

PDF solution comparison.

Power PDF Advanced vs. Bluebeam Revu

Executive summary

Features	Bluebeam Revu	PowerPDF Advanced
Compatibility		
Compatible with Microsoft Windows® 7, 8, 8.1	•	•
Compatible with Microsoft® Office 2007, 2010, 2013	•	•
Toolbar or/and menu shortcuts for Microsoft Word, Excel®, PowerPoint®	•	•
Toolbar buttons or/and menu shortcuts for Microsoft Outlook®		•
Right-mouse shortcut for Windows Explorer and Internet Explorer®		•
Support for viewing and annotating PDF files within Internet Explorer, FireFox® and Google® Chrome	IE only	•
Supports Open Text eDOCS (Hummingbird Enterprise) Autonomy-Interwoven Worksite, Livelink, NetDocuments, Worldox GX2, Documentum, Xerox DocuShare, Therefore, Microsoft Office 365 and SharePoint Document Management Systems	Support SharePoint and ProjectWise only	•
Supports LexisNexis® CaseMap® case management software		•
Verify accessibility of PDF documents		•
PDF/A compliance checking for PDF/A-1a, -1b, -2a, -2b and -2u and checking at PDF/A-3 levels	PDF/A 1b only	•
Access your documents stored in cloud based services such as Evernote and Dropbox		•
Open and save your PDF files to popular cloud storage services such as Google Docs, Windows Live SkyDrive, Box and more, using the Nuance Cloud Connector		•
Support for Microsoft Application Virtualization		•
API capabilities (Programming Interface)	Script but not API	•
Installation “customization kit” to easily control the deployable options for each department		•

*This comparison chart is not an exhaustive list of any and all features and functions of each product listed, it is merely an indication of the minimum features and functions for comparison purposes. Adobe products may contain additional features and functions not listed.

Features	Bluebeam Revu	PowerPDF Advanced
PDF Creation Features		
Create industry standard PDF Files from all PC applications and popular image formats		•
Create PDF documents from any application that prints	•	•
Create PDF documents directly from your scanner	•	•
One-click professional scanning with auto find-and-mark technology. Automatically find words in the scanned documents.		•
One-step PDF creation from Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint	•	•
Create and send PDF-to-email attachment with Microsoft Outlook		•
One-Step PDF creation and archive of Microsoft Outlook and Lotus Notes Emails	Outlook only	•
Create and attach files to email as PDF from inside Microsoft Outlook		•
One-step PDF creation of web pages	•	•
Create a single PDF document by merging multiple files	•	•
Batch Create PDF from multiple files and file types	•	•
Watched Folder Processing to automate routine PDF and TIFF creation tasks from a wide range of formats		•
Create and send PDF packages		•
Create and send PDF Portfolios		•
Create ISO-standard PDF/A-1b files optimised for archiving	•	•
PDF/A creation at least PDF/A-2 and PDF/A-3 levels		•
Support for PDF version 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7		•
Create PDF-MRC high-compression colour PDF image files (up to 8 times smaller)	Support compression but not MRC	•
Preserve hyperlinks and metadata, add bookmarks and comments from Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint	•	•
Overlay (merge) multiple document pages into one PDF	•	•
Customizable PDF creation profiles		•
Insert pre-made and custom watermarks at PDF creation		•
Adjust compression levels for smaller files		•
Merge PDF image files with PDF text files	•	•
Add custom headers & footers to PDF documents (Page numbering)	•	•
Create tagged PDF files		•

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Features	Bluebeam Revu	PowerPDF Advanced
PDF Security Features		
Add passwords with 40-bit, 128-bit and 256-bit secure encryption and permission controls to PDF files	Only one bit length	●
Create and apply digital signatures to PDF files	●	●
Inspect document to remove comments and metadata (private data)		●
Drag and drop security profiles to quickly and easily secure documents		●
Support for Microsoft and FileOpen® -protected documents (Digital Rights Management)		●
Make selected document annotations such as text boxes, stamps, markups etc., or filled form fields fixed and permanent, preventing unwanted changes (flattening)	●	●
Send multiple files in their original formats in an encrypted PDF envelope		●
Permanently remove text and images from PDF files (Redaction)	●	●
Add redaction text properties including colour, redaction codes and custom overlay text		●
PDF Conversion Features		
Convert PDF documents into formatted Microsoft Word documents (.doc, .docx)	●	●
Convert PDF forms into fillable Microsoft Word forms		●
Superior conversion accuracy with OmniPage® OCR	Not so accurate	●
Automatically selects OCR language when converting multi-language documents		●
Batch conversion of PDF files to target formats (PDF Converter Assistant)		●
Thumbnail preview of PDF document pages	●	●
Specify page(s) and range of pages to convert		●
Retain linked text flow of columns within a document (.doc, .docx, .wpd)	●	●
PDF Converter Assistant desktop utility or similar		●
Retains PDF headers and footers (.doc, docx, .wpd)		●
Converts PDF to Microsoft Excel worksheets and workbooks (.xls, .xlsx)	●	●
Converts multipage PDF table or spreadsheet into a single Microsoft Excel document	●	●
Converts PDF to Corel® WordPerfect® (.wpd)		●
Converts PDF to PowerPoint 2007, 2010, 2013 (.pptx)	●	●
Retains hyperlinks (.doc, .docx, .wpd, .xls, .xlsx)		●
Converts scanned (image) PDF files to editable target formats and PDF files		●
Converts scanned (image) PDF files to searchable PDF files (image over text)	●	●
Converts scanned (image) PDF files to compressed MRC-PDF files (average 8x smaller)		●
Converts PDF to XPS (.xps)		●
Converts XPS to PDF		●
Extract tables from a PDF file and place into Excel or Word	●	●

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Features	Bluebeam Revu	PowerPDF Advanced
PDF Conversion Features (cont.)		
Convert a selected area of a page using OCR and convert to Word, Excel, PowerPoint, WordPerfect - for Scanned (Image) PDF files as well as normal PDF files		•
Reads document aloud – Text-to-speech capability		•
Save text in PDF files as audio (wav) files		•
PDF Viewing, Editing and Collaboration Features	•	•
Read only mode to enforce compliance and help control best practices and regulatory mandates		•
View and navigate page thumbnails	•	•
Preview PDF email attachments in Microsoft Outlook 2007, 2010, 2013		•
Open PDF files created from Microsoft Office without having to save them first		•
Instant access to frequently used PDF files and online PDF Files (URLs) with favourites menu	Partial (Recent Files)	•
Microsoft Office style ribbon user interface to minimize learning curve and maximize productivity		•
Support for Windows 7 Jump Lists		•
Manage pages in a document (Reorder, New, Insert, Extract, Crop, Rotate and Delete pages)	All except ReOrder	•
Assemble documents in document assembly view (Insert, Extract, Replace, Delete, Split, Renumber, Manage Headers/Footers, Drag and drop pages) Assemble documents as easily as shuffling paper on your desk		•
Tabbed document previews lets you see all document pages in a floating dialog box to make the most of your screen area	•	•
Batch process multiple documents at a time with varied commands (Insert, Extract and Delete pages, Apply watermarks and stamps, Search and Redact, Inspect document, Migrate comments and Print)	Some but not all	•
Side-by-side document comparisons (PDF to PDF and PDF to Word version review)	•	•
Save, track and open revisions within a PDF document		•
Auto-detects scanned (Image) PDF files and offers to convert them to searchable PDF files		•
PDF Optimizer for reduced file sizes	•	•
Reduce the file size of one or a batch of existing PDF files	•	•
Send a PDF file to a fax machine via email	Email only	•
Automatically populate comments with highlighted and annotated text	•	•
Migrate comments from one PDF file to another for ease of collaboration and review		•
Familiar comment and markup tools (highlight, text tool, typerwriter, text underline, call-outs, cross-out, stamps)	•	•
Legal pleading conversion with stamp and line numbering options (PDF Converter Assistant)		•
Drawing (Comment) tools including Lines, Rectangles, Pencil, Oval, Polygon, Cloud		•

