

PDFlib GmbH License Guide

PDFlib GmbH

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About this Document

This document describes license and support options for PDFlib GmbH products. It describes the important concepts support, platforms, updates and upgrades. The document covers the products of the PDFlib product family as well as PDFlib TET. Using the information provided in this document may assist in your purchasing process.

Publication of a new edition of this document invalidates the current version.

Product and Price List

License and support fees are detailed in a separate document called »PDFlib GmbH Product and Price List«. The price list also contains the »PDFlib product code« (article number) for all product/support combinations. Please supply the product code or the full product name according to the price list when ordering PDFlib GmbH products.

US-\$ prices in the price list are for customers in the Americas, Australia, and Japan; Euro prices for all other regions.

A separate price list is available for IBM Z.

Additional Resources

The following additional resources may be useful for your procurement process:

- ▶ All products have a dedicated purchase order form with prices and licensing details. The purchase order forms are included in each software package and are available from the PDFlib Web site.
- ▶ The product datasheets on the PDFlib Web site contain a detailed description of the product functionality and deployment details.

Value added Tax (VAT)

Like all EU businesses, PDFlib GmbH's invoicing and VAT handling is governed by EU law:

- ▶ Customers from non-EU countries will not be charged VAT.
- ▶ Customers from Germany will be charged VAT (MwSt.).
- ▶ Customers from all other EU countries must provide a valid VAT identification number. Orders without a valid VAT ID cannot be processed.

For more information see www.pdflib.com/buy/direct-sales/vat/.

Terms

All sales are governed by the »PDFlib GmbH General License and Support Conditions« (available in multiple languages on the PDFlib Web site).

Evaluation

Free evaluation packages are available for all products. The packages are fully functional, but are subject to some restrictions unless a valid license key is applied. The evaluation packages constitute product packages at the same time.

Delivery

Customers will not receive any physical media, but must download the software from the PDFlib Web site and apply the license key.

English documentation is included in all product packages. Documentation in additional languages may be available for download from the PDFlib Web site.

Availability of previous Major Releases

In order to protect customer investments and to allow customers to extend existing installations without changing a component in their software architecture, licenses for previous major releases are still available for some time after the release of a new major version. The exact availability conditions depend on whether or not the customer has an active support agreement.



PDFlib Product Family

PDFlib Product Family

The PDFlib product family is available in three different flavors: PDFlib, PDFlib+PDI (PDF Import), and the PDFlib Personalization Server (PPS) with the PDFlib Block Plugin for Adobe Acrobat. A detailed feature comparison is available in the product documentation and on the PDFlib Web site.

PDFlib

PDFlib offers all functions required to generate PDF documents with text, graphics, images, and interactive elements such as annotations or bookmarks. Use PDFlib for the following and many other tasks:

- ▶ add »Save as PDF« capability to your application
- ▶ create PDF documents on a Web server in real time
- ▶ create database reports in PDF
- ▶ take advantage of advanced typography and full Unicode and encoding support for text output
- ▶ advanced color management functionality
- ▶ convert TIFF, JPEG, or other image formats as well as SVG graphics to PDF
- ▶ automatically format tables with all kinds of cell contents
- ▶ create PDF/X-3/4/5 documents for commercial printing
- ▶ create PDF/A-1/2/3 for archiving
- ▶ Create PDF/VT for transactional printing
- ▶ create Tagged PDF and PDF/UA for accessibility

PDFlib+PDI (PDF Import)

PDFlib+PDI includes all PDFlib functions, plus the PDF Import Library (PDI). It also includes the pCOS interface for querying PDF objects. With PDI you can open existing PDF documents and incorporate some pages into the PDFlib output. Use PDFlib+PDI for all PDFlib tasks plus the following:

- ▶ impose multiple PDF pages on a single sheet for printing
- ▶ add text, such as headers, footers, stamps, or page numbers to existing PDF pages
- ▶ place images, e.g. company logo, on existing pages
- ▶ add barcodes to existing PDF pages
- ▶ assemble existing PDF pages
- ▶ add content to PDF/A, PDF/X or PDF/UA documents

PDFlib Personalization Server (PPS) and PDFlib Block Plugin

The PDFlib Personalization Server (PPS) includes PDFlib+PDI plus additional functions for variable data processing using PDFlib Blocks. PPS makes applications independent from layout changes.

