





Unable to search for words in a pdf document



I am using Adobe Reader Ver 10.1.1 (All updates)

I have a pdf document in which I am unable to search for words. No words in the document are found even though they do exist. If I copy a word from within the document and paste it into the search criteria then instead of getting the word that I copied, I get substitute characters and it can in fact find these characters as the word being searched.

The document is a catalog and can be downloaded from the following URL.

http://www.carbatec.com.au/getcatalogue?zenid=d1cuvbat0ois0g37r0r33vnah1

I will appreciate any help as to why I cannot search for words in the document.

General troubleshooting, Windows **TOPICS ②** 243.0K 🖒 3 Likes 🦄 Translate ••• Reply

1 Correct answer



Open up PDF file in Adobe Reader Go to the top menu bar and click Edit then Preferences When the Preferences box opens, select the Search category on the left When in the Search category look to the bottom and click on the Purge Cache Contents box/button Finally Click OK in the bottom right of Preferences and re-attempt search The PDF should now be fully searchable

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Reply

I have Adobe Reader DC version 2020.009.20063 and tried two or three recommended ways to solve this by going to the registry... did not work. I solved my failure to search problem simply by going to EDIT, PREFERENCES, SEARCH and de-selected "ENABLE FAST FIND." Now I can search my 571 page document with ease. Prior to this discovery, when I tried to search, I got an "exception processing message 0xc000007b" message.



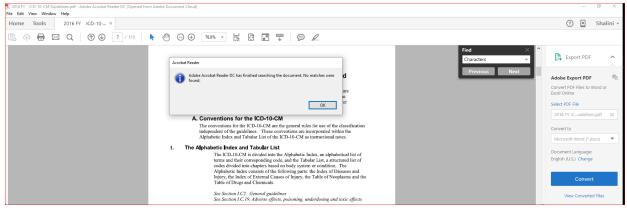


Thanks a lot for the help. I've been looking for a solution for a long time and the only tip that worked was yours!





I am trying to attached the file/image, ...here you go.







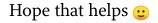






I saw your thread and think I found a fix for your pdf search issue. Nothing worked for me either. When I download my eBay orders as "Microsoft print to Pdf". I couldn't search for a keyword. But when I downloaded them as "save as Pdf" this fixed the problem.

So it could be the format you are downloading the pdf in the first place.



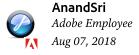


Reply



this did not work for me, it only happens in some docs and not others





Hello Billdakelski,

We're sorry for the trouble you had with Adobe Reade. Does these PDFs contain images only or text as well? Are those scanned PDF?

If after trying the suggestions above, you are still experiencing the issue, try repairing Adobe Reader once from help>repair installation(only for Windows), reboot the machine after repair. Make sure that you have the latest version of Adobe Reader installed, check for any pending updates from help>check for updates. Reboot the machine after installing any updates. If it is specific to one PDF, Is it possible to share the PDF file with us so that we can test it at our end? To share the file, please use Adobe Send feature, login to https://cloud.acrobat.com/send using your Adobe ID(email) and password, upload the file, share the link to files via private message only, How Do I Send Private Message

What is the dot version of Adobe Reader installed? To identify refer to <u>Identify the product and</u> its version for Acrobat and Reader DC





Thanks,

Anand Sri.

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Reply



I am having same issue when searching drawings.

I was advised the following:

"The only thing that gets locked is the viewport. None of our layers our locked.

For our tags, they are annotative blocks that get edited per instance."

Can someone explain how to fix this please?

Thank you!

Like 🗓 Translate …

Reply



This is also happening to me, I cannot use word search, it come up with "no matches were found.

This is the PDF I'm looking at and trying to search.

https://pdfpiw.uspto.gov/.piw?

PageNum=0&docid=10469042&IDKey=8145247719B0%0D%0A&HomeUrl=http%3A%2F%2...



I tried the edit - preferences - purge cache and it did not work.

I eventually got it to work by clicking the EDIT PDF tab, and it made the document "editable".

after that, the search function worked.

if its a big document, go to settings and click "make all pages editable", and i'll run thru all the pages.

im using adobe acrobat pro 2017.

1 Like 🗓 Translate •••

Reply



You can print the document as pdf. Then transfer the digitally printed pdf document into word. Then use the word document for searching. #hack

☐ 1 Like 🖎 Translate ••• Reply



Yes, it worked.

In my case, I only converted the document into word and searched on it, but... Really strange things happen in the world. I think it is because of Covid 19, isn't it?

Like 🛱 Translate ••• Reply



discovered I have a pdf manual that I cannot search. The document contains text but it is not in any format that can be understood - for example if I copy the word "Control" from the document, this is the result "\overline{\mathbb{Z}}.-20.+", I understand if the text has been compressed for the web, however, if only the program could then decode it back when loaded wouldn't that be an amazing idea. What a shame that they haven't bothered. I have a document, I can read it page by page, I can select all the text but if I paste it into anything other program it is gibberish so they may have just as well sent me a jpg and have done with it. What is the point of Adobe Acrobat Reader if it can't undertand it's own compression.

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Reply



Might want to add that you need to close the file and reopen it. Otherwise it doesn't work right away.

🖒 Like 🖎 Translate 😶

Reply



I followed your suggestion, but it did not work either. Would uninstalling & reinstalling Adobe work?

Like 🗓 Translate ••• Reply



I have the newest version of Acrobat Pro DC, I followed the steps above but I am still unable to search for test. The document is 365 pages, does anyone have any suggestions on why?





I have tried the steps outlined above several times, but it has not solved my problem. I cannot search for a recently received PDF document. Search works in several other PDF documents. The creator of the document told me he could search. And a colleague told me that when he followed the outlined steps, he was able to search the same document.



Reply



defaulto5c0g28itq6b New Here Jan 31, 2021

Hi,

When I download my eBay orders as "Microsoft print to Pdf". I couldn't search for a keyword. But when I downloaded them as "save as Pdf" this fixed the problem.

So it could be the format you are downloading the pdf in the first place.

Hope that helps 🙂



Reply



Alternative solution: I had a PDF that was also failing to find keywords confirmed to be in the document. I had exported a Word document to PDF rather than using the Save as Adobe PDF option. It seems that there is a significant difference when using the export to PDF vs save as





I can't search words within a pdf either. I have windows 10, and pdf files are opened within the microsoft edge browser. I click on the magnifying glass at the top of the pdf and i type in any word, even the word "and" or "the" and nothing is found.



1 2

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1

2

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