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## General

What is Adobe® Digital Editions?

Adobe Digital Editions is an exciting rich Internet application (RIA) built from the ground up for digital publishing. It is a simplified, engaging way to acquire, manage, and consume eBooks and other kinds of digital publications.

Why a Digital Editions 1.5 beta?

To put it simply, Digital Editions 1.5 is unfinished. We want to make it available to you now, so you can tell us what you like, what you'd like better, so you can help us shape it into the solution that users and content publishers need. This Digital Editions beta also includes content portability, which provides users the ability to open and read eBooks on multiple computers and devices. Furthermore, the beta supports Mac OS X 10.5 (Leopard), and thereby enables these customers to now use Digital Editions.

Do I have to be online to use Digital Editions?

No. You need to be online to install Digital Editions or purchase eBooks. After you install and receive your eBooks, you can use Digital Editions offline. However, if you have Adobe Reader or Acrobat 8 installed and double-click on your PDF eBooks, you will be directed to the Digital Editions website, which would require you to be online. Instead, simply launch Digital Editions and open your eBooks from the library pane. This way, you will not need to be online.

How does Adobe Digital Editions differ from Adobe Reader® and Acrobat®?

Adobe Reader software is, and will continue to be, the widely proliferated industry standard application for viewing and printing Adobe PDF documents. However, Reader supports a variety of workflows beyond consuming eBooks and other commercially published content, including interactive forms, digital signatures, and other knowledge worker workflows that involve integration with other office applications including Adobe Acrobat® software and server solutions such as Adobe LiveCycle® software. As a result, the power, complexity, and size of Reader are not optimized for consumer-level eBook reading. Acrobat is the broadly adopted solution for creating and manipulating Adobe PDF documents. Sharing a common software architecture with Reader, Acrobat adds powerful capabilities for document generation and collaboration. Adobe Digital Editions is a focused, lightweight solution (4 MB download on Windows®). It extends the eBook capabilities that were integrated in previous versions of Reader and Acrobat, delivering a simplified, content-centric, consumer-friendly user interface. It is distributed as a web-based RIA, ensuring that users will always have the current version of the software.

What are the system requirements for Adobe Digital Editions?

For Windows, Adobe Digital Editions requires Windows 2000 with Service Pack 4, Windows XP with Service Pack 2, or Windows Vista™ (Home Basic 32-bit and Business 64-bit editions); a 500MHz or faster Intel® Pentium® processor; 128MB of RAM; and a monitor with at least 800 x 600 screen resolution.

For the Macintosh operating system on PowerPC®, Adobe Digital Editions requires Mac OS X v, 10.4.10 or 10.5, a 500MHz PowerPC G4 or G5 processor, and 128MB of RAM.

For the Macintosh operating system on Intel®, Adobe Digital Editions requires Mac OS X v10.4.10 or 10.5, a 500MHz processor, and 128MB of RAM.

Is Digital Editions an AIR application?

Not yet. Digital Editions is a specific RIA built on the current version of the Adobe Engagement Platform, including Adobe Flash® Player 9 and Flex™ 2 software. Adobe Integrated Runtime (AIR), formerly code-named Apollo, is a cross-operating system runtime that allows you to install desktop applications that are built using web technologies like HTML, JavaScript, and Flash. As a RIA that can operate offline and outside the browser, Digital Editions exemplifies the kind of next-generation application that AIR will enable third-party developers to create, and we expect that Digital Editions will ultimately utilize AIR.

Does Digital Editions replace Adobe FlashPaper®?

For some, it might. Digital Editions delivers a lightweight Flash based user experience for document viewing and adds native PDF and EPUB document-viewing capabilities so that translation of content to SWF format is not required. Digital Editions also adds offline support with content protection technology (DRM). However, initially Digital Editions does not operate inside the browser and requires a Flash Player add-on installation. Customers who require in-browser operation with the standard Flash Player may wish to continue to utilize FlashPaper, which remains a component of the Adobe Contribute® product.

When will Digital Editions versions be available for other platforms, including devices?

Adobe is actively working on supporting other platforms and devices. Further information on supporting additional devices will be announced when available.

Will Digital Editions be available in languages other than English?

