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Quite Imposing Plus 5.2 Release Notes

5.2 is an update in mid 2021 with support for two new Adobe technologies only found in Microsoft Windows: 64-bit Acrobat and Protected Mode

64-bit Acrobat (Windows)

Note: Acrobat has been 64-bit in Mac since Acrobat DC was released.

In Windows, Acrobat has been a 32-bit application. This works fine in 64-bit Windows systems. However, Adobe have now announced that there will soon be a 64-bit version of Acrobat in Windows. This means that all old plug-ins, written for 32-bit Acrobat, must be replaced with new 64-bit plug-ins. Adobe appear to be releasing 64-bit Acrobat in stages, only in certain geographic locations, and only as an option. In time, though, we expect Acrobat 64-bit to be available to everyone, and eventually 32-bit may no longer be available.

Quite Imposing Plus 5.2 includes plug-ins for both 32-bit and 64-bit Acrobat and installs the correct version for the version of Acrobat found. Older plug-ins cannot be used.

At the time of writing it seems certain that you will not be able to have both 32-bit and 64-bit Acrobat installed. The upgrade path seems to be

1. Uninstall 32-bit Acrobat.
2. Install 64-bit Acrobat.
3. Install all plug-ins (it will not use the plug-ins you had installed before).

It is not necessary to uninstall the older Quite Imposing Plus plug-in. If you do choose to uninstall it before upgrading Acrobat, be sure you have your serial number and private code to reinstall.

Troubleshooting when plug-ins do not appear in Acrobat (Windows and Mac)

We are seeing more reports that, even though Quite Imposing Plus is installed, the Plug-ins menu does not appear. This may happen even more with 64-bit Acrobat. This is often because of Acrobat licensing, which is not under our control. The plug-in is not loaded at all, so we cannot even put out a message when this happens. Here are some tips if the Plug-ins menu does not appear. These tips also apply to Mac users.

- When you sign into Acrobat, the first time it may run without plug-ins. Please quit and restart Acrobat.
- This may happen even on a forced sign-in when you were signed in before.
- If Acrobat's licensing cannot be checked, or has not been purchased, Acrobat may run as if it is the free Acrobat Reader. Plug-ins will not load unless Acrobat has a full license. You can check this by going to the Edit PDF tool in Acrobat. If it is not available and working, Quite Imposing Plus may also be unavailable.
- Make sure you are not touching any keys such as Shift or Ctrl when starting the app, since this can stop plug-ins from loading.
- Check the "Load only certified plug-ins" setting. This is in Acrobat Preferences under "General". You may have to scroll down to reach "Application Startup". The "Use only certified plug-ins" box must be OFF. (Note: ignore "Currently in Certified Mode", this info is misleading).

Protected Mode support (Windows)

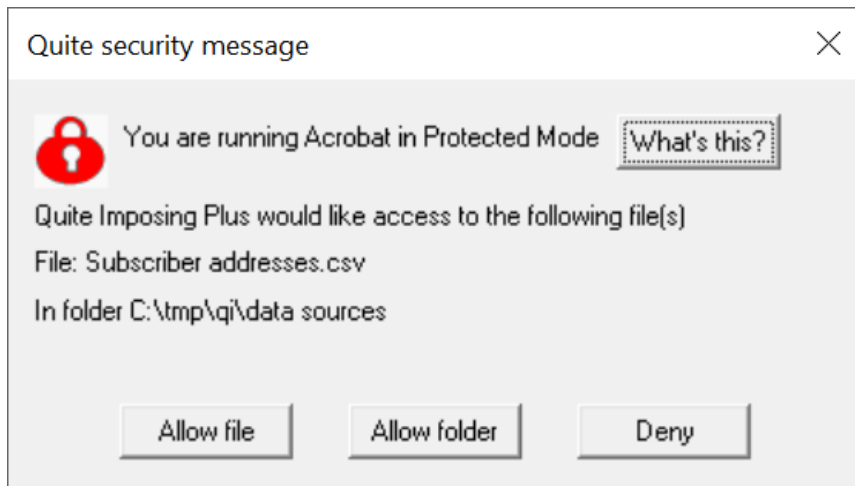
Note: At the time of writing, Adobe have not added Protected Mode to Acrobat on Mac.

Acrobat 5.2 adds full support for Protected Mode in Acrobat in Windows. We recommend you switch off Protected Mode if you are running an older version, or upgrade to 5.2. If you try to use older version of Quite Imposing Plus, you will have major errors such as being unable to save license information, unable to remember any settings, and unable to use automation sequences.

Since 2020, Acrobat has offered the option of “Protected mode” in Windows. They are now using it as the default for new installs, so this will eventually affect most Windows users. This provides protection against *unknown threats* to your computer. Because it stops Acrobat from opening many files, it can cause plug-ins to fail, including Quite Imposing Plus. Version 5.2 includes a “plug-in broker” which allows Quite Imposing to ask you for access, while still keeping full security.

This is installed with Quite Imposing Plus, and automatically used if you switch on Protected Mode. Protected mode is controlled from Acrobat’s Preferences under Security (Enhanced). Look in the “Sandbox Protections” section for the option “Enable Protected Mode at startup”.

When you first open a file, Protected Mode is not involved. It becomes an issue when the file needs to be opened again in another Acrobat session. For example, if you want to use the same page background or data source as before. You may see a prompt like this one:



So long as you are expecting the access, you can allow it. You can allow access to the file, or to all files in a folder. An allowed access is remembered until you quit Acrobat.

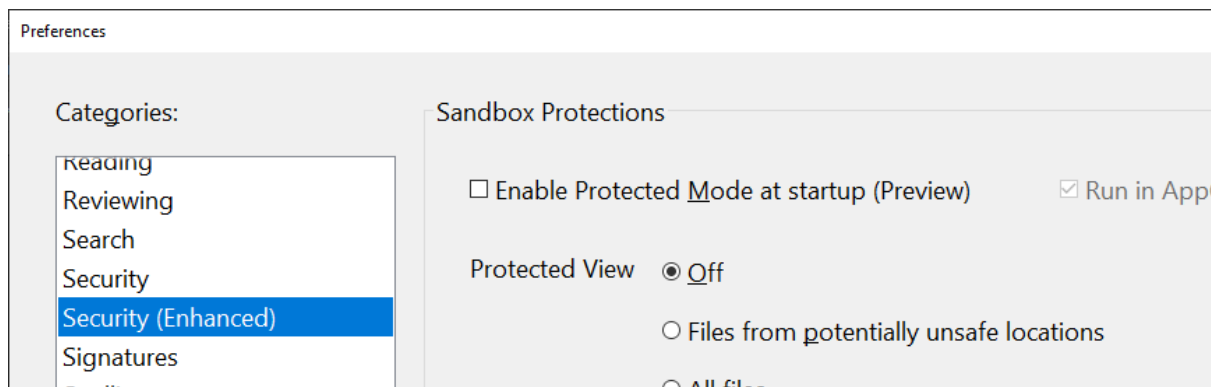
Access to a folder does not apply to subfolders inside that folder, which must be allowed separately. We do not recommend you allow access to folders that may have other kinds of file, such as Desktop or Documents; this may be blocked.

Turning off Protected Mode

To turn off protected mode please follow these steps. If you turn it off to run an old version of Quite Imposing Plus, you may want to turn it on before opening a PDF from the internet or an email.

1. Go into Acrobat Preferences, Edit > Preferences > General.
2. Scroll the list at the left until you find Security (Enhanced)
3. Look for the option Enable Protected Mode at Startup.

4. Make sure this option is off (not checked).



What does Protected Mode protect?

It can be difficult to understand Protected Mode and the implications of turning it on and off. This is an Adobe feature, and Adobe may change it without notice, but here is an attempt to explain it.

- “Protected mode” is a kind of “sandbox”. Sandbox features are found in a lot of apps today, especially web browsers. Sandboxes protect against **unknown threats**.
- An “unknown threat” is a kind of attack on your computer by a computer virus or malware. That is, someone in future might try to “hack” your computer, but we don’t know how. Hackers are always finding new ways to attack.
- The aim of hackers is to get access to files and information on your computer, to either damage it or share it with the hackers.
- One type of attack is to send something to your computer that looks innocent – like a web page or a PDF file. All browsers, and Acrobat, are designed so that these innocent-looking files cannot get access to your computer anyway.
- However, in the past there have been bugs (“weaknesses”) that attackers could use to get access anyway. The bugs were fixed (if you kept up to date) but we can imagine there may be more weaknesses found in future.
- The idea of a sandbox is that, even if an attacker finds a bug, the app can’t access files on your computer anyway.
- So this is a kind of double protection. (Like locking your door AND hiding your valuables).

In Protected Mode, Acrobat only allows access to files that you have chosen to use in the current session, for example, files you chose to open. This is a big problem for plug-ins like Quite Imposing Plus, which may want to use files you chose before (such as a PDF used as a background, or a CSV data source). So, from Quite Imposing Plus 5.2, you can have the benefit of Protected Mode and still use these files, by confirming access to them.

Quite Imposing 5.0/Quite Hot Imposing 5.0 Release Notes

This document contains notes for the release of

- Quite Imposing Plus 5 (QI+ 5), a plug-in for the Adobe® Acrobat® Pro product.
- Quite Hot Imposing 5, a standalone application.

This document was produced in November 2019.

Compatibility

This release is compatible at the time of writing with

- Apple® macOS® 10.9 and above (including macOS 10.15 “Catalina”)
- Microsoft® Windows® 7 and above
- QI+ only: Acrobat 9 and above including Acrobat DC

You can install and run both Quite Imposing Plus 5 and Quite Imposing Plus 4 for the same copy of Acrobat.

Preferences and sequences

The first time you run QI+5 it will read all your preferences and write copies for use in version 5. After that, changes made in version 4 or earlier will not affect version 5.

What's new in 5.0? Key points

A full list appears below, but some key features include

- Customize control panel: add new panels, add sequences.
- Variable data: using a CSV or TXT file, add simple text, pictures or text blocks to many PDF pages.
- Automation sequences can do "partials" to split jobs, or process parts separately. Results can be merged or left separate.
- N-Up can flow backs from right to left, for easier layout, especially of ad hoc jobs
- Creep can use scaling instead of shift, so that no content is lost
- Page monitor to show info including live size / bleed sizes for open document
- Manual Imposition – performance greatly improved for some large files
- Trim & Shift - add or crop all four edges by a fixed amount.
- Conditions in automation sequences allow more flexibility e.g. different jobs based on page count, page sizes or metadata (such as filename or keywords).
- Import sequences or steps from other sequences or XML files. Filter sequences by name.
- Conditions can issue an error or warning message, and stop a job if there is a problem such as wrong page size or count
- Enfocus Switch users remove the prefix from file name references

New features – full list

Detailed manual pages follow.

- **Customize control panel**
 - Change the QI+ control panel or create new panels which can be shown separately (different panels for different jobs)
 - Rearrange/remove the standard control panel buttons
 - Add buttons to run automation sequences
 - When a sequence is edited you can automatically add it
 - Add buttons to open other panels
 - Quick reset of control panel available
- **Variable data – new feature:** using a CSV or TXT file, add text or pictures to many PDF pages.
 - Work with master pages – making copies of a page and adding text or graphics to each copy; or
 - Work without master pages – add text or graphics to entire file.
 - Use a CSV or TXT (tab delimited) file from Excel or other sources. (Semi-colon delimited is also available).
 - Text is added with the features of Stick On Text and Numbers (choose fonts, position, angle, colour etc.) The CSV file contains only the text to add
 - Images are added from a master file; you put all the images you want to add on separate pages. Images are added with features of Stick on PDF Pages (choose position, scale, etc.) The CSV/TXT file contains page numbers only.
 - Add text blocks, setting information and fixed text over lines, closing gaps left by blank information etc. for mailing labels and similar production.
- **Split and merge (partials) – new feature.**
 - Apply different commands to different parts of the same file. For example, lay out some sheets as 4 x 2 and some sheets as 2 x 2
 - Split by page number, or into equal size pieces
 - If splitting by page number, this can do the job of a Shuffle Pages command to prepare the piece, including re-ordering and rotating pages
 - New Import sequence feature will help in setting up the different commands for each part
 - The results can be combined into one PDF, or left separate (limit of 9 documents in Acrobat, unlimited in Quite Hot Imposing).
- **N-Up flow** can flow backs from right to left, for easier layout, especially of ad hoc jobs
 - By flowing from right to left on the back, you can ensure that the back is a mirror image of the front.

- **Creep scaling**
 - Traditionally Creep has shifted pages to allow for binding; with the scaling option, the contents are scaled onto a different area, so nothing is lost on trimming
 - Useful when working with a tightly fitting design
- **Quite Imposing Plus menu** reorganized
 - Shorter menus, because they were too long for some screens and too hard to find individual items
 - Match the arrangement of the control panel.
- **Page monitor** – new feature
 - Shows the page sizes for the current document, including bleed, trim etc.
 - Can optionally show other info
 - Can stay on screen and track whatever document is current
 - Can start automatically when a document is first opened in Acrobat
- **Trim & Shift** - add or crop all four edges by a fixed amount.
 - Previously could only add or crop one side at a time, or set to a fixed size
- **Manual imposition performance** hugely improved for large files (high page count)
 - As well as improved performance, in some cases files would grow much larger from manual imposition, and there are major improvements here too.
 - This improvement affects Manual Imposition Repeat in all cases
 - Other manual impositions of many pages will see improvement in Quite Hot Imposing, and in Quite Imposing Plus when run in “Advanced Batch Mode”.
- **Conditions** – new feature
 - Can be used in automation sequences
 - Choose a different automation sequence according to the status of the current document
 - Can check page count (e.g. page count less than 10), page size (e.g. no page sizes larger than ...), metadata (e.g. file name does not include SPECIAL)
 - Can be used to choose different layouts, especially partials, according to page count
- **Import sequences** – new feature
 - Sequence import can be used in Sequence editor, and in setting up new Split/merge (partials) and Conditionals commands.
 - Import from another sequence or from XML.
 - Can import a copy, and then edit the commands
 - Can import as uneditable, and see the sequence or XML used to setup, and use Refresh to update this copy.
 - Can convert uneditable to editable.

