

*Support Engineers' PDF* is a two-day, hands-on, technical introduction to the PDF file format. It discusses the basics of the structure and contents of a PDF file, emphasizing those parts of the PDF specification most important to printed documents. The course is a good, quick introduction to PDF structure for people who need to examine and diagnose troublesome PDF files.

Note that this is a class in the PDF file structure, not the use of Adobe Acrobat. The course does examine some commercial tools that are useful in the diagnosis of PDF problems.

## Objective

Students will leave class knowing how to find their way around a PDF file and understand how to diagnose the source of problems in PDF files.

## Prerequisites

A good technical background; experience with a programming language will be helpful. PostScript experience (the PostScript Foundations course or its equivalent) will be very useful, since PostScript and PDF share an imaging model and have many concepts in common.

## Audience

Support engineers who need to examine and diagnose PDF problems. The course assumes you are supporting or otherwise working with a printing device that consumes PDF files.

## Sign up now!

Acumen Training teaches regularly-scheduled classes in San Juan Capistrano, California, near the Santa Ana/Orange County airport.

If your organization has four or more people who need to take PostScript Foundations, it will be cheaper to arrange a class on your site. See details on the Acumen Training website.

For class schedules and pricing, on-site class information, or to register for a class, please contact John Deubert at Acumen Training any of the following ways:

- Email: [john@acumentraining.com](mailto:john@acumentraining.com)
- Web: [www.acumentraining.com](http://www.acumentraining.com)
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## Course Outline

### Day 1

- PDF Data Types
- PDF Objects
- PDF File format
- The Page Tree
- Content Streams
- Simple Drawing
- Introduction to Color
- Drawing Text
- Coordinate Transforms
- Compression and Transmission Filters

### Day 2

- Color and Color Spaces
- Image XObjects
- Form XObjects
- Transparency
- PDF Font Structure
- Examination of Common PDF Files
- PDF/X and PDF/A
- PDF Troubleshooting Tools