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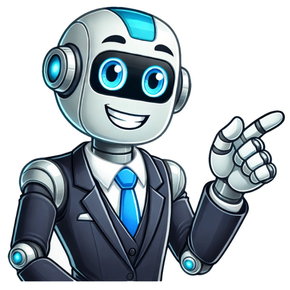

Many hours have I searched for a fast and easy, but mostly accurate, way to get the number of pages in a PDF document. Since I work for a graphic printing and reproduction company that works a lot with PDFs, the number of pages in a document must be precisely known before they are processed. PDF documents come from many different clients, so they aren't generated with the same application and/or don't use the same compression method. Here are some of the answers I found insufficient or simply NOT working: Using Imagick (a PHP extension) Imagick requires a lot of installation, apache needs to restart, and when I finally had it working, it took amazingly long to process (2-3 minutes per document) and it always returned 1 page in every document (haven't seen a working copy of Imagick so far), so I threw it away. That was with both the getNumberImages() and identifyImage() methods. Using FPDI (a PHP library) FPDI is easy to use and install (just extract files and call a PHP script), BUT many of the compression techniques are not supported by FPDI. It then returns an error: FPDF error: This document (test_1.pdf) probably uses a compression technique which is not supported by the free parser shipped with FPDI. Opening a stream and search with a regular expression: This opens the PDF file in a stream and searches for some kind of string, containing the pagecount or something similar. $f = "test1.pdf"; $stream = fopen($f, "r"); $content = fread ($stream, filesize($f)); if(!$stream || !$content) return 0; $count = 0; // Regular Expressions found by Googling (all linked to SO answers): $regex = "/\/Count\s+(\d+)/"; $regex2 = "/\/Page\W*(\d+)/"; $regex3 = "/\/N\s+(\d+)/"; if(preg_match_all($regex, $content, $matches)) $count = max($matches); return $count; /\/Count\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /Count) doesn't work because only a few documents have the parameter /Count inside, so most of the time it doesn't return anything. Source. /\/Page\W*(\d+)/ (looks for /Page) doesn't get the number of pages, mostly contains some other data. Source. /\/N\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /N) doesn't work either, as the documents can contain multiple values of /N ; most, if not all, not containing the pagecount. Source. See the answer below April 25, 2017 at 10:49 PM by Dr. Drang I deal with lots of PDFs at work, and sometimes I want to report on the total number of pages I've reviewed on a given project. I've used various ad hoc methods to collect and sum up these page counts but have never come up with an automated technique. When there's deadline pressure to get a report out, there's no time—or it seems like there's no time—to put together a decent automated solution. Today I decided to make time. There are several ways to get the number of pages in a PDF. You can open it in Preview and see the page count in the title bar. You can do a Get Info on the file. If you have PDFtk installed, you can run it from the command line using the dump_data operation. 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We can limit the output to just that line by using the -name option and get rid of the label with the -raw option: $ mdls -name kMDItemNumberOfPages -raw File\ 3.pdf 420 The thing about -raw is that it doesn't put a newline after the output, which is sometimes good and sometimes bad. We'll deal with that in a bit. Now we're ready to build a shell script, called pdfpages, that does the following: Prints a usage string if you don't give it any arguments. Prints just the number of pages in the file if you give it one argument. Prints the number of pages and the name for each file and the grand total of pages if you give it more than one argument. To demonstrate: $ pdfpages Usage: pdfpages $ pdfpages File\ 3.pdf 420 $ pdfpages *.pdf 330 File 1.pdf 532 File 2.pdf 420 File 3.pdf 1282 Total Here's the source code for pdfpages: bash: 1: #!/bin/bash 2: 3: if [$# == 0]; then 4: echo "Usage: pdfpages " 5: elif [$# == 1]; then 6: echo `mdls -name kMDItemNumberOfPages -raw "$1"` 7: else 8: sum=0 9: for f in "$@"; do 10: count=`mdls -name kMDItemNumberOfPages -raw "$f"` 11: echo -e "$count\t$f" 12: ((sum += count)) 13: done 14: echo -e "$sum\tTotal" 15: fi Recall that $# provides the number of arguments to the script, so Lines 3 and 5 test for the no argument and one argument conditions, respectively. Line 4 is the usage message printed if there are no arguments. Line 6 runs when there's one argument and is basically what we showed above. Putting the mdls command in backticks runs it and feeds the output to echo, which adds the trailing newline and prevents the next command prompt from appearing on the same line as the output.2 Lines 8–14 handle the case of more than one argument. We start by initializing the running sum in Line 8. Then we loop through all the arguments with the for on Line 9. For each file, Line 10 runs the mdls command and puts the output in the variable count. Line 11 