- **Message command** – new feature
 - Can be used in automation sequences.
 - Especially useful with conditions, for example can stop with an error if the page count or page size is not expected.
- **Filter sequences** by name
 - Designed to help users with large numbers of automation sequences
 - When a sequence is to be chosen, you can filter so you see only sequences and categories with a matching name.
- **Enfocus Switch related** feature
 - Can automatically strip the special prefix `_XXXXX_` from file names

Supplementary manual pages

Customize Control Panel

You can now customize the Quite Imposing Control panel to include more, or less, buttons. In addition you can set up as many other panels as you like, for special purposes or jobs, or to help you organise your work.

If you create a new panel you can choose to show it using the **My Panels** menu. The customizing of panels is done using a right click on any panel.

There is always a special panel called [**Custom control panel**]. You can switch between this and the standard panel at any time.

Creating panels

To create a panel you can use the main plug-in menu item **My panels > New panel** or you can right click on any panel and choose **Panels > New panel**.

You will be able to choose the new panel name, which defaults to **My panel** (with a number added if needed to make the name unique). You have these choices for the contents of the panel, ready for editing.

- Blank – start with a blank panel, right click to add buttons, groups etc.
- Copy of the standard control panel.
- Copy of any other panel.
- All the automation sequences in a particular category, or in all categories. Take care if you have hundreds of automation sequences, the panel may be too large for your screen.

Changes are saved immediately, and there is no “undo”.

Adding to panels

You can add the following items to panels.

- Standard buttons, as found on the standard control panel. For example **Booklet** or **Stick On Text And Numbers**. To add one, right click on the panel and choose **Add standard button**.
- Automation sequences. These will automatically run the sequence if you click. You can add in three ways:
 - Right click on the panel and choose **Add a sequence button**. This will add one button using the category and sequence you choose. It will automatically be placed in a group box named from the sequence category.
 - Right click on the panel and choose **Add all sequences in category**. This will add one group box, with a button for all of the sequences. Be cautious if there are many sequences (hundreds) as there may not be room for them all. (If it is too many, delete the group box).
 - Edit a sequence from the sequences panel. On the second screen choose **Add a button to run this sequence to the Control Panel**. This adds to the custom control panel only.

- Group boxes. These allow you to arrange your buttons in boxes, as in the standard control panel. Right click on the panel and choose **Add group box**.
- Open panel buttons. These open another panel, allowing you to quickly switch between tasks. You can choose to leave the original panel open as well, or to close it. Right click on the panel and choose **Panel > Add button to show a panel**.

Editing panels

Via right click you have these options on editing a panel.

- Delete a button (right click on the specific button to remove).
- Delete a group box (right click on the title of the box). This will also remove all the buttons in the box, unless you move them out first.
- Move an item up in the list (if there is more than one on a line, it will move to the left first). If it is first in a group box, it will be moved out of the group box.
- Move an item down in the list.
- Change the label of an item. This does not change what it does.
- Use **Panels > Duplicate panel** to make a new copy of the current panel.
- Use **Panels > Rename panel** to change the name of this panel.
- Use **Panels > Delete panel** to remove this panel.
- Use **Panels > Reset control panel** to quickly go back to the original control panel. Optionally you can delete the custom control panel, or even delete all panels to start again.

Variable data merge

Variable Data Merge reads a text file containing information, then uses that information to add text and pictures to a PDF. Text is added as if by the Stick On Text And Numbers function, and pictures are entire PDF pages, as if added by Stick On PDF Pages. The text file is called a “data source”.

There are two ways to use Variable Data Merge.

1. With a master document. The master document is copied again and again, and each copy has different text or pictures added from the data source. This is similar to Data Merge/Mail Merge functions in many apps, such as Microsoft Word® and Adobe InDesign®.
2. With a normal document, which is not duplicated. Instead, the data source is used to add information to pages in the document. This is like using Stick On Text And Numbers/Stick On PDF Pages, but sticking different text or images on each page of the document (or each group of pages).

The text file contains “columns” of information, with a heading. The columns are separated by commas, tabs, or semi-colons (;). Consider this file:

```
Name,Company Name,State,Logo number
Robert Smith,Printing Wins Inc, New York,2
Lisa Roberts,,California
"Phillipa Thompson, Jr.",Images Matter,Mass,1
```

This uses commas to show these rows and columns

| Name | Company Name | State | Logo number |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------|
| Robert Smith | Printing Wins Inc | New York | 2 |
| Lisa Roberts | | California | |
| Phillipa Thompson, Jr. | Images Matter | Mass | 1 |

There are four lines in this file. The first line has the names of the columns. Column 1 is Name, Column 2 is Company Name, Column 3 is State and Column 4 is Logo number.

The other lines show three “records”. You can see a few points of interest: Lisa Roberts has no company name, so you see two commas together (,,), and no Logo number. Phillipa Thompson, Jr. has a name containing a comma, so the entire name is put in straight quotes as "Phillipa Thompson, Jr."

Files like this are commonly exported from spreadsheet apps. To use this file, we choose the Variable Data Merge command.

Variable data 1 - how to merge

This merges variable data into your document. The variable data is a list of fields to add, as a CSV or TXT file. Each line is one record.

You can use the current document as a short master document, with a copy of the pages for each record, or add all the records without copying any pages.

First choose how to merge fields on to the current PDF document.

☒ Create a new document instead of modifying this one

Master document?

☐ Master document (like a mail merge). Duplicate pages, adding one record to each copy

☐ Single page master document ☐ Multiple page master document

☒ Not a master document. Add records to existing pages.

Start a new record every pages

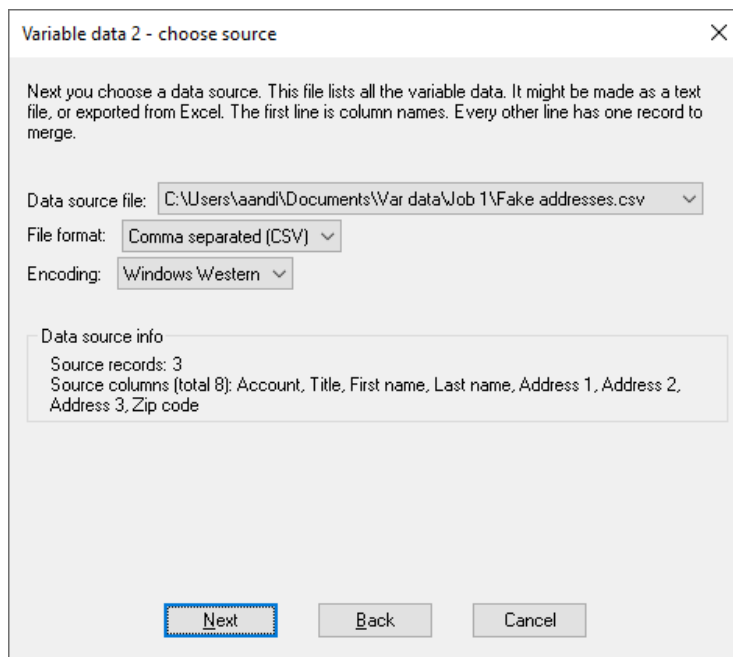
☒ Check that the document has the right number of pages for all records

Next Back Cancel

We first have to choose whether we have a master document or not. If we have a master document, it is usually just one page, but it might be more than one, for example front and back of a sheet. The *entire document* is the master, and if you choose “Single page master” the current document must have only one page. This is a simpler case and used to check the input.

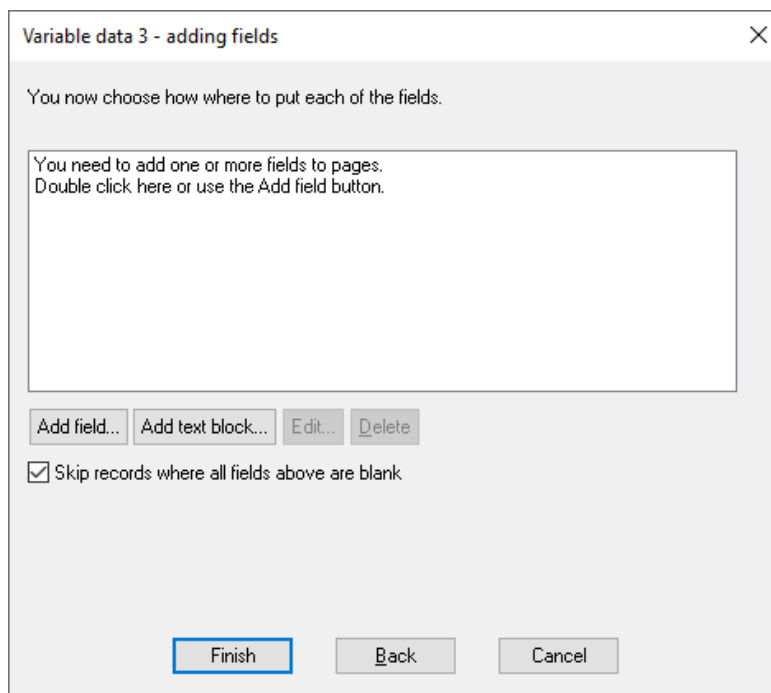
If you choose **Not a master document** you need to choose how many pages in the current document are used for each record. The usual value is 1. You can choose whether an incorrect number of pages is an error.

Next you choose the data source file



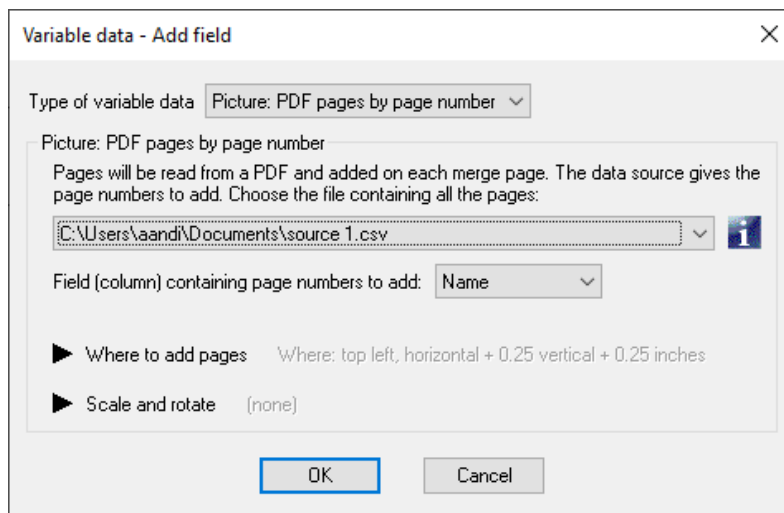
You say what separator and encoding to use. If not sure, you may have to experiment, but look closely at the Data source info, which should show the columns you wanted.

Now you need to choose where the information is to be added to your document. You must add one or more “fields”.



If the fields are simple text, you will choose the font, size, position, colour etc. for the text each time the information is added. To add more than one piece of text together, see Text blocks, below.

If the fields are pictures you must prepare a single PDF with pages containing the pictures to be added. The data contains a simple number giving the page number to add.

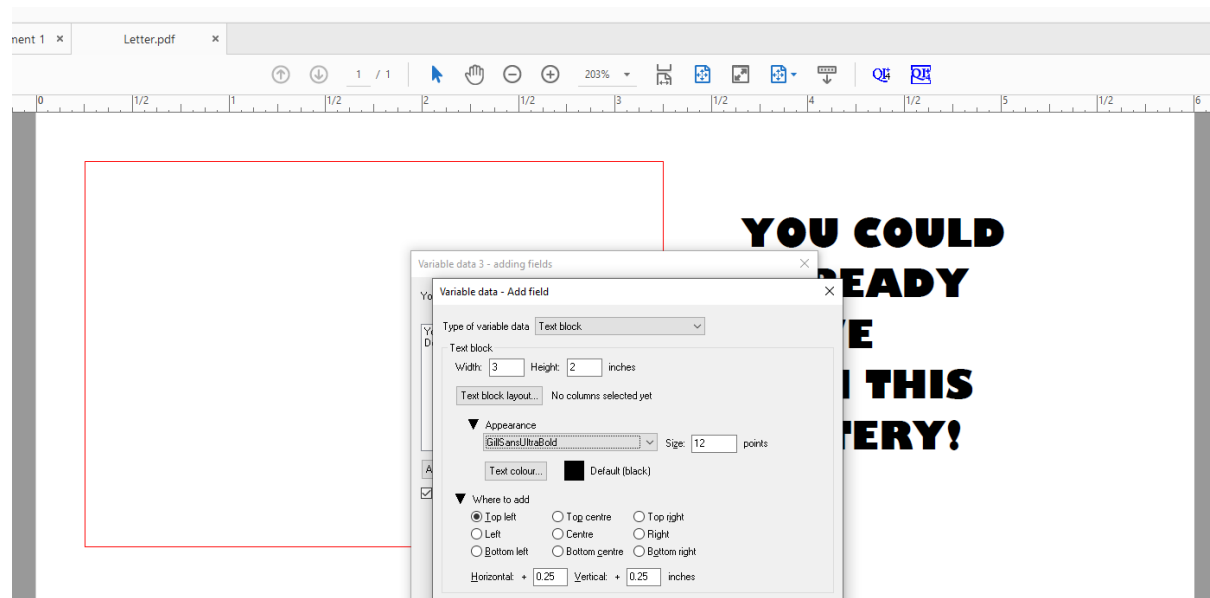


Text blocks

Text blocks are a powerful feature of Variable data merge which allow you to create a block of text for applications such as mailing labels, with features including

- Preview of the block showing exactly how a record will appear
- Combine columns onto a single line
- If a line would be blank, optionally close up the gap
- Add extra text mixed with the columns

To show this we take a typical contact spreadsheet with columns Account, Title, First name, Last name, Address 1, Address 2, Address 3, Zip code. After defining the source, we go to the Variable data 3 – adding fields dialog and click **Add text block**.



