

At work, I needed a way to compare PDFs. I stumbled across the [\[url="http://www.foolabs.com/xpdf/download.html"\]](http://www.foolabs.com/xpdf/download.html) XPDF [/url] toolset sometime ago. What I wanted was a utility that I could pass two PDFs into and have them rendered as text for a text-based comparison in WinMerge.

Now, WinMerge does have a plugin that provides PDF comparison, but I am not thrilled with what it does to the layout. At least pdftotext.exe maintains an assemblance of the layout (provided you use the appropriate args).

That said, here is my script that I'm using. I will either consume two PDF files passed in via the command line specified in the Config.ini. The Config.ini also holds the commandlines for the PDF Conversion tool (pdftotext.exe in my case) and the Comparison tool (WinMerge in my case). Regular expressions provide a level of masking to prevent false alarms.