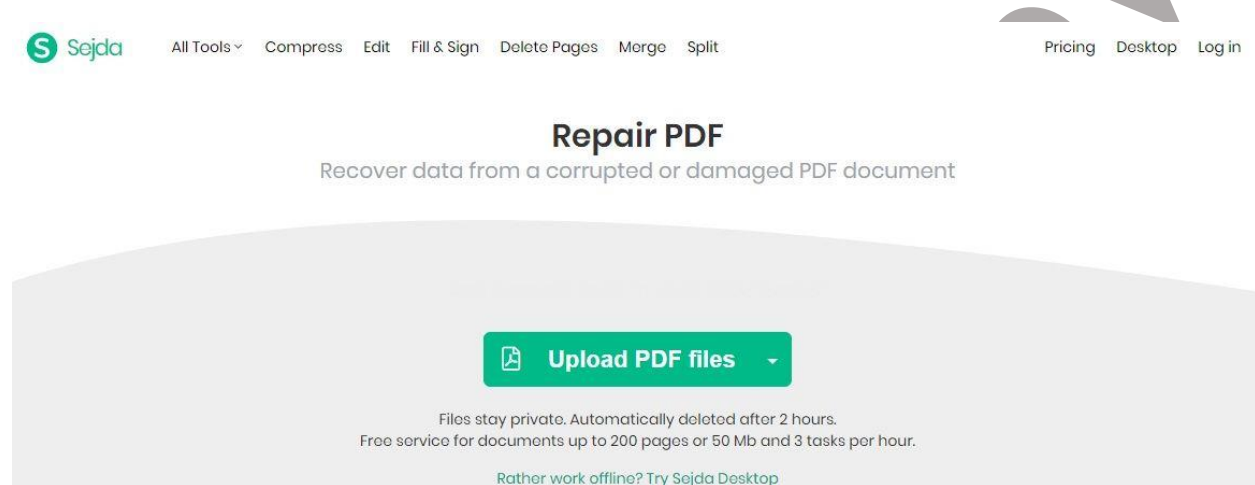


Figure 3: Sejda.com

Click "Upload PDF Files" to choose the file from the local PC or drag on drop the file to start the repairing process. You can also import the file from Google Drive, Dropbox, or OneDrive by click on the down arrow.

Step 2: Repair PDF

Click on the "Repair PDF" button once the file is uploaded and wait for it to complete the repairing process.

ILovePDF

Repair your PDF files with another free online tool “ILovePDF”. It comes with many other great features such as merging and splitting the PDF, changing the file formats, unlocking a document, and adding watermark to it.

You can follow the below-given steps to repair a PDF file.