The designer creates the page layout and converts it to PDF. She takes into account areas as placeholders for variable text and images. In Acrobat she drags a rectangular Block for each

area using the PDFlib Block Plugin. Each Block contains a variety of Block properties, such as font size, color, image scaling. The PDFlib Block Plugin offers a Preview feature which shows the results of filling Blocks according to the specified properties.

The programmer writes code to fill PDFlib Blocks with text, images, vector graphics or PDF pages. He doesn't need to know the formatting or position of a Block. Use PPS for all PDFlib+PDI tasks plus the following:

- ▶ customize direct mailings with text and images
- ▶ fill templates for transactional and statement processing
- ▶ personalize promotional material with address data
- ▶ generate individual parts catalogs from a database
- ▶ produce customized documentation for multiple products

Evaluation

PDFlib, PDFlib+PDI, and PPS are distributed as a combined binary which is fully functional, but displays a demo stamp across all generated pages unless a valid license key is applied. The pCOS interface for querying PDF objects is contained in the evaluation versions, but it is limited to small documents. According to your order the license key activates PDFlib, PDFlib+PDI, or PPS.

Availability of PDFlib 10 Licenses

In order to protect customer investments and to allow customers to extend existing PDFlib 10 installations without changing their software stack, PDFlib 10 licenses are still available after the release of PDFlib 11. The exact conditions of PDFlib 10 availability depend on whether or not the customer has an active support agreement as detailed in the following table:

<i>Customer already has...</i>	<i>PDFlib 10 is available until...</i>
no PDFlib 10 licenses	November 2025
PDFlib 10 licenses without support	December 2026
PDFlib 10 licenses with active support	December 2027 (end of PDFlib 10 lifetime)

PDFlib 10 licenses purchased after November 30, 2025 are not eligible for free updates to PDFlib 10 (even with active support). However, they can be updated at the reduced fee (60% of the target price) to the same version 11 product on the same platform (e.g. a PDFlib 10 license can be changed to a PDFlib 11 license at 60% of the list price of PDFlib 11).



TET Product Family

PDFlib TET

The PDFlib Text and Image Extraction Toolkit (TET) reliably extracts text, images, and metadata from PDF documents. TET makes available the text contents of a PDF as Unicode strings, plus detailed color, glyph and font information as well as the position on the page. Raster images are extracted in common image formats. TET optionally converts PDF documents to an XML-based format called TETML which contains text and metadata as well as resource information.

TET supports Chinese, Japanese, and Korean (CJK) text as well as right-to-left languages such as Hebrew and Arabic.

TET contains advanced content analysis algorithms for determining word boundaries, grouping text into columns and removing redundant text. Using the integrated pCOS interface you can retrieve arbitrary objects from the PDF, such as metadata, interactive elements, etc.

With PDFlib TET you can:

- ▶ Implement the PDF indexer for a search engine

- ▶ Repurpose the text and images in PDFs
- ▶ Convert the contents of PDFs to other formats
- ▶ Process PDFs based on their contents, e.g. splitting based on headings (requires PDFlib+PDI in addition to TET)
- ▶ Check whether a particular location on the page is empty, e.g. for placing a barcode or stamp

TET is suitable for server use (thread-safe and robust, no memory leaks, clean exception handling). A detailed description of TET features can be found in the documentation.

TET Evaluation

TET evaluation packages are available for free download. They are fully functional, but are limited to small documents unless a valid license key is applied. The pCOS interface for querying PDF objects is contained in the evaluation version, but it is also limited to small documents.

The free TET Plugin for Adobe Acrobat can be used for evaluating TET interactively without any size restrictions.



The pCOS Interface

The pCOS interface provides a simple and elegant facility for retrieving any information from a PDF document which is not part of the page contents. For example, PDF metadata, interactive elements (links, form fields, etc.), or page dimensions can easily be queried with pCOS.

With pCOS you can extract a variety of interesting items and create output for different purposes. By processing multiple PDF documents with a single call you can easily create summaries of document info entries, page formats, fonts, or any other property. Combined with tabular output this provides a powerful PDF administration tool.

There are many every-day pCOS applications for PDF practitioners, but you can also use pCOS as a tool for learning or debugging PDF. Here are some typical scenarios:

- ▶ Check incoming documents for predefined criteria
- ▶ Check documents for quality assurance before publication
- ▶ Identify problem files in a large collection

- ▶ Create property summaries for document management
- ▶ Learn details of PDF data structures

Availability

The pCOS interface is included in the following products without any additional fee:

- ▶ PDFlib+PDI
- ▶ PDFlib Personalization Server (PPS)
- ▶ TET

The pCOS interface is included as a programming API in the products listed above.

Evaluation

The pCOS interface can be evaluated without a license key in all of these products, but the evaluation versions are restricted to accept only small PDF documents.

Licensing Rules

Scope of a License

One license covers a single computer running on the selected operating system platform. Development licenses for machines which are not used for production purposes and run under the same operating system are free with each purchase. Similarly, each license includes free use on testing and demonstration systems.

Except for IBM Z, redundant (backup) machines do not require a separate license provided they are never used concurrently with the actual production machines. Groups of load-balancing servers require a license for every server in the group.

Virtual Machines and Cloud Computing

Licensing for Virtual Machines (VMs) and cloud computing is defined via the term »usage instance«. It can refer to a physical computer including all VMs running on this computer. If these VMs all run under the same operating system, a single PDFlib GmbH license covers all hosted VMs on this machine.

Similarly, a usage instance within a cloud environment refers to a single VM in the cloud. For cloud computing, customers can select the most economical licensing model:

- ▶ If the licensed product is used on multiple VMs and all VMs are guaranteed to run on a single physical computer, a single license covers all VMs provided they all run under the same operating system.
- ▶ If a particular VM may »float« from one physical computer to the next (but never runs concurrently on more than one computer), a single license is sufficient for this VM.

The bottom line is that for a number of N virtual machines running on M physical machines the required number of licenses is the smaller of the numbers N and M.

License Transfer

In many cases PDFlib GmbH customers integrate the licensed product into their own software and pass it on to their end users. In this case the integrated licenses for PDFlib GmbH products can be transferred to the end user.

Discounts

Discounts are available for multiple licenses, updates, and upgrades as detailed below and on the next pages. Volume discounts apply for same time orders only.

Resellers cannot bundle orders for different customers in a single order to achieve higher volume discounts.

Update or upgrade discount can be combined with volume discount.

Volume Discounts

Volume discounts are available for multiple licenses of the same combination of product and major version, provided all

licenses are ordered with a single combined order. The table below lists volume discounts as percentages off the published list price.

<i>number of licenses</i>	<i>discount off the list price</i>
5	10%
10	15%
20	40%
50	60%
100	75%
200	80%

Volume discounts are available for all computer-based licenses of all products, and all platforms except IBM Z.

License Packs

License packs (also called »runtime license«) are a convenient form of delivery for larger numbers of licenses. A license pack covers a certain number of licenses for the same combination of product, version, and platform. A license pack is delivered with a single license key which covers all licenses. The licenses in a pack cannot be split.

License packs are subject to the following conditions:

- ▶ License packs are available for 20, 50, 100, or 200 licenses. Pricing is done according to the standard volume discount table.
- ▶ License packs are only available for desktop editions of Windows and for macOS, but not any server platform.
- ▶ License packs can be ordered with or without support.