On the Add text block dialog you will choose a block size, here 3 x 2 inches. The current page (in Acrobat only) will show a red box where the block is to be added. We type in the required offset on the page. We choose a font and size. Now we click **Text block layout**.

Variable data - Add text box

▼ Preview

23237

▼ Element 1

Account

Choose a column or text...
[Add text]
[Add all columns]

▼ Account

Title

First name

Last name

Address 1

Address 2

Address 3

Zip code

☐ Close gap if blank

Select action ▼

☐ Close gap if blank

Select action ▼

OK Cancel

The text block has as many elements as you need. To get started it has added the Account column, but we want most of the columns. So we pull down the “Account” field and choose [Add all columns].

Variable data - Add text box

▼ Preview

**23237
Mr
Norman
Catalina
105 Easy St
Midtown
Ohio
34344**

▼ Element 1

Account

☐ Same line

☐ Close gap if blank

Select action ▼

▼ Element 2

Title

☐ Same line

☐ Close gap if blank

Select action ▼

▼ Element 3

First name

☐ Same line

☐ Close gap if blank

Select action ▼

▼ Element 4

Last name

☐ Same line

☐ Close gap if blank

Select action ▼

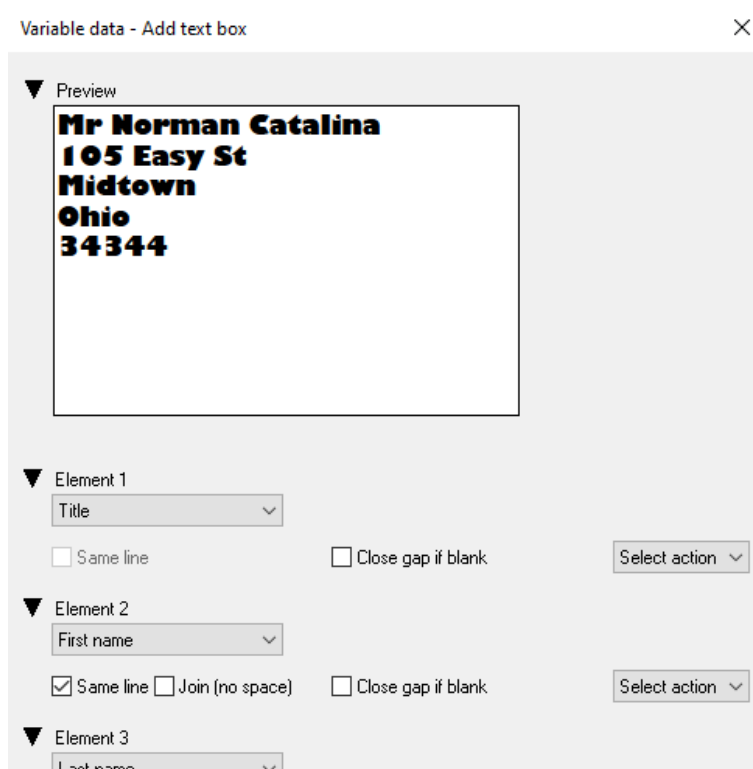
▼ Element 5

Address 1

We now adjust the columns as needed.

- To remove the account number, click **Select action** at the right and select **Delete**.
- For First name and Last name, we click **Same line** to run the name onto one line
- For Address 1, Address 2 and Address 3 we click **Close gap if blank** to remove blank address lines.

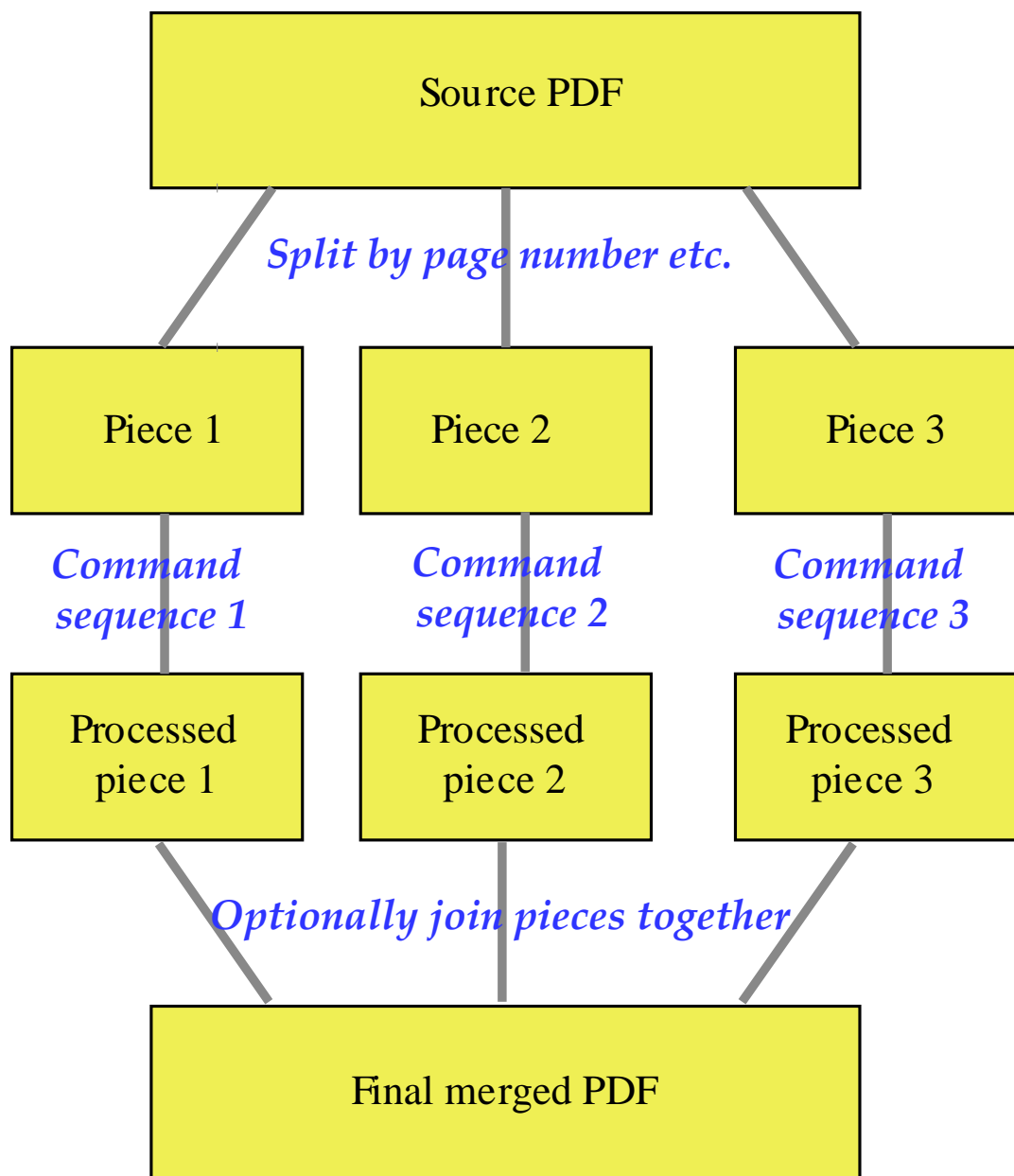
The new preview will appear.



You can have multiple text blocks, and mix them with simple text and picture fields too.

Split/merge (partials)

The idea of Split/merge is that you can split one document up into several parts, and then do different commands on each part. Finally, you can join the parts back together, or leave them separate. A key use of this feature is to support a kind of advanced imposition layout called “partials” which uses different sized sheets or different layouts to make the best use of press or paper.



So, the choices you can make include:

1. *How do you want to split the document?* You can split in several ways by page count.
 - a. Odd/even. This splits into two pieces (only one piece if the input has only one page).
 - b. List of pages. This lets you list the exact pages to go into each piece. Because you list the pages, you also have to say exactly how many pages the document will have, and the command only works with that page count. Lists of pages can take page ranges, and cause pages to be rotated: this is exactly like the rules in Shuffle Pages.
 - c. Equal size pieces. You choose a page count, and each piece has that number of pages, except the last. For example if you choose a page count of 10, and start with a 38 page document, you will have pieces with 10, 10, 10 and 8 pages.
2. *What do you do to process each piece?* You choose a command sequence for each part. It is recommended to set up these sequences in advance and use Import

Sequence to set them up, because it is easier to maintain the split/merge setup that way. The command sequence is optional. If you do not give a command sequence, the piece is unchanged.

3. *Do you want to merge the pieces?* You should be aware of the limits of Acrobat, which does not allow many open documents, and will fail if you try to open too many. (The exact limit varies with the release of Acrobat). Quite Imposing Plus limits you to nine separate pieces, but Quite Hot Imposing has no limit. Quite Imposing Plus will not save the pieces. Quite Hot Imposing will save each piece in a folder named after the input PDF.

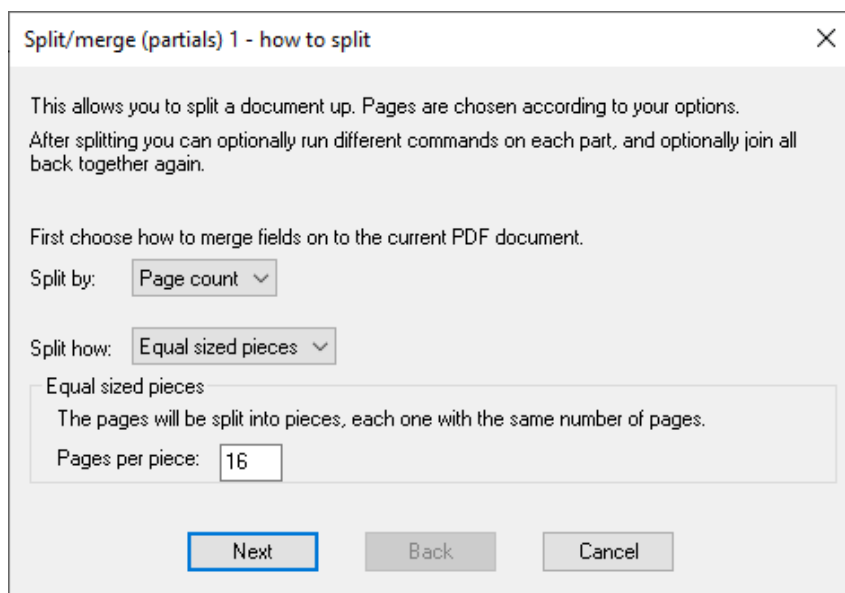
If you merge the documents, there will be only one file at the end. In Quite Imposing Plus you can choose whether this creates a new document (recommended) or replaces the input.

Split/Merge (Partials) example 1 – Repeated numbering

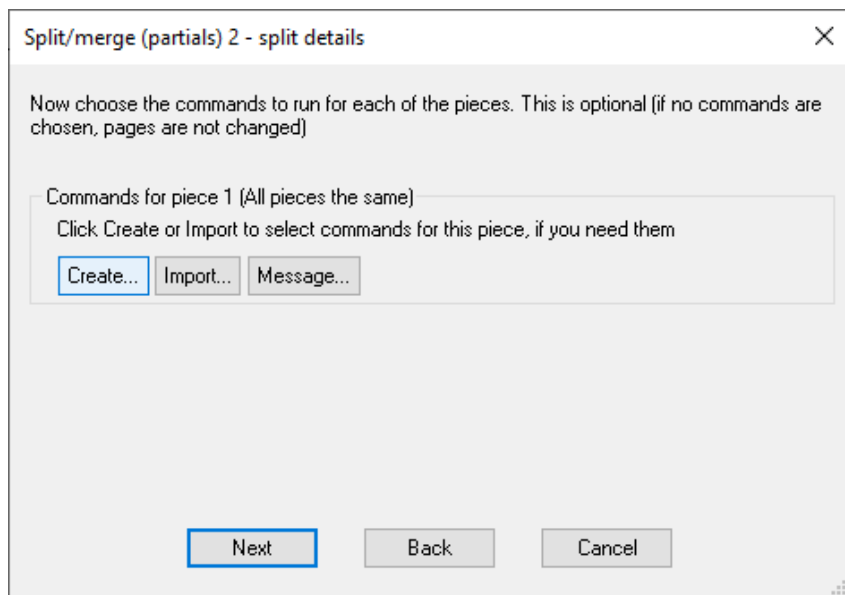
This example shows how to repeat numbering. We suppose that each group of 16 pages is to be numbered from 1 to 16, then start again, so page 17 has number 1 again, and so on. The process is

- Split the document into parts, each part of 16 pages. (If the last part is short, because there is not an exact multiple of 16 pages, this still works).
- Run the same commands on each part, so each part is numbered from 1 to 16.
- Merge the parts back into 1 (you will note that the order of pages is not changed when you work this way).

