

Display PDF in reactJS

Asked 7 years ago Modified 5 months ago Viewed 168k times



I am following this package <https://www.npmjs.com/package/react-pdf>

35

I got the entire raw pdf data from backend so I was trying with code below.



```
<ReactPDF file={renderPdf}/>
```



But it displayed "Failed to load PDF file." I don't wish to save any file in local. The best approach is the display the pdf with the raw data provided by backend.



In terminal, it logged the error:

```
URIError: Failed to decode param '/%PDF-
1.4%EF%BF%BD%EF%BF%BD%EF%BF%BD%EF%BF%BD%20ReportLab%20Generated%20PDF%20document%
Bold%20/Encoding%20/WinAnsiEncoding%20/Name%20/F2%20/Subtype%20/Type1%20/Type%20/I
v'
```

reactjs

pdf

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edited Apr 9, 2019 at 10:03



Ryuujou

613 2 9 28

asked Aug 9, 2017 at 16:41



Mervyn Lee

2,167 6 30 55

what does `renderPdf` look like? – Dan O Aug 9, 2017 at 17:18

```
@DanO %PDF-1.4 %??? ReportLab Generated PDF document reportlab.com 1 0 obj << /F1 2 0 R
/F2 3 0 R /F3 7 0 R >> endobj 2 0 obj << /BaseFont /Helvetica /Encoding /WinAnsiEncoding /Name /F1
/Subtype /Type1 /Type /Font >> endobj 3 0 obj << /BaseFont /Helvetica-Bold /Encoding
/WinAnsiEncoding /Name /F2 /Subtype /Type1 /Type /Font >> endobj 4 0 obj << /BitsPerComponent 8
/ColorSpace /DeviceRGB /Filter [ /ASCII85Decode /FlateDecode ] /Height 480 /Length 36803 /SMask
5 0 R /Subtype /Image /Type /XObject /Width 640 >> stream..... – Mervyn Lee Aug 9, 2017 at 17:20
```

11 Answers

Sorted by: Highest score (default)



59

If your goal is just to view the pdf in your application, the easiest way is using the object tag in HTML. You don't need to import any libraries and works most of the browsers. But this is lack of customization and styles.



```
<object data="http://africau.edu/images/default/sample.pdf"
type="application/pdf" width="100%" height="100%">
  <p>Alternative text – include a link <a
href="http://africau.edu/images/default/sample.pdf">to the PDF!</a></p>
</object>
```

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answered Jul 21, 2020 at 13:29



Dhanuka Perera

1,733 3 21 32

1 this is perfect! thans – Loudrous Jun 18, 2022 at 14:16

1 This works just fine when you just need to embed a PDF, thanks for sharing this answer! – Blake Nov 10, 2022 at 15:43

1 iOS browsers have a bug that prevents scrolling with this object embed approach – Alex von Brandenfels May 15, 2023 at 17:16

@AlexvonBrandenfels Is it still the issue? – Bilal Aug 2 at 12:19

it doesnt prevent scroll behaviour, i just checked – Bilal Aug 2 at 12:26



16

it looks like you're passing the PDF data directly to the `<ReactPDF>` component as the value of the `file` prop. But according to [the docs](#) you need to use an object containing a `data` property:



```
<ReactPDF
  file={{
    data: renderPdf
  }}
/>
```



it seems you can also set `file` to an object containing a `url` property, to let ReactPDF fetch the pdf from your backend by itself, if that's easier:

```
<ReactPDF
  file={{
    url: 'http://www.example.com/sample.pdf'
  }}
/>
```

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answered Aug 9, 2017 at 17:46



Dan O

6,070 2 33 52

Tried with first option with data: {renderPdf} which will trigger error. 2nd option is not possible since it will trigger a get request, while my backend perform some sort of authorization which will send a POST request to retrieve the pdf – [Mervyn Lee](#) Aug 9, 2017 at 17:55

@MervynLee for the latter you'd probably need to use a csrf token for it to be accepted.
– [Kaelan O'reily](#) Sep 27, 2023 at 19:23



Try this

12

```
<object width="100%" height="400"
data="http://www.africau.edu/images/default/sample.pdf" type="application/pdf">
</object>
```



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answered Jun 17, 2019 at 12:27



[Nikit Barochiya](#)

1,081 12 15

it downloads. doesn't render. – [Ajit T Stephen](#) Aug 31, 2023 at 15:05

ohh it renders...sweet – [Noopur Phalak](#) Oct 17, 2023 at 11:15

@NoopurPhalak No!! It didn't render. For me this package did the job!
[npmjs.com/package/@cyntler/react-doc-viewer](https://www.npmjs.com/package/@cyntler/react-doc-viewer) Original Reference: youtu.be/E0aK6CKsSNg?si=3YTzshMtVsM-alVs Sorry for confusing language in previous comment – [Ajit T Stephen](#) Dec 28, 2023 at 10:00 ✎

@AjitTStephen It does render the PDF...it worked for me. Here is my code:

```
<object width="100%" height="100%" data={resume.resume} type="application/pdf" />
```

 Here resume is the google cloud storage link to the PDF. – [Noopur Phalak](#) Dec 29, 2023 at 5:30 ✎

ohh...my links were... aws s3. That would matter ? @NoopurPhalak – [Ajit T Stephen](#) Dec 29, 2023 at 6:33 ✎



I solved the problem. I convert the binary data that I received from backend into ArrayBuffer.