Digital Editions 1.5 will be available in French and German versions when the product is launched. Other languages will be released over time.

The Digital Editions application asked me to update to the latest version of the software. What does this mean?

Periodically, Adobe updates Digital Editions with new features or fixes to minor problems. These updates help ensure that Digital Editions works properly, and they may contain important changes to security. The distributed RIA architecture of Digital Editions and its associated content protection services requires that Internet-connected users always use the latest version, similar to a browser-based web application. This RIA model also allows Adobe to deliver a higher level of security assurance.

Are Digital Editions capabilities available within the web browser, like Reader and Flash Player?

Not at the present time. The focus for our initial commercial release is to support an immersive, content-centric experience with eBooks and other digital publications. Operating standalone, without distracting web browser "chrome," affords a simpler, more engaging user experience. However, we recognize that certain workflows will benefit from native file document-viewing capabilities embedded within a larger browser-based web application, and we are evaluating options and timing for delivering this capability to content publishers.

What file formats does Digital Editions support?

[PDF/A](#) and EPUB (are the two publication-level content types. EPUB is a file format standard created by the International Digital Publishing Forum ([www.idpf.org](http://www.idpf.org)) based on a profile of XHTML 1.1 and ZIP-based packaging. SWF content and common image file types can be referenced within PDF- and EPUB-based publications.

## Content Portability

Why do I need to authorize my machine with my Adobe ID?

Some digital publications that you purchase online or check out from the library may contain Digital Rights Management (DRM) protection that restricts the items from being shared with others. In the past, this could limit your ability to read your items on additional computers owned by you. It could even prevent you from moving your items when you buy a new computer.

New features in Digital Editions 1.5 help ensure that your eBooks and other digital publications are not “locked” on one computer — now they’ll be assigned to you through your Adobe ID. Digital Editions 1.5 also adds support for the next generation of mobile devices.

Adobe Membership is free and registration only takes a minute. As a member, you will have access to trial downloads, hundreds of free product extensions, and special community areas. Your membership also allows you to view and manage your activity in the Adobe Worldwide Store.

Your privacy is important to us. Please read our [Privacy Policy](#).

What is content portability?

Some users have eBooks and other digital publications on their computers that have been licensed with Acrobat, Reader or Digital Editions 1.0 using “Easy Activation.” These items cannot be moved to a new machine, essentially becoming locked on a particular computer. To solve this problem, Adobe Digital Editions 1.5 allows converting items to a license associated with a named account, which enables digital content to be backed up, copied and read on other machines. All items subsequently downloaded to an authorized machine with Digital Editions 1.5 are licensed to a named account.

Adobe wants your eBook experience to be as easy and seamless as possible. Naturally, this includes protecting your investment in eBooks from being lost or damaged. This is one of the key reasons why Digital Editions 1.5 features content portability.

This change will also enable a new breed of mobile devices designed to be used with Digital Editions. Furthermore, Digital Editions will be introducing new social features in the future that will enhance the use and enjoyment of user’s eBooks, such as sharing annotations and reading lists. Use of these social features will require that you have a personal identifier, even if you only use one computer.

How do I enable content portability?

The first time you run the Digital Editions 1.5 beta, you are prompted to authorize the application by entering an Adobe ID. If you don't have an Adobe ID, you are provided with a link to get one. Then, when you purchase an item online or borrow one from the library with Digital Editions 1.5, the item will automatically be "tied" to your Adobe ID, rather than to your computer. This way, you are free to move your items to up to five other machines which have been authorized with Digital Editions 1.5.

What are the requirements to get an Adobe ID?

An Adobe ID is free and a non-intrusive way of identifying users – you need only to provide a name, country and email address. You can create your Adobe ID when prompted within Digital Editions 1.5 when authorizing your computer, or go directly to the [adobe.com membership site](http://adobe.com/membership).

Can eBooks that I have already purchased or downloaded be transferred to another machine?

Once you authorize your machine with Digital Editions 1.5, the application looks for eBooks already on your computer and converts copies of the items to a new named account license. You can then transfer those eBooks to other machines. If you have eBooks on multiple machines, you need to authorize each machine with Digital Editions 1.5 prior to transferring eBooks between machines.

**IMPORTANT:** Digital Editions 1.5 will convert eBooks that have been purchased or borrowed with Acrobat, Reader or earlier versions of Digital Editions. However, items that were licensed using Easy Activation can only be converted on the same computer with which they were originally purchased or borrowed. If you are contemplating buying a new computer, changing the hard drive or upgrading the OS, please consider keeping your old computer intact unless you bought all of your books with Acrobat or Reader using Named Activation.

Can eBooks that I have already borrowed from a library be transferred to another machine?

Digital Editions 1.5 will detect borrowed eBooks and display in the "Borrowed" bookshelf. However, if you borrowed an eBook with Acrobat Reader or Digital Editions 1.0, you cannot transfer that book to another machine. You will need to return this book and re-borrow it again with Digital Editions 1.5 in order to transfer it.

Is "Easy Activation" still an option?

Digital Editions 1.5 supports an option to not authorize your computer with an Adobe ID. Adobe recognizes the need for this option in order to address concerns about some users' needs for privacy (for example, library patrons, minors). However with this

option, protected items that you already have downloaded or will download later will be “tied” to that particular computer, will not be readable on other computers or devices, and can’t be restored from backup if the operating system is re-installed.

How do I select the option to not authorize my computer?

With the product release, when you first launch Digital Editions, you are prompted to authorize your computer. You can decline, in which case your digital content will belong to the computer, not a named user account. Subsequently, you will be re-prompted to authorize your computer whenever you purchase an eBook, but the prompt-dialog has a checkbox “Don’t ask me again”.

Can I authorize my computer at a later time?

Digital Editions has a menu item to “Authorize this computer” which you can use after the initial installation.

**IMPORTANT:** If you authorize your computer with an Adobe ID, then it is associated with that Adobe ID. But if you do not, the account is “anonymous”. If you “anonymously” activate two computers, then there will be two separate “anonymous” accounts and those accounts CANNOT be merged. Thus, the eBooks on one computer can be upgraded to “belong” to a specific Adobe ID, but the eBooks on the other cannot. If you authorize the second computer with your Adobe ID, any subsequent purchases on that second machine will be associated with that ID and will be transferable to any machine authorized with that ID. However, the books that were purchased on the second computer prior to being activated are forever locked to that computer.

What is the maximum number of computers and devices that I can authorize?

You can activate up to 6 computers and devices. If you reach the limit, contact [Customer Service](#) to increase your allowable activations.

## Support

I'm having trouble installing Digital Editions. Where can I get support?

Visit the ["Getting started" area](#) of the Adobe Digital Editions 1.0 Help center for help with installation, or visit the [Adobe Digital Editions Support Center](#).

Why do some PDF documents look different in Digital Editions than they do in Acrobat and Reader?

Digital Editions utilizes Adobe PDF technology that has been optimized for small code size and lower system requirements. This technology has shipped in hundreds of millions of mobile phones and other embedded devices. It is optimized for performance and onscreen readability, rather than graphic arts or prepress-level fidelity. Some minor differences in graphics and font rendering are therefore to be expected. In addition, the Digital Editions PDF implementation does not support several enterprise-oriented PDF features. These features are not typically used in PDF-based eBooks, and if present, they are gracefully ignored but could cause certain documents to render incorrectly.

What PDF language profile is supported by Digital Editions?

Digital Editions supports a superset of ISO standard 19005-1 (PDF/A). PDF/A is designed to support secure, long-term information archival; it is based on a subset of PDF 1.4 (the version of PDF supported by Acrobat 5.0). Additional PDF capabilities in Digital Editions beyond PDF/A include basic encryption, DRM-based encryption, JBIG2 image compression, transparency and compressed object streams. The intention is to support in Digital Editions those PDF features reasonably needed by eBooks and other commercially published content, balancing 100% coverage with a focus on small size and high performance. Also, certain capabilities defined in PDF may be delivered in Digital Editions via Flash SWF or the new reflow-centric EPUB format.

Which PDF features are not supported by Digital Editions?

PDF interactive forms, JavaScript, digital signatures, 3D, native PDF annotations, and JPEG2000 image compression are not supported by Digital Editions 1.5.

Does Digital Editions support JPEG2000?