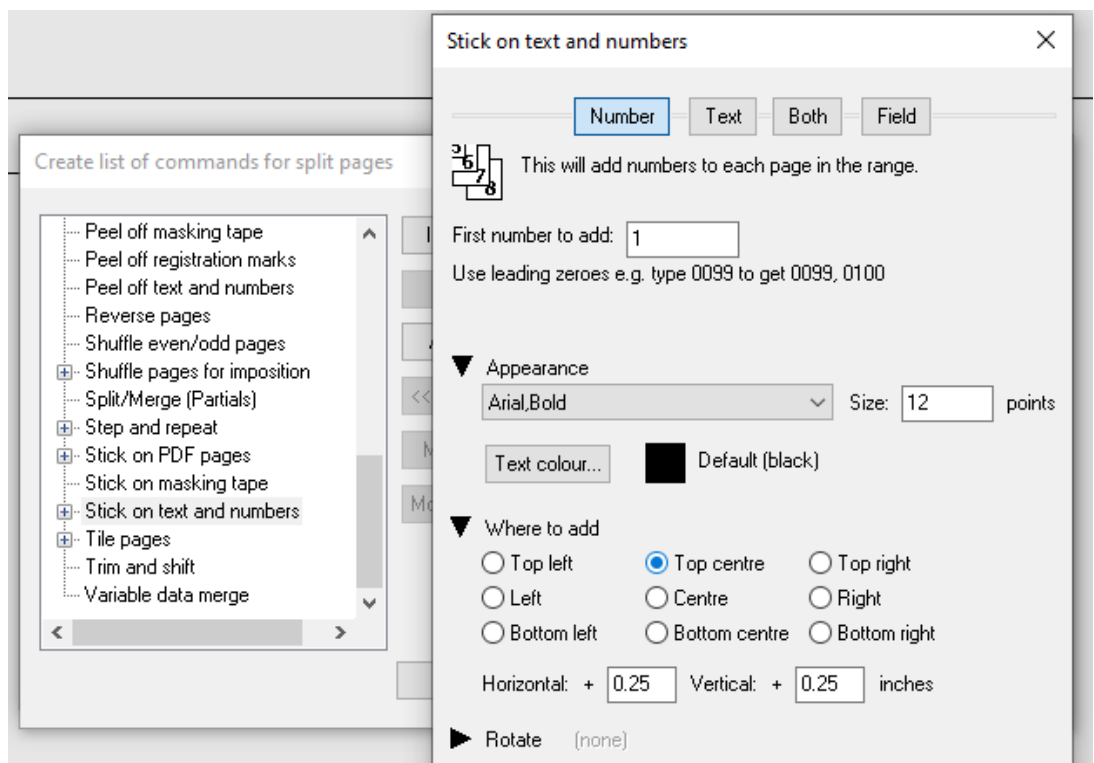
This is the first dialog for split/merge (partials). You need to choose **Split by: page count** and to choose **Split how: equal sized pieces**. You can now choose the size of each piece, so type 16 for the number of pages in each piece...



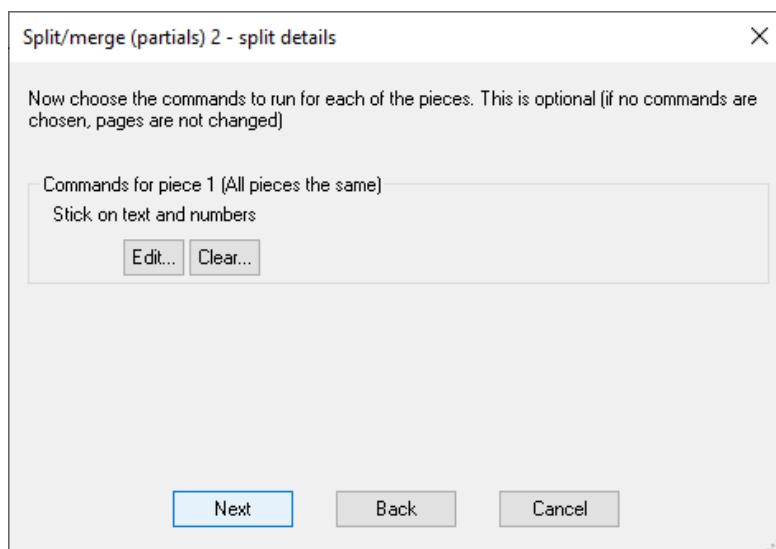
Now you need to choose commands. This shows the set up before you add any commands...



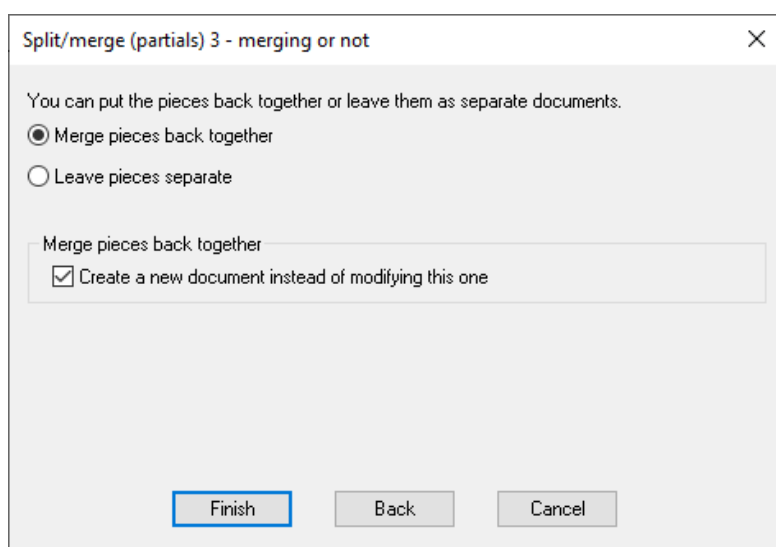
Once you click **Create** to add a command, choose **Stick on text and numbers** in the left side, and check the numbering options...



Showing the partials set up with Stick On Text And Numbers command added. You do not have to add any commands, but in this case, if you did not add any commands you would see no effect at all. (The document would be split, then rejoined in the same order)...



Merge the results...



Split/Merge (Partials) example 2 – Partials imposition layout

This example shows how to lay out 20 pages onto three sheets, with two sheets of 4 x 2 pages, and one sheet of 2 x 2 pages, of a different size. This is a type of imposition commonly called “partials”. This shows the general layout needed:

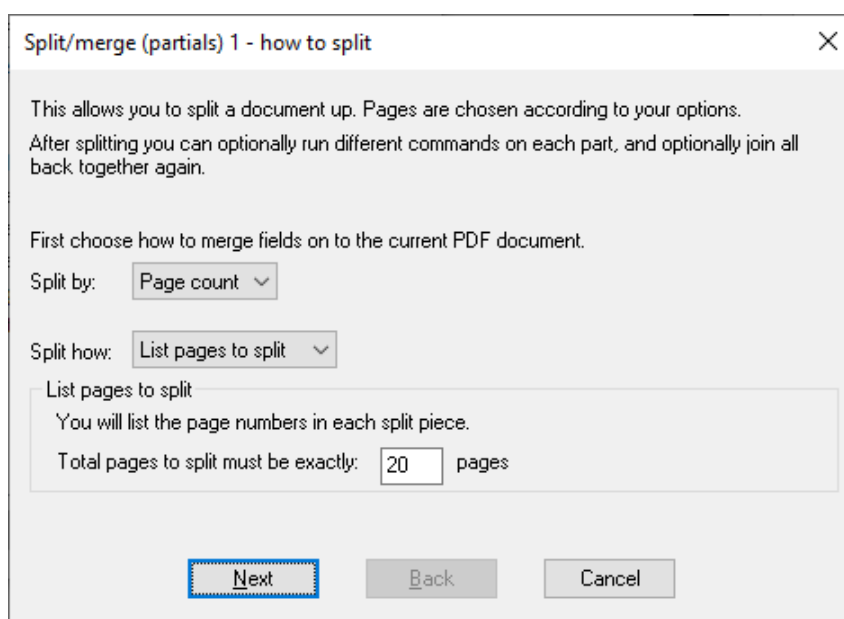
| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|
| 81 | 8 | 9 | 91 | 91 | 9 | 2 | 14 | 6 | 21 |
| 20 | 1 | 4 | 17 | 18 | 3 | 2 | 19 | 10 | 11 |

To save time, we are assuming automation sequences have already been set up called “N-up 4 x 2” and “N-up 2 x 2”, which take care of the sheet layout, sizing, crop marks etc., but do not include the page ordering.

These are the steps followed:

- Split the document into three parts, using a list of page numbers.
- Using the same list of page numbers, ALSO sort the pages into the order needed for the page layouts.
- Using the same list of page numbers, ALSO rotate some of the pages as needed.
- Use the N-up 4 x 2 automation sequence for parts 1 and 2.
- Use the N-up 2 x 2 automation sequence for part 3.
- Join the parts together again.

First we must choose the type of split. We choose to split on page count, and based on a list of pages. This gives us full flexibility on how to split...



Next, we do the main work. We set up three pieces (there is always an extra piece shown, blank, to make it easy to add more).

The first piece shows a page list of 13* 8* 5* 16* 20 1 4 17. This form of list will be familiar if you have worked with the “Shuffle pages” function. It has three functions:

1. It says which pages go into the piece.
2. It gives the order of the pages (13 8 5 16 20 1 4 17)
3. Some of the pages need to be upside down. The * after each of the first four numbers means “rotate 180 degrees”.

Each piece will therefore be split into the right pages, in the right order and rotation. Now we clicked Import for each piece and chose the automation sequences we made earlier

- “N-up 4 x 2” for piece 1 and 2
- “N-up 2 x 2” for piece 3

So, the pages are split, re-ordered, rotated, and laid out in an N-Up imposition 4 x 2 or 2 x 2...

Split/merge (partials) 2 - split details ✕

Now choose the pages for each piece by listing page numbers. You can list a range like 5..8 for pages 5 6 7 8. Ranges can run backwards like 3..1 for 3 2 1.

For each piece you can choose different commands. This is optional (if no commands are chosen, pages are not changed)

▼ Piece 1
 Pages:
 Imported N-up 4 x 2

▼ Piece 2
 Pages:
 Imported N-up 4 x 2

▼ Piece 3
 Pages:
 Imported N-up 2 x 2

▼ Piece 4
 Pages:
 Click Create or Import to select commands for this piece, if you need them

Finally we choose to merge the pieces back into a single document...

Split/merge (partials) 3 - merging or not ✕

You can put the pieces back together or leave them as separate documents.

☒ Merge pieces back together
☐ Leave pieces separate

☐ Merge pieces back together
☒ Create a new document instead of modifying this one

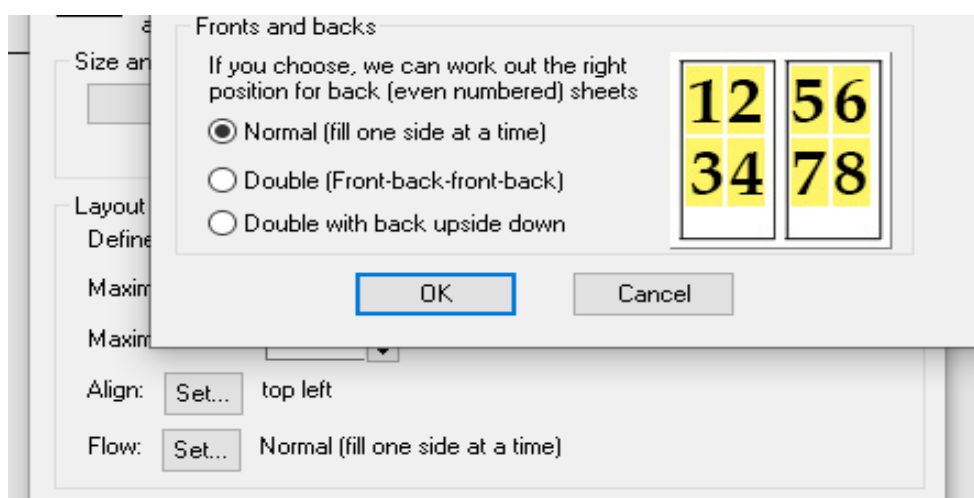
N-Up enhancements

Note that these enhancements are not relevant to Step & Repeat.

N-up and Step & Repeat: Mirrored flow

Note: this function is not designed for use after the Shuffle Pages feature, as the layouts will not be correct in this case. It may be possible for you to create different Shuffle rules for this case.

The N-up function takes a document and lays it out on a larger sheet in rows and columns. Before 5.0 it always laid out in order of sheets, filling each row, then the sheet, before moving to the next sheet. This means the front of a printed sheet is always finished before the back of the sheet is started. In 5.0 there is a new **Flow** control on the third N-Up dialog.



If this value is set to **Normal** it will work the same as previous releases, filling each sheet (or side of the sheet) in turn.



If you choose the option **Double (Front-back-front-back)** then the pages will be placed alternately on the front (odd numbered sheet) and back (even numbered sheet). In addition, the page placed on the back will be in the left-right mirror position – so pages are laid out right to left, rather than left to right. This means that when the sheets are printed double sided, the back will be in the correct position. (Note that only the page positions are numbered; the page contents are unchanged).

