



## **PL/PDF** Getting Started V4.0.0



# Reporting in your Oracle database

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# Reporting in your Oracle database

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## 1. Introduction

PL/PDF is a PL/SQL package collection that you can use to create PDF files. This guide will help you from the beginning to generate your first PL/PDF generated PDF sample file.

## 2. First steps

First, you need to install an Oracle Database on your system. The easiest way is to download the [Oracle Express Edition](#). After you finished the installation, you can download the PL/OFFX software from the following link: [PL/PDF download](#). To install the latest version of PL/OFFX please use the install guide, called `plpdf_install_v400.pdf`. You also need a PL/SQL Developer environment, or you can use the SQL Plus application and a text editor.

## 3. Creating first word document

After you finished the installation start the PL/SQL Developer or a simple text editor and let's begin:

***create or replace procedure PDF\_Example is***

The `l_pdf` variable is a requirement. This variable will contain the pdf file after the generation is finished.

***l\_pdf blob;  
begin***

When you want to create PDF files with the PL/PDF application, you need to start with the `Init` procedure. This procedure will initialize the whole application environment. It has got three optional parameters. The `p_unit`, which specifies the measurement unit. Its default value is millimeter (mm). The `p_orientation` which specifies the page orientation for the whole document. The default value is portrait. The `p_format` specifies the page size format. The default value is A4. If the default values are right for you, the only line you need is this:

***plpdf.init();***

Now the PL/PDF is initialized. In PL/PDF you can create several types of content. These contents always belong to a page. The page is a container element. The second step is, to create a new page. The `NewPage` procedure has one optional parameter which specifies the page orientation. The default usage is.

***plpdf.NewPage;***

Before you add any text to the page, you need to call the `setPrintFont` procedure. These three parameters are optional, but it's highly recommended to fill them. The `p_family` specifies the font family name. The `p_style` specifies the text style. The null value means the regular style. The `p_size` specifies the font size. The measurement unit of that is always point.

***plpdf.SetPrintFont(  
p\_family => 'Arial',  
p\_style => null,  
p\_size => 12  
);***

In PL/PDF you have some ways to write text into the document. If you have a page and set the font properties then you can print text with the `PrintoutText` procedure. The `p_x`



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and p\_y parameters specify the position from the top left corner of the page. The p\_txt contains the text data.

```
plpdf.PrintoutText(  
  p_x => 20,  
  p_y => 30,  
  p_txt => 'InitDefault example'  
);
```

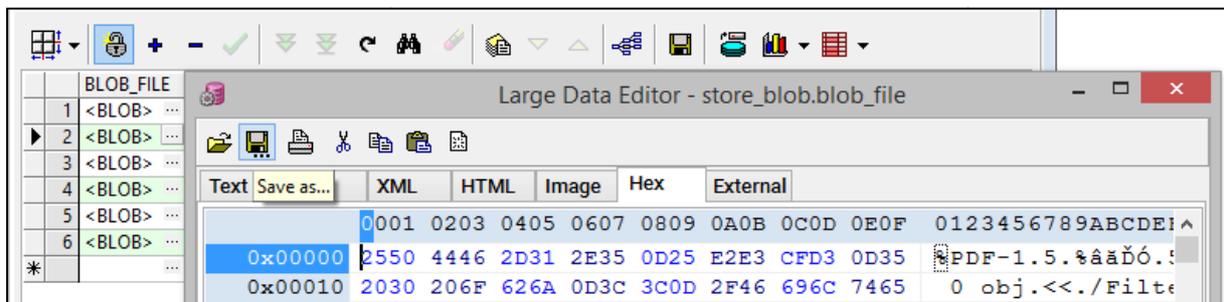
The sample document is finished. Now, you can generate the pdf file into a simple blob variable. The SendDoc procedure will help you with that. It has only one parameter which specifies the target blob variable for the result file.

```
plpdf.SendDoc(  
  p_blob => l_pdf  
);
```

**This is an optional step.** After the file generated, you need to store it. The PL/PDF installkit provides you a sample store table, called STORE\_BLOB. The stored blob is a fully compatible docx file.

```
insert into store_blob(blob_file,created_date,filename)  
values (l_pdf,sysdate,'Example.pdf');  
commit;
```

If you use PL/SQL Developer, you can download the file. When you save it to a local file system use the qualified file name, for example: AddText.docx.



The generated example file in Acrobat Reader:

