

Compare PDF – Introduction

What is Compare PDF?

Compare PDF is a Windows product designed to help people comparing electronic documents.

Document comparison is necessary when people need to learn what changes were made in file's text and if the changes are correct. Word-by-word comparison is up to the task.

The basic and obvious ability to compare files word by word was developed for files that have a common ancestor. It is useful in a case you have two versions of the same document. Use word-by-word comparison to find out the number of changes, analyze if made changes are correct.

The significant new feature for consumers appeared in Compare PDF 2.0, comparison by keywords, which was developed to help people to compare non-related documents. You could never notice the difference unless using comparison by keywords.

You can learn what changes were made in the common context of the document. For instance, you can learn what is the key difference between documents, or what is the focus of both compared files. Comparison by keywords is helpful in this case.

For instance, you can have two absolutely non-related documents; they can be quickly viewed and analyzed by keywords. Compare PDF aim to help to find out if documents are similar and what is the difference between them. Looking at mostly used keywords in both files, you can learn what are two documents about and what is the focus of particular document.

Compare PDF is not a typical file comparison tool, in the sense that it can be used for various types of comparisons - by characters, by words and by keywords. The main difference is that you always can find out in what way files are similar and different.

The folder comparison function is included in the Compare PDF. It finds differences for all files stored in compared folders. In fact, Compare PDF scans folders and subfolders for files with the same name and compare them. Also, Compare PDF can create a folder comparison report with all found modifications and differences.

Some differences are too random to be analyzed in Compare PDF "on the fly" without detailed analysis. In this case you can create a comparative report, file with detailed information on compared files. The report can be stored on a hard disk and e-mailed to others.

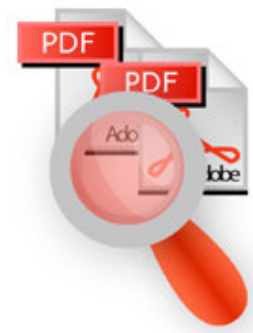
Compare PDF offers functions for various types of comparative analysis, such as finding modifications, checking for changes correctness, and learning what is document's focus. A 30-day trial version of Compare PDF is available for download at <http://www.compare-pdf.com> and Compare PDF online can be found at <http://compare-pdf.com/online.htm>.

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Compare two PDFs

File Comparison feature of Compare PDF lets compare text files: PDF and plain text.

This is a step-by-step guide on how to compare two files with Compare PDF. For more information about file comparison read about file comparison feature.

1

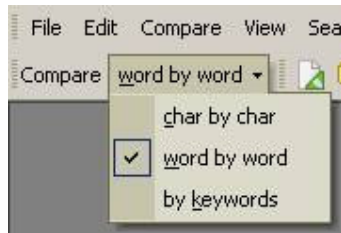


Run Compare PDF by double clicking on it's icon.

You can also select Compare PDF in Start -> Programs menu.

Start comparison by running Compare PDF

2



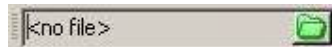
Click new comparison button: 

Another way is to select "New File Comparison" command in "File" menu.



Then select appropriate comparison method in "Compare" menu. Compare PDF support following comparison methods: char by char, word by word and by keywords. [Read more...](#)

Click "New Comparison" button

3




Specify files to compare on both - left and right panel.

You should click Open button  on the left side and select necessary file to compare (perhaps older version). And then click Open button  on the right panel and select file to compare with (perhaps newer version).

Specify files to compare

4

Once you've selected both files, Compare PDF will compare files.

You can also start comparison by clicking Compare Button 

Compare files now

5



Now you can generate comparative report.

Select "Standard report" option in Reports menu.

Compare PDF. Report feature. [Read more...](#)

Generate comparative report



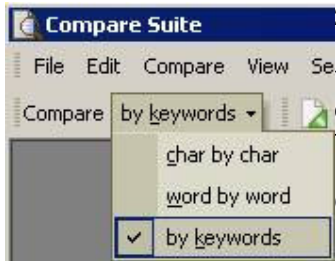
Compare "By Keywords"

This is a step-by-step guide on how to compare two files by keywords with Compare PDF. For more information about by keywords file comparison read about file comparison feature. [Read more...](#)

1) Run Compare PDF



Run by double clicking on it's icon on desktop.
Or select Compare PDF in Start menu





2) Select "by keywords" comparison method

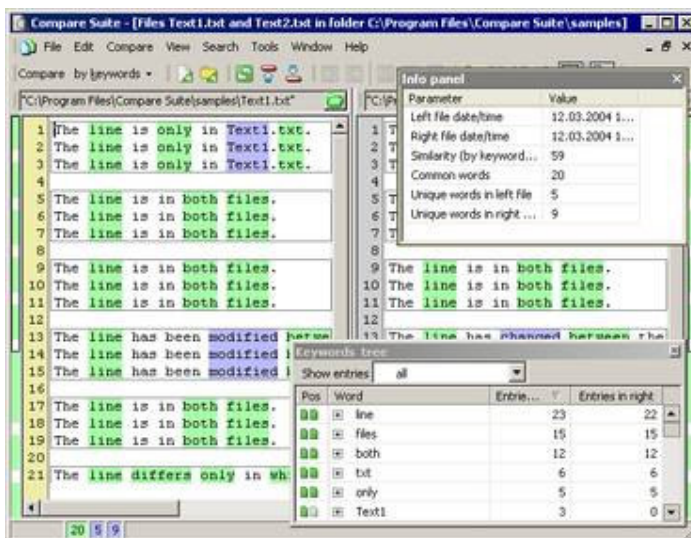
You can change the comparison method when you already selected files to compare. You can compare two files by keywords first, and then compare them word by word.

