



Wireshark Network Analysis Plugin

## Windows Installation Manual

Step-by-Step Quick Start Guide

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**Version:** 0.2.5 (Public Beta)

**Platform:** Windows 10/11

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This software is provided as-is without warranty. For more information, visit: <https://github.com/netwho/PacketReporter>

# Quick Start Guide

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This manual provides step-by-step instructions for installing PacketReporter on Windows systems. Follow each step carefully to ensure proper installation and functionality.

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### System Requirements

**Required:** Wireshark 4.0 or later

**Recommended RAM:** 4 GB

**Optional:** Administrator access (for PATH modifications)

### Installation Time

Expected duration: 10-15 minutes. Allow extra time if downloading large files on slow connections.

# Step 1: Install rsvg-convert

**What is rsvg-convert?** This tool converts SVG (Scalable Vector Graphics) files to PDF format. PacketReporter generates SVG charts and graphs that need to be converted to PDF for your reports. rsvg-convert is the fastest and most reliable converter for this purpose.

## 1.1 Download rsvg-convert

Visit the download page and get the latest version:

```
https://github.com/miyako/console-rsvg-convert/releases/download/2.1.3/rsvg-convert.x86\_64.zip
```

This downloads a ZIP file containing the `rsvg-convert.exe` executable.

## 1.2 Extract the Archive

1. Right-click the downloaded `rsvg-convert.x86_64.zip` file
2. Select "**Extract All...**" from the context menu
3. Choose a location (e.g., Downloads folder)
4. Click "**Extract**" to unzip the file
5. You should now see `rsvg-convert.exe` in the extracted folder

## 1.3 Add to System PATH (Option A - Recommended)

### Copy to Windows System Directory:

1. Press **Windows Key + R** to open Run dialog
2. Type: `C:\Windows\System32` and press Enter
3. A File Explorer window opens showing the `System32` folder
4. Copy `rsvg-convert.exe` into this directory
5. ✓ **Done!** The tool is now accessible from anywhere

## 1.4 Add to System PATH (Option B - Advanced)

### Create custom directory and add to PATH:

1. Create a new folder: C:\ConvertTools
2. Copy rsvg-convert.exe into this folder
3. Right-click **This PC** → **Properties**
4. Click "**Advanced system settings**"
5. Click "**Environment Variables**" button
6. Under "System variables", find and select "**Path**"
7. Click "**Edit**" → "**New**"
8. Add: C:\ConvertTools and click OK
9. Click OK to close all dialogs

#### **⚠️ IMPORTANT: Log Off and Log Back In**

**After modifying the PATH environment variable, you MUST log off and log back in for the changes to take effect.** Otherwise, the system and PowerShell will not recognize the new PATH entry.

#### **How to log off:**

1. Press **Ctrl + Alt + Delete**
2. Click "**Sign out**" (bottom right)
3. Wait for the logoff to complete
4. Log back in with your credentials

**After logging back in, proceed to Step 3.**

# Step 2: Install PDFtk

**What is PDFtk?** PDFtk combines multiple PDF pages into a single document. Since PacketReporter can generate multi-page reports, this tool merges all pages together. It's a simple installer that automatically adds itself to your system PATH.

## 2.1 Download PDFtk Installer

Download the Windows installer (version 2.02 Free):

[https://www.pdflabs.com/tools/pdfkit-the-pdf-toolkit/pdfkit\\_free-2.02-win-setup.exe](https://www.pdflabs.com/tools/pdfkit/pdfkit_free-2.02-win-setup.exe)

## 2.2 Run the Installer

1. Double-click pdfkit\_free-2.02-win-setup.exe
2. Click "**Next >**" on the welcome screen
3. Accept the license agreement by clicking "**I Agree**"
4. Click "**Next >**" to accept the default installation location
5. Click "**Install**" to begin installation
6. Wait for the installation to complete (1-2 minutes)
7. Click "**Finish**" when done

### ⚠ CRITICAL: Log Off and Log Back In

**IMPORTANT:** After installing PDFtk, you MUST log off from Windows and log back in to refresh your system PATH. The prerequisite check script will not find PDFtk until you do this.

#### How to log off:

1. Press **Ctrl + Alt + Delete**
2. Click "**Sign out**" (bottom right)
3. Wait for the logoff to complete
4. Log back in with your credentials

**After logging back in, proceed to Step 3.**

# Step 3: Verify Prerequisites

**What does this step do?** The prerequisite check script verifies that all required and optional tools are correctly installed and accessible. This helps identify any issues before proceeding with the main installation.