In order to simplify administration, the support terms of multiple license packs can be synchronized to make sure that the support terms of all license packs are due for renewal at the same time.

Premium Licenses

In addition to machine-based licenses we offer Premium licenses (also called OEM licenses, runtime licenses, or integration licenses). Premium licenses offer the following benefits:

- ▶ You obtain the right to integrate the licensed software into your product.
- ▶ You can deploy and/or redistribute the integrated product to an arbitrary number of computers.
- ▶ Premium licenses require only a single one-time payment (»flat fee«) without any royalties.

Please contact premium@pdflib.com for details on Premium licensing options.

Premium licenses and corresponding support are only available directly from PDFlib GmbH, but not through resellers.

Target Platforms (Operating Systems)

Platforms

PDFlib GmbH products are available for a variety of platforms, i.e. combinations of operating system and hardware architecture. A detailed description of system requirements is included in all software packages and can be found in the download sections of the PDFlib Web site.

Supplying the name of the target platform with each order is a strict requirement since the license is bound to a specific platform. The license is valid for all supported language bindings (programming languages) on the selected platform.

Server Systems

PDFlib GmbH products are available for the following server platforms:

- ▶ Windows Server; a Windows Server license also covers Windows desktop systems
- ▶ Linux x64/ARM64
- ▶ FreeBSD x64
- ▶ IBM AIX
- ▶ IBM System i

▶ IBM Z

Note: IBM Z licenses are only available directly from PDFlib GmbH, but not through resellers.

Desktop Systems

PDFlib GmbH products are available for the following desktop platforms:

- ▶ Windows 10/11
- ▶ macOS x64/ARM64

Windows desktop licenses are not valid for Windows Server systems.

Using AIX Binaries on IBM System i with PASE

The AIX binaries for PDFlib/PDFlib+PDI/PPS and TET can be used on IBM System i with PASE for deployment with Java or PHP. The TET command-line tool for AIX can also be used with PASE on System i. Please refer to the detailed description on our Web site.

Customers who wish to deploy AIX binaries on System i should specify IBM System i when ordering license keys, but download the AIX product package. The AIX binaries accept System i license keys when running with PASE on System i.

Support Policy

Advantages of Support

We offer optional support contracts in combination with a new product license or to renew an existing support contract. An active support contract includes the following advantages:

- ▶ technical support with short response times
- ▶ all minor (maintenance) and major (functional) updates included
- ▶ early availability of bug fixes
- ▶ maintenance releases and technical support available until the end of a product's lifetime
- ▶ additional licenses can be purchased until the end of the lifetime

Customers without an active support agreement can only use the licensed version, but not any later maintenance releases.

For a detailed description of support benefits please refer to www.pdfliib.com/licensing-support/support/.

The support fee is 40% of the license fee per year.

Support contracts can optionally be renewed automatically every 12 months until the support is expressly terminated by the customer. In order to terminate a support agreement with automatic renewal please inform us one month before the support expires.

In case you would like to order automatic support renewal, please indicate this on your purchase order.

Free Updates with active Support

Customers with an active support agreement are eligible for free updates to minor (maintenance) and major (functional) releases.

Maintenance releases are available for download from the PDFlib Web site. The license key provided must be applied to activate maintenance releases.

License keys for major updates must be requested during the active period of the support agreement. For example, if you terminate your support agreement in April 2025, you can no longer request a free update after this date.

Renewing Support

After the initial one-year term of a support agreement the customer can optionally renew the support:

- ▶ Manual renewal: PDFlib GmbH generally sends out a support renewal reminder ca. four weeks before the support expires.

If you want to renew the support agreement for another year, please send an order before the expiration date. If desired we can prepare a customer-specific quote to facilitate your procurement process.

- ▶ Automatic renewal: if you ordered your support agreement with automatic renewal we will automatically send a renewal invoice at the expiration date. In order to terminate a support agreement with automatic renewal please inform us one month before the support expires.

