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"Can I create a URL link to a specific page within a PDF document on the Web?"
March 29, 1999

This is definitely one of the most frequently asked questions regarding PDF. The answer is YES, you can! I was able to accomplish this two different ways.

1. Using the **PDFMARK.PDF** information (see Page 2 of this document).
   This will allow you to specify as many different pages as you want with the exact names you want for the named destinations.

2. Using the **namedest.ps** file that came on the CD with the book "*Web Publishing with Acrobat/PDF*" by Thomas Merz (see Page 3 of this document).
   This will automatically created a named destination for EVERY page of a PDF file. This book can be found on the PDF Bookshelf.

3. There is also a PDF Tool called NameIt by Merlin Open Systems that is an Acrobat Exchange plug-in. It makes creating named destinations in PDF files as easy as creating links. It is a Windows only plug-in, and since I work on a Mac I was unable to use it.

4. Dionis is currently working on an Acrobat plug-in called Ari's Link Tool. This will allow you to set a named destination to the page and view currently being displayed in Acrobat.

Just a reminder:
   named destinations only work when the PDF file is viewed inside a browser
   using the PDF Plug-in (Netscape, Internet Explorer, etc.)

PDFMARK.PDF

You need to be somewhat familiar with HTML, PostScript, and the pdfmark operator. You can read up on named destinations in the PDFMARK.PDF (inside the "Acrobat:Help" folder).

1. Create a PostScript file of your document.
2. Open the PostScript file in an application that can save it as a text-only format.
3. Find the "EndSetup" line.
4. Put your cursor at the end of that line and press Enter (Win) or
   Return (Mac) a few times.
5. Name your destination(s) as follows: (also shown on page 15 of PDFMARK.PDF)

   [/Dest /***name*** /Page ***pagenumber*** /View ***view*** /DEST pdfmark

6. For ***name***, pick a name for the destination. Identical to an HTML anchor.
   (cannot use special characters such as "space" or "#").
7. For ***pagenumber***, use the page number in the PDF you want
   the destination to be.
8. For ***view***, enter the view you want to use (on page 29 of PDFMARK.PDF).
   (This line can be skipped.)
9. Distill[1] the PostScript file.

Your final code may look like this:

   [/Dest /MyPageMarker /Page 31 /DEST pdfmark

The link in the HTML document to this page in the PDF would look like this:

http://www.pdfzone.com/urllinktopdfpage.pdf#MyPageMarker

You can have as many named destinations in a PDF file as you want

I did have a few problems that were easily solved.

1 I could not get this to work at first, so I opened the "pdfmrkEx.ps" file
   (found in the "Acrobat: Xtras" folder) with BBEdit and saved the file as a
   "generic text file" instead of a "simple text file", then it worked.

2 Do NOT change the name of the PDF file after distilling. I found that when I changed
   the name of the PDF file, the named destinations no longer worked.

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namedest.ps

This was so easy to use. All I had to do was drop the **namedest.ps**[1] file into the Distiller Startup folder (found in "Acrobat: Startup"). What this file does is make EVERY page have a named destination. They are named as "Page1", "Page2", etc.

1. Drop the file "namedest.ps" into the "Acrobat: Startup" folder.

2. Print your document to PostScript. (no editing is required!)

3. Distill the PostScript file.

4. Set up your URL links in the HTML documents to what every page you want by following the named sequence given to each page. Page 1 of the PDF has a named destination of "Page1", page 37 of the PDF file has a named destination of "Page37" Just set up your links as such:

> http://www.yoururl.com/mydocument.pdf#Page37

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[1] This file is found on the CD that comes with the book "Web Publishing with Acrobat/PDF" by Thomas Merz