

Document Intelligence read model

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Important

- Document Intelligence public preview releases provide early access to features that are in active development.
- Features, approaches, and processes may change, prior to General Availability (GA), based on user feedback.
- The public preview version of Document Intelligence client libraries default to REST API version **2023-10-31-preview**.
- Public preview version **2023-10-31-preview** is currently only available in the following Azure regions:
 - East US
 - West US2
 - West Europe

This content applies to:  **v4.0 (preview)** | Previous versions:  **v3.1 (GA)**  **v3.0 (GA)**

Note

For extracting text from external images like labels, street signs, and posters, use the **Azure AI Vision v4.0 preview Read** feature optimized for general, non-document images with a performance-enhanced synchronous API that makes it easier to embed OCR in your user experience scenarios.

Document Intelligence Read Optical Character Recognition (OCR) model runs at a higher resolution than Azure AI Vision Read and extracts print and handwritten text from PDF documents and scanned images. It also includes support for extracting text from Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and HTML documents. It detects paragraphs, text lines, words, locations, and languages. The Read model is the underlying OCR engine for other

Document Intelligence prebuilt models like Layout, General Document, Invoice, Receipt, Identity (ID) document, Health insurance card, W2 in addition to custom models.

What is OCR for documents?

Optical Character Recognition (OCR) for documents is optimized for large text-heavy documents in multiple file formats and global languages. It includes features like higher-resolution scanning of document images for better handling of smaller and dense text; paragraph detection; and fillable form management. OCR capabilities also include advanced scenarios like single character boxes and accurate extraction of key fields commonly found in invoices, receipts, and other prebuilt scenarios.

Development options

Document Intelligence v4.0 (2023-10-31-preview) supports the following tools, applications, and libraries:

 Expand table

Feature	Resources	Model ID
Read OCR model	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Document Intelligence Studio• REST API• C# SDK• Python SDK• Java SDK• JavaScript SDK	prebuilt-read

Input requirements

- For best results, provide one clear photo or high-quality scan per document.
- Supported file formats:

 Expand table

Model	PDF	Image: JPEG/JPG, PNG, BMP, TIFF, HEIF	Microsoft Office: Word (DOCX), Excel (XLSX), PowerPoint (PPTX), and HTML
Read	✓	✓	✓
Layout	✓	✓	✓ (2023-10-31-preview)
General Document	✓	✓	
Prebuilt	✓	✓	
Custom	✓	✓	