4

```
axios.post(//fire your API).then(response =>
  (response.status === 200? response.data : null))
  .then(pdfdata => {
    var len = pdfdata.length;
    var bytes = new Uint8Array( len );
    for (var i = 0; i < len; i++){
      bytes[i] = pdfdata.charCodeAt(i);
    }

    const renderPdf = bytes.buffer
```



Then I actually assign bytes.buffer to renderPDF to perform the rendering. Now it is working flawlessly!

In rendering html from react,

```
import PDF from 'react-pdf-scroll'
<PDF file={renderPdf} scale={1.3} pages={Infinity} />
```

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edited Aug 25, 2017 at 3:19

answered Aug 10, 2017 at 4:22



Mervyn Lee

2,167 6 30 55

Hi @MervynLee - Can you please post the full code for your solution? – JoeyHolloway Aug 24, 2017 at 8:33

Hi @JJHolloway, I have posted the code for logic and rendering part in react, anything else?
– Mervyn Lee Aug 25, 2017 at 3:19

Thanks @MervynLee -- did you come across an issue where it just says "Loading PDF file..." and never loads the PDF? – JoeyHolloway Aug 25, 2017 at 11:58

@JJHolloway do you mind show the response content returned by server? – Mervyn Lee Aug 27, 2017 at 8:09

4 The library react-pdf-scroll has been deprecated according to the npm website
npmjs.com/package/react-pdf-scroll – Hoppe Mar 28, 2018 at 20:09



if your data that is returned from the backend is in the format of buffer then you can set the file info with a parsed JSON object that react-pdf can configure.

1



```
file={{data: JSON.parse(renderPDF).data}}
```



This will render your PDF file.



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answered May 14, 2019 at 0:17



Willie Smith

11 2



Expanding the answers posted above this works when using a pdf string

1

```
<object data={`data:application/pdf;base64,${base64_pdf_string}`}
  type="application/pdf" width="100%" height="100%">
  <p>Alternative text</p>
</object>
```



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answered May 30, 2022 at 6:53



Simon



```
import { Document, Page } from "react-pdf/dist/esm/entry.webpack";
```

1

That will fix your problem. It worked for me

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edited Nov 28, 2022 at 11:10

answered Nov 28, 2022 at 11:09



Rucksolly

11 2



0

```
import { Document, Page } from 'react-pdf';
```

```
<div style={{marginLeft:"27%"}}>
  <Document file={fileUrl} onLoadSuccess={onDocumentLoadSuccess} >
    <Page pageNumber={pageNumber} />
  </Document>
<p style={{marginLeft:"27%"}}>
  Page {pageNumber} of {numPages}
</p>
</div>
```



This will load your pdf make you give the proper URL or data and check

<https://www.npmjs.com/package/react-pdf>

Share Improve this answer Follow

answered Jan 27, 2023 at 10:09



Shivam Suchak

231 3 10



This is a very old issue causing pdf to get hidden on mobile devices.

-1

Ive tried



```
<object width="100%" height="400"
data="http://www.africau.edu/images/default/sample.pdf" type="application/pdf">
</object>
```



Even this doesn't work

Finally found a working solution

```
<iframe src={pdf_url} />
```

Hope This works.

Nice day coding!

Share Improve this answer Follow

answered Jun 9, 2021 at 20:27



Ayush Sharma

41 1



-1



In the above iframe, in the src (replace YOUR_PDF_URL), which will work.

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edited Jun 16, 2022 at 15:45

answered Jun 15, 2022 at 7:11



Naveen Kamath

47 1 6



-1



well other than using Document and page from react-pdf . You also need to use pdfjs. I don't know what or how it does but after using pdfjs . I could load my pdf. Just do

```
pdfjs.GlobalWorkerOptions.workerSrc =  
`//cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/pdf.js/${pdfjs.version}/pdf.worker.min.js`;
```



and then



```
<Document file={pdf} className="d-flex justify-content-center">  
  <Page pageNumber={1} scale={width > 786 ? 1.7 : 0.6} />  
</Document>
```

Share Improve this answer Follow

answered Apr 4 at 9:41



devacius the one above

all

1 1