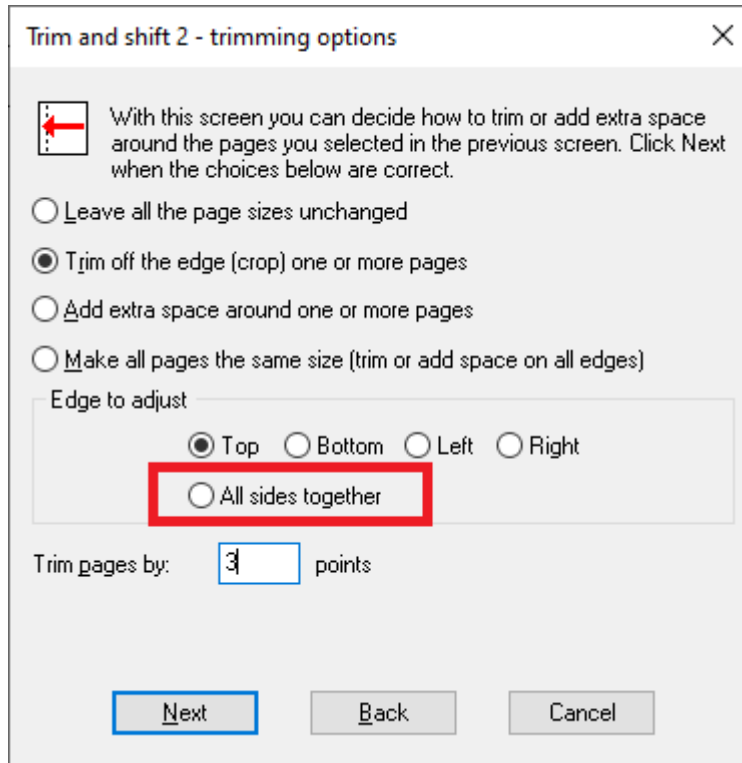


If you choose the option **Double with back upside down** the pages are positioned so that, if the back of each sheet is turned upside down, it will be the correct position so the front and back of each page are aligned.

Trim & Shift and Creep enhancements

Trim & Shift: all four sides

Up to version 4.0, in trim and shift you could choose to add space to the top, bottom, left or right of a page; or remove space from the top, bottom, left or right of a page.

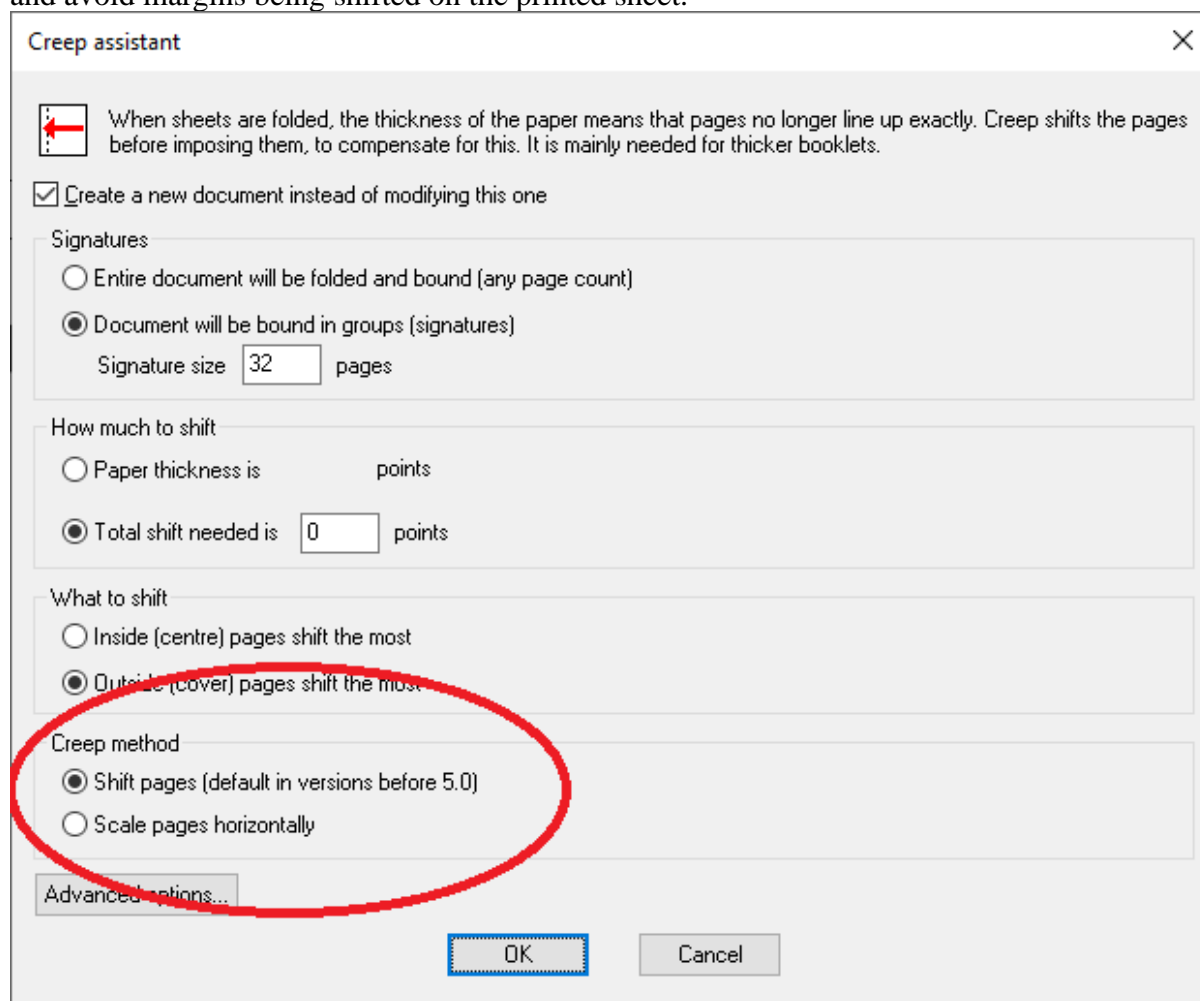


A new option is available in 5.0, **All sides together**. This either trims space from all four sides, or adds space to all four sides. It is identical to running Trim & Shift four times, once for each edge.

Creep: scaling

Creep is available as part of Trim & Shift and also as a separate function. Its aim is to adjust pages before printing a folded booklet or signature, to allow for the thickness of the paper,

and avoid margins being shifted on the printed sheet.



A new option has been added **Scale pages horizontally**. The older behaviour, which is still often what is needed, is **Shift pages**. We do not recommend one or another, you need to consider your specific needs.

When pages are scaled, the scaling is only horizontal, so the shapes change (squares and circle are now slight rectangles and ovals, though this may be undetectable in most real world cases). Scaling may be particularly useful where the page design runs very close to both edges, and shifting would affect the design.

Page monitor

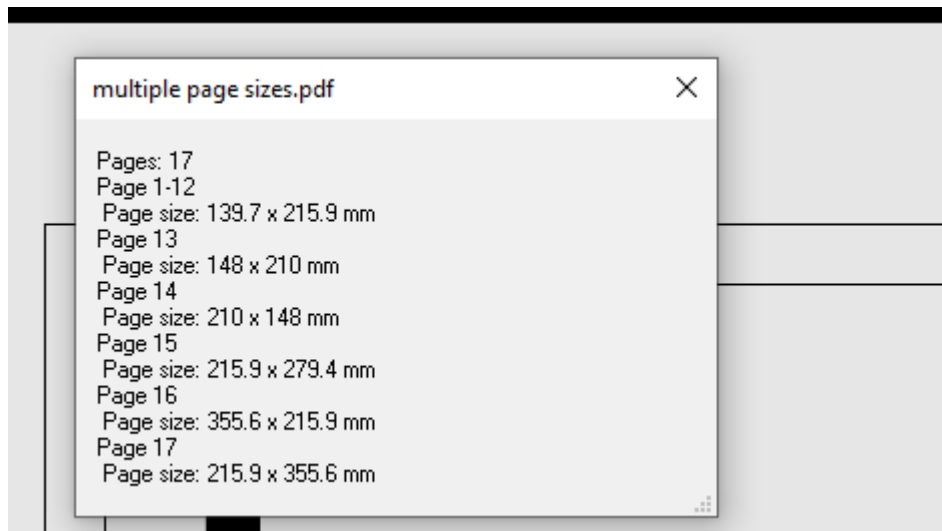
The menu item **Page Monitor > Show Monitor** will open a window that can be left open and which shows info about the current (front) document or tab.

You can customize what you see in the monitor.

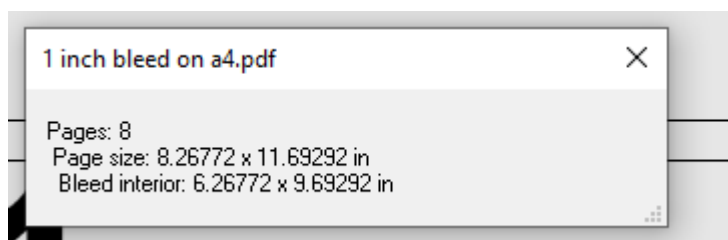
- Sizes can be in inches, mm, points (including more than one), and default to Acrobat's current units from Preferences
- You can choose sizes with high precision (more decimal places than Acrobat) or the same precision as Acrobat.
- You can choose to see the file's full path
- You can choose to see whether files include comments/form fields

You can also choose to show the Page Monitor every time Acrobat starts (when the first document opens). You can change options from the **Page Monitor** menu, or by right clicking on the monitor.

This example shows a file with multiple page sizes:



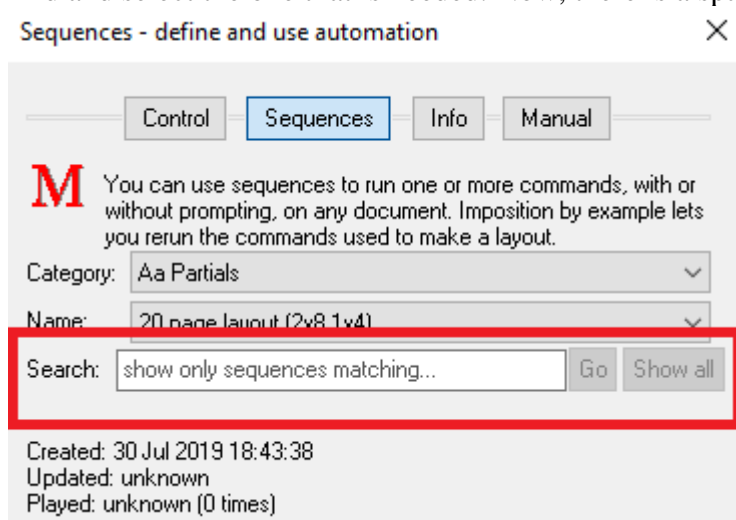
The window will automatically resize and includes information on bleed if it is present



Other Sequences enhancements

Sequences: filter sequence names

When a user has many sequences or sequence categories, it can be time consuming to find and select the one that is needed. Now, there is a space for searching for a string.



Fill in a string and click **Go**. You will see only:

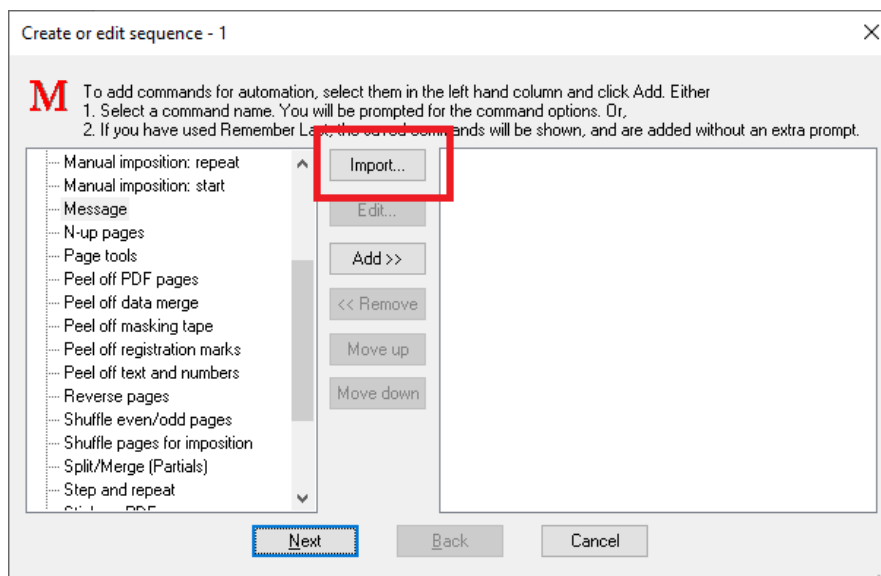
- Sequences with a matching name, whatever category they are in.
- Categories with a matching name – you will see all sequences in a matching category, whatever their name.

A sequence or category matches if the string appears anywhere in the name. For instance **WED** matches sequences called **WED**, **WED.ITEM**, **WEDNESDAY**, **STEWED**. Click **Show all** to go back and see everything.