Comparison types and methods. [Read more...](#)

3) Compare two files

Click "Compare two new files" button  to start comparison.

Click  button to select files to compare.



4) Analyzing the results of comparison

Compare PDF compares two files and highlights some words. It highlights with green "common" words and with "blue" unique words. "Common" means that word appear in left and in right text. "Unique" means that keyword appear only in left or in right text.

Info Panel displays some useful information about compared documents. The similarity (by keywords) value shows if documents are similar by the number of common keywords. Info panel: [read more...](#)

Keywords tree is the most powerful tool when you do comparison by keywords. You can click "+" and see how do this keyword appears in

the text, you can filter keywords by the entries number, select keywords that appears only in left or right text. Keywords tree: [read more...](#)



Left file

```
1 The line is only in Text1.txt.
2 The line is only in Text1.txt.
3 The line is only in Text1.txt.
4
5 The line is in both files.
6 The line is in both files.
7 The line is in both files.
8
9 The line is in both files.
10 The line is in both files.
11 The line is in both files.
12
13 The line has been modified between the files.
14 The line has been modified between the files.
15 The line has been modified between the files.
16
17 The line is in both files.
18 The line is in both files.
19 The line is in both files.
20
21 The line differs only in whitespace. Whether
22 differences are highlighted depends on how the application
23 is configured.
24 Space at start of line in Test2.txt.
25 Tab at start of line in Test2.txt.
26 Space and tabs within the line in Test2.txt.
```

5) Comparative report

You can generate comparative report for just compared files. Select "Standard report" option in File -> Reports menu.

The report contains tables of common and unique keywords, texts of files with highlighted keywords and some common information from Info Panel.



Compare folders with PDFs

This is a step-by-step guide on how to compare two folders with Compare PDF. For more information about folder comparison read about folder comparison feature. [Read more...](#)

1




Run Compare PDF by double clicking on it's icon.

You can also select Compare PDF in Start -> Programs menu.


Start comparison by running Compare PDF



2

Click new folder comparison button: . Another way is to select "New folder comparison" command in "File" menu.

Click "New Comparison" button

3


 Specify folders to compare on both - left and right panel.

You should click Open button  on the left side and select necessary folder to compare (perhaps older version). And then click Open button  on the right panel and select folder to compare with (perhaps newer version).

Specify folders to compare

4

Once you've selected both folders, Compare PDF will compare folders.

You can also start comparison by clicking Compare Button 

Compare files now

5



Now you can generate comparative report.

Select necessary option in Reports menu. Please, note: the advanced report is the most informative as it contains details of changes of all files in folders.

Compare PDF. Report feature. [Read more...](#)

Generate comparative report



Comparative Report

This is a step-by-step guide on how to generate comparative report with Compare PDF. For more information about report read about reporting feature. [Read more...](#)

1



Run Compare PDF by double clicking on its icon.

You can also select Compare PDF in Start -> Programs menu.

Start comparison by running Compare PDF

2

Run File or Folder comparison.
Compare file step-by-step. [Read more...](#)
Compare folder step-by-step. [Read more...](#)

Run file or folder comparison

3



Select appropriate report type in Reports menu.

For file comparison only Standard report is available. Read more about available reports for file comparison. [Read more...](#)

For folder comparison you can choose Standard, Full or Advanced report. The difference between reports is a short or full changes information. [Read more...](#)

Select reporting option

4

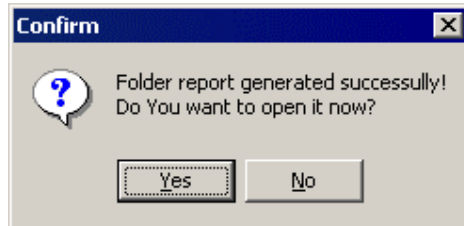
Compare PDF will need to know where to put .html report files. Specify the destination folder and file name.

Please, note that the report is .html file so you can:

- Edit it with any editor (for example MS Word) and put your comments;
- Attach to e-mail and let your co-worker know about important changes;

Specify destination path

5



Compare PDF will ask for confirmation, if you want to open generated report.

Click "Yes" button and Compare PDF will open .html file with your default browser.

Open comparative report



Obtain support

If you have a question about Compare PDF then you are in a right place.

First we'd like recommend to browse AKS knowledge base, represented on Compare PDF web site. Please, visit Compare PDF and try to find the answer to your question in [Support](http://www.compare-pdf.com/support.htm) (http://www.compare-pdf.com/support.htm) and [Solutions](http://www.compare-pdf.com/solutions.htm) (http://www.compare-pdf.com/solutions.htm) section.

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How to enter registration code

You should copy and paste registration code into registration box of Compare PDF. Run the program, and then go to the Help menu. Select "Enter registration code..." command. Copy and paste registration code and click OK button.

