

GENERATING PDF IN LIGHTNING WEB --- COMPONENT SALESFORCE

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Generating PDF in LWC

- In Salesforce, the ability to generate PDFs is a powerful feature used for creating printable documents such as invoices, reports, and contracts.
- With the introduction of Lightning Web Components (LWC), it's essential to understand how to generate PDFs efficiently.

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Understanding the Core Concept

Generating PDFs in LWC requires a combination of backend logic (Apex) and frontend integration (LWC). The process typically involves:

- LWC to display the data.
- Apex for data handling and converting the HTML content into a PDF format.
- Leveraging the jsPDF or PDF.js library for formatting and rendering PDFs.

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Setup PDF Libraries

For LWC, we commonly use jsPDF to generate PDFs. First, we must install and configure the library.

- Download jsPDF from the official GitHub repo.
- Upload the jsPDF library as a static resource.

Steps:

- Go to Setup > Static Resources > Upload jsPDF file.
- Ensure the name is accessible by the component.

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Create Lightning Web Component (LWC)

HTML File

```
<template>
  <lightning-card title="Generate PDF Example" icon-name="action:preview">
    <div class="slds-m-around_medium">
      <lightning-button label="Download PDF" onclick={generatePDF}></lightning-
button> </div>
    <div id="contentToPrint">
      <h2>Sample PDF Content</h2>
      <p>This is an example of a generated PDF from LWC using jsPDF.</p>
    </div>
  </lightning-card>
</template>
```

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Js File

```
import { LightningElement } from 'lwc';
import jsPDF from '@salesforce/resourceUrl/jsPDF'; // Import jsPDF from Static
import { loadScript } from 'lightning/platformResourceLoader';

export default class GeneratePdfExample extends LightningElement {
  pdfInitialized = false;

  renderedCallback() {
    if (this.pdfInitialized) {
      return;
    }
    this.pdfInitialized = true;

    // Load jsPDF Library
    loadScript(this, jsPDF)
      .then(() => {
        console.log('jsPDF loaded successfully');
      })
      .catch(error => {
        console.error('Error loading jsPDF', error);
      });
  }

  generatePDF() {
    const doc = new window.jsPDF.jsPDF();
    doc.text('This is a simple PDF generated from LWC', 10, 10);
    doc.save('sample.pdf');
  }
}
```

Using Apex for Complex Data

For scenarios where we need to fetch or manipulate data server-side before generating the PDF, we can leverage Apex.

```
public with sharing class PdfController {  
    @AuraEnabled(cacheable=true)  
    public static List<Account> fetchAccounts() {  
        return [SELECT Id, Name, Industry FROM Account LIMIT 10];  
    }  
}
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LWC JavaScript with Apex

```
import { LightningElement, wire } from 'lwc';
import fetchAccounts from '@salesforce/apex/PdfController.fetchAccounts';
import { loadScript } from 'lightning/platformResourceLoader';
import jspdf from '@salesforce/resourceUrl/jsPDF';

export default class GeneratePdfWithApex extends LightningElement {
  accounts;

  @wire(fetchAccounts)
  wiredAccounts({ error, data }) {
    if (data) {
      this.accounts = data;
    } else if (error) {
      console.error('Error fetching accounts', error);
    }
  }

  generatePDF() {
    const doc = new window.jspdf.jsPDF();
    doc.text('Account Details', 10, 10);

    this.accounts.forEach((account, index) => {
      doc.text(`${index + 1}. ${account.Name} - ${account.Industry}`, 10, 20 + (index * 10));
    });

    doc.save('accounts.pdf');
  }
}
```


Styling and Formatting the PDF

When generating PDFs, you can format the content (like adding tables, headers, and images). Here's how to add some basic styling:

Adding a Table Example:

```
generatePDF() {  
  const doc = new window.jspdf.jsPDF();  
  
  // Table Headers  
  const headers = [['#', 'Account Name', 'Industry']];  
  
  // Data  
  const data = this.accounts.map((account, index) => [  
    index + 1, account.Name, account.Industry  
  ]);  
  
  // Generate Table  
  doc.autoTable({  
    head: headers,  
    body: data  
  });  
  
  doc.save('accounts_with_table.pdf');  
}
```

Generating PDF with Images and Custom Fonts

You can also include images and custom fonts in your PDFs for a professional appearance.

Adding an Image:

```
generatePDF() {  
  const doc = new window.jspdf.jsPDF();  
  
  const imgUrl = 'https://example.com/logo.png'; // Link to an image  
  
  doc.drawImage(imgUrl, 'PNG', 10, 10, 50, 50); // Add image to the PDF  
  doc.text('PDF with an Image', 10, 70);  
  
  doc.save('image-pdf.pdf');  
}
```

Custom Fonts: You'll need to load the custom fonts as a static resource and embed them similarly to jsPDF.

Key Considerations and Limitations

- **Security Restrictions:** Salesforce imposes certain limits, such as the size of PDFs and file handling in client-side libraries.
- **Governor Limits:** Be cautious when using Apex to retrieve large datasets for PDF generation to avoid hitting governor limits.
- **Browser Compatibility:** Some PDF libraries may have browser compatibility issues—ensure proper testing.
- **Performance:** Depending on the complexity of the PDF, large documents may impact performance.



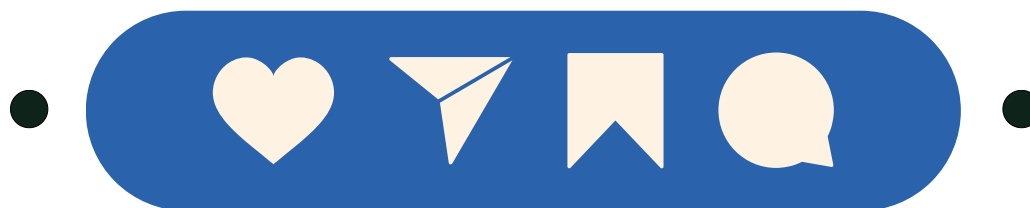
Conclusion

- Using LWC to generate PDFs in Salesforce provides a flexible and scalable approach to creating dynamic, professional documents.
- By combining Apex for server-side logic and jsPDF (or similar libraries) for PDF generation, you can handle a variety of use cases like reports, invoices, or customized forms.
- Feel free to explore different use cases and enrich your PDF with tables, images, and custom fonts!

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