

Set PDF Daisy as your default PDF app

PDF Daisy can't flip your default app on its own — Windows 10/11 requires you to confirm the change in Settings yourself. The **Set as default...** button in PDF Daisy's Preferences takes you to the right page; this guide walks you through the rest.

What just happened

When you clicked **Set as default...**, PDF Daisy:

1. **Registered itself** as a `.pdf` handler in your Windows user profile (no admin needed).
2. **Opened Windows Settings** to PDF Daisy's per-app default-apps page.

You're now looking at a page titled **"PDF Daisy"** with a list of file types — including `.pdf`.

What to do next

1. **Click on the `.pdf` row.** A dialog opens titled **"Select a default app for .pdf files"**.
2. **Find PDF Daisy in the list.** It's under **Suggested apps** with the orange daisy icon. If you don't see it, scroll down or use **More options** at the bottom.
3. **Click PDF Daisy.**
4. **Click the "Set default" button** at the bottom of the dialog.

5. The dialog closes. PDF Daisy is now your default PDF viewer — double-clicking a `.pdf` in File Explorer will open it here.

Returning to PDF Daisy

When you switch back (Alt+Tab or click the taskbar icon), the Preferences panel refreshes and confirms:

PDF Daisy is the current default for .pdf

The **Set as default...** button is disabled when PDF Daisy is already the default.

Troubleshooting

PDF Daisy isn't in the list. The very first time you click **Set as default...**, PDF Daisy registers itself with Windows. If the Settings page was already open before that, close it and click **Set as default...** in PDF Daisy again — the second time around the registration is in place.

The dialog shows a "Just once" button instead of "Set default". You clicked an Explorer "Open with" prompt rather than the Settings file-type chooser. Close it and use **Set as default...** in PDF Daisy's Preferences.

Windows reverts the default back to another app. Some PDF apps (browsers and other PDF viewers) reclaim the default on their next update or first launch. If that happens, just run **Set as default...** again — it's a single click in Preferences.

Why two clicks instead of one?

Microsoft removed the programmatic "set as default" API in Windows 10 to stop apps from quietly hijacking file types. Now every default-app change is a deliberate user choice in Settings. The trade-off: clicking **Set as default...** in any portable PDF app (including this one) takes you

to Settings to confirm — there's no way around it without packaging the app through the Microsoft Store.

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