The fee for one year support renewal is 40% of the list price of the current maintenance release of the licensed product at the time of renewal.

Usability of Maintenance Releases

The latest maintenance release can be used in the following situations:

- ▶ a customer purchases a new license;
- ▶ a customer has active support at the time when the maintenance release is published;
- ▶ a customer has a license for an older maintenance release and purchases a minor update (see separate description of minor updates);

Customers without active support can only use the maintenance release which was current at the time of purchase.

Adding Support with an Update or Upgrade

A major update changes an older license to a license for a newer version on the same platform (e.g. PDFlib 10 for Linux to PDFlib 11 for Linux). An update invalidates the previous license. However, the old and new licenses may be used in parallel within a migration period of 60 days.

Customers without a support contract can add support with a major update or an upgrade. In this case the support fee is calculated as 40% of the list price of the target product (not 40% of the update fee).

An upgrade changes an existing license for a product to a license for a more advanced product on the same platform and with the same version number (e.g. PDFlib 11 for Linux to PDFlib+PDI 11 for Linux). If the previous license has been purchased without support, the customer can add support when upgrading to a higher product level. In this case the support fee is calculated as 40% of the list price of the target product (not 40% of the upgrade fee).

License Keys and Minor Releases

Licenses with and without Support

PDFlib GmbH licenses can be purchased with or without one year of support. At the first and subsequent expiration dates the support agreement can be renewed for another year. As a general rule it is not possible to enter into a new support agreement if the license has been purchased without support. In other words, if you purchased a license without support you cannot enter into a fresh support agreement if you need technical assistance or in order to get access to a new minor or major release.

License Keys enable specific Maintenance Releases

The key for a license which is purchased *with support* enables all maintenance releases until the end of the support term. When the support is renewed after the initial term, customers receive a refreshed license key which again enables all maintenance releases until the end of the new support term.

The key for a license which is purchased *without support* enables the latest maintenance release at the time of purchase. License keys for the PDFlib product family also enable all older maintenance releases with the same major version number. The license key does not enable any later maintenance releases, i.e. software which is released after the date of purchase.

Examples:

- ▶ A customer obtains a license without support in June 2025. The corresponding license key enables the latest maintenance release which is available in June 2025, but not any maintenance releases which are published in July 2025 or later.
- ▶ A customer obtains a license with support in June 2025. The corresponding license key enables all maintenance releases which are published until June 2026. If the customer renews the support agreement for another year at the end of the initial term (i.e. in June 2027), they receive a refreshed license key which enables all maintenance releases published until June 2027.
- ▶ A customer obtains a license without support in June 2025. However, internal development and use of the licensed product starts only in September 2025. The customer must use the maintenance release which was current in June 2025, but cannot use any maintenance releases which are published after June 2025.

Refreshed License Keys

When a support term approaches its end, it can optionally be renewed.

Alternatively, customers without support can refresh their license key by obtaining a minor update (see page 9).

It is crucial to apply the refreshed license key received with a support renewal invoice in order to switch to a newer maintenance release. While the previous license key is still valid for older maintenance releases, newer maintenance releases published after the support renewal date cannot be used with the old license key.

License Keys never expire

License keys for PDFlib GmbH products never expire. All remunerated licenses are perpetual, i.e. a particular software product will never stop to operate because the license key may be »too old«. However, at a particular date the license key no longer enables any newer maintenance releases.

Recommendations for Integrators

Software developers who integrate PDFlib GmbH products into their own software and redistribute it to customers should carefully consider the implications of having active support (or not). Integrators who purchase licenses on demand for use in their software have the following options:

- ▶ All licenses are purchased with support: in this case the latest maintenance release of the licensed PDFlib GmbH product can be shipped with new products or updated versions of the customer's software. This is the recommended approach.
- ▶ All licenses are purchased without support: only the purchased maintenance release can be integrated and shipped, but not any newer maintenance releases. Since it is impossible to take advantage of improvements and bug fixes in the licensed product this approach is not recommended.
- ▶ If some licenses are purchased with support, but others without support, all installations can be run with the oldest licensed maintenance release. Alternatively, some installations may run with the older maintenance release and others with a newer release. This is only recommended in situations where it is acceptable to have different maintenance releases in different installations of the software.