No, the current release of Digital Editions does not support JPEG2000. Therefore, a few books do not render (e.g. color illustrations in Google Books, some "comic book" editions and some technical books' illustrations). The Digital Editions team is working hard to support JPEG2000 and is planning on releasing soon after the Digital Editions 1.5 version.

What are the Digital Editions annotation capabilities?

Digital Editions 1.5 supports bookmarks, highlights, and text notes via its "bookmarks" panel. These annotations are stored in an open XML format separately from publications to enable seamless annotating across PDF- and EPUB-based publications, and will set the stage for future social networking features (such as sharing annotations within a community of readers).

Is Digital Editions compatible with Acrobat 8?

Yes. Acrobat 8 supports creating content that conforms to the PDF/A profile. PDF/A documents work with Digital Editions, as well as with Acrobat and Reader. However, Acrobat and Reader 8 no longer directly support the Adobe Content Server (ACS) eBook digital rights management (DRM) solution, so they rely on integration with Digital Editions to enable users to view ACS-protected PDF files, including documents protected with the new ADEPT (Adobe Digital Experience Production Technology) content protection service.

How do I transfer data from Windows XP to Vista?

The procedure for getting the data from Windows XP to Vista during an upgrade is posted on Microsoft's Windows XP site:

[http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/windowsvista/ballev\\_upgrade.msp](http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/windowsvista/ballev_upgrade.msp)

Refer to the [TechNote](#) for the transfer process for Digital Editions.

Can I use MS ISA proxy server with Digital Editions?

No, Digital Editions does not support any access to the Internet through MS ISA proxy server.

## Licensing

Is Digital Editions free for me and my customers to use?

Yes, Digital Editions is a free product.

Can I redistribute Adobe Digital Editions software from my website or on CD?

No, Adobe Digital Editions software is developed and operated as a RIA or service application. In the RIA mode, as with traditional web applications, the latest version of the software is always used, and the software may be frequently updated. For the best user experience, you can incorporate a detection and [product installation page](#).

What is the EPUB format supported by Digital Editions?

EPUB is the file extension of an XML format for reflowable digital books and publications. EPUB is composed of three open standards, the [Open Publication Structure](#) (OPS), [Open Packaging Format](#) (OPF) and [Open Container Format](#) (OCF), produced by the International Digital Publishing Forum (IDPF). EPUB allows publishers to produce and send a single digital publication file through distribution and offers consumers interoperability between software/hardware for unencrypted reflowable digital books and other publications. In addition, EPUB includes capabilities for scalable vector graphics (SVG), structured tables of contents, and incorporates compatibility with the related DAIST DTBook standard for accessible content.

For the latest on IDPF specification, sample files, implementations etc., we highly recommend you visit the IDPF website at [www.idpf.org](http://www.idpf.org).

As a publisher/content distributor, how can I securely distribute content for consumers to manage and consume via Digital Editions?

Adobe offers a new hosted content protection service, Adobe Digital Experience Protection Technology (ADEPT), which integrates seamlessly with Digital Editions client software. Fully compatible with the existing ACS DRM, the ADEPT software as a service (SaaS) deployment model enables publishers to more securely distribute content without having to install or operate additional server software or hardware. Get more information about the new [ADEPT service](#).

## **For users of eBook features in Acrobat or Reader 7**

Do I have to go through a DRM activation process to use Digital Editions?

Yes. Digital Editions 1.5 includes a set-up assistant to authorize your computer. Refer to the FAQ section about content portability for further details.

Can I continue to borrow PDF eBooks from my public library with Digital Editions?

Yes, Digital Editions fully supports ACS DRM technology and is designed to work smoothly with existing library eBook lending services based on the ACS infrastructure.

After upgrading to Acrobat 8 or Reader 8, can I continue to use them to view ACS-protected PDF eBooks?

No. Acrobat 8 and Reader 8 no longer have direct support for ACS DRM technology or for managing a library of eBooks. Instead, they feature integration with the Digital Editions product, via the Digital Editions menu item (under File menu in Reader 8) and via a product launch if a user attempts to open an ACS-protected PDF document in Acrobat 8 or Reader 8.

Does Digital Editions let me do an early return for eBooks I borrow from a public library?

Yes.