

# Re: OT: Copying text from a PDF

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2005-06/msg00076.html>

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- *From:* [mroberds@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:mroberds@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)
  - *Date:* Wed, 01 Jun 2005 07:08:01 GMT
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Terry Pinnell <terrypinDELETE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:  
>Quite often I have trouble extracting text from a PDF. I use the Text  
>tool, copy, but on then pasting into my text editor I get garbage.

What's your text editor? Assuming you're under Windows, perhaps the problem is trying to paste Unicode into an editor that can't handle it. You might try pasting the text into Word or Wordpad to see what happens.

You might also look at xpdf, <http://www.foolabs.com/xpdf/> . I don't think you can run the PDF viewer under Windows, but the command-line utilities, including a PDF-to-text converter, will work.

Matt Roberds

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- *Follow-Ups:*
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◇ *From:* Rich Grise
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◇ *From:* Ted Edwards
- *References:*
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◇ *From:* Terry Pinnell
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