## 3.1 Open PowerShell

1. Press **Windows Key** and type **PowerShell**
2. Right-click "**Windows PowerShell**"
3. Select "**Run as administrator**"
4. Click "**Yes**" when prompted for admin rights

## 3.2 Navigate to Installation Directory

In PowerShell, navigate to the PacketReporter installer directory. Replace the path with your actual location:

```
cd "C:\Users\YourUsername\Downloads\PacketReporter\installers\windows"
```

Replace **YourUsername** with your actual Windows username and adjust the path if you extracted to a different location.

## 3.3 Run the Prerequisites Check Script

Copy and paste this command into PowerShell:

```
powershell -ExecutionPolicy Bypass -File check-prereqs.ps1
```

Press **Enter** to run the script.

## 3.4 Interpret the Results

The script will display:

- **[OK]** in green = Tool found and working
- **[WARNING]** in yellow = Optional tool missing (PDF export may not work)
- **[ERROR]** in red = Required tool missing (must install before proceeding)

**Next step:** If you see warnings about rsvg-convert or PDFtk, review Steps 1-2 above. If all tools show [OK], proceed to Step 4.

# Step 4: Run PacketReporter Installer

**What does the installer do?** The installer copies the PacketReporter Lua plugin to Wireshark's plugin directory, making it available in the Tools menu. It also creates a configuration directory for custom logos and settings.

## 4.1 Run the Main Installer

In the same PowerShell window (or open a new admin PowerShell), run:

```
powershell -ExecutionPolicy Bypass -File install.ps1
```

Press **Enter** and follow the prompts.

## 4.2 What Gets Installed

### Plugin File:

- `packet_reporter.lua` → `%APPDATA%\Wireshark\plugins\`
- This is the main PacketReporter plugin (~2,580 lines of Lua code)

### Configuration Directory:

- Created: `%USERPROFILE%\.packet_reporter\`
- Purpose: Store custom logo and report descriptions

## 4.3 Configuration Files (Optional)

You can customize your reports by creating files in `.packet_reporter` folder:

### Logo customization:

```
%USERPROFILE%\.packet_reporter\Logo.png
```

Place your company/organization logo here. If not found, defaults to text branding.

### Report description:

```
%USERPROFILE%\.packet_reporter\packet_reporter.txt
```

Create this file with 3 lines maximum. Example:

Customer: Acme Corporation Segment: Production Network Notes: Q1 2026 Security Audit

## 4.4 Restart Wireshark

1. Close Wireshark completely (if running)
2. Reopen Wireshark
3. Go to **Tools** menu
4. You should now see **PacketReporter** submenu with report options

✓ **Installation Complete!**

Reports are automatically saved to: %USERPROFILE%\Documents\PacketReporter Reports\

# Step 5: First Use & Troubleshooting

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## 5.1 Generate Your First Report

1. Open a PCAP file in Wireshark (or capture live traffic)
2. Apply a display filter if desired (e.g., `tcp.port == 443`)
3. Click **Tools** → **PacketReporter**
4. Select report type:
  - **Summary Report:** Quick 1-2 page overview
  - **Detailed Report (A4):** Full analysis, standard paper size
  - **Detailed Report (Legal):** Full analysis, US legal size
5. Report generation may take 10-30 seconds (depending on packet count)
6. Click "**Export PDF**" button
7. PDF opens automatically in your default viewer

## 5.2 Common Issues & Solutions

### PDF export fails with "converter not found"

- Run `check-prereqs.ps1` again to verify installation
- Ensure you logged off/on after installing PDFtk
- Try copying `rsvg-convert.exe` to System32 folder (Step 1.3)

### Plugin doesn't appear in Tools menu

- Fully close and reopen Wireshark
- Check that Wireshark 4.0+ is installed
- Verify plugin file exists: `%APPDATA%\Wireshark\plugins\packet_reporter.lua`

### Reports show truncated IP addresses

- Make sure you have version 0.2.5 or later
- Reinstall the plugin (re-run `install.ps1`)

## 5.3 Getting Help

- **Documentation:** Check `PLATFORM_PREREQUISITES.md` in the installer folder
- **Repository:** <https://github.com/netwho/PacketReporter>
- **Issues:** Report bugs on GitHub Issues page