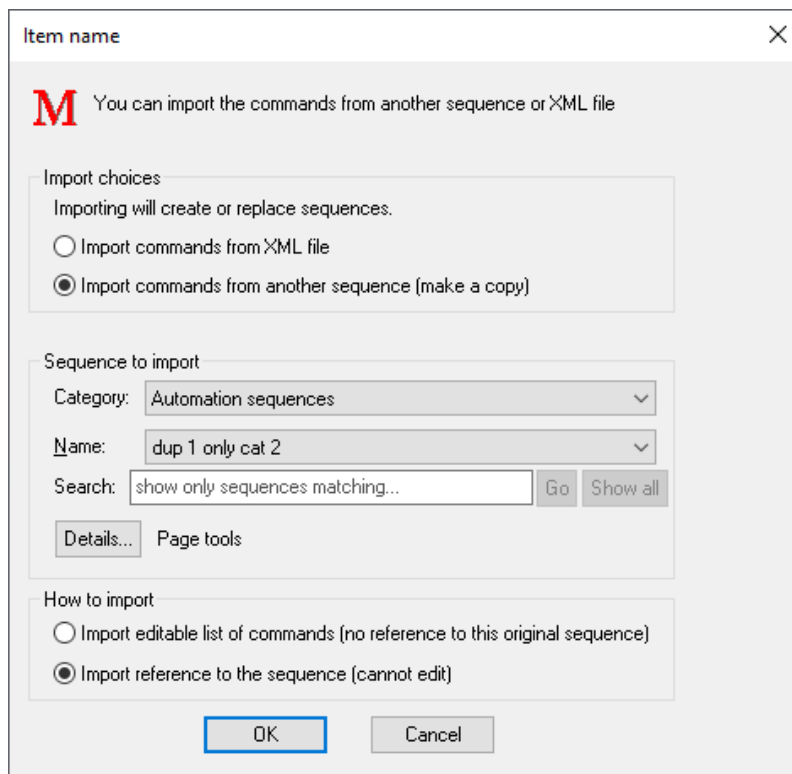
Sequences: Import sequences

Importing sequences (including importing from XML files) can save a lot of time in maintaining sequences. Previously, users had to redo work in similar sequences. You can import sequences in several places:

- The main sequence editor
- The new Conditions and Split/Merge commands



In all cases the import sequences dialog appears.



You can import from an XML file or another sequence. There are important differences between editable and non-editable imports.

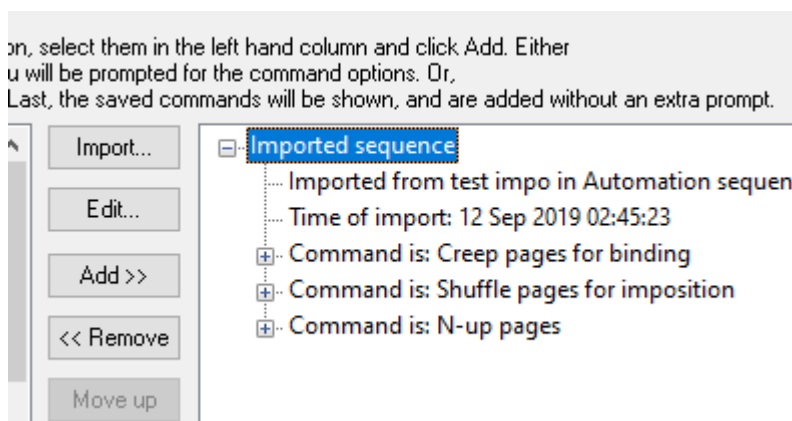
Editable import

When you import as “editable” the steps of the original sequence are copied. There is no connection to the original sequence, just the copies. If the original sequence changes, there is no way to know this.

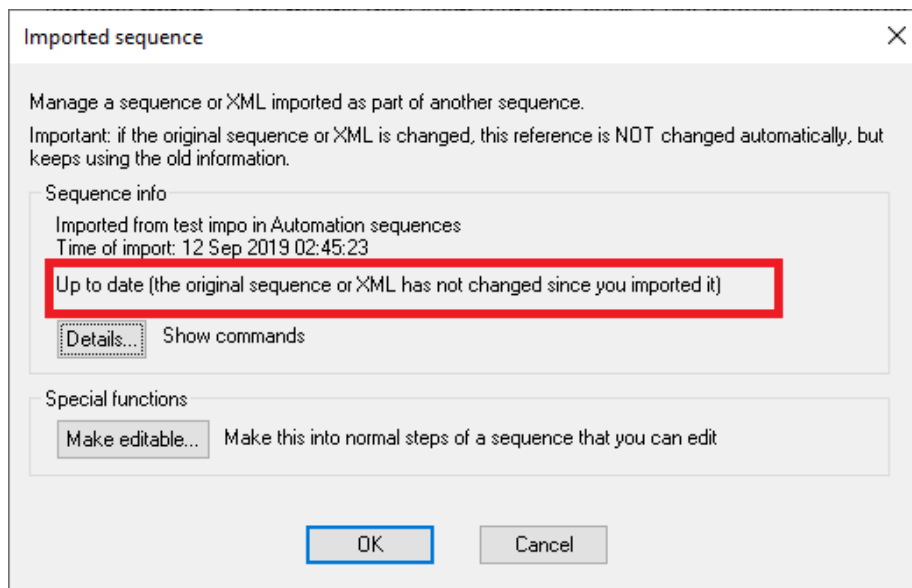
Non-editable import (import reference)

When you import as a reference, a copy is made of the original sequence steps, just as with editable import. This means they keep working *even if the original is deleted*. They will not change automatically *even if the original is changed*.

In a sequence, the imported steps appear as if there is a command “Imported sequence”. If you expand the list you will see where it was imported from, and the commands included.



If you double click or Click **Edit**, you can see further details and options.



If you click **Make editable**, the steps of the imported commands are used instead of the reference. You cannot undo this.

Notice that the sequence is shown as “Up to date”. The original sequence has been compared. If it has changed, you will have an **Update** button allowing you to read the commands again so the reference is up to date.

Conditions in automation sequences

Essentially, a Condition command lets you run some tests and choose just one sequence to run. It is especially useful combined with Split/Merge (partials) to choose impositions that vary with the input page count.

Here are few of the tests you can make

- Are there exactly 32 pages?
- Is the page count 1, 3 or 5 to 12?
- Are there more than 24 pages?
- Are any pages larger than US letter?
- Are all the pages exactly a4 size?
- Do any pages have bleed?
- Are any pages wide?
- Does the file name start FRIDAY?
- Is the document title (metadata) exactly BUSINESS CARDS?
- Does the document keywords (metadata) include RUSH?

We’re going to set up an example of the first test (are there exactly 32 pages). If there are 32 pages we’re going to run a sequence called “Test Impo”. If there is not exactly 32 pages we’re going to stop with an error.

This is the initial dialog before we start. We need to make sure **Number of pages** is selected.

Conditional sequence

You can choose to do different actions based on a condition. Such as, insert pages only if there is an odd number of pages.

What to check: **Number of pages** ▼

▼ Condition 1

Number of pages: Choose a test ▼

No commands yet. Click Create or Import to set up the actions to do if test is passed.

Create... Import... Message...

Add another condition

Otherwise

Commands to run if no tests are matched.

No commands. Optionally, click Create or Import to set up the actions to do if none of the tests are passed

Create... Import... Message...

Now we need to set up a test (number of pages is exactly 32).

What to check: Number of pages ▼

▼ Condition 1

Number of pages: Exactly ▼ 32

No commands yet. Click Create or Import to set up the actions to do if test is passed.

Create... Import... Message...

And we need to click **Import**. (We might also click **Create** to start from scratch). We select the “Test impo” sequence.

▼ Condition 1

Number of pages: Exactly ▼ 32

Commands to run for this condition: Imported test impo

Edit... Clear...

Add another condition

We could click **Add another condition** if we wanted more tests. In this case we do not.

We do want an error message for the case where there is any other number of pages, so we move down the dialog to the **Otherwise** section and click **Message**.

Otherwise

Commands to run if no tests are matched.

No commands. Optionally, click Create or Import to set up the actions to do if none of the tests are passed

Create... Import... **Message...**

Now we choose a message and select that it is an error. See the Message command, described later. This Conditional command is now complete.

Some sequences allow lists, to save duplication. Particularly useful is **Number of pages ... in this list** choice. This might set up different impositions according to the number of pages, perhaps using Split and Merge (Partials) commands as needed.

Conditional sequence

You can choose to do different actions based on a condition. Such as, insert pages only if there is an odd number of pages.

What to check: Number of pages ▾

▼ Condition 1

Number of pages In this list ▾ 1 3 5..7

Commands to run for this condition: Imported transp err

Edit... Clear... Delete condition

▼ Condition 2

Number of pages In this list ▾ 2 4 8..12

Commands to run for this condition: Imported SR_Quite_ML

Edit... Clear... Delete condition

You can list a range of pages, so you can see 5..7, which means 5 to 7, same as 5 6 7. You can also see 8..12 for 8 to 12. So the first condition applies if the number of pages is 1, 3, 5, 6 or 7. (Note: you cannot use commas, only spaces).

Note that only one condition will be matched. Even if a later condition might also be matched, this has no effect.

Sequences: Message command

The Message command can be used in any automation sequence, though it is most useful with the new Conditions command, as described above. Simply, it puts out a message. This may be for information, or it may be an error message, stopping the sequence. (Your choice).

Issue a message ✕

You can put out a warning message or stop. This is most useful in conditions.

Prompt text:

☒ Error: issue message and stop (job will fail)

☐ Note: issue message and always continue

OK Cancel

In Quite Hot Imposing, stopping the sequence causes the file to go to the ERROR folder.

The Message button in Conditions is a shortcut for “create an automation sequence containing one Message command”. The sequence created can be further edited to change the message or add other commands.

Appendix: Enfocus Switch related enhancements

Enfocus Switch is a product made by Enfocus to manage workflows. Quite Software do not sell it or support it, but there is integration between Quite Hot Imposing and Enfocus Switch.

Summary for Switch users

Removing prefix from file names

Switch files in flows typically have a special prefix on the name, so it is recognised by Switch. For example, a file originally called MONDAY.PDF might actually be called _ABCDE_MONDAY.PDF. The prefix is always five alphanumeric characters within two underscores.

In Stick On Text And Numbers, you can now choose **File name (no prefix)** as a field. This will remove the prefix if it takes this form, and leave any other kind of name unchanged. This can be used to add the original file name as text on a printed sheet. The advanced name for this field is [Doc:FileNameNoPrefix].

This field can also be used with the new Condition commands.

User fields

User fields allow you to pass metadata and other strings from a switch flow. These can be used as text to stick on, or to control conditional execution. See the attached tech sheet for full details.

Installation note for Enfocus SWITCH users

Enfocus SWITCH will search for a copy of Quite Hot. We have found the following method works for Windows users:

1. Run the version 5 product, then quit.
2. Uninstall version 1/3/4 (or rename its install folder). **Be sure you can reinstall later if needed.**
3. Quit and restart SWITCH.
4. If you want to go back to version 1/3/4, the procedure is the same: reinstall it, run the product once, and restart SWITCH.

Using user variables to pass metadata from Enfocus Switch

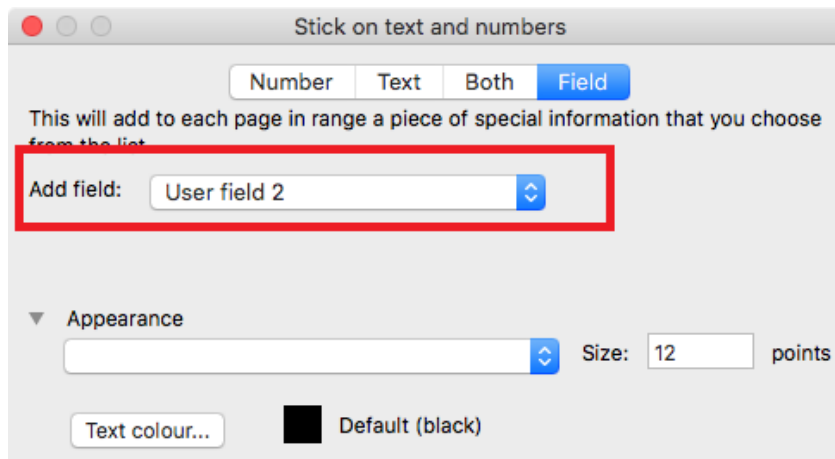
Flows in Enfocus Switch often have complex controls based on metadata and other information. Until now, the only way to control Quite Hot Imposing was to generate references to different control files based on the metadata. Now it is possible to pass user variables into Quite Hot Imposing, which can be used in two commands:

- **Stick on Text and Numbers** can pick up these user fields and place them as text on a page.
- **Conditions** (new in 5.0) can run different automation sequences according to user variables.

Note too that you can now pick up the Switch file name without the five character prefix (e.g. FILE.PDF rather than _XAXAX_FILE.PDF) using the **File name (no prefix)** field.

Picking up user data in Stick On Text And Numbers

Stick On Text and Numbers allows you to select a Field to add. You can select User field 1, 2 or 3 (more names are available, see Advanced Use, below). All the other options for adding text are applicable (e.g. font, position).



