

PalmPDF

presented to you by MetaViewSoft

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Introduction

PalmPDF was created to bring real PDF (Portable Document Format) files to every Palm OS 5 device. PalmPDF is based on Xpdf a well-known open-source desktop PDF viewer. Xpdf is copyright 1996-2005 Glyph & Cog, LLC. The PDF data structures, operators, and specification are copyright 1985-2004 Adobe Systems Inc.

System requirements

PalmPDF needs a large amount of free dynamic memory to render a PDF file. The amount of dynamic memory depends on the document, which you are going to view, and the render mode, which you have selected in PalmPDF. PalmPDF shows you a recommended rendering mode depending on the free dynamic memory on your Palm OS device. If PalmPDF encounters an out-of-memory error during its work, it will try to continue with a lower rendering mode. If all fails, it will try to decrease the zoom.

PDF files a rather complex documents. Therefore PalmPDF runs better on a fast processor. But in opposite to the memory needs, PalmPDF will still work with a slower processor. Only the time it needs to render a new page will be higher. PalmPDF also profits a lot from a fast external memory card.

- Palm OS Version 5.0 or better
- 100 MHz ARM processor
- an external memory card with more than 10 MB of free storage
- at least 2 MB free storage memory on your device
- at least 1.5 MB free dynamic memory on your device

Recommended

- 300 MHz ARM processor
- fast external memory card with 100 MB of free storage
- 5 MB free storage memory on your device
- 5 MB free dynamic memory on your device

Usage

The application is divided in two parts. Part one is the launcher which let you choose the PDF file and allows you to set options like the rendering mode.

The second part is the viewer, which actually renders and displays the selected PDF file. This viewer (or rendering modul) can be moved to the external memory card to save on-device memory.

The launcher

The main screen contains the list of PDF files on your external memory card. Please select the PDF you want to view. Above the file list is the amount of free dynamic memory as „free available“ and „max. block“ reported. Depending on this amount of free dynamic memory, a rendering mode is recommended. On the bottom of the screen are the buttons „Show“ and „Reset“.

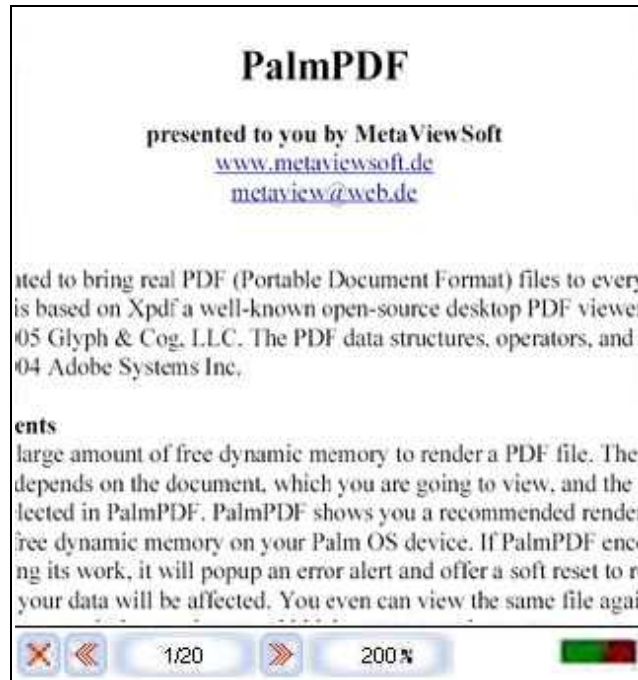
Yo can access the menu to do basic file handling and adjust the open the options window, where you can adjust the rendering mode, adjust the quality using anti-aliasing and enable a debug logging to catch and write out errors, like missing fonts etc.

„Reset“ is an handy shortcut to perform a softreset. This will be helpful if the device memory seems to be fragmented (i.e. the max. block is quite small compared to usual). A softreset doesn't affect your data on the device.

„Show“ will display the selected PDF file.

The viewer

The viewer displays the selected PDF file. On the bottom of the screen are the controls, from left to right:



Close, Prev. Page, Page Selector, Next Page, Zoom Selector, Busy indicator

The Busy indicator shows if PalmPDF is busy (Red) rendering or ready (Green).

Use the 5-way adapter or the stylus to move the page. Use Page Up/Down to scroll to the next page. You can also use the hard keys to rotate the screen, zoom in/out or close the viewer.

Installation

Just copy the .prc file to your device. You can then copy the PalmPDF folder to your memory card (/PALM/Programs/) or let PalmPDF copy the font files for you to the first memory card at first app start.

After the first start the size of PalmPDF will be reduced to 1.2 MB. If you like you can further reduce the size of PalmPDF to 35 KB by moving the render modul to the memory card too.

Tip

From Peter Eisenhauer:

The rendering time of PalmPDF depends on the speed of your memory card. Not only does PalmPDF need to read the file from your memory card but also it needs to save embedded fonts temporary to your card. This means you get the best performance with a either a fast memory card or you put the PalmPDF folder + the fonts into a ram disk.

Disclaimer

Many hours of work were spend to make PalmPDF as stable as possible. Although this work you might run into problems if your dynamic heap size is limited. PalmPDF will try to solve it, but in rarely cases it might force a Softreset. Your data on your device won't be harmed through this. Anyway, please use it on your own risk!

Best regards

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