prints the page count and file name for the current file, and Line 12 increments the running sum.3 When the loop is finished, Line 14 prints out the total. Throughout the script, please note the use of double quotes around the $@, $1, and $f variables. This keeps the script from shitting the bed when file paths include spaces. This is about as complicated a shell script as I would ever want to write. If I find myself wanting to add features, I'll probably rewrite it as a Python script using the subprocess module to run the mdls command. After writing pdfpages, I wondered how it would have worked on a older project in which I gave up trying to count all the PDF pages I was sent because there were just too many spread over too many files. Getting the number of PDF files (just over 1,000) in a nested folder structure was easy using standard tools: find . -iname *.pdf | wc -l Now I could get the number of pages in those files with find . -iname *.pdf -print0 | xargs -0 pdfpages It chugged away for about half a minute and told me I'd been given nearly 16,000 pages to review. Maybe it was better I didn't know. The PDF or Portable Document Format is one of the most popular file formats that is used for documents to share it through email or other ways. One of the main reasons why this format is preferred is that users can set restrictions by using it. 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It then returns an error: FPDF error: This document (test_1.pdf) probably uses a compression technique which is not supported by the free parser shipped with FPDI. Opening a stream and search with a regular expression: This opens the PDF file in a stream and searches for some kind of string, containing the pagecount or something similar. $f = "test1.pdf"; $stream = fopen($f, "r"); $content = fread ($stream, filesize($f)); if(!$stream || !$content) return 0; $count = 0; // Regular Expressions found by Googling (all linked to SO answers): $regex = "/\/Count\s+(\d+)/"; $regex2 = "/\/Page\W*(\d+)/"; $regex3 = "/\/N\s+(\d+)/"; if(preg_match_all($regex, $content, $matches)) $count = max($matches); return $count; /\/Count\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /Count) doesn't work because only a few documents have the parameter /Count inside, so most of the time it doesn't return anything. Source. /\/Page\W*(\d+)/ (looks for /Page) doesn't get the number of pages, mostly contains some other data. 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Source. /\/N\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /N) doesn't work either, as the documents can contain multiple values of /N ; most, if not all, not containing the pagecount. Source. See the answer below Many hours have I searched for a fast and easy, but mostly accurate, way to get the number of pages in a PDF document. Since I work for a graphic printing and reproduction company that works a lot with PDFs, the number of pages in a document must be precisely known before they are processed. PDF documents come from many different clients, so they aren't generated with the same application and/or don't use the same compression method. Here are some of the answers I found insufficient or simply NOT working: Using Imagick (a PHP extension) Imagick requires a lot of installation, apache needs to restart, and when I finally had it working, it took amazingly long to process (2-3 minutes per document) and it always returned 1 page in every document (haven't seen a working copy of Imagick so far), so I threw it away. That was with both the getNumberImages() and identifyImage() methods. Using FPDI (a PHP library) FPDI is easy to use and install (just extract files and call a PHP script), BUT many of the compression techniques are not supported by FPDI. It then returns an error: FPDF error: This document (test_1.pdf) probably uses a compression technique which is not supported by the free parser shipped with FPDI. Opening a stream and search with a regular expression: This opens the PDF file in a stream and searches for some kind of string, containing the pagecount or something similar. $f = "test1.pdf"; $stream = fopen($f, "r"); $content = fread ($stream, filesize($f)); if(!$stream || !$content) return 0; $count = 0; // Regular Expressions found by Googling (all linked to SO answers): $regex = "/\/Count\s+(\d+)/"; $regex2 = "/\/Page\W*(\d+)/"; $regex3 = "/\/N\s+(\d+)/"; if(preg_match_all($regex, $content, $matches)) $count = max($matches); return $count; /\/Count\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /Count) doesn't work because only a few documents have the parameter /Count inside, so most of the time it doesn't return anything. Source. /\/Page\W*(\d+)/ (looks for /Page) doesn't get the number of pages, mostly contains some other data. Source. /\/N\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /N) doesn't work either, as the documents can contain multiple values of /N ; most, if not all, not containing the pagecount. Source. 