PDF Association Tool for Macintosh

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Download Description

The Adobe Reader and Acrobat PDF Association Tool for Macintosh provides a manual method for creating and removing associations between a PDF viewing application and a browser. The tool allows you to control whether Acrobat or Reader will be used to view PDFs in a browser.

Overview

It is common for users to have both Acrobat and Reader installed, and there is no easy way for users to control which application is used to view PDFs in a browser. In most cases, the last application installed becomes the browser-based PDF viewer. Also, users who want to use a non-Adobe viewer need a method for removing the automatic invocation of Adobe's PDF viewers. Without a tool, handling both of these cases involves finding and modifying the relevant plist files. To solve this problem, the PDF Association Tool for Macintosh provides a user interface for doing the following:

- Switching the PDF viewer from Acrobat to Reader and vice versa.
- Re-adding Acrobat or Reader as the default viewer after it has been removed.
- Removing Acrobat or Reader as the default viewer so that the native PDF viewer that comes with the browser is used.
- After a PDF viewer has been moved or uninstalled, remove the viewer association with the browser or revert to the browser viewer so that opening a PDF in a browser does not result in an error.
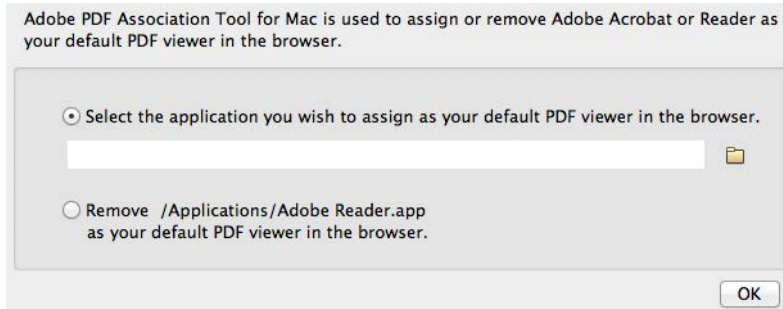
What the tool does

The tool modifies /Library/Preferences/com.adobe.acrobat.pdfviewer.plist to point to the installation path of the application which is associated with browser. The browser plugin must have been installed into the "/Library/Internet Plug-ins" directory.

This tool can only function when the following is true:

- Info.plist contains the PDFViewerPath key.
- The value of PDFViewerPath points to a directory within the application. The directory should contain the plugins which when installed in the PDFViewerPlist directory enable the browser association.

Usage

1. Verify Safari is not running. Alternatively, you can restart Safari after running the tool.
2. Double click the downloaded .dmg file.
3. When the application opens, select one of the radio buttons to either:
   - Select a new application for viewing PDFs in a browser.
   - Remove the current selected PDF viewing application, if any.

4. Choose **OK**.
5. When an authentication dialog appears, enter your credentials. A success or error dialog appears.

Error codes

Error	Meaning
0	The action completed Successfully.
1	The provided path to the application is invalid, or there is no application at the provided path.
2	The application is not Acrobat or Reader.
3	Invalid workflow.
4	The application is a version of Acrobat or Reader which does not meet the requirements of the tool.
5	The job could not be submitted to launch daemon for execution.
6	Invalid arguments were sent to the submitted job.
7	Invalid workflow sent to the submitted job.
8	Could not remove the plugin from the Plugin-Directory.
9	Could not remove the existing PDFViewerPlist.
10	Could not add the plugin to the Plugin-Directory.
11	Could not create PDFViewerPlist.
12	Could not edit the existing PDFViewerPlist.
13	The application URL generated to be used for updating the plist is invalid.(Internal error)
14	The submitted job did not notify back within the time limit.
15	Could not verify the signature of the helper tool.
255	An unknown error occurred.

FAQs

Does running the tool write to a log?
During execution, a log file is created at ~/Library/Logs/Adobe/Adobe PDF Association Tool.log.

What are the system requirements?
The following is required:
- Acrobat 11.x and/or Reader 11.x
- Mac 10.6,10.7 and 10.8

When should the tool be used?
The tool should only be used to change which browser plugin is used to view PDFs.

How do I uninstall the tool?
To uninstall the tool, just delete it.

How do I provide feedback?
Send comments via http://forums.adobe.com/community/labs/acrobat_ittools/.

What are the known issues and bugs?
None.