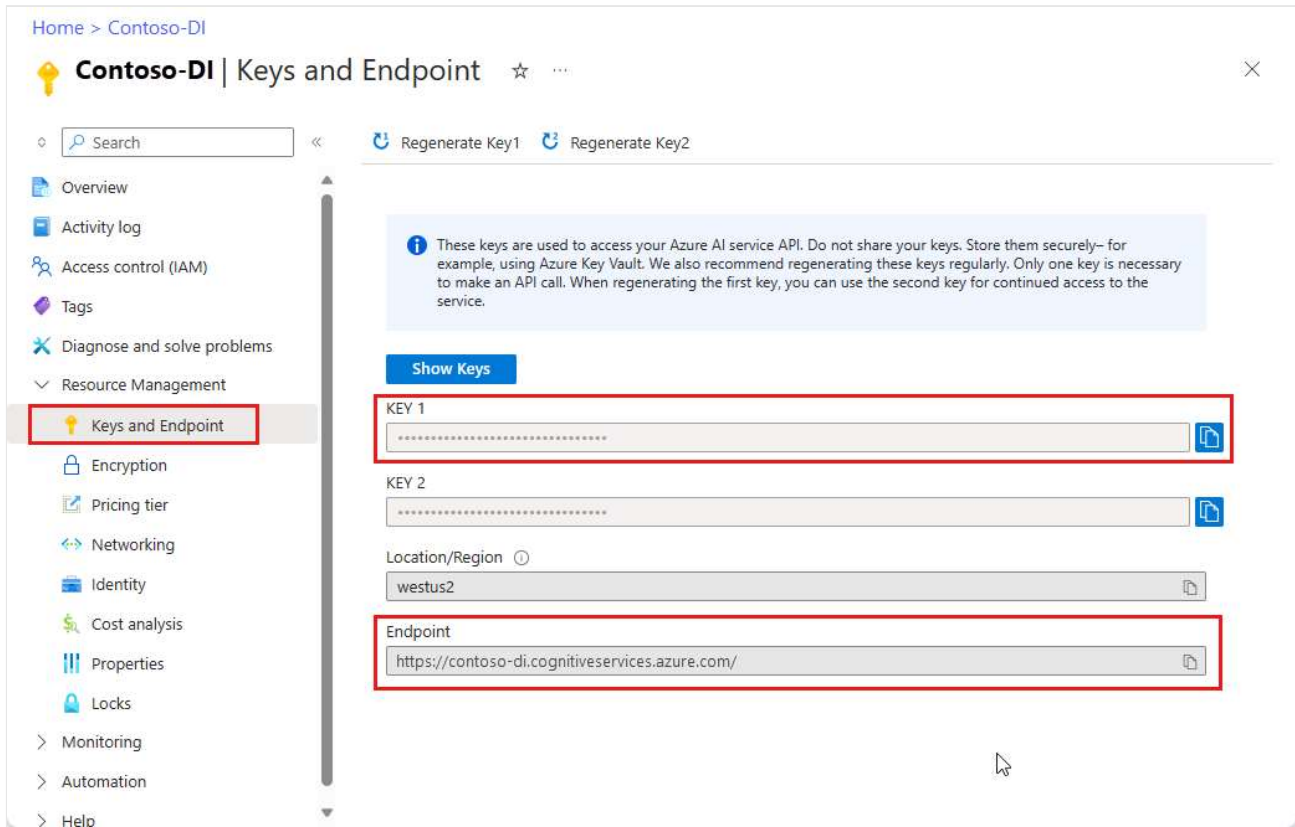
- For PDF and TIFF, up to 2000 pages can be processed (with a free tier subscription, only the first two pages are processed).
- The file size for analyzing documents is 500 MB for paid (S0) tier and 4 MB for free (F0) tier.
- Image dimensions must be between 50 x 50 pixels and 10,000 px x 10,000 pixels.
- If your PDFs are password-locked, you must remove the lock before submission.
- The minimum height of the text to be extracted is 12 pixels for a 1024 x 768 pixel image. This dimension corresponds to about 8 -point text at 150 dots per inch (DPI).
- For custom model training, the maximum number of pages for training data is 500 for the custom template model and 50,000 for the custom neural model.
 - For custom extraction model training, the total size of training data is 50 MB for template model and 1G-MB for the neural model.
 - For custom classification model training, the total size of training data is 1GB with a maximum of 10,000 pages.

Read model data extraction

Try extracting text from forms and documents using the Document Intelligence Studio. You need the following assets:

- An Azure subscription—you can [create one for free](#)

