

NetLibrary: Mac OS X PDF plugins and configuration

The PDF files used by NetLibrary are compatible with most supported web browsers using the **Schubert|it PDF Browser Plugin**, a third-party plugin that supports in-browser viewing of PDF files.

Adobe Reader 7 also works to view this NetLibrary content in most browsers, but will usually display the content in its own window rather than in the browser window; *its use is discouraged*. Adobe Reader 7 worked best for Safari in early 2005 but Safari now appears not to work; this is a problem in the CSD lab as well as reported by many NetLibrary members. Version 10.2.2 of Mac OS X is required to use Adobe Reader 7.

Adobe Reader 6 cannot support NetLibrary's PDF content due to limitations of that version of Reader and an incompatibility with Mac OS X. This is beyond OCLC NetLibrary's control.

For OS 9, it is reported that Adobe has plugins available that work, but this is untested by CSD.

Schubert|it PDF Browser Plugin

Mozilla, Firefox, Camino, Opera, Netscape, and Internet Explorer seem to work best with the Schubert|it PDF plugin. This is available at <http://www.schubert-it.com/pluginpdf/> and is simple to install. Install it by opening the .dmg file you download, and then copy PDF Browser Plugin.plugin to the Library/Internet Plug-Ins folder of the hard drive. Once installed with that method, it should just work with Mozilla, Firefox, Camino, Opera, and Netscape without additional configuration. The plugin does not seem to work with Safari; Internet Explorer needs additional configuration; see below. If problems are encountered in Firefox, see the configuration section for that browser, below.

Safari

Safari used to work well with Adobe Reader 7 earlier this spring. After downloading and installing the application from Adobe's website it would display PDF files in the browser out of the box. Sometime in May our members began reporting that they were unable to view NetLibrary PDF files with Safari, but could view other PDF files. Our lab Mac now exhibits the same behavior, which has allowed us to study the problem; no solution has been found. Many times the content will briefly flash on the screen and then it will disappear; other times you just see a blank page and no flash of the cover photo or text.

Internet Explorer configuration details

Internet Explorer works with the Schubert|it plugin from <http://www.schubert-it.com/pluginpdf/> but extra configuration is necessary. It is also possible to configure Internet Explorer to use Adobe Acrobat Reader 7, but the PDF will likely display in a separate window.

To configure IE to use the Schubert|it plugin, click on Explorer and Preferences.

from: <http://www.netlibrary.com>

What should Firefox do with this file?

- Open with (Choose...)
- Save to Disk
- Do this automatically for files like this from now on.
- (Cancel) (OK)

First, make sure the Schubert|it plugin or Adobe Acrobat Reader 7 or above is installed. If so, click the Choose button and navigate either to the Library/Internet Plug-Ins folder and choose PDF Browser Plugin.plugin or navigate to the Applications folder in the hard drive, then navigate into the Adobe folder and select the Adobe application. Click OK. If you are using the Shubert|it plugin it will open in the same browser window in Firefox but if you are using Adobe Reader 7 the document will open in its own window.