Step 1: Select PDF file

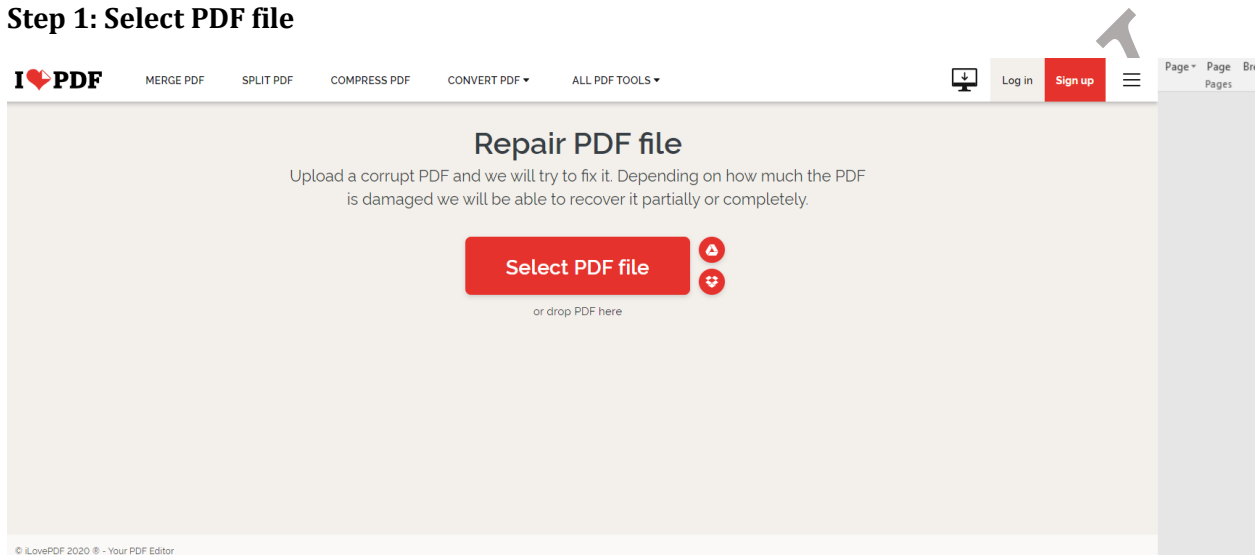


Figure 4: Select PDF File

Open the “ilovepdf.com” website to select the corrupted PDF file by clicking the “Select PDF File” button. You can also drag and drop the file on the page to upload the file.

Step 2: Download Repaired File

After the file is loaded, start the repairing process by clicking the "Repair PDF" and wait for the process to complete. Once the file is repaired, click on the “Download File” to get the repaired PFD file.

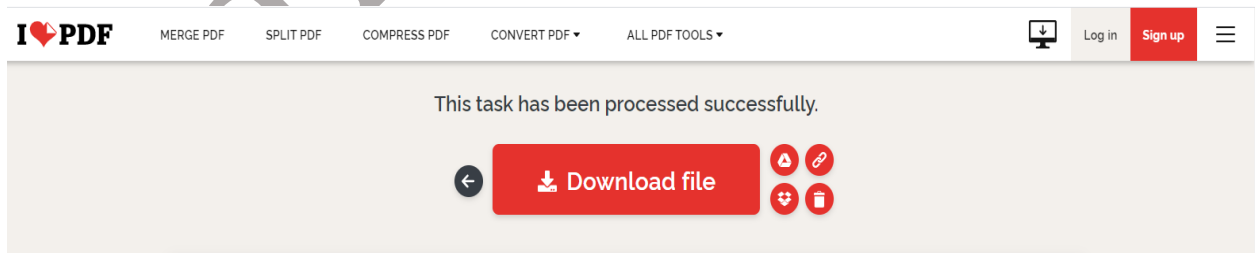


Figure 5: Download Repaired File

PDF2GO

A free online PDF tool to edit and convert PDF files. It fixes a broken and corrupted PDF file using its free online PDF repair tool.