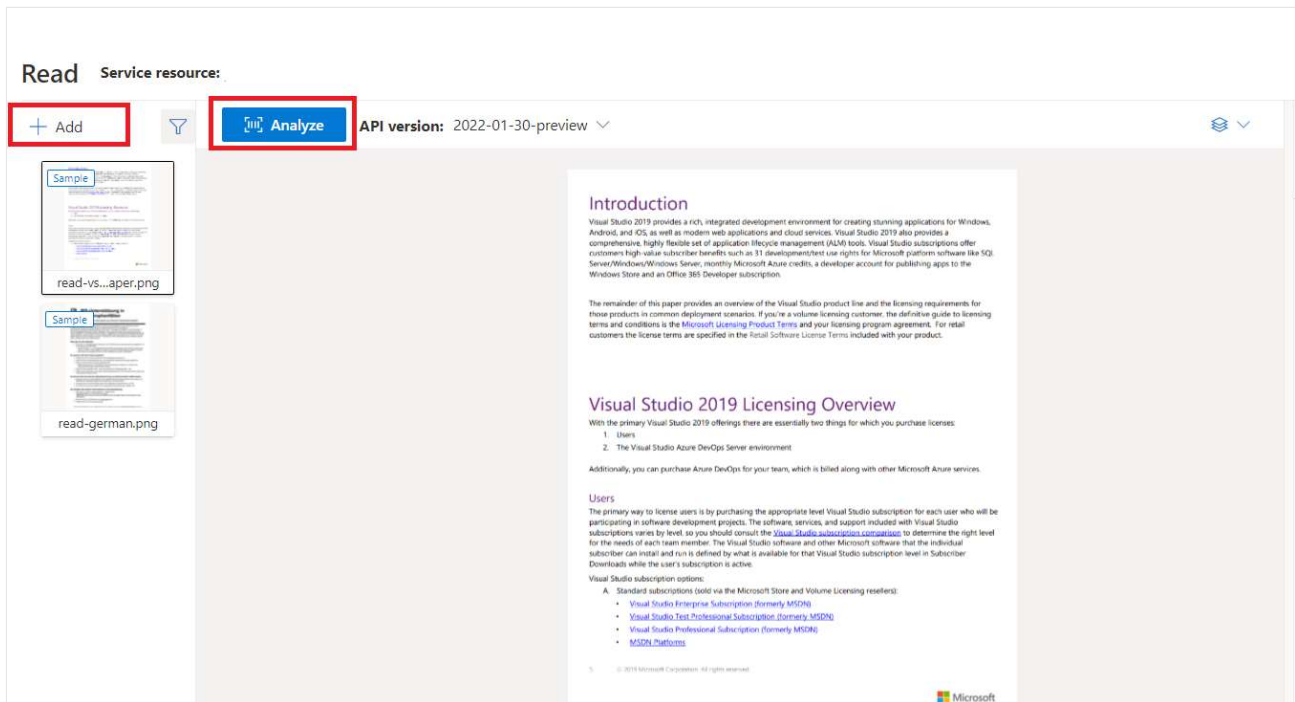
- A [Document Intelligence instance](#) in the Azure portal. You can use the free pricing tier (F0) to try the service. After your resource deploys, select **Go to resource** to get your key and endpoint.



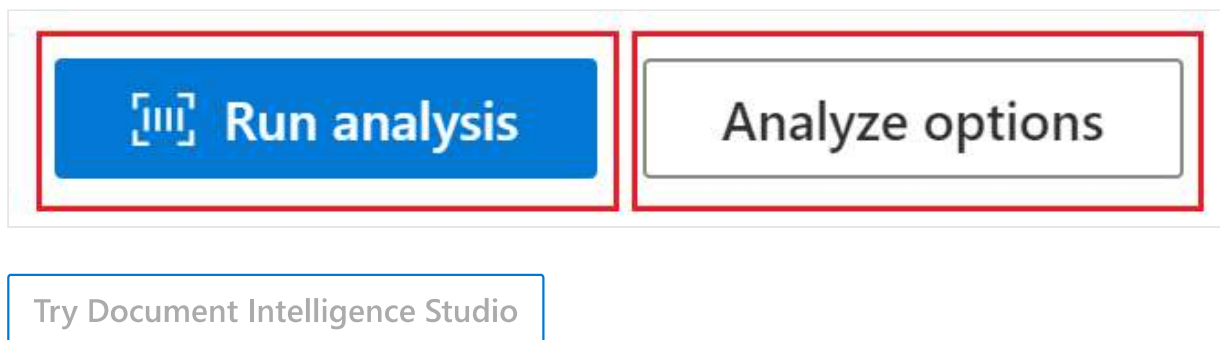
ⓘ Note

Currently, Document Intelligence Studio doesn't support Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and HTML file formats.

Sample document processed with [Document Intelligence Studio](#)



1. On the Document Intelligence Studio home page, select **Read**
2. You can analyze the sample document or upload your own files.
3. Select the **Run analysis** button and, if necessary, configure the **Analyze options** :



Supported extracted languages and locales

See our [Language Support—document analysis models](#) page for a complete list of supported languages.

Microsoft Office and HTML text extraction

Use the parameter `api-version=2023-07-31` when using the REST API or the corresponding SDKs of that API version to extract text from Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and HTML files. The following illustration shows extraction of the digital text and text in the Word

① Note

- **Add-on capabilities** are not supported for Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and HTML file formats.

The page units in the model output are computed as shown:

 Expand table

File format	Computed page unit	Total pages
Word	Up to 3,000 characters = 1 page unit, embedded or linked images not supported	Total pages of up to 3,000 characters each
Excel	Each worksheet = 1 page unit, embedded or linked images not supported	Total worksheets
PowerPoint	Each slide = 1 page unit, embedded or linked images not supported	Total slides
HTML	Up to 3,000 characters = 1 page unit, embedded or linked images not supported	Total pages of up to 3,000 characters each

Paragraphs extraction

The Read OCR model in Document Intelligence extracts all identified blocks of text in the `paragraphs` collection as a top level object under `analyzeResults`. Each entry in this collection represents a text block and includes the extracted text as `content` and the

bounding polygon coordinates. The span information points to the text fragment within the top-level content property that contains the full text from the document.

JSON

```
"paragraphs": [
  {
    "spans": [],
    "boundingRegions": [],
    "content": "While healthcare is still in the early stages of its AI journey, we are seeing pharmaceutical and other life sciences organizations making major investments in AI and related technologies.\" TOM LAWRY | National Director for AI, Health and Life Sciences | Microsoft"
  }
]
```

The page units in the model output are computed as shown:

[Expand table](#)

File format	Computed page unit	Total pages
Images	Each image = 1 page unit	Total images
PDF	Each page in the PDF = 1 page unit	Total pages in the PDF
TIFF	Each image in the TIFF = 1 page unit	Total images in the PDF

JSON

```
"pages": [
  {
    "pageNumber": 1,
    "angle": 0,
    "width": 915,
    "height": 1190,
    "unit": "pixel",
    "words": [],
    "lines": [],
    "spans": [],
    "kind": "document"
  }
]
```

Text lines and words extraction

The Read OCR model extracts print and handwritten style text as `lines` and `words`. The model outputs bounding `polygon` coordinates and `confidence` for the extracted words. The `styles` collection includes any handwritten style for lines if detected along with the spans pointing to the associated text. This feature applies to [supported handwritten languages](#).

For the preview of Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and HTML file support, Read extracts all embedded text as is. For any embedded images, it runs OCR on the images to extract text and append the text from each image as an added entry to the `pages` collection. These added entries include the extracted text lines and words, their bounding polygons, confidences, and the spans pointing to the associated text.

JSON

```
"words": [
  {
    "content": "While",
    "polygon": [],
    "confidence": 0.997,
    "span": {}
  },
],
"lines": [
  {
    "content": "While healthcare is still in the early stages of its AI journey, we",
    "polygon": [],
    "spans": [],
  }
]
```

Select page(s) for text extraction

For large multi-page PDF documents, use the `pages` query parameter to indicate specific page numbers or page ranges for text extraction.

ⓘ Note

For the Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and HTML file support, the Read API ignores the `pages` parameter and extracts all pages by default.

Handwritten style for text lines

The response includes classifying whether each text line is of handwriting style or not, along with a confidence score. For more information, see [handwritten language support](#). The following example shows an example JSON snippet.

JSON

```
"styles": [  
  {  
    "confidence": 0.95,  
    "spans": [  
      {  
        "offset": 509,  
        "length": 24  
      }  
    ],  
    "isHandwritten": true  
  }  
]
```

Next steps

Complete a Document Intelligence quickstart:

- ✓ [REST API](#)
- ✓ [C# SDK](#)
- ✓ [Python SDK](#)
- ✓ [Java SDK](#)
- ✓ [JavaScript](#)

Explore our REST API:

Document Intelligence API v3.1