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Features	Bluebeam Revu	PowerPDF Advanced
PDF Conversion Features (cont.)		
Grids, Snap to Grids and custom drawing guides	Some but not all	●
Create notes in PDF files by speaking using Dragon Notes		●
Create new stamps from selected page elements	●	●
Apply stamps to one or all pages		●
Spell-checking in comments and form fields	●	●
Add, manage, view and navigate document digital signatures	●	●
Organise and manage a library of clip art		●
Organise and manage a library of watermarks		●
Organise and manage a library of security profiles		●
Organise and manage a library of stamps		●
Organise and manage a library of PDF security envelopes		●
Custom actions for bookmarks or hyperlinks (Open a file, Play a sound, Go to a web page, etc.)		●
Document splitting or extraction by file size, page range, blank page, page contents and bookmarks	●	●
Open files directly from a DMS via the document comparison's "Browser" button		●
Manage document layers. Turn on/off, show/hide and lock/unlock layers. Select re-order, delete or merge layers, view and modify properties of layers and even control layers for printing	●	●
Move, resize, rotate, flip, order, group, set transparency, cut, copy and paste graphics and images	Some but not all	●
Advanced search and indexing for documents, text within a document, comments and bookmarks		●
Edit your PDF files like in a word processor using the Advanced Edit mode		●
Pattern Search — Perform intelligent Looks Like Search to quickly find content, like dates, email addresses, credit card or phone numbers, via an alphanumeric pattern rather than exact text. Choose from predefined patterns or create patterns		●
Automatically highlight, cross-out, underline or redact search results for faster and easier PDF review and editing		●
Edit text in PDF files	●	●
Edit tags in PDF files		●
Add, manage, view and navigate document bookmarks and comments	●	●
Create a table of contents from bookmarks		●
Insert hyperlinks	●	●
Measuring tool (with save as comment)	●	●
Attach application files or sounds to a PDF		●
Embed movie, Silverlight®, limited sets of 3-D content or sound files into a PDF		●

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Features	Bluebeam Revu	PowerPDF Advanced
PDF Conversion Features (cont.)		
Support for 3D content embedded in PDF files	●	●
Imposition tool for booklet printing in multiple copies		●
Fix non-critical PDF/A compliance problems with the compliance checker or via the Save As PDF/A command		●
Batch conversion of TIFF files to image-only or searchable PDFs and PDF conversion to TIFF		●
Bates stamping with advanced formatting and page repositioning		●
Support for network scanning and eCopy ShareScan® with monitored Scan Inboxes		●
PDF Forms Features		
Automatic conversion of a PDF into a fillable PDF form		●
Create forms from scratch or edit forms	●	●
Draw and edit form controls (text fields, buttons, drop-down lists, checkboxes and radio buttons)	●	●
Create digital signature fields on forms	●	●
Support for dynamic, XFA forms		●
Export form data from one or multiple filled in PDF forms	●	●
Custom actions on form objects (Import form data, Play a sound, Open a file, Open a web page, etc.)		●
Limited JavaScript support		●
Set tab orders for form fields		●
Intelligent creation of check boxes and radio buttons		●
Edit text and object attributes (font, color, line weight, display and print options)		●

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About Nuance Communications, Inc.

Nuance Communications is reinventing the relationship between people and technology. Through its voice and language offerings, the company is creating a more human conversation with the many systems, devices, electronics, apps and services around us. Every day, millions of people and thousands of businesses experience Nuance through intelligent systems that can listen, understand, learn and adapt to your life and your work. For more information, please visit nuance.com.

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