

PDFBox - PDF File References

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1 File Specification

See package:[org.pdfbox.pdmodel.common.filespecification](#)

See example:[EmbeddedFiles](#)

A PDF can contain references to external files via the file system or a URL to a remote location. It is also possible to embed a binary file into a PDF document.

There are two classes that can be used when referencing a file. [PDSimpleFileSpecification](#) is a simple string reference to a file(e.g. `"/movies/BigMovie.avi"`). The simple file specification does not allow for any parameters to be set. The [PDComplexFileSpecification](#) is more feature rich and allows for advanced settings on the file reference.

It is also possible to embed a file directly into a PDF. Instead of setting the file attribute of the [PDComplexFileSpecification](#), the [EmbeddedFile](#) attribute can be used instead.

2 File Attachments

PDF documents can contain file attachments that are accessed from the Document->File Attachments menu. PDFBox allows attachments to be added to and extracted from PDF documents. Attachments are part of the named tree that is attached to the document catalog.

```

PDEmbeddedFileNameTreeNode efTree = new PDEmbeddedFileNameTreeNode();

//first create the file specification, which holds the embedded file
PDComplexFileSpecification fs = new PDComplexFileSpecification();
fs.setFile( "Test.txt" );
InputStream is = ...;
PDEmbeddedFile ef = new PDEmbeddedFile(doc, is );
//set some of the attributes of the embedded file
ef.setSubtype( "test/plain" );
ef.setSize( data.length );
ef.setCreationDate( new GregorianCalendar() );
fs.setEmbeddedFile( ef );

//now add the entry to the embedded file tree and set in the document.
Map efMap = new HashMap();
efMap.put( "My first attachment", fs );
efTree.setNames( efMap );
//attachments are stored as part of the "names" dictionary in the document catalog
PDDocumentNameDictionary names = new
PDDocumentNameDictionary( doc.getDocumentCatalog() );
names.setEmbeddedFiles( efTree );
doc.getDocumentCatalog().setNames( names );

```