Setting up user data for Quite Hot Imposing in Switch

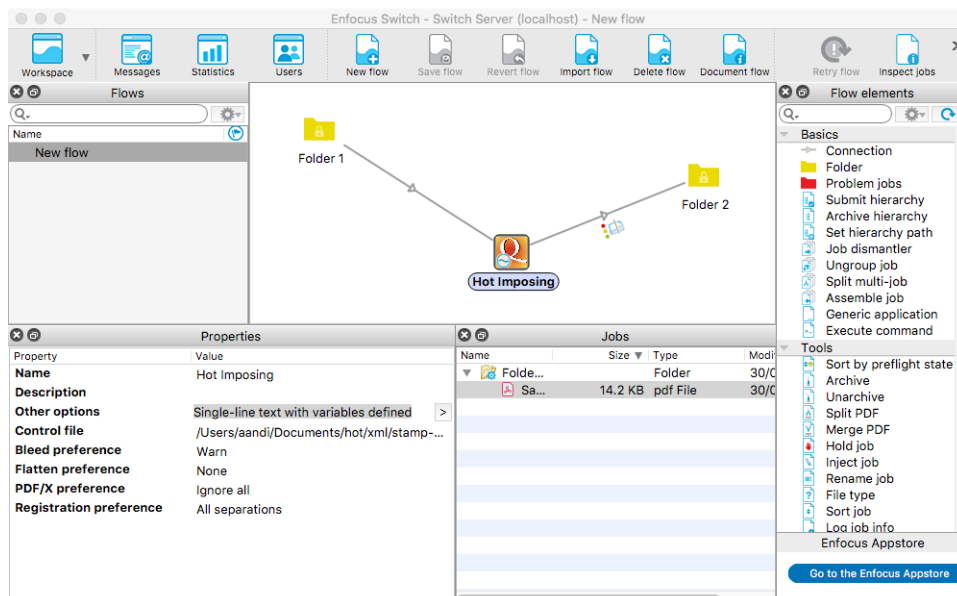
In the Quite Hot Imposing configurator Properties you have a section **Other options**. These are extra command line options passed to Quite Hot Imposing. To work with metadata you will choose *Single-line text with variables defined*.

The eventual result of the text must be to set a `-User:name` field such as `-User:2` for the field called "2" (User field 2 in the screen shot above). This is followed by a space and the value to pass in double quotes.

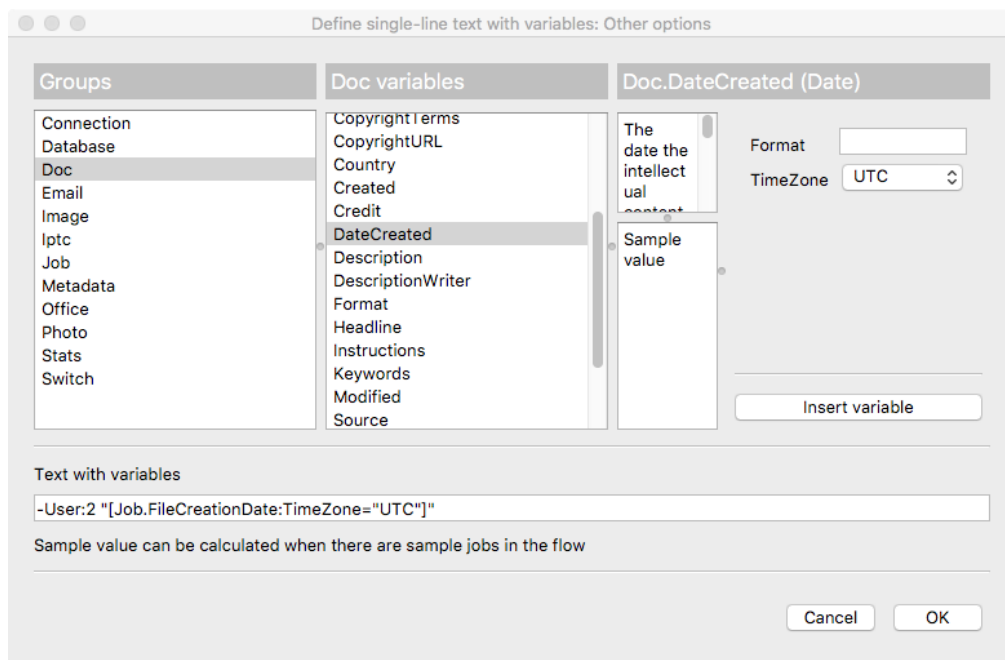
For example, if you just wanted to pass RUSH as User field 2, you would add

`-User:2 "Rush"`

Notice that this must start with one dash (-), and there is a space before the value. You can include as many user fields as you like, separated by more spaces. To use names other than 1, 2 or 3, see Advanced Use, below.



When you click the arrow after **Other options** you will see the Switch helper screen



The helper screen lets you choose variables to add to the basic command.

In this example, we first typed **-User:2 "** then selected **Doc** from the **Groups** list and **DateCreated** from the **Doc variables** list.

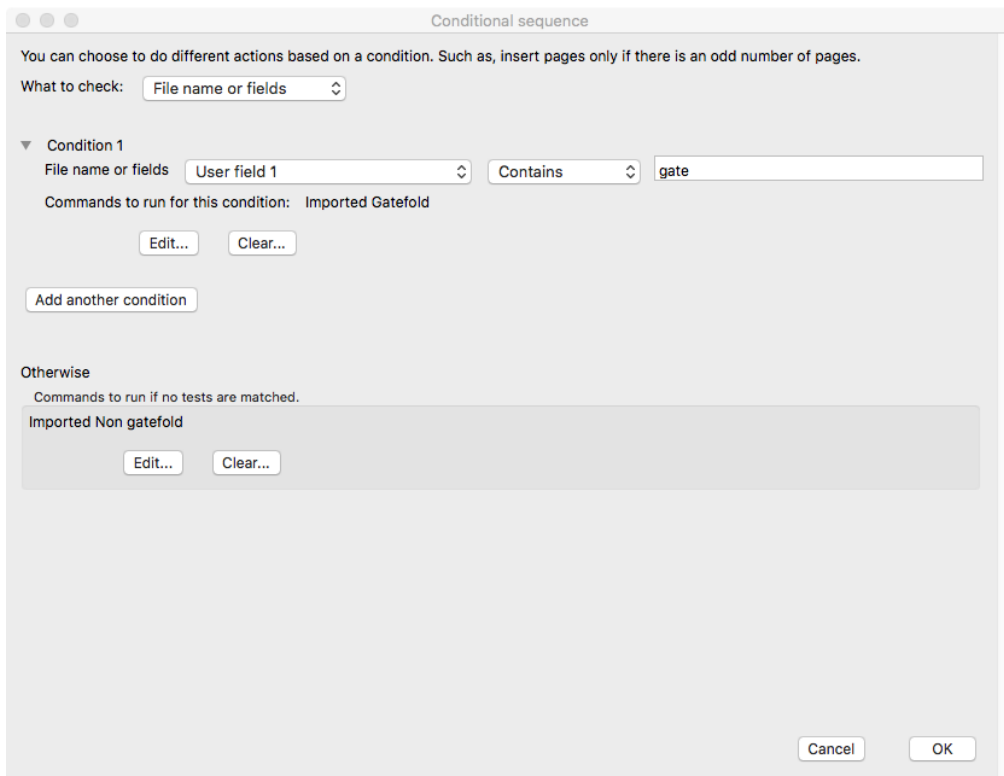
Switch added `[Job.FileCreationDate:TimeZone="UTC"]` automatically, and finished by typing another double quote.

Working with Condition commands and user variables

This picture shows a Condition command which looks at user variable “1”.

If the variable contains the text “gate”, then it will run one set of commands (the imported sequence called “Gatefold”.

If the variable is not matched, it runs the *Otherwise* command, which here is the imported sequence called “Non gatefold”.

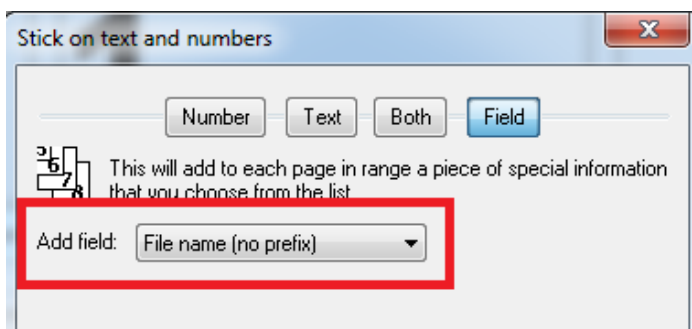


You can add more conditions to test the same or other variables, and run other commands. Note that only one condition will be matched.

File name without prefix

Switch automatically adds a five character prefix to each file name it works with, to be sure the name is unique. The prefix might change a name FILE.PDF into _XAXAX_FILE.PDF.

Quite Hot Imposing 5.0 includes a new field **File name (no prefix)** which automatically strips the prefix (underscore, five characters, underscore) if it is found. This removes the need to use a user variable for this common case.



Advanced use of field names

You can work with any name for a field. Setting these up in Switch is the same, but in Stick on Text And Numbers you need to select the **Advanced** option and type a field in this form [User:name].

If the field is not found, the text [User:name] remains as the value. To set a default value, use a vertical bar after the name, for example [User:rush|no] means that if the user field **rush** is not set this will have the value **no**. You can default to blank as in [User:extras[]].

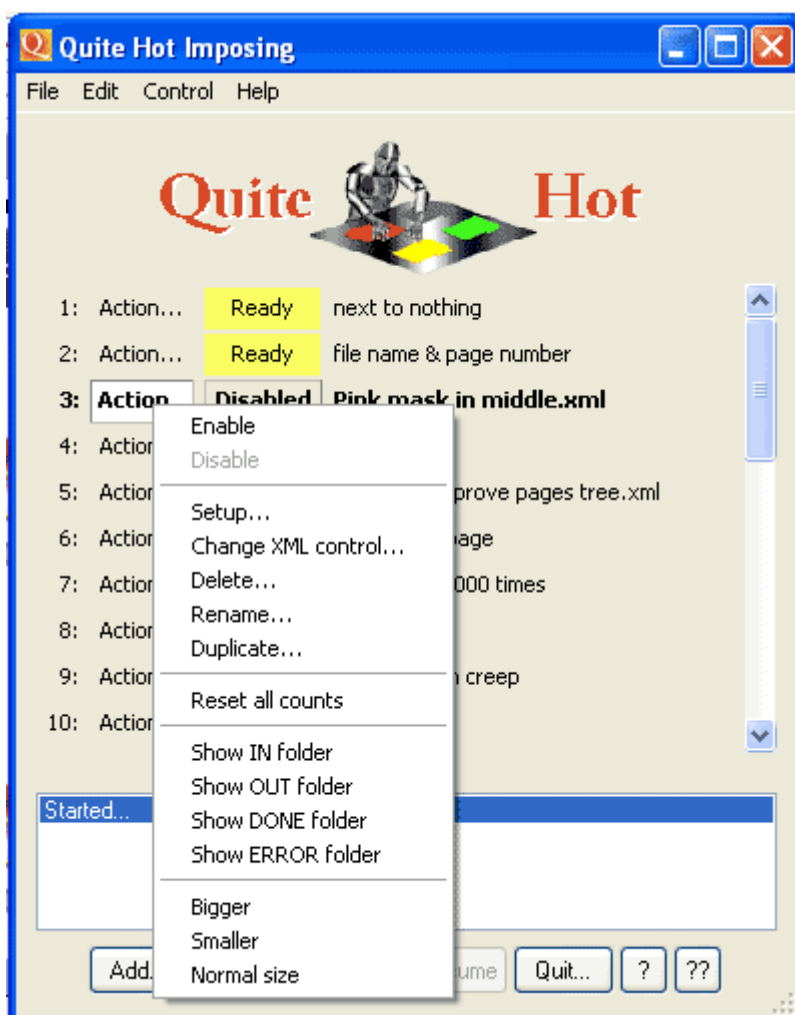
To use other fields with the Condition command, select “Choose another (advanced)” from the field list, and type the name in the same format.

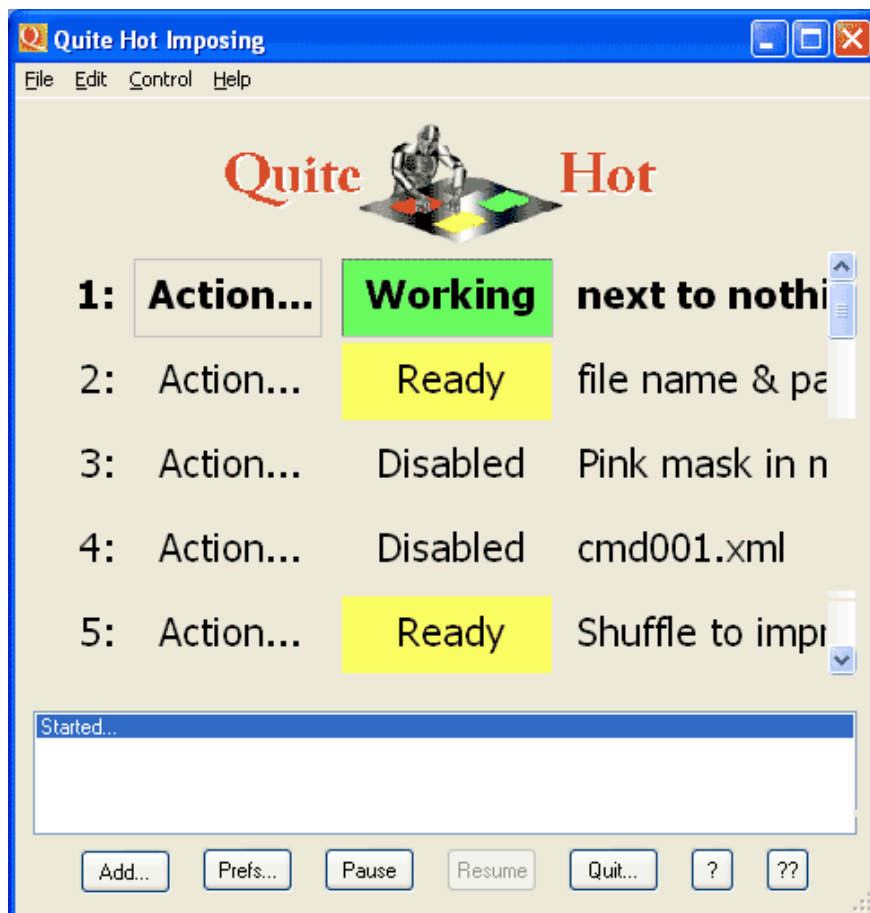
OLDER RELEASE NOTES: Quite Hot Imposing 4

The most obvious change is in the main screen which has been redesigned to be clearer and allow you to manage more queues in a simple way.

