
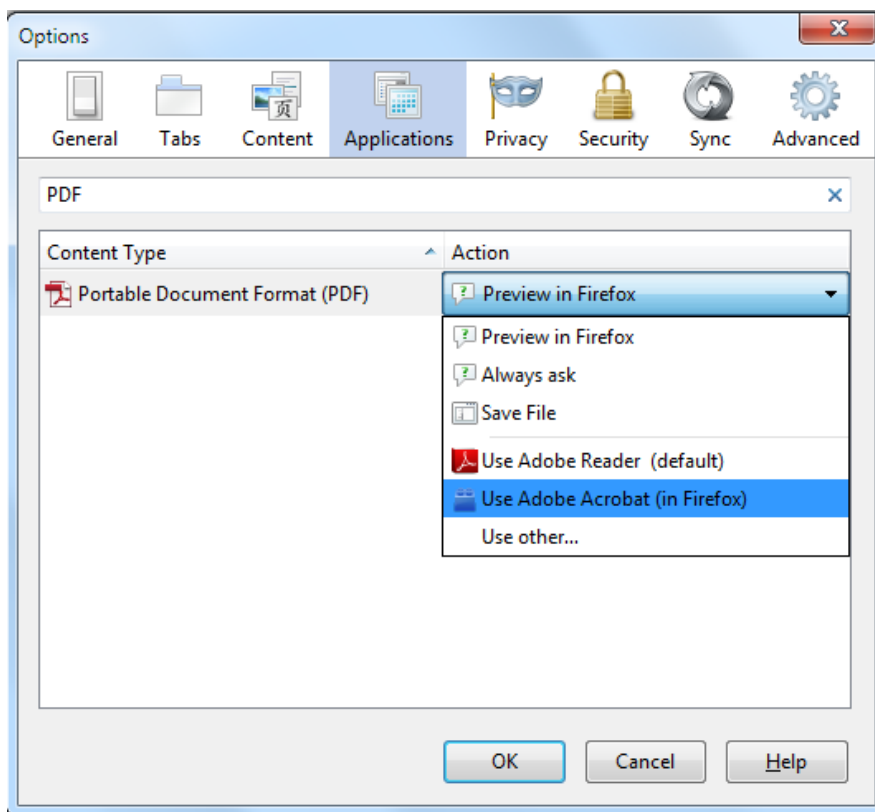


How to disable the built-in PDF viewer and use another viewer

If you'd rather not use the [built-in PDF Viewer](#), you can use another PDF viewer like [Adobe Reader](#), [Nitro PDF Reader](#) or [Sumatra PDF](#).

To switch from the built-in PDF viewer to another PDF viewer:

1. Click the menu button  and choose Options
2. Select the Applications panel.
3. Find **Portable Document Format (PDF)** in the list and click on it to select it.
4. Click on the drop-down arrow in the **Action** column for the above entry and select the PDF viewer you wish to use.



Note: If you want to view PDF files in Firefox using a plugin, instead of in an external PDF reader application, select **Use *PDF reader name* (in Firefox)**.

5. Click OK to close the Options window

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There is a [limitation](#) of the JavaScript-based PDF Viewer in FireFox which currently does not support all the features of the Adobe plugin (or stand-alone version of Adobe Reader). You can test that theory using the steps in this article: [How to disable the built-in PDF viewer and use another viewer](#).

While an end user can switch around among viewers by changing their Firefox options, unfortunately there currently is no way for websites to detect which viewer is in use and assist visitors in a personalized manner. I think for now you may need to recommend that Firefox users use the above article for assistance if more complex PDFs do not render as expected.

You can set the **pdfjs.disabled** pref to **true** on the **about:config** page to disable the build-in PDF viewer.

You can check the value of the **plugin.disable_full_page_plugin_for_types** pref on the **about:config** page and remove the **application/pdf** part if present or reset the pref to the **default** via the right-click context menu.

- <http://kb.mozillazine.org/about:config>

See also:

- <https://support.mozilla.org/kb/view-pdf-files-firefox-without-downloading-them>