

[Contents](#)

Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME is a specific version of Adobe Acrobat, with improved support for Middle East languages (Arabic, Hebrew). The specific features are described in the following pages, as well as the limitations of the current version.

Note: To be fully usable, PDF files must be created with Adobe Acrobat Distiller 4.0 or later. (PDF version 1.3 or later). When generating a PDF containing Middle Eastern characters, it is highly recommended to embed fonts.

Features adapted for the Middle East Languages

Contents

[Copy/Paste](#)[Find](#)[TouchUp Text Tool](#)[Comments \(FreeText\)](#)[PDF Forms](#)[Javascrpts](#)[Web Capture](#)[Known Limitations](#)

Copy/Paste

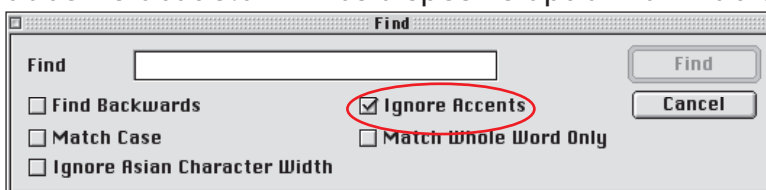
With Acrobat 5.0 ME you can re-use Arabic and Hebrew texts from a PDF file, as you do with English texts: you select the desired text, copy it, switch to a text-capable application and paste. The Arabic/Hebrew text is transferred to the application as text, and will be displayed correctly if the application is able to handle correctly the Arabic or Hebrew script.

When you select some text accross several lines, Acrobat 5.0 ME guesses wether the selected text is Arabic, Hebrew or Roman and extends the selection to the end of the lines (on the left or on the right) automatically. The selected text also keeps the fonts, size and style, which are applied when the text is pasted in the new document.

When you paste text copied from a PDF, the ordering of word could have been wrongly calculated because the direction of the paragraph has been incorrectly decided by Acrobat. In that case you have to select the text again, press "Ctrl+Alt+C" (or Command+Option+C on Mac) instead of Ctrl+C and paste again.

Find

The find command of Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME has a specific option for Arabic and Hebrew: "Ignore accents". This feature is also useful for other languages, such as French.



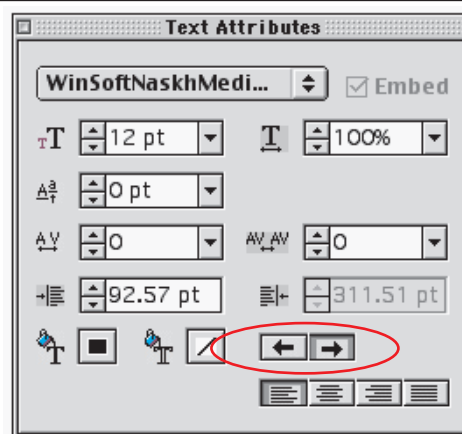
When checked (default option), it allows you to find a string of text wether it contains some accents (diacritics, vowels) or not.

If the option is unchecked, you must type exactly the string you are looking for, including accents.

The find command also ignores the kashidas which might be included in the text of the PDF file. If you would like to find a word including a manual kashida in a specific place, you must type the kashida character in the word you want to find.

TouchUp

Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME allows you to do minnor text corrections using TouchUp Text tool. There is a specific option which allows you to define the main line direction so as to act on the direction where the text will flow when adding or removing charcters.



FreeText

With Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME you can type Arabic or Hebrew texts in a PDF FreeText comment exactly as you would do in English.

Please refer to "Adding Comments" in Acrobat Help (page 128) for more information. With Acrobat 5.0 you can use fonts from the core set of fonts provided with Acrobat, as in Acrobat 4.0, or any other font which has been installed in your system.

The core fonts appear at the top of the font list in the Properties dialogue which lets you choose the fonts you want to use in the FreeText Comment. The benefit of choosing a font in the core fonts list is to make sure that your comment will always look the same, when you send the PDF document to anyone else, on any other machine.

This is of particular importance with non-Roman languages which use different character sets and fonts.

Acrobat 5.0 ME is provided with a set of Arabic fonts and a set of Hebrew fonts, which are always installed with the application and are consistent on both platforms: Macintosh and Windows.

In order to type Arabic text into a FreeText zone, choose the "Arabic" script and select one of the following fonts:

- WinSoft Naskh-Medium
- WinSoft Naskh-Bold
- WinSoft Thuluth-Light
- WinSoft Thuluth-Bold.

