

## Inserting rich media into PDF documents

Adobe Acrobat 9 Pro allows you to insert rich media files, such as video, sound, or Flash documents, into PDF documents.

When placing video, audio, or Flash content in a PDF document, Acrobat converts the file to a format that can be played by Adobe Reader. Anyone with the free Adobe Reader software can view and/or hear the media without additional software.

PDFs can include Flash (SWF/FLV), QuickTime, MP3, MPEG, and Windows Media files, among others. You can play these files directly from the page or activate them from a link or a bookmark. Each multimedia file includes a play area from which you can activate the media. The play area typically appears on the PDF page as an image or a rectangle but can also be invisible.

When you add a video file to a PDF document, Acrobat automatically converts the video to an FLV file. This format ensures both high-quality viewing and compatibility across computer platforms. FLV files are also compact, so converting multimedia to this format helps reduce the size of the PDF. Acrobat converts the following video file formats to FLV: ASF, ASX, AVI, 3GPP, MOV, MP4, MPEG, MPG, QT, and WMV files.

Note: All multimedia that is H.264 compliant can be played back in Adobe Reader 9 and later. (H.264, also known as MPEG-4 part 10, is a video compression standard that provides high-quality video without substantially increasing file size.) Video files of varying formats and filename extensions can be H.264 compliant.

To add video to a PDF document:

1. Open the PDF document.
2. Click the Tools menu, click Multimedia, and click Video Tool.
3. Drag or double-click to select the area on the page where you want the video to appear.

The Insert Video dialog box appears (**Figure 1**).

If you double-click the page, Acrobat places the upper left corner of the video where you clicked. If you drag an area on the page, the media is placed within the area. The play area of the video is the exact size of the video frame (if Acrobat is able to read the video clip dimensions).

4. Add a URL in the File field, or click Browse to find the video file.

For URLs, use the full file address, including the video filename extension, such as .flv or .mp4.

5. (Optional) To specify which playback controls will be displayed for the video, click Show Advanced Options. Then select the Controls tab. In the Skin menu, select which set of controls to use.
6. (Optional) To select an image to be displayed when the video isn't playing, click Show Advanced Options. Then select the Video tab. Move the marker above the slider bar to the frame you want to use, and then click Set Poster Image From Current Frame.
7. Click OK to close the Insert Video dialog box.



**Figure 1** Insert Video dialog box

The video may take a few seconds to process before it appears in the location you specified.

8. To play the video, use the Hand tool or the Select tool to click the play area of the video file. When the pointer is positioned over the play area, it changes to the play mode icon.

To add Flash documents to a PDF document:

1. Open the PDF document.
2. Click the Tools menu, click Multimedia, and click Flash Tool.
3. Drag or double-click to select the area on the page where you want the Flash movie to appear.

The Insert Flash dialog box appears (**Figure 2**).

If you double-click the page, Acrobat places the upper left corner of the video where you clicked. If you drag an area on the page, the media is placed within the area. The play area of the movie is the exact size of the video frame.

4. Add a URL in the File field, or click Browse to find the Flash document, and then click Open.

For URLs, use the full file address, including the filename extension.

5. Click OK.

The Flash document appears in the PDF document.

6. To play the Flash document, use the Hand tool or the Select tool to click the play area of the Flash document. When the pointer is positioned over the play area, it changes to the play mode icon.



**Figure 2** Insert Flash dialog box

To add sound to a PDF document:

1. Open the PDF document.
2. Click the tools menu, click Multimedia, and click Sound Tool.
3. Drag or double-click to select the area on the page where you want to place the sound.

The Insert Sound dialog box appears (**Figure 3**).

If you double-click the page, Acrobat places the upper left corner of the sound play area where you clicked. If you drag an area on the page, the media is placed within the area.

4. Add a URL in the File field, or click Browse to find the media file, and then click Open.

For URLs, use the full file address, including the filename extension.

5. (Optional) To specify advanced options (such as what image, or “poster,” to display in the sound play area), click Show Advanced Options.
6. Click OK.

A play area representing the sound appears in the PDF document.

7. To play the audio, use the Hand tool or the Select tool to click the sound play area. When the pointer is positioned over the play area, it changes to the play mode icon.

Converted media require Adobe Reader 9 or Acrobat 9 for playback. Viewers who attempt to play converted media in earlier versions of Adobe Reader or Acrobat are prompted to upgrade to Adobe Reader 9 or Acrobat 9.



**Figure 3** Insert Sound dialog box