To facilitate usage of a refreshed license key, integrators should support methods for providing PDFlib GmbH license keys by external means (e.g. license file or Windows registry) instead of hard-coding the license key into the application.



Minor Updates (Updates to the current Maintenance Version)

What is a Minor Update?

A minor update changes a license for an older maintenance release to a license for a newer maintenance release (minor version) on the same platform, e.g. PDFlib 11.0 for Linux to PDFlib 11.1 for Linux. A minor update »refreshes« the license key for the original license. Minor updates are only relevant for customers without support since support customers always can use the latest maintenance release.

Minor updates may be attractive for customers without active support who realize that they need a particular maintenance release which cannot be used with their original license key.

A valid license key for the base license must be supplied when purchasing minor updates, and a refreshed license key will be delivered. Minor updates do not provide an additional license.

The following rules apply to minor updates:

- ▶ Support cannot be added with minor updates.
- ▶ Minor updates are available as long as new licenses for a major release are available.

How to identify Maintenance Releases

When PDFlib GmbH releases new software it is designated as minor (maintenance) or major release. A minor release changes the second or third part of the version number.

Examples: from PDFlib 10.3.0 to 10.3.1; from TET 5.3 to 5.4.

A list of minor releases along with the corresponding release dates (relevant for licenses without support) can be found at www.pdflib.com/licensing-support/product-lifetime/.

Fee for Minor Updates

The fee for minor updates is 20% of the list price of the target product.



Updates to a new Major Version

What is a Major Update?

A major update changes an older license to a license for a newer major version on the same platform (e.g. PDFlib 10 for Linux to PDFlib 11 for Linux). A major update invalidates the previous license. A valid license key must be supplied with each update order.

Customers without a support contract can add support with the update. In this case the support fee is calculated as 40% of the list price of the target product (not 40% of the update fee).

How to identify Major Releases

When PDFlib GmbH releases new software it is designated as minor (maintenance) or major release. A new major release increases the first part of the version number, e.g. from PDFlib 10 to PDFlib 11.

A list of major releases along with the corresponding release dates and product lifetime can be found at www.pdfli.com/licensing-support/product-lifetime/.

Update Discount for the PDFlib Product Family

The discount percentage for updating PDFlib, PDFlib+PDI, or PPS 10 to version 11 is the same for all combinations.

To	major update from		
	PDFlib 10	PDFlib+PDI 10	PPS 10
PDFlib 11	60% of the target product's list price for all combinations		
PDFlib+PDI 11			
PPS 11			

Update Discount for PDFlib TET

Major updates from TET 5 to TET 6 are available at 60% of the target product's list price.



Upgrades to a higher Product

What is an Upgrade?

An upgrade changes an existing license for a product to a license for a more advanced product on the same platform and with the same version number (e.g PDFlib 11 for Linux to PDFlib+PDI 11 for Linux). An upgrade invalidates the previous license. A valid license key must be supplied with each upgrade order.

If the previous license has been purchased without support, the customer can add support when upgrading to a higher product level. In this case the support fee is calculated as 40% of the list price of the target product (not 40% of the upgrade fee).

Upgrade Discount for the PDFlib Family

An upgrade changes a license from PDFlib to PDFlib+PDI or PPS, or from PDFlib+PDI to PPS. The following table indicates the fees for various upgrade combinations as a percentage of the target product's list price.

<i>To</i>	<i>Upgrade from</i>	
	PDFlib 11	PDFlib+PDI 11
PDFlib+PDI 11	50%	–
PPS 11	70%	35%