In order to type Hebrew text into a FreeText zone, choose the "Hebrew" script and select one of the following fonts:

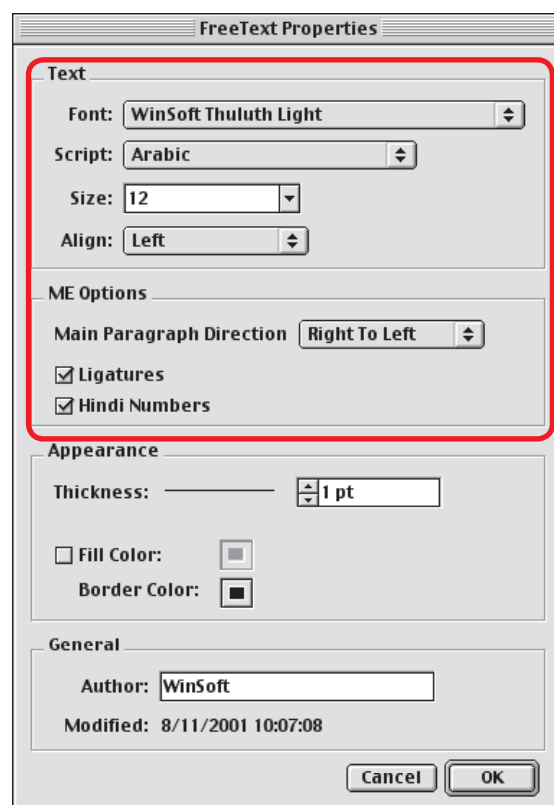
- WinSoft Serif-Medium
- WinSoft Serif-Bold
- WinSoft Sans Serif-Medium

You can choose "All Scripts" if you want your "FreeText" zone to support multiple languages, depending on which fonts and keyboards you have installed in your system.

When "All Scripts" is selected, Acrobat will embed all the glyphs of the selected font, which may greatly increase the size of the file, if the font contains many scripts, as it is the case with some TrueType fonts on Windows, or with some new OpenType fonts.

The FreeText Properties dialogue has additional options for the ME languages:

- Arabic or Hindi Digits
- Ligatures ON/OFF
- Main Paragraph Direction



Contents

Arabic or Hindi Digits.

This option lets you choose how the numbers are displayed: the number 12345 will be displayed as 12345 if you have chosen "Arabic Digits" and as ١٢٣٤٥ if you have chosen "Hindi Digits". Of course this applies only if the font you are using contains both kinds of digits.

Ligatures ON/OFF.

This option lets you control whether you want ligatures to be used or not, when the font you are using is able to display such ligatures.

With Ligatures OFF: محت With Ligatures ON: محت

Main Paragraph Direction.

This option controls the direction of the text written in the FreeText comment or in the Forms field. It is important to set correctly this option, specially when you write multilingual texts which mix right-to-left (Arabic or Hebrew) and left-to-right (Roman) words. The succession of words in the line can be affected by a wrong setting.

When the text is mostly Arabic or Hebrew, with some Roman (English, French, etc) inside, the Main Direction should be Right-to-Left.

When the text is mostly Roman (English, French, etc) with some Arabic or Hebrew inside, the Main Direction should be Left-to-Right.

PDF Forms

The Form Tool is used to create Form Fields allowing Acrobat user to interact with. Form fields are created by defining the area of the field on the PDF page, providing a name for the field, and specifying the type of the field. For each field type (button, text box, check box, and so on), you can set a variety of options through the Field Properties dialog box that allow you to customize the field for your form. For more information, see "PDF forms" in the Acrobat Help (page 145).

Important Note: Creating or editing Middle-Eastern (*Arabic, Hebrew*) Forms requires Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME or Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.0 ME.

You can control the behavior of the text attached to some kinds of buttons, via the Appearance and the Options Tabs of the Field Properties dialog.

In the *Appearance Tab*, you can select the Script and the Font to be used in the Field.

