

Re: Replace Adobe Reader?

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2007-01/msg04420.html>

- *From:* Paul Johnson <baloo@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 12 Jan 2007 12:01:55 -0800
-

Eric wrote:

"Paul Johnson" <baloo@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:39hi74xgks.ln2@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Eric wrote:

I didn't bother to click your link because it doesn't matter what your definition of "free software" is. Apparently it is different than the general population of today's computer users.

The general population of today's computer users says you're wrong. Wikipedia is edited by the general population of today's computer users.

I don't know where Wikipedia would have gotten a definition of freeware that includes "must distribute with source code", but for most people, if they can download a program and run it without paying anyone it is freeware. Most computer users do not contribute to Wikipedia. If you check a software site, such as tucows.com, it will label such programs as freeware.

Nobody takes [tucows](http://tucows.com) seriously, though. Freeware would be the right word for no-charge proprietary software. Free software is about freedom.

The fact is, it doesn't matter if it's considered "proprietary" and doesn't come with source code. If you can download it and run it and never

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have to pay anyone, it is free.

No, that's no-charge, not free. The software and its developers do not respect your freedoms as a user, therefore not free.

Foxit reader is also much smaller than your 7MB bloatware.
Unzipped,
their latest version is one 3700KB exe file.

That's just how it's distributed with other programs in kdegraphics, which contains all the optional graphics-related KDE packages (they're bundled together because many people install them together whether or not they're bundled; with free software, things get bundled because people actually use the software that way and not because of some marketing agreement).
Actual
program size is 41 kilobytes.

```
baloo@ursa-major:~$ ls /usr/bin/kpdf  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 41K 2006-11-14 16:10 /usr/bin/kpdf
```

Foxit is *ninety times* that size.

What is 41KB? A compiled executable to view pdf files? Where do we download it?

Debian mirrors are where I get it. This has a few thousand answers: Google is your friend.

Is it a standalone program or do you need other software to run it?

kpdf can be downloaded standalone in the kpdf package or bundled in kdegraphics depending on where you find it.

Does it even run on Windows? Your directory listing looks like 'nix.
This is a Windows newsgroup.

True, but not everything can be done most efficiently in Windows. Using PDFs is one of them.

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Posted via a free Usenet account from <http://www.teranews.com>

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