

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 and extracted to 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 );
```