In order to type Arabic or Hebrew text into a Form field, choose the "Arabic" script or the "Hebrew" script, and select one of the fonts installed in your System which contains Arabic or Hebrew characters:

The screenshot shows the 'Field Properties' dialog box with the 'Appearance' tab selected. The 'Name' field is empty, and the 'Type' is set to 'Text'. The 'Short Description' field is also empty. The 'Border' section has 'Border Color' and 'Background Color' set to gray, 'Width' set to 'Thin', and 'Style' set to 'Solid'. The 'Text' section has 'Text Color' set to black, 'Script' set to 'Arabic', 'Font' set to 'WinSoft Naskh Bold', and 'Size' set to 'Auto'. The 'Common Properties' section has 'Read Only' and 'Required' unchecked, 'Form Field Is:' set to 'Visible', and 'Orientation' set to '0 Degrees'. The 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons are at the bottom right.

Contents

Acrobat 5.0 ME provides a minimal set of Arabic and Hebrew fonts to be used in the Forms fields and FreeText comments.

Those fonts are installed with Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME so that they are always available, they can be embedded with the PDF files, and they have been designed to look and print exactly the same on the Macintosh and Windows platforms. This is important when you want your PDF files to be exchanged with other platforms while retaining their exact appearance.

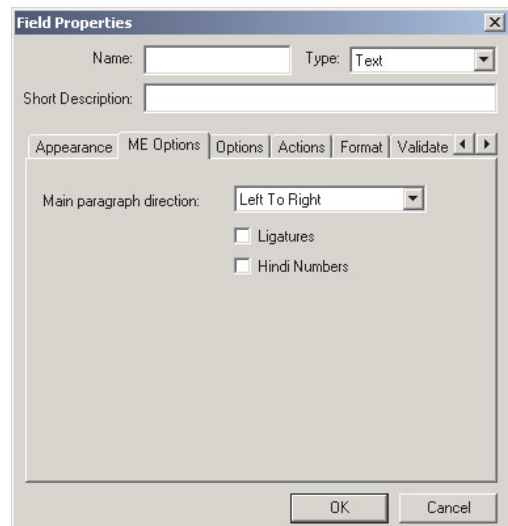
The fonts provided with Acrobat 5.0 ME are:

- *WinSoft Naskh-Medium, WinSoft Naskh-Bold, WinSoft Thuluth-Light and WinSoft Thuluth-Bold* for Arabic, and
- *WinSoft Serif-Medium, WinSoft Serif-Bold and WinSoft Sans Serif-Medium* for Hebrew.

You can choose “All Scripts” if you want a “Form Field” to support multiple languages. Like in the FreeText comments, the whole glyph set of the font will be embedded in the PDF file, thus making its size bigger.

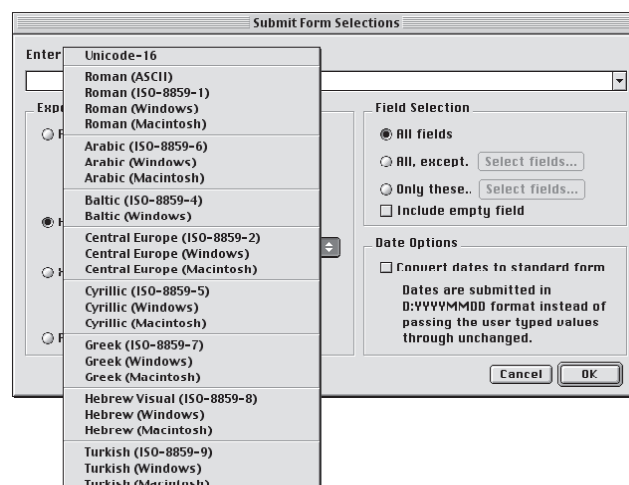
In the *ME Options* Tab, you can control the behavior of the text attached to some kinds of fields. The specific ME options available are:

- Main Paragraph Direction, which controls the flow of text from right-to-left or left-to-right,
- Arabic or Hindi digits, which controls how Arabic numbers are displayed (12345 or ١٢٣٤٥),
- Ligatures ON/OFF, which controls whether you want to use the ligature glyphs, like *محت* or the individual ones: *محت*.



Submit forms

When Submitting a form, you can choose various options: one is to Export data in HTML format. Acrobat 5.0 ME includes a large set of output settings, in order to fulfill most users' needs.



Javascrpts

When Specifying a method to Submit your PDF form, you can choose to send it to an URL in HTML format. Adobe Acrobat ME allows you to specify the Output Conversion Encoding to various non-Roman encodings.

The most common uses for JavaScript in Acrobat forms are formatting data, calculating data, validating data, and assigning actions.