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Here's a simple example demonstrating how you can extract the rotation angle of a PDF page using Python and Spire.PDF for Python:from spire.pdf.common import *from spire.pdf import *# Open the PDF documentpdf = PdfDocument("Sample.pdf")# Get the first page by its index (zero-based)page = pdf.Pages[0]# Get the rotation information of the first pagerotation_info = page.Rotation# Determine the rotation angleif rotation_info == PdfPageRotateAngle.RotateAngle0: rotation_angle = "0 degrees (Normal)"elif rotation_info == PdfPageRotateAngle.RotateAngle90: rotation_angle = "90 degrees (Rotated clockwise)"elif rotation_info == PdfPageRotateAngle.RotateAngle180: rotation_angle = "180 degrees (Upside down)"elif rotation_info == PdfPageRotateAngle.RotateAngle270: rotation_angle = "270 degrees (Rotated counterclockwise)"else: rotation_angle = "Unknown rotation"# Print the rotation angle of the first pageprint(f"The rotation angle of the first page is {rotation_angle}.")pdf.Close()Extract Page Orientation from PDF with PythonThe orientation of a PDF page can be either portrait (default) or landscape. While Spire.PDF for Python doesn't provide a direct method to detect page orientation, you can determine it by comparing the page's width and height. If the width is greater than the height, the page is in landscape mode; otherwise, it's in portrait mode.Here is a simple example demonstrating how to check the orientation of a PDF page using Spire.PDF for Python:from spire.pdf.common import *from spire.pdf import *# Open the PDF documentpdf = PdfDocument("Sample.pdf")# Get the first page by its index (zero-based)page = pdf.Pages[0]# Get the width and height of the first pagewidth = page.Size.Widthheight = page.Size.Height# Check if the page is in portrait or landscape modeif width > height: print("The first page is in landscape mode.")else: print("The first page is in portrait mode.")pdf.Close()Extract Page Labels from PDF with PythonPDF page labels are used to provide custom names or labels to pages, which may differ from the actual page numbers (e.g., roman numerals for the introduction, followed by Arabic numerals for the main content). 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We hope you find it helpful.Related Topics The PDF was developed by Adobe back in the early 90s and it has become increasingly popular since the advent of the Internet and Social Media. PDF files typically contain both text and images and it is these images that can often increase the file size, in some cases dramatically so. Many users, especially those at work, require files that are not prohibitive in size so that when they share or receive these files their mailboxes don't get blown. They also want to ensure they don't use up all their allocated storage on their device. That is why compressing files, specifically bigger files like PDF are so popular. You can use the Zamzar PDF compression tool to reduce the size of your PDF file without impacting the quality of your file thereby still allowing you to share or print these files. Many hours have I searched for a fast and easy, but mostly accurate, way to get the number of pages in a PDF document. Since I work for a graphic printing and reproduction company that works a lot with PDFs, the number of pages in a document must be precisely known before they are processed. PDF documents come from many different clients, so they aren't generated with the same application and/or don't use the same compression method. Here are some of the answers I found insufficient or simply NOT working: Using Imagick (a PHP extension) Imagick requires a lot of installation, apache needs to restart, and when I finally had it working, it took amazingly long to process (2-3 minutes per document) and it always returned 1 page in every document (haven't seen a working copy of Imagick so far), so I threw it away. That was with both the getNumberImages() and identifyImage() methods. Using FPDI (a PHP library) FPDI is easy to use and install (just extract files and call a PHP script), BUT many of the compression techniques are not supported by FPDI. It then returns an error: FPDF error: This document (test_1.pdf) probably uses a compression technique which is not supported by the free parser shipped with FPDI. Opening a stream and search with a regular expression: This opens the PDF file in a stream and searches for some kind of string, containing the pagecount or something similar. $f = "test1.pdf"; $stream = fopen($f, "r"); $content = fread ($stream, filesize($f)); if(!$stream || !$content) return 0; $count = 0; // Regular Expressions found by Googling (all linked to SO answers): $regex = "/\/Count\s+(\d+)/"; $regex2 = "/\/Page\W*(\d+)/"; $regex3 = "/\/N\s+(\d+)/"; if(preg_match_all($regex, $content, $matches)) $count = max($matches); return $count; /\/Count\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /Count) doesn't work because only a few documents have the parameter /Count inside, so most of the time it doesn't return anything. Source. /\/Page\W*(\d+)/ (looks for /Page) doesn't get the number of pages, mostly contains some other data. 