# Creating pdf files with the PDF API

Even when FlexCel is not a full featured PDF package, it does have a basic PDF API that you can use to create PDF files from scratch.

## Concepts

* How to create a PDF file using FlexCel's internal PDF API. The API is very similar to GDI+, and allows you to use a PDF "Canvas" where you can draw things in. To use the API, you need to use the class [PdfWriter](https://doc.tmssoftware.com/flexcel/net/api/FlexCel.Pdf/PdfWriter/index.html)
* The PDF API on FlexCel is designed to support exporting Excel documents to PDF using [**FlexCelPdfExport**](https://doc.tmssoftware.com/flexcel/net/api/FlexCel.Render/FlexCelPdfExport/index.html). But you can use the same API [FlexCelPdfExport](https://doc.tmssoftware.com/flexcel/net/api/FlexCel.Render/FlexCelPdfExport/index.html) uses to create your own PDF files with code.