

Using PDF Sign&Seal

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Can I sign a PDF document even if my certificate is expired?

No you cannot sign a PDF document in PDF Sign&Seal when your certificate is expired. If you try then following error will appear at the time of signing: "Key does not exist". Ensure that you have valid certificate before signing PDF documents. Follow these steps to import a valid certificate into your personal key store:

1. Open your browser (Internet Explorer)
2. Click "Tools"
3. Click "Internet Options"
4. Go to "Content" tab
5. Click "Certificates" button
6. Go to "Personal" key store and click Import button and select your PFX, PKCS#12 file
7. Complete all the steps of importing certificate
8. Go inside PDF Sign&Seal > Tools > Preferences > Signer Information tab and select the newly imported certificate
9. Once imported you can use it to sign PDF document.

Is it possible to sign a PDF at a specific location on a page?

Yes, it is possible to sign at a specific location of a PDF file in PDF Sign&Seal. This can be done in 3 different ways:

1. Open a PDF file, create a blank signature field and click to sign it.
2. Open a PDF file and sign at a pre-defined preferred signing location using Drag & Sign or using the Sign button present on the ribbon bar.
3. Open a PDF file and sign within an existing blank signature field.

Right-click signing options are also available as is signing from other applications using the bundled PDF Sign&Seal Make printer driver.

Can PDF Sign&Seal create blank signature fields in a PDF document?

PDF Sign&Seal supports creating blank signature(s) in a PDF document from within the application (through Security > Add Signature Field

button). It can create multiple blank fields in one go. It can also remember blank field locations and automatically apply those within a new document.

Can PDF Sign&Seal sign multiple pages of a PDF document in one operation?

Yes, PDF Sign&Seal can sign multiple page of a PDF document in one go. This can be done in two separate ways:

1. From the signing dialog (i.e. Security > Sign button), select the preferred signing location and then the multiple pages of document which you want to sign.
2. From the signing dialog (i.e. Security > Sign button), select the multiple blank signature fields present on the PDF file (if any) from the "Sign an existing blank signature field" section. Note that while performing a sign and seal operation, you cannot select multiple pages.

How can the language for the PDF signature appearance labels be changed?

The labels change according to the default language selected. Labels can also be omitted if required. PDF Sign&Seal however allows its users to edit the text of the signature appearance fields.

Can I use timestamps within digital signatures created by PDF Sign&Seal?

Yes users can configure a one or multiple time stamp authorities within PDF Sign&Seal to add timestamps to digital signatures.

Time stamp authorities are configured within PDF Sign&Seal Preferences > Signature > Long-Term Signature Generation tab.

What is the advantage of configuring multiple Time Stamp Authorities (TSAs)?

One advantage of configuring multiple time stamp authorities is that if PDF Sign&Seal fails to obtain a timestamp from the first time stamp authority then it will try to obtain a time stamp from the second time stamp authority defined on the list. A nice fallback mechanism is thus provided – this is particularly useful when using free timestamp servers that have no SLA.

Can PDF Sign&Seal verify multiple signatures in a document?

Yes PDF Sign&Seal verifies multiple digital signatures in the document.

After making changes in the PDF Sign&Seal preferences file, do I need to re-launch the application?

No, there is no need to re-launch the application after making configuration changes in the PDF Sign&Seal preferences (i.e. Tools > Preferences). However if manual configuration changes are made by opening the preferences XML file and editing it then PDF Sign&Seal must be restarted so that the changes are seen within the application.

What is the Trusted Notary service and where are the Trusted Notary settings kept?

Trusted Notary service is an alternative way of verifying signatures, i.e. through an online notary verification service. By default PDF Sign&Seal uses the free demo notary services provided by the Ascertia website (www.ascertia.com). PDF Sign&Seal can be easily configured to work in conjunction with any other trusted notary service provider. Contact Ascertia or your local software provider for further details on how to achieve this.

Where can I configure default settings for the instant invisible signing?

The default values for the reason, location and contact info fields for invisible signing can be configured within the PDF Sign&Seal Preferences file.

Does PDF Sign&Seal perform IdenTrust™ checks when signing and verifying the PDF documents?

Yes, PDF Sign&Seal can be configured to perform IdenTrust™ checks at the time of signing and also when verifying signatures within a signed PDF document. The product is currently at pre-compliance status. For more information see the separately available "PDF Sign&Seal Admin Guide".

I am unable to export my PDF Sign&Seal Preferences file?

Make sure you have administrative rights or you have the rights to read & write to the destination location. If the issue still persists contact Ascertia or your local vendor with the PDF Sign&Seal log files.

Can I use the exported PDF Sign&Seal Preferences file on another machine?

Yes, the PDF Sign&Seal Preferences file can be exported and later imported to another machine. The process to perform such task is simple; export the PDF Sign&Seal Preferences file on local machine (i.e. PDF Sign&Seal Tools > Preferences > Export), transfer it to the desired system and import it in the application (i.e. PDF Sign&Seal Tools > Preferences > Import).

How can I configure a blank field as my default signing location?

Follow the steps mentioned below to configure a blank signature field as the default signing location in the PDF Sign&Seal:

1. Open a PDF file.
2. Click Security > Add Signature Field > Manually Draw Field (or Ctrl +F).
3. From the opened dialog, choose a specific name of the blank field.
4. Enable the "Save this Signature Field" option.
5. Click "OK" button.
6. Open PDF Sign&Seal Preferences (i.e. PDF Sign&Seal Tools > Preferences or Ctrl + K).
7. Open the Signature > Signature Placement & Appearance tab.
8. Choose the newly created blank signature field from the "Saved Signature Fields" section
9. Click on the "OK" button.
10. The newly created blank signature is successfully set as a default signing location in PDF Sign&Seal.

How long can I use PDF Sign&Seal for free (in a trial period)?

The trial period of the PDF Sign&Seal lasts for 30 days starting from its first launch.

What are the differences between PDF Sign&Seal trial and full versions?

During the trial period, PDF Sign&Seal adds the word "TRIAL" in the top right corner of each signature appearance done in the application. In case of the invisible signature the word "****TRIAL****" is added in the reason field of the digital signature. When the PDF Sign&Seal is running as a registered product, no "TRIAL" word is added anywhere in the digital signature.

Can PDF Sign&Seal be called programmatically, e.g. is there an API?

PDF Sign&Seal can be integrated with business applications using a server API, a desktop API or a command line approach. The command line approach can be used by any Windows application whereas the APIs offer .Net assembly Integration only. The full signing, sealing, time stamping and verification functionality of PDF Sign&Seal can be exploited through these integration options. For more information email support@ascertia.com

Can PDF Sign&Seal process multiple files in one operation?

Yes you can process more than one file by selecting multiple files and then choosing an operation e.g. sign using right click within Windows Explorer.

Does PDF Sign&Seal support attachments, watermarks and stamping?

Yes, PDF Sign&Seal support attachments, watermarks and stamps.

Can I use timestamps within digital signatures created by PDF Sign&Seal?

Yes users can configure a one or multiple time stamp authorities within PDF Sign&Seal to add timestamps to digital signatures.

Time stamp authorities are configured within PDF Sign&Seal Preferences > Signature > Long-Term Signature Generation tab.