

How do I change my operating system's default application for opening PDFs?

Q: How do I change my operating system's default application for opening PDFs?

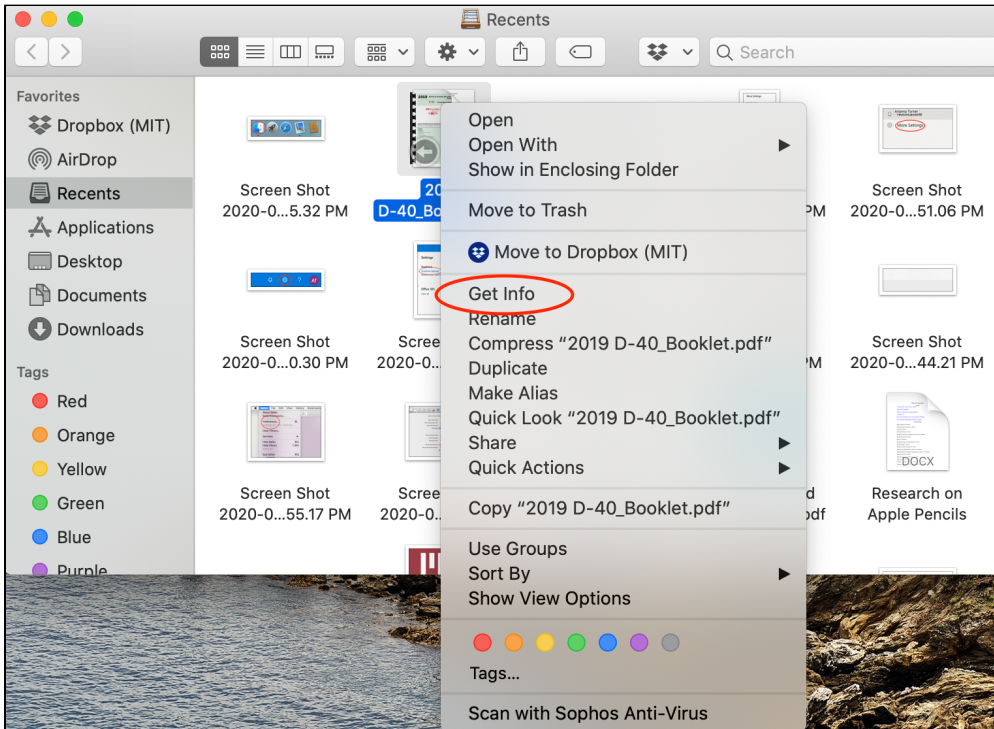
Answer

To set a PDF viewer as the default on Mac OS X:

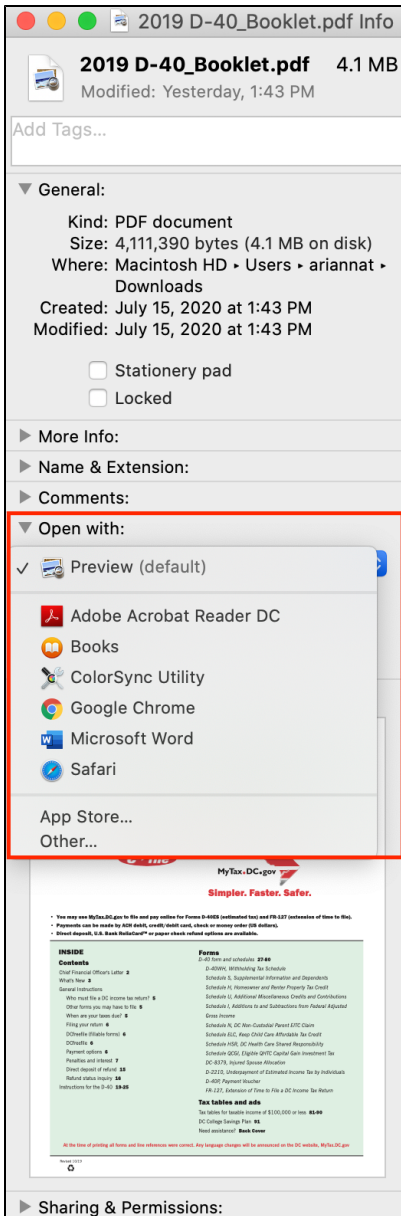
1. Select any PDF file from **Finder**. **Control-click** to open the menu.
Result: A menu will open next to the file name.