For more information on JavaScripts, see “Using custom JavaScripts in forms,” or choose Help -> Acrobat JavaScript Guide to display the Acrobat Forms JavaScript Object Specification.

Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME JavaScript has been adapted to allow you to change the Middle-Eastern text font within javascripts using **textFont** property .

textFont

Type: String Fields: Text, Combo, List & Button Access: R/ W.

The **textFont** property determines the font that is used when laying out text in a text field, combo box, list box or button. Valid Middle-Eastern fonts are defined as properties of the “font” object as follows:

Font	Keyword
WinSoft Naskh-Medium	font.WNMe
WinSoft Naskh-Bold	font.WNBo
WinSoft Thuluth-Light	font.WTLi
WinSoft Thuluth-Bold	font.WTBo
WinSoft Serif-Medium	font.WSMo
WinSoft Serif-Bold	font.WSBo
WinSoft Sans Serif-Medium	font.WSSM

Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME JavaScript has a new property matching the ability of selecting a script : **fontSubset**

fontSubset

Type: String Fields: Text, Combo, List & Button Access: R/ W.

The **fontSubset** property determines the script that is used when laying out text in a text field, combo box, list box or button. Valid ME scripts are defined as properties of the “subset” object as follows:

Script	Keyword
Roman	subset.Roman
Arabic	subset.Arabic
Hebrew	subset.Hebrew
All Scripts	subset.All

Important note:

When using **Get** methods, you must consider that Acrobat is storing information in Unicode, a transcodification is operated using **FontSubset** to convert the information into one byte

Contents

When using **Set** method, you must consider that users are entering information coded in one byte, as Acrobat is storing information in Unicode, transcoding is operated using **FontSubset**

If **FontSubset** is not defined or set to All, system settings will be used for transcoding purpose.

Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME JavaScript has a new property matching the ability of selecting an HTML output encoding when using object method **SubmitForm: htmlEnc**

Parameters: cURL, **[htmlEnc]**, [bFDF], [bEmpty], [aFields], [bGet], [bAnnotations], [bXML], [bIncrChanges], [bPDF], [bCanonical], [bExclNonUserAnnots], [bExclFKey], [cPassword]

Returns: Nothing

The optional **htmlEnc** parameter is an integer that indicates which output encoding is used to submit the HTML. If not set or set to 0, the form fields are encoded as Unicode.

Output Encoding	Value
Unicode 16	0
Arabic ISO-88596	88596
Arabic Windows	1256
Arabic Macintosh	10004
Arabic DOS	864
Arabic ASMO	708
Arabic ASMO Transp	720
Hebrew ISO-88598 (Visual)	88598
Hebrew Windows	1255
Hebrew Macintosh	10005

Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME JavaScript has a new property matching the ME Formatting Options : **MEOptions**

MEOptions

Type: String Fields: Text, Combo, List & Button Access: R/ W.

The **MEOptions** property determines the ME formatting option that is used when laying out text in a text field, combo box, list box or button. Valid ME options are defined as properties of the object as follows:

MEOptions	Bitfield
Right to left	0
Ligatures ON	1
Hindi Numbers	2

MEOptions	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Right to left	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Ligatures ON	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Hindi Numbers	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

Converting Web Pages to PDF

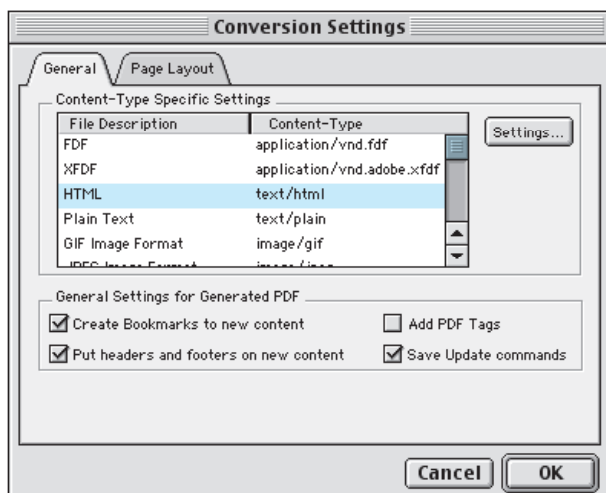
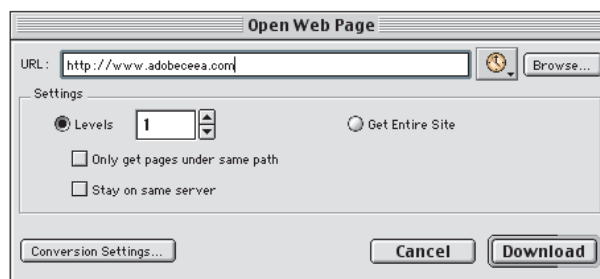
You can download Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) pages from the World Wide Web or from an intranet with Acrobat and convert them into PDF documents. You provide the address, or Uniform Resource Locator (URL), of the Web pages, and Acrobat converts and opens the pages in one step.