Step 1: Choose File

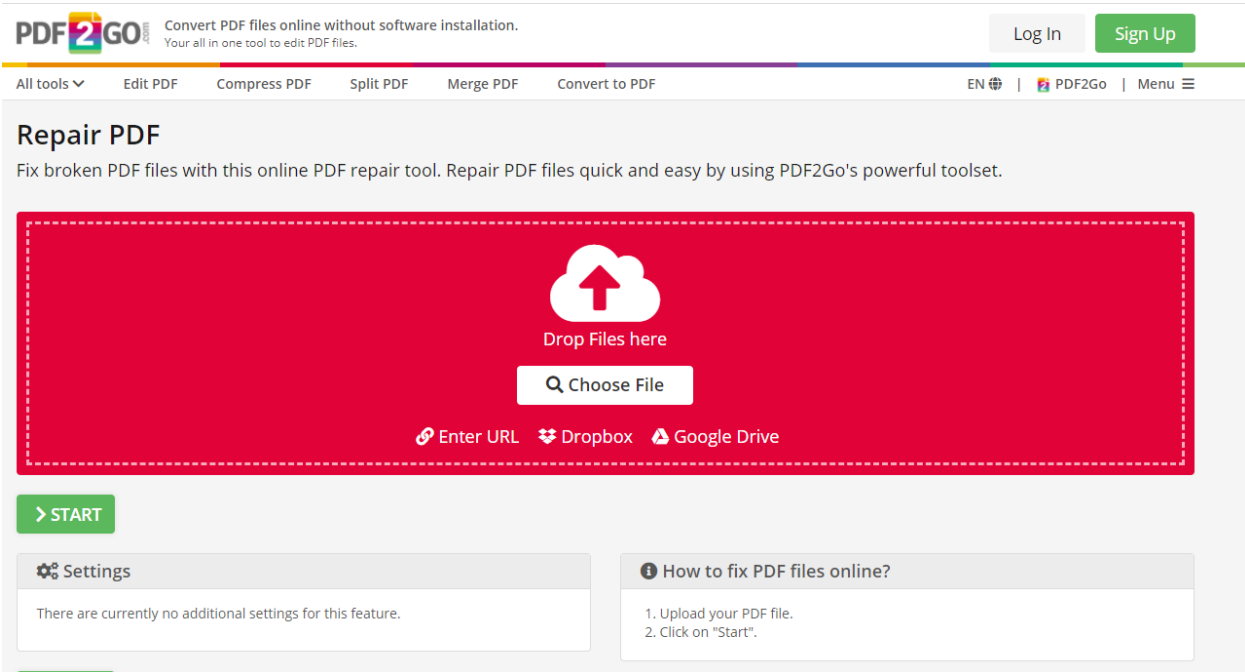
The screenshot shows the PDF2GO website's 'Repair PDF' section. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the PDF2GO logo, a tagline 'Convert PDF files online without software installation. Your all in one tool to edit PDF files.', and buttons for 'Log In' and 'Sign Up'. Below this is a menu with options: 'All tools', 'Edit PDF', 'Compress PDF', 'Split PDF', 'Merge PDF', and 'Convert to PDF'. The main heading is 'Repair PDF' with a subtext: 'Fix broken PDF files with this online PDF repair tool. Repair PDF files quick and easy by using PDF2Go's powerful toolset.' The central area is a large red box with a dashed white border. Inside, there's a white cloud icon with a red arrow pointing up, the text 'Drop Files here', a white button with a magnifying glass icon and the text 'Choose File', and three links: 'Enter URL', 'Dropbox', and 'Google Drive'. Below the red box is a green button with a right arrow and the text 'START'. At the bottom, there are two panels. The left panel is titled 'Settings' and contains the text 'There are currently no additional settings for this feature.' The right panel is titled 'How to fix PDF files online?' and contains a numbered list: '1. Upload your PDF file.' and '2. Click on "Start".'

Figure 6: Choose Picture

Click on the "Choose File" button to select the corrupted file or drag and drop the file to the page.

Step 2: Start Repairing

After loading the file, click on the "Start" to begin the repairing process and wait until the process completes.

Step 3: Download File

Once the repairing process is completed, click on the "Download" to get the repaired PDF file.

A comparison of these tools can be seen in the table below:

	Way of Uploading File	Time Span	Success Rate
Sejda	Upload file from local PC, or import file from Dropbox, Google Drive, and OneDrive or a URL	2 Hours	100%
ILovePDF	Upload file from local PC, or import file from Dropbox, Google Drive, or a web URL	24 Hours	100%
PDF2GO	Upload file from local PC, or import file from Dropbox, Google Drive, or a web URL	24 Hours	100%

Table 1: Comparison of Online PDF File Repairing Tools

Method 5: Recover Damaged Files with Professional PDF Repair Software

[Stellar Repair](#) is a professional software to repair the PDF files that get corrupt while uploading, downloading, or for any other reason. It repairs the file by restoring all the important elements of a file such as headers, page format, shapes, bookmarks, and clip art, etc. In addition to that, it also repairs text, labels, graphics, and images, page tree, and cross-reference table of the PDF file.

Step 1: Launch the “Stellar Repair for PDF” software and click “Add File” to select a corrupted/damaged PDF file.

