

How to create a PDF presentation

Many designers find it helpful to present their portfolios as digital slide show presentations that run on a laptop, monitor, or digital projector. You can use Adobe Acrobat 9 Pro to create such a presentation by taking advantage of Acrobat's full-screen mode. When a document is in full-screen mode, users can browse through its pages by clicking on them. When a user clicks on a page, Acrobat advances to the next page of the document. You can also add navigation buttons to a slide show.

You can set preferences so a PDF automatically opens in full-screen mode. You can also specify how page transitions occur so users can view and navigate the PDF like a slide show. By default, a page is simply replaced by a new page, but you can use page transitions to make the page dissolve or wipe into the new page.

To make a PDF automatically open in full-screen mode:

1. Start Acrobat and open a multiple-page document.

For example, you might open a PDF that combines your business card designs.

2. Choose File > Properties.

The Document Properties dialog box appears.

3. If the Initial View tab of the Document Properties dialog box is not visible, click the Initial View tab to display it (**Figure 1**).

4. Choose the Open In Full Screen Mode option.

5. Click OK.

The Document Properties dialog box closes.

6. Save the file and close Acrobat.

7. Double-click the file to open it.

The file opens in full-screen mode.

Note: A message might appear, warning you that the file is trying to open in full-screen mode. Click OK (Windows) or Yes (Mac OS) in the message box.

8. Click anywhere in the page.

The presentation advances to the next page.

To go back, you can right-click (Windows) or Control-click (Mac OS).

Observe that one page simply replaces another. In the next section, you'll modify this transition.

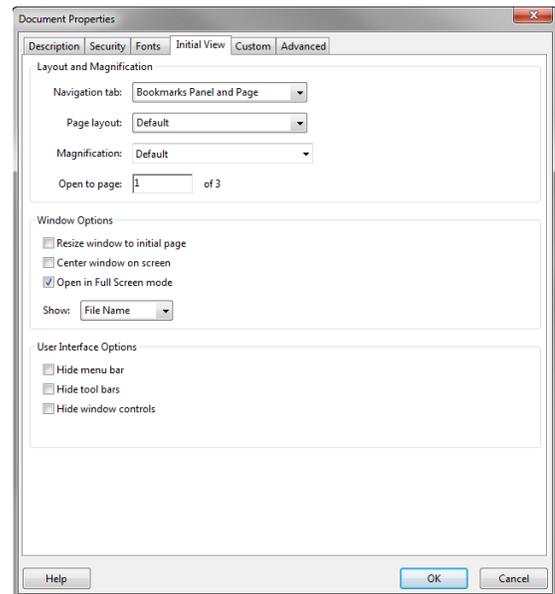


Figure 1 Document Properties dialog box

Adding navigation buttons to a presentation

Acrobat has built-in navigation buttons you can add to your presentation. These buttons are available as an option in the Full Screen area of the Preferences dialog box.

To add navigation buttons to a presentation:

1. Open a multiple-page document in Acrobat.
2. Choose Edit > Preferences (Windows) or Acrobat > Preferences (Mac OS) to display the Preferences dialog box.
3. Click the Full Screen category on the left to display the Full Screen area of the Preferences dialog box (**Figure 2**).
4. Choose the Show Navigation Bar option.
5. Click OK to close the Preferences dialog box.
6. Choose View > Full Screen Mode.

Observe that navigation buttons appear in the lower-left corner of the presentation (**Figure 3**).

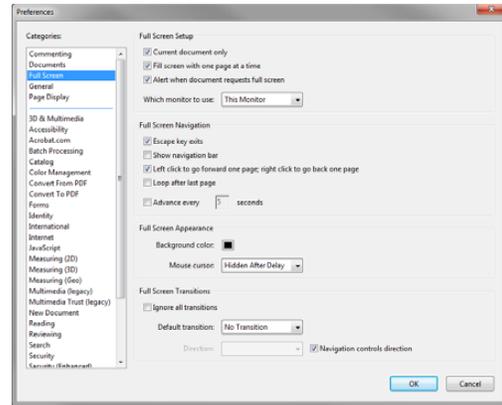


Figure 2 Full Screen area of the Preferences dialog box



Figure 3 Navigation buttons in presentation

Adding a page transition

Page transitions—fades, wipes, dissolves, and so on—can add interest to your document. As with many multimedia features, you may want to use these on a limited basis so as not to distract from the content. For example, you might choose a simple transition, such as a fade, and use the same transition throughout your presentation.

