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?

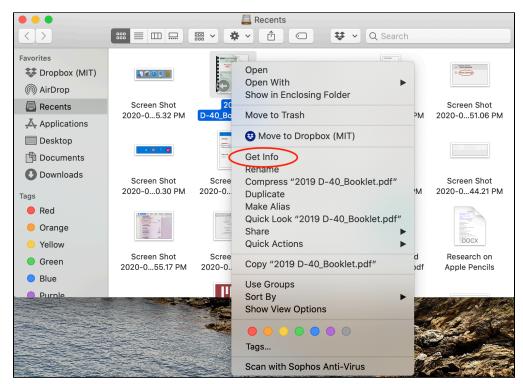
Answer

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.

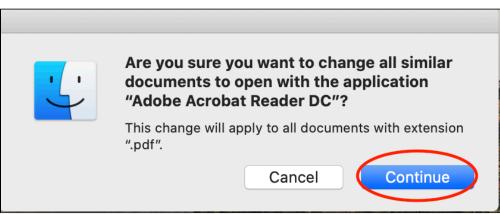


3. From the **Open with:** section in the new window that opens, select your preferred application, such as **Adobe Reader** or **Preview**. *Result*: That application will be selected.

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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.

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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