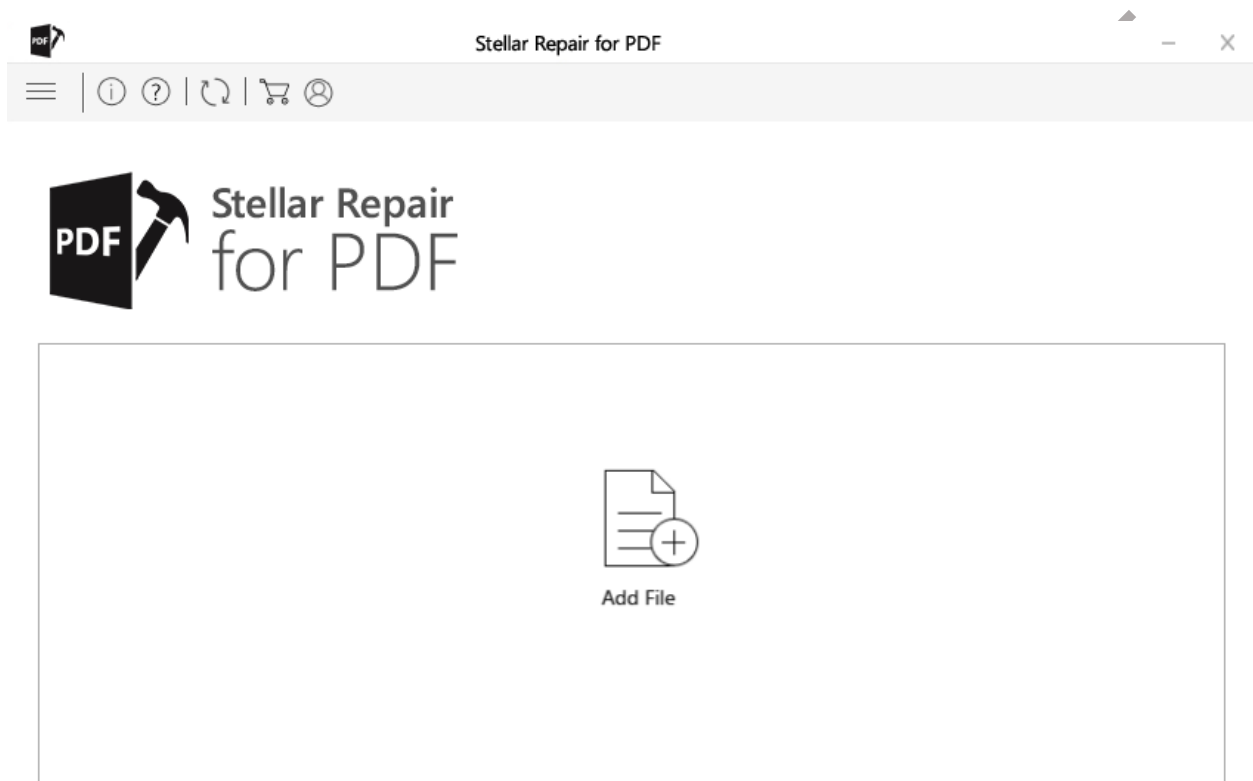


Figure 7: Add File

Step 2: After selecting the corrupted/damaged PDF file, click on the “Repair” button to begin the repairing process. You can add more files to repair by clicking the “Add” button.