This feature has been enhanced to support Middle-Eastern languages HTML encodings.

By default Web Capture is checking which encoding is specified in the HTML page you are downloading and convert the page to PDF accordingly.

With Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME you can either define a default encoding when for some reason no encoding was defined in the HTML page, or force a page to be converted to a specific HTML encoding.

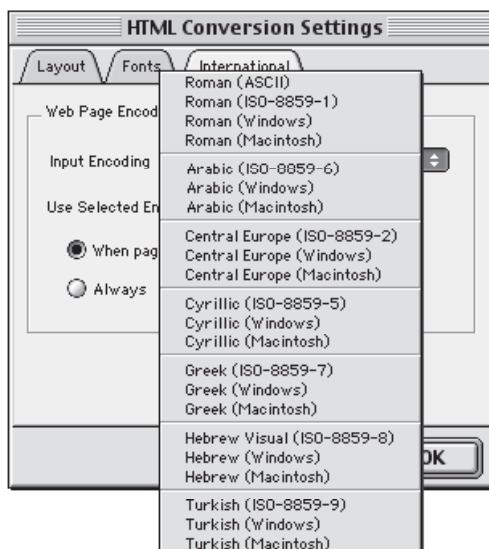
To access those options, click the "Conversion Settings" button, in the dialog which is opened when you use the "Open Web Page" or "Append Web Page" commands in the "Tools>WebCapture" menu.



Then in the "Conversion settings" dialogue, select HTML and press "Settings".

In the "International" Tab, you can choose the appropriate "Input Encoding" and specify if you want this encoding to be used either when the HTML page does not specify any encoding, or always be used whatever encoding the page is using.

In the "Fonts" Tab, you can choose the fonts you want to be used for rendering the text, and specify if you want the fonts to be embedded in the PDF file, so that the PDF can be seen correctly when it is opened on another machine, which might not have the same fonts installed. For that reason, this option is recommended. In order to save the settings you must download a Web page.



Known Limitations

Data lost when using Submit HTML.

Let's imagine that a field contains two Hebrew words separated with a space. The first word is, in unicode, 0x0530-0x531, the second 0x0532-0x0533. When the submission is in Unicode (it was ALWAYS the case in Acrobat 4.05 ME), data are formatted as follow: `<%fe%ff%05%30%05%31%00%20%05%32%05%33>`.

The problem comes from the space "%00%20" when the data are processed as a string by Microsoft Visual Basic (.asp file). VB transforms the binary into a string of characters...and the %00 becomes a "end of string". Datas after it are lost. The same behavior will happen with Roman characters. The solution is to process these data as binary and not as strings inside ".asp" file.

Below, you will find an example of ".asp" file that just reply to the client

```
<HTML>
<HEAD>
<TITLE></TITLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY>
<%
```

```
Dim vntPostedData, lngCount
```

```
lngCount = Request.TotalBytes
vntPostedData = Request.BinaryRead(lngCount)
```

```
For l=1 To lngCount
    Response.Write Chr(AscB(MidB(vntPostedData,l,1)))
Next
Response.Write "<BR>"
%>
<P>&nbsp;</P>
</BODY>
</HTML>
```

Microsoft Office 97.

If you are using Office 97, make sure it is Office 97 OSR2 before installing Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME. Otherwise conversion to PDF directly from Office application will not work.

Microsoft Windows 95.

Adobe Acrobat 5.0 ME requires Windows 95 OSR2. Neither Arabic nor Hebrew version of Windows 95 were released in OSR2, therefore Acrobat 5.0 ME is not compatible with Windows 95.

Using TouchUp after Web Capture.

If you want to use TouchUp tool on a PDF you just captured from the Web, you need first to save the PDF. Otherwise, edition with Touchup may not behave properly.