Redesigned main screen

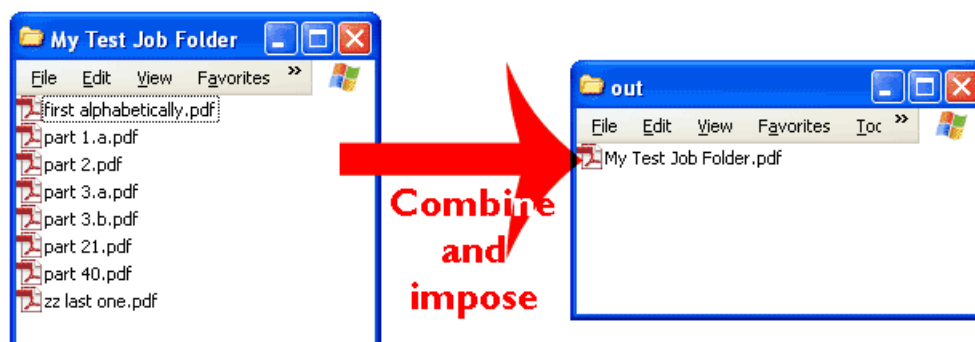
We heard you tell us that the main screen was awkward to use, especially for a larger number of queues. So we redesigned it. There is touch screen support on Windows 8 and later, and you can make the display extra large to use as a control screen for viewing across the room.





Combine files using job folders

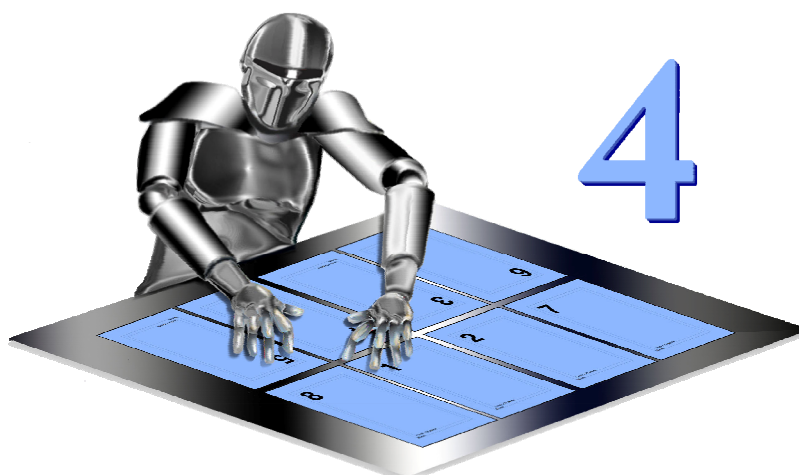
Easily combine files by putting them together, in what we call a job folder. More details on http://www.quite.com/hotimposing/job_folders.htm



- Allow a control.xml file to override the queue set up
- Option to add a prefix/suffix to output file names.

OLDER RELEASE NOTES: Quite Imposing Plus 4

The release notes for version 4 follow this document.



Quite Imposing Plus 4.0: Release Notes, Manual Updates

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Release Notes

Compatibility

This beta is compatible with

- Mac OS 10.7 and above
- Windows 7 and above
- Acrobat 9 and above including Acrobat DC

You can install and run both Quite Imposing Plus 3 and Quite Imposing Plus 4 for the same copy of Acrobat (except in Acrobat DC where Quite Imposing Plus 3 is not supported).

Preferences and sequences

The first time you run QI+4 it will read all your preferences and write copies for use in version 4. After that, changes made in version 3 will not affect version 4.

What's new?

A full list appears below, but some key features include

- Stick on Text and Numbers now allows your choice of **embedded fonts**, colours and rotation, plus Undo.
- New **Stick On PDF Pages** function to stick on PDF pages (graphics, adverts, stamps, marks etc.)
- **Insert pages or blanks at intervals**, for example to add fixed backs. Can be used to merge files.
- **Manual imposition can repeat** a layout to a large number of pages, and can automatically position pages as fronts/backs. Also smart crop marks which will not overlap.
- Adjust page sizes by a percentage rather than to a fixed size; or set all pages the same size without knowing size in advance.
- **Sequences Manager** to allow effective use of large numbers of automation sequences, including renaming, moving, duplicating. Sequences can be collected together with all files used, to reorganise or move to a new system.
- Work faster: Shift+click in Control panel to repeat last command without prompting.
- Trim & shift/creep now have the advanced option to keep bleed margins.

New features – full list

Detailed manual pages follow.

- Stick on PDF pages – new function
 - Add one, some or all pages from another PDF on top of current
 - Scale by percentage or to fit space, with or without preserving aspect ratio
 - Free rotate
 - Preview outline shows where page will be placed
 - Choose from recently used files
 - Undo and peel off available
 - Quick file info for page count and sizes
- Stick on text and numbers
 - Use most fonts (European Latin1 only), embed
 - Preview box shows where text will be added to current page
 - Rotate text by 0/90/180/270
 - Set a colour in RGB or CMYK
 - Undo available, dialog stays on screen so you can undo if needed
 - Redesigned dialog so you can open/close the options you need
- Insert pages and files
 - Insert blank pages repeatedly (insert at intervals).
 - Insert file repeatedly, or insert file at intervals. Can be used to merge files, add standard backs, etc.
 - Choose from recently used files
 - Quick file info for page count and sizes
 - Undo available (from Control Panel)
- Control panel
 - New streamlined look
 - Undo option for selected commands including all “stick on” commands
 - Shift+click to quickly repeat command with the last options used
 - “Peel off” button replaces the three separate buttons before, and also adds support for removing the result of Stick On PDF Pages. (Also replaces the separate selections in the menu).
- Manual imposition
 - Continue to more sheets (layout one or more sheets, repeat layout to use up entire input and make as many new sheets as needed)
 - Smart crop marks, automatically adjusted if they overlap pages
 - Double sided option, automatically mirror position on back of sheet to place front,back,front,back...
 - Shift+click on Pick Source to quickly pick the current page
 - Shift+click on Choose target to quickly use the same options as last time for target (new or existing document)
 - Redesigned dialog so you can open/close the options you need
- Creep

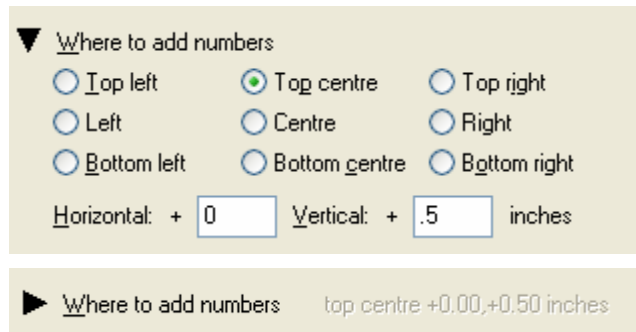
- Taken from Trim & shift, because it wasn't obvious where it was (still available in Trim & shift).
- Automation sequences
 - Remember last and play back now can use automation sequences with a streamlined interface
 - New Sequence Manager with many productivity gains:
 - Rename or duplicate sequences
 - Use drag and drop to create and arrange sequences
 - Move or copy sequences to other categories
 - Generate reports on sequences for ease of reference
 - Rename, delete or duplicate whole categories
 - Manage files used in sequences (e.g backgrounds)
 - View or save report on files used
 - Change or locate missing files and directories
 - Collect files together for moving to another system, or to clean up
 - Manage files used in backgrounds too
 - Backup and restore sequences
 - Restore from collect, to set up new system
 - Automatic backups at intervals to go back before changes
 - Backup and restore background and page size definitions too
- Stick on masking tape
 - Set a colour in RGB or CMYK
 - Undo (remove last applied masking tape)
- Adjust page sizes
 - Quickly scale pages by a percentage, rather than a target page size
 - Get page size report on current document
 - Set pages all the same size without knowing size in advance (Advanced option)
 - Verify all pages are the same size
 - Resize only pages that are already close to the target size
- Tile pages
 - Option to choose the widths and heights of each tile (all the same or all different) instead of the number of rows and columns. Any overlap is shared over the tiles.
- Page tools
 - Rotate pages by any angle, not just 90/180/270 degrees
 - Use very small angles for micro-adjustment for alignment issues – you can leave page size unchanged in this case
- Shuffle pages for imposition
 - Use .. (two dots) in a rule for a range e.g. 1..100 200..101
 - Significant speed up in many cases for large numbers of pages
 - Much larger shuffle rules can be used (allowing automatic generation)
 - Window can be resized to make it easier to work with larger rules
- Trim and shift
 - Advanced option to keep bleed margins rather than always remove bleed
- Remember last / playback

- Now provide a simple interface to automation sequences
- Performance enhancements
 - Major speed up for reordering files with many pages including Shuffle Pages, Reverse Pages, Shuffle Even/Odd.
- Open/close triangles
 - Some dialogs have been redesigned with triangles to click to open/close groups of options
 - Hold down shift to open/close all groups at once.
- PDF/X support
 - Previously the “preserve PDF/X” option stopped adding text to PDF/X files because fonts were not embedded. Now you can add text, provided you choose an embedded font.
- Developer/XML creator
 - Insert pages and background definition now supports Path key as alternative to DIPath.
 - Please ask for updated XML specification

Supplementary manual pages

Stick on text and numbers

The Stick on text and numbers dialog has been redesigned to accommodate more options and the **Undo** facility. To do this, there are now open/close triangles by each group of options. This shows the rotate and scale group first closed, then opened. Notice that a brief summary of options appears when the group is closed.



The dialog now also has a **Apply** button instead of an **OK** button. This is to make it easy to use the new **Undo** button. The dialog stays open when you click **Apply**.

- If you are happy with the text position, click **Close**, unless you want to add more text
- If you see the text is in the wrong place, click **Undo** and try again.

Shortcuts

- You can hold down Shift when you click the triangle to open or close all groups at once.
- You can hold down Shift when you click **Apply** to apply and close at once (same as the old **OK** button).
- Normally when you click **Close** you get a warning if you have not yet clicked **Apply**. If you hold down Shift you can close immediately.

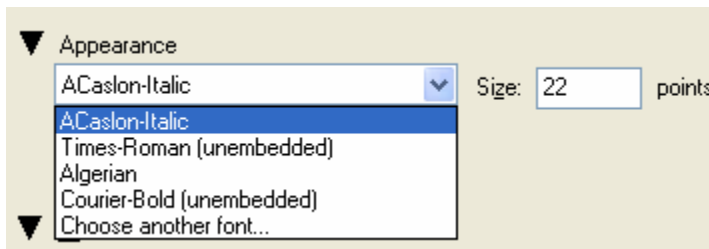
Embedding fonts

You can now place text using many embedded fonts, provided that:

- The fonts are installed in the system.
- The characters are only “Latin 1”, which is largely the characters used in Western Europe.
- The font contains the characters needed
- The font license allows embedding
- The font contains Unicode information

Some symbol fonts can be used, so long as they appear to be a Latin1 Unicode font.

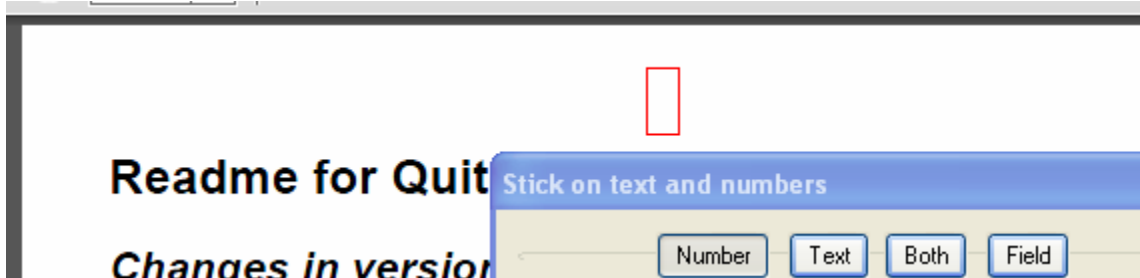
The choice of fonts available before are still available, and they include the label “(unembedded)” to separate them from your system fonts. Existing automation sequences and XML files using these fonts will continue to be valid.



There are now potentially many fonts, so the product shows only the ones you have recently used. Click **Choose another font** to see a list of all fonts in the system (which includes those which are unsuitable for one reason or another).

Preview box

A problem with previous versions is knowing exactly where the text will appear relative to other elements. A preview box is now shown. This does not include the text, but a red box shows the area.



The box position will move automatically when you change options, and is set to the width of the text that will actually appear (so, for example, it may be wider for page 10 than for page 9, if it is adding numbers). The box is not the exact height of the text, but is set from the point size.