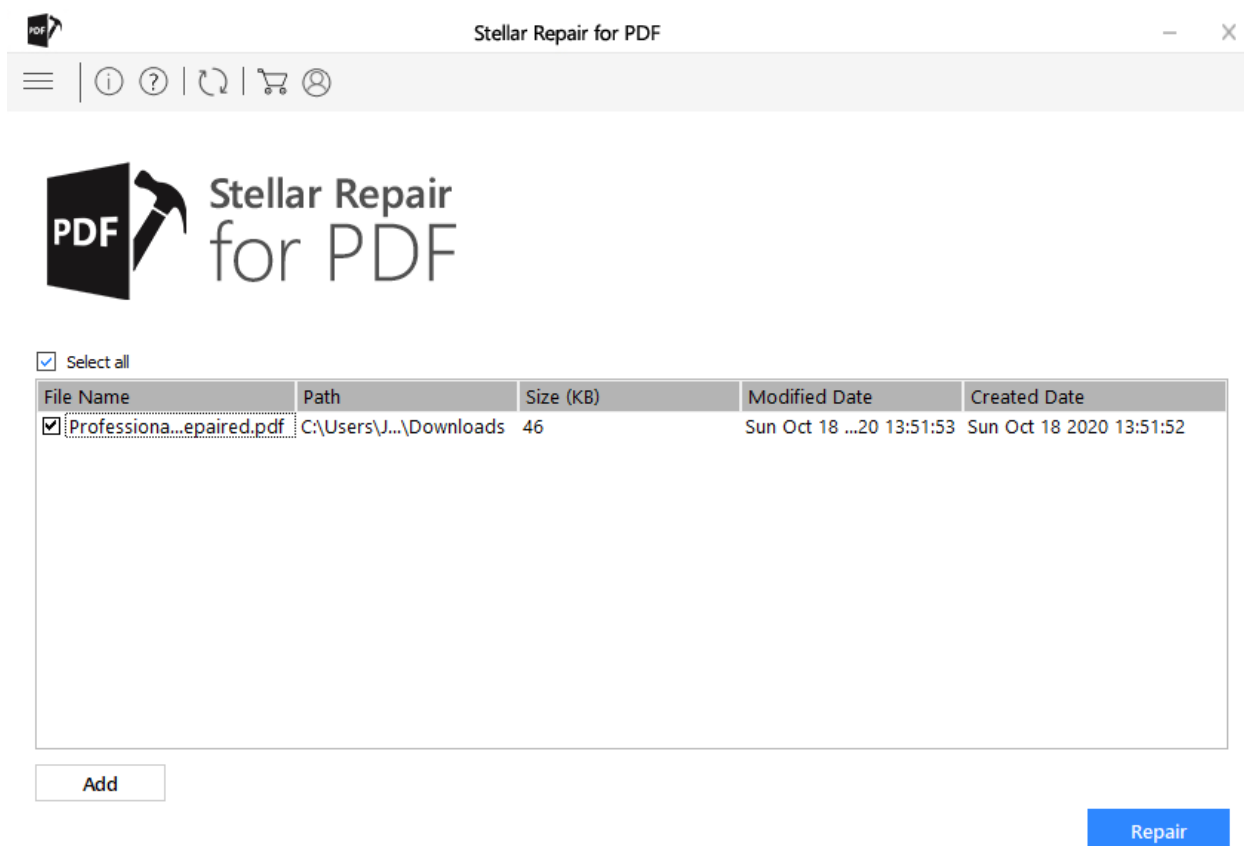


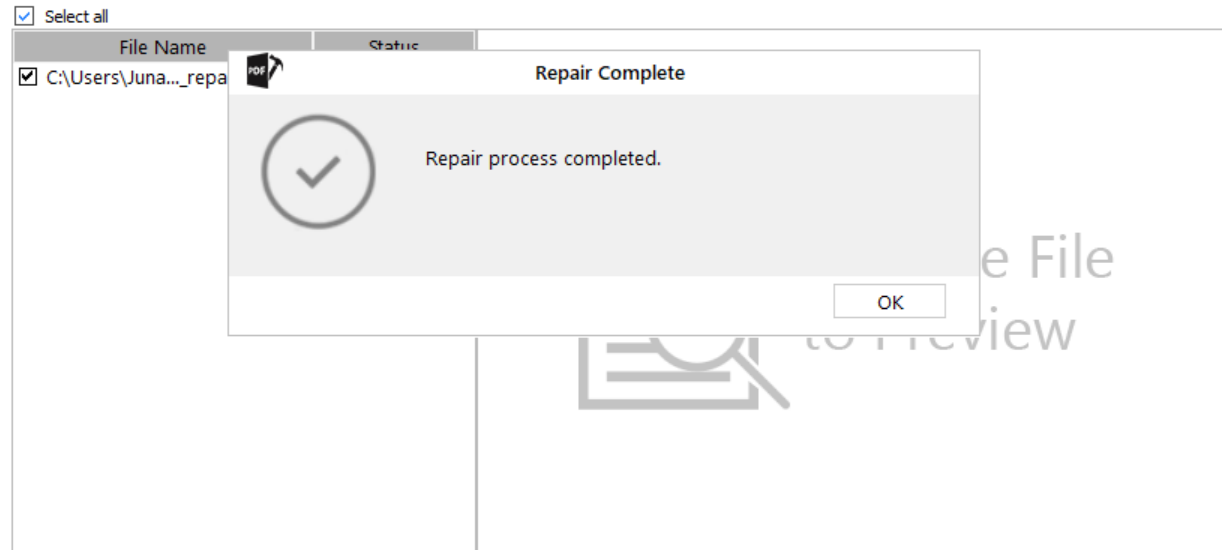
Figure 8: Repair Corrupted File

Step 3: Once the repairing process is completed, click on the “Save Repaired Files” button to save the repaired file.

Note: Saving the repaired file requires activating the software. Please ensure you have bought the license.

Repairing selected PDF files

This may take a while, depending on the number of files and their file size. Please wait while the process is completed.



Save Repaired Files

Figure 9: Save Repaired Files

Extra Tips

How to Recover Accidentally Deleted PDF Files

This powerful data recovery tool for Windows can help you recover various types of data. It doesn't matter what and how much data you have lost, 4DDiG can restore the deleted file from windows XP/7/8/8.1/10.

Key Features:

There are amazing features you can get from the free version of 4DDiG. Check out these amazing features from below:

- ✓ Recovers deleted photos, videos, and other files
- ✓ Recover from formatted systems
- ✓ Recover from any storage media
- ✓ Recovers data from raw partition
- ✓ BitLocker Data Recovery

Data Types You Can Recover

This powerful data recovery tool for Windows can help you recover various types of data. It doesn't matter what and how much data you have lost, 4DDiG can restore the deleted file from windows XP/7/8/8.1/10.

- ✓ **Photo:** JPG/JPEG, TIFF/TIF, PNG, BMP, GIF, PSD, CRW, CR2, NEF, ORF, SR2, MRW, DCR, WMF, RAW, SWF, SVG, RAF, DNG, ERF, ICO, DSC, etc.
- ✓ **Video:** AVI, MOV, MP4, M4V, 3GP, 3G2, WMV, MKV, ASF, FLV, F4V, SWF, MPG, RM/RMVB, MPEG, TS, VOB, MTS, DV, etc.
- ✓ **Music/Audio:** MP3, AIF/AIFF, M4A, WMA, APE, MID/MIDI, VQF, OGG, AAC, WAV, FLAC, DTS, and other audio formats.
- ✓ **RAR/ZIP:** RAR, ZIP, 7Z, BZ2, ISO, IMG, TAR, GZ, TAZ, TGZ, LHA, LZH, CAB, TZ, Z, BZIP2, GZIP, WIM, AR, ARJ, DMG and so much more.
- ✓ **Office Doc:** DOC/DOCX, XLS/XLSX, PPT/PPTX, CWK, HTML/HTM, INDD, EPS, RTF, EPUB, CHM, CSV, TXT, DOTM, THMX, and so on.
- ✓ **Other Files:** Retrieve deleted or corrupted system files and folders that missing from your hard drive or removable devices.

Multiple Device Supported

4DDiG makes it possible for you to get your lost data back with the highest recovery rate without ever worrying about what type of device you have.

- ✓ PC/Laptop
- ✓ CD, DVD, HD DVD
- ✓ Hard Drive and SSD
- ✓ Digital Camera
- ✓ SD/ Memory Cards, USB Drives, and more