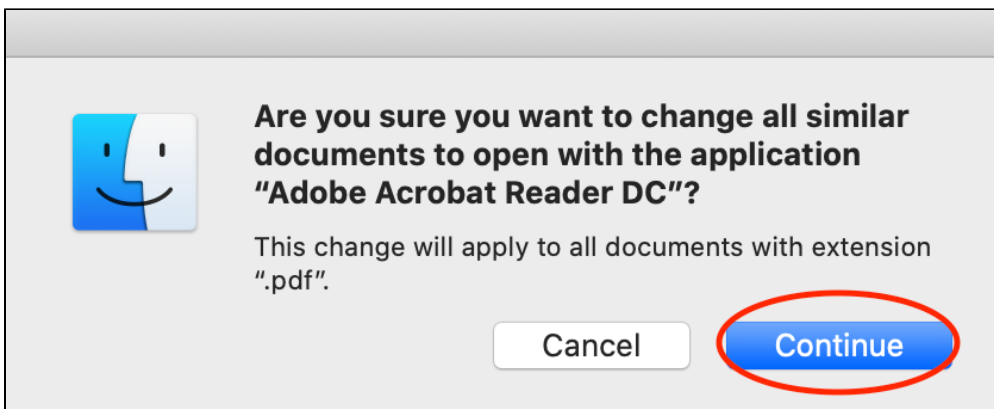
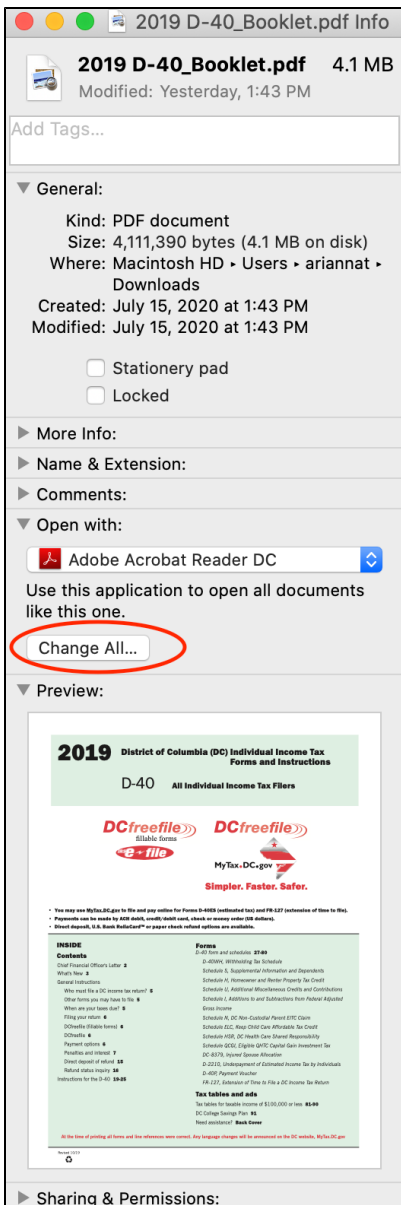
2. Choose **Get Info** from the menu that opens.
Result: A new window will open with information on that PDF file.



3. From the **Open with:** section in the new window that opens, select your preferred application, such as **Adobe Reader** or **Preview**.
Result: That application will be selected.



4. Click the **Change All** button. In the subsequent dialog box, click **Continue**.
Result: The application that you selected will be the location in which PDFs open.



To set a PDF viewer as the default on Windows

- If no other PDF viewer is installed, once Adobe Reader is installed, it becomes the default.
- To set a preferred PDF viewer as the default:
 - Windows 7:
 1. Follow the menu path **Start > Default Programs > Associate a file type or protocol with a specific program**

2. Highlight **.pdf**, then click **Change**.
 3. Choose your preferred PDF viewer, such as **Adobe Reader**.
- In Windows XP
 1. Follow the menu path **Start > Control Panel > Folder Options > File Types**.
 - In Windows 10
See: [Tech Minute's Instructions](#)

See also:

<http://pcsupport.about.com/od/fixtheproblem/ht/defprogramxp.htm>