To add a page transition:

1. Open a multiple-page document in Acrobat.
2. Choose Advanced > Document Processing > Page Transitions.

The Set Transitions dialog box appears (**Figure 4**).

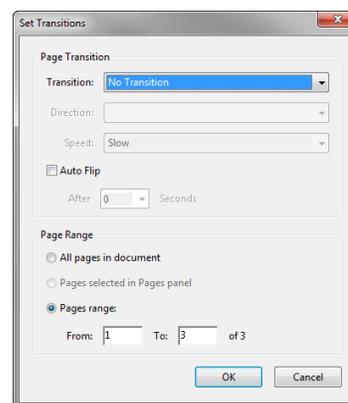


Figure 4 Set Transitions dialog box

3. Choose a transition from the Transition menu, such as Fade.
4. Select a speed for the transition from the Speed menu, such as Slow.
5. Click OK to close the Set Transitions dialog box.
6. Choose View > Full Screen Mode.
7. Click on the page and observe the transition.

Making transitions advance automatically

In some cases, you may want to set up a presentation that runs by itself. You do so through the same Set Transitions dialog box you used in the previous section.

To add an automatic transition:

1. Open a multiple-page document in Acrobat.
2. Choose Advanced > Document Processing > Page Transitions.
The Set Transitions dialog box appears (**Figure 5**).
3. Choose the Auto Flip option.
4. Select a number of seconds from the menu below Auto Flip.
5. Click OK to close the Set Transitions dialog box.
6. Choose Edit > Preferences (Windows) or Acrobat > Preferences (Mac OS) to display the Preferences dialog box.
7. Click Full Screen on the left to display the Full Screen area of the Preferences dialog box (**Figure 6**).
8. Choose the Loop After Last Page option.

This ensures that your presentation will continue after it reaches the last page.

9. Click OK to close the Preferences dialog box.
10. Choose View > Full Screen Mode.

Observe that the presentation runs on its own and loops after it reaches the last page.

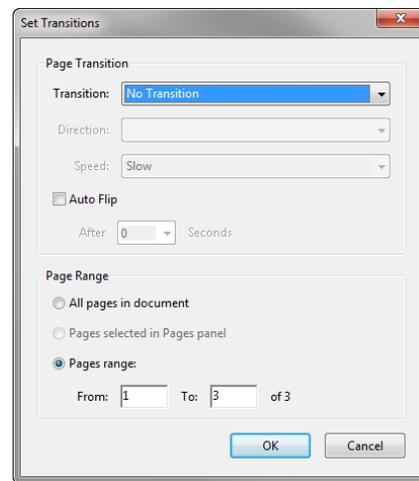


Figure 5 Set Transitions dialog box

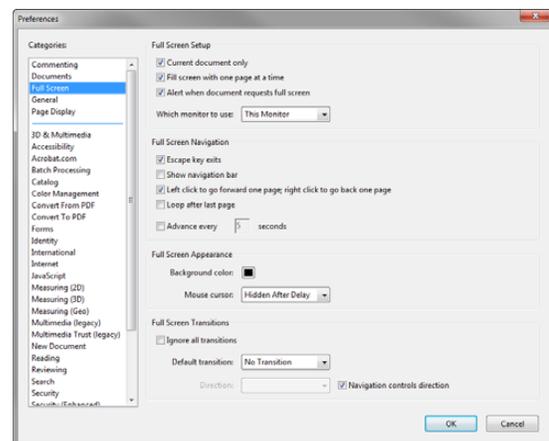


Figure 6 Full Screen area of the Preferences dialog box