

# Reviewer's Guide



## PDFpen v.4



## PDFpenPro v.4

### Contents:

What is PDFpen?

What's New in PDFpen?

What's the Difference Between PDFpen  
and PDFpenPro?

How Does PDFpen Compare  
to Other PDF Editing Tools?

Getting Started with PDFpen

Customer Testimonials

**Current version: 4.1.4** (released July 1, 2009)

**System Requirements:** Mac OS X 10.4 or later

**Pricing:** PDFpen: \$49.95 (Family Pack: \$74.95)

PDFpenPro: \$99.95 (Family Pack: \$129.95)

**Upgrades:** \$25 to upgrade from earlier versions of PDFpen  
or PDFpenPro (free upgrades for purchases made after  
June 1, 2008)



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*Press kit available at:*

<http://www.smileonmymac.com/PDFpen4-presskit.zip>

## What is PDFpen?

PDFpen is the affordable PDF editing tool that allows you to:

- add text, images, signatures and markup to PDFs
- edit and delete text in an original PDF
- move, copy, resize and delete images in the original PDF
- add, delete, and reorder pages; combine and split PDF documents
- fill out and save forms



PDFpen is \$49.95 for a single-user license and \$74.95 for a Family Pack (up to 5 computers in one household).

## Who uses PDFpen?

PDFpen is for anyone who needs more powerful editing capabilities than those offered by Preview, but not the full range of printing, collaboration and security tools offered by Adobe Acrobat (at nearly 10 times the price). PDFpen is especially popular with publishers, medical and law offices, contractors, and teachers.

## What's New in PDFpen 4: Key Features

- Optical Character Recognition (OCR)
- Improved User Interface, including a document sidebar with thumbnails, and table of contents; streamlined properties window; clearer toolbar controls
- Significant file compatibility upgrades
- Import Microsoft Word documents
- Print notes and comments
- Additional mark-up capabilities including underline, strikethrough, and custom highlight color
- Text imprints can be saved in the Library for reuse
- Save as TIFF
- Image compression in saved files via ColorSync

## What is the difference between PDFpen and PDFpenPro?

PDFpenPro lets you do everything that PDFpen does, plus:

- Create and edit cross-platform interactive PDF forms
- Create and edit Table of Contents (**new in PDFpenPro 4**)



PDFpenPro is \$99.95 for a single-user license and \$129.95 for a Family Pack (up to 5 computers in one household). Upgrades from any version of PDFpen to PDFpen Pro 4 are \$45.

## How Do PDFpen and PDFpenPro Compare to Other PDF Editing Tools?

For a detailed comparison chart, see the **PDF Editing Tools Comparison Chart** (p. 5).

### Preview 4 (Apple; included with OS X 10.5)

While Preview includes some editing capabilities, it lacks PDFpen's ability to perform OCR (Optical Character Recognition), add or correct text, edit images, add signatures, draw scribbles and polygons, or save PDF forms.

For those who want to create and edit a Table of Contents or an interactive form, PDFpenPro provides those additional capabilities.

### Acrobat Pro 9 (Adobe; \$449)

Acrobat Pro can do almost everything that PDFpen and PDFpenPro can do and more, with a much higher price tag. Acrobat offers several print production features (such as color separations), document identity and collaboration tools that are not available in PDFpen or PDFpenPro.

Both versions of PDFpen have a built-in library of proofreaders' marks, which Acrobat does not have.

Note: Acrobat Standard (\$299) is not available for Mac OS X.

### PDFClerk Pro 3 (SintraWorks; €35, approx. \$50)

PDFpen's editing and mark-up abilities exceed those of PDFClerk Pro, particularly the ability to correct text and edit images in the original PDF document. With PDFpen, you can edit PDFs in their native format. PDFClerk Pro creates a proprietary format, from which documents must be exported as PDFs. Notes and comments cannot be edited directly.

PDFClerk Pro does offer tools for layout and printing, including complex imposition, that are not available in PDFpen or PDFpenPro.

### Skim 1 (Open source; free)

Skim's PDF editing tools are limited to adding text, images, comments, highlighting and shapes. There is no ability to correct text or edit images in the original PDF. Common tasks like adding, deleting and reordering pages, or combining PDFs are not available in Skim.

### OCR Software

The basic OCR included with PDFpen and PDFpenPro is designed to make the occasional scanned text document machine-readable. It is not a substitute for full-featured OCR software such as OmniPage (\$499.99), Readiris (\$129.99) or DevonThink Pro Office (\$149.95).

## Getting Started with PDFpen


PDFpen comes with extensive documentation, available under Help in the program. You can also [view the latest help online](#) or [download the Help in PDF format](#). There is also an excellent [video tutorial](#).


The Help is the best guide to everything that PDFpen can do. For those who want to jump right in, here are a few tips.


### Opening a PDF or creating a new one

To use PDFpen's powerful editing features, you'll want to open an existing PDF (File > Open). You can create a blank PDF in PDFpen by opening a new document (File > New > Blank Document) and inserting a page (Edit > Insert Blank Page).


### Working with text and images in the original PDF


 Use the Select Text tool to select text for correcting, mark-up and copying. **OCR** (Optical Character Recognition) can be performed on scanned text documents to make the text selectable (Edit > OCR). There is a sample scanned text document in the press kit. <http://www.smileonmymac.com/PDFpen4-presskit.zip>


 Once text is selected, it can be corrected or deleted by clicking on the Correct Text button.

 Use the Edit tool to select an image, which can then be moved, resized, copied or deleted.

### Adding text, graphic objects, images, and signatures


 Use the Text tool to add a text box.


 Scribble and drawing tools allow you to insert objects.

 Click on the Insert button to add an image, or just drag and drop the image on the document.

If you want to make the background of a signature image transparent, choose Edit > Make Transparent Image.

### Marking up text and adding annotations

 Click and hold the Highlight button to access highlighting, underscore, and strikethrough.

 Notes and Comments annotations are available by clicking and holding the Text tool.

## Getting Started with PDFpen (continued)

### Working with PDF documents



Click the Sidebar button to open the Sidebar. By default, the Sidebar displays thumbnails of all the pages in the PDF.

To reorder pages, simply drag and drop the thumbnails in the Sidebar. To delete pages, select them and press Delete on your keyboard. Combine PDFs by dragging the thumbnails of one document into another.

### Searching and Table of Contents



Click on the pop-up menu button in the bottom of the Sidebar and choose Search Results. A search field appears at the top of the sidebar. Enter search terms and the pages that contain those terms will appear in the Sidebar.

To view the table of contents, click on the Sidebar pop-up menu and choose Table of Contents.

## PDFpenPro features

PDFpenPro has all the power of PDFpen, plus the ability to create cross-platform fillable PDF forms and to build a Table of Contents.

### Form Creation



In PDFpenPro, the toolbar includes a group of form elements tools:

- Text Field
- Checkbox
- Radio Button

### Table of Contents Creation



With Table of Contents displayed, click on the Action Button in the Sidebar to build a Table of Contents.

The menu has four options: Add Table of Contents Entry, Remove Entry, Promote and Demote.

# PDF Editing Tools Comparison Chart

	PDFpen 4	PDFpenPro 4	Acrobat Pro 9	PDFClerk Pro 3	Preview 4	Skim 1
	\$49.95	\$99.95	\$449	\$50 (€35)	Incl. w/ OS X	free
<b>Text and Images</b>						
Add text	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correct text in original PDF with editable text blocks	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-
Optical character recognition (OCR)	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-
Add images, including scanned signatures	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	-
Move, resize, copy, and delete images in original PDF	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-
Make image background transparent	✓	✓	-	-	-	-
Draw ellipses and rectangles	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Draw freeform scribbles, polygons, and rounded rectangles	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	-
Create & edit dashed borders, lines, and arrowheads	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	-
Library to store frequently-used text, images, scribbles, and signatures	✓	✓	-	-	-	-
<b>Forms</b>						
Fill out PDF forms	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Save filled-out PDF forms	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Create cross-platform PDF forms	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-
Advanced form features: pop-up menus, buttons, data submission	-	-	✓	✓	-	-

*continued on page 6*

<b>PDF Editing Tools Comparison Chart</b> (continued)	PDFpen 4	PDFpenPro 4	Acrobat Pro 9	PDFClerk Pro 3	Preview 4	Skim 1
<b>Mark-up</b>						
Add notes, comments, and highlighting	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ *	✓
Add underscore and strikethrough	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Add and edit hyperlinks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Built-in proofreading marks library	✓	✓	-	-	-	-
<b>Document Editing, Printing, Security</b>						
Edit documents in native PDF format	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	-
Insert, remove, and reorder pages	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Table of contents creation	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-
Selective printing of comments	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	-
Comment modification history	-	-	✓	-	-	-
Document identity services	-	-	✓	-	-	-
Import HTML	-	-	✓	-	-	-
Import Microsoft Word documents	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-
Document compression	-	-	✓	-	-	-
Multimedia preview: video, audio, 3D	-	-	✓	-	-	-
Scripting live calculation, document actions	-	-	✓	-	-	-
AppleScriptable	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	-
* Preview can create notes, but not comments.						

## What PDFpen Users Say

**"There have been days when PDFPen has made me want to weep with joy.** Among the many other uses, it saves me constantly when I have to sign documents on the road or when I'm otherwise away from a fax machine. If you are a manager, in sales, or in any other professional role that involves moving critical documents around quickly, you really should not be living without this little application."

- *Greg Snyder, VP Sales, BackBeat Media*

**I just wanted to tell you that PDFPen is one app that I use each and EVERY day!**

For a myriad of tasks, from filling out reports for my Virtual Assistant clients, to editing my own PDFs and screen shots. It helps me in so many ways and is most assuredly my favorite Mac OS X application!

- *Taryn Merrick, Merrick Management and Media Services*

"I have modified PDF files with Acrobat in the past but have always felt a little uneasy. **The beauty of PDFpen (apart from its delightfully low price) is the simple graphic interface where you can see it all happening.** Great work, folks."

- *Geoffrey Heard, The Worsley Press, Melbourne, Australia*

**"Thank you for the amazing program. It saves me so much time.** I use Acrobat on my PC at work and it is awful compared to PDFPen. And other PDF editors I have tried at work don't even come close. I email my work documents to myself so I can open them on my Mac at home when I need to work with PDFs."

- *Jeff Van Dam, Bowie, MD*

**"I want to let you know how great PDFpen is.** I build homes for a living, and end up having to fill in quite a few PDF files and faxing them. Your product has already made me more productive by giving me the ability to keep all of those files on my computer and faxing them electronically. The last thing I needed to do was get my signature into the files. I originally used my Wacom tablet for this task...but then I received one of your tip e-mails explaining how to make a transparent copy of your signature."

- *Bryan Leonard, Atentex Homes, Houston, TX*

**You are the best! What wonderful support.** Thank you so much for all the "how to" emails and the video support. You make this program so easy to learn. I write a newsletter and was sent a form to insert in a pdf format. I wanted to add to the bottom "Created by..." and you people made it a snap with your support."

- *Rose Marie T., Redondo Beach, CA*