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Below is the implementation: # Import PyPDF2 module using the import keyword import PyPDF2 # Open the PDF file in read-binary mode(converts file into binary format) using the open() # function and store it in a variable. gvn_file = open('btechgeeks.pdf', 'rb') # Pass the above PDF file to the PdfFileReader() function to read the pdf file and # store it in another variable. pdf_read = PyPDF2.PdfFileReader(gvn_file) # Apply numPages attribute on the above read pdf to count the total number of pages in # the given PDF file and store it in another variable. pages_count = pdf_read.numPages # Print the count of total number of pages in the given PDF file print("The total number of pages in the given PDF file = ", pages_count) Output: The total number of pages in the given PDF file = 8 Method #2: Using pymupdf module First, install the pymupdf module before going to the code given below: pip install pymupdf Approach: Import fitz function using the import keyword Open the PDF file using the open() function and store it in a variable. 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Here are some of the answers I found insufficient or simply NOT working: Using Imagick (a PHP extension) Imagick requires a lot of installation, apache needs to restart, and when I finally had it working, it took amazingly long to process (2-3 minutes per document) and it always returned 1 page in every document (haven't seen a working copy of Imagick so far), so I threw it away. That was with both the getNumberImages() and identifyImage() methods. Using FPDI (a PHP library) FPDI is easy to use and install (just extract files and call a PHP script), BUT many of the compression techniques are not supported by FPDI. It then returns an error: FPDF error: This document (test_1.pdf) probably uses a compression technique which is not supported by the free parser shipped with FPDI. Opening a stream and search with a regular expression: This opens the PDF file in a stream and searches for some kind of string, containing the pagecount or something similar. $f = "test1.pdf"; $stream = fopen($f, "r"); $content = fread ($stream, filesize($f)); if(!$stream || !$content) return 0; $count = 0; // Regular Expressions found by Googling (all linked to SO answers): $regex = "/\/Count\s+(\d+)/"; $regex2 = "/\/Page\W*(\d+)/"; $regex3 = "/\/N\s+(\d+)/"; if(preg_match_all($regex, $content, $matches)) $count = max($matches); return $count; /\/Count\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /Count) doesn't work because only a few documents have the parameter /Count inside, so most of the time it doesn't return anything. Source. /\/Page\W*(\d+)/ (looks for /Page) doesn't get the number of pages, mostly contains some other data. Source. /\/N\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /N) doesn't work either, as the documents can contain multiple values of /N ; most, if not all, not containing the pagecount. Source. See the answer below In this article, we will see how can we count the total number of pages in a PDF file in Python, For this article there is no such prerequisite, we will use PyPDF2 library for this purpose. PyPDF2 is a free and open-source pure-Python PyPDF library capable of performing many tasks like splitting, merging, cropping, and transforming the pages of PDF files. It can also add custom data, viewing options, and passwords to PDF files. PyPDF2 can retrieve text and metadata from PDFs as well. Refer to this "Working with PDF files in Python" to explore about PyPDF2 Installing required libraryExecute the below command to install the PyPDF2 library in the command prompt or terminal. pip install PyPDF2Step to Count the number of pages in a PDF fileStep 1: Import PyPDF2 library into the Python program import PyPDF2Step 2: Open the PDF file in read binary format using file handling file = open('your pdf file path', 'rb')Step 3: Read the pdf using the PdfReader() function of the PyPDF2 library pdfReader = PyPDF2.PdfReader(file)Note: These above three steps are similar for all methods that we are going to see using an example. Methods to count PDF pagesWe are going to learn three methods to count the number of pages in a PDF file which are as follows: By using the len(pdfReader.pages) property.By using the getNumPages() method.By using the pages property and len() function.Method 1: Using len(pdfReader.pages) propertylen(pdfReader.pages) is a property of PdfReader Class that returns the total number of pages in the PDF file. totalPages1 = len(pdfReader.pages)For Example: Python3 # importing PyPDF2 library import PyPDF2 # opened file as reading (r) in binary (b) mode file = open('/home/hardik/GFG_Temp/dbmsFile.pdf', 'rb') # store data in pdfReader pdfReader = PyPDF2.PdfReader(file) # count number of pages totalPages = len(pdfReader.pages) # print number of pages print(f"Total Pages: {totalPages}") Output: Total Pages: 10In the above example, we imported the PyPDF2 module and opened the file using file handling in read binary format after that with the help of PdfReader() function of PyPDF2 module we read the pdf file which we opened previously, then with the help of the numPages property of the module we counted the total pages of PDF file and stored the total number of pages in a variable "totalPages" for further usage and at last, we print the variable holding the total page count of PDF file. Method 2: Using getNumPages() methodgetNumPages() is a method of PdfReader class that returns an integer specifying a total number of pages and it takes no argument this method is deprecated since version 1.28.0 but we can still use another method that comes in its replacement is next method discussed. totalPages2 = pdfReader.getNumPages() Python3 # importing PyPDF2 library import PyPDF2 # opened file as reading (r) in binary (b) mode file = open('/home/hardik/GFG_Temp/dbmsFile.pdf', 'rb') # store data in pdfReader pdfReader = PyPDF2.PdfReader(file) # count number of pages totalPages = pdfReader.getNumPages() # print number of pages print(f"Total Pages: {totalPages}") Output: Total Pages: 10In the above example, we imported the PyPDF2 module and opened the file using file handling in reading binary format after that with the help of the PdfReader() function of PyPDF2 module we read the pdf file that we opened previously, then with the help of getNumPages() method of the module we counted the total pages of PDF file and stored the total number of pages in a variable "totalpages" for further usage and at last, we print the variable holding the total page count of PDF file. Method 3: Using pages property and len() functionpages is a read-only property that emulates a list of Page objects and using len() function which is Python's inbuilt function to count the length of a sequence is used combinedly to determine the total pages of the PDF. totalPages3 = len(pdfReader.pages) Python3 # importing PyPDF2 library import PyPDF2 # opened file as reading (r) in binary (b) mode file = open('/home/hardik/GFG_Temp/dbmsFile.pdf', 'rb') # store data in pdfReader pdfReader = PyPDF2.PdfReader(file) # count number of pages totalPages = len(pdfReader.pages) # print number of pages print(f"Total Pages: {totalPages}") Output: Total Pages: 10In the above example we imported the PyPDF2 module and opened the file using file handling in read binary format then with the help of PdfReader() function of PyPDF2 module we read the pdf file which we opened previously, then with the help of the pages property of the module we get the list of all the pages of PDF file and with the help of len() function we counted the total pages returned by pages property and stored the total number of pages in a variable "totalpages" for further usage and at last, we print the variable holding the total page count of PDF file. Many hours have I searched for a fast and easy, but mostly accurate, way to get the number of pages in a PDF document. Since I work for a graphic printing and reproduction company that works a lot with PDFs, the number of pages in a document must be precisely known before they are processed. PDF documents come from many different clients, so they aren't generated with the same application and/or don't use the same compression method. Here are some of the answers I found insufficient or simply NOT working: Using Imagick (a PHP extension) Imagick requires a lot of installation, apache needs to restart, and when I finally had it working, it took amazingly long to process (2-3 minutes per document) and it always returned 1 page in every document (haven't seen a working copy of Imagick so far), so I threw it away. That was with both the getNumberImages() and identifyImage() methods. Using FPDI (a PHP library) FPDI is easy to use and install (just extract files and call a PHP script), BUT many of the compression techniques are not supported by FPDI. It then returns an error: FPDF error: This document (test_1.pdf) probably uses a compression technique which is not supported by the free parser shipped with FPDI. Opening a stream and search with a regular expression: This opens the PDF file in a stream and searches for some kind of string, containing the pagecount or something similar. $f = "test1.pdf"; $stream = fopen($f, "r"); $content = fread ($stream, filesize($f)); if(!$stream || !$content) return 0; $count = 0; // Regular Expressions found by Googling (all linked to SO answers): $regex = "/\/Count\s+(\d+)/"; $regex2 = "/\/Page\W*(\d+)/"; $regex3 = "/\/N\s+(\d+)/"; if(preg_match_all($regex, $content, $matches)) $count = max($matches); return $count; /\/Count\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /Count) doesn't work because only a few documents have the parameter /Count inside, so most of the time it doesn't return anything. Source. /\/Page\W*(\d+)/ (looks for /Page) doesn't get the number of pages, mostly contains some other data. Source. /\/N\s+(\d+)/ (looks for /N) doesn't work either, as the documents can contain multiple values of /N ; most, if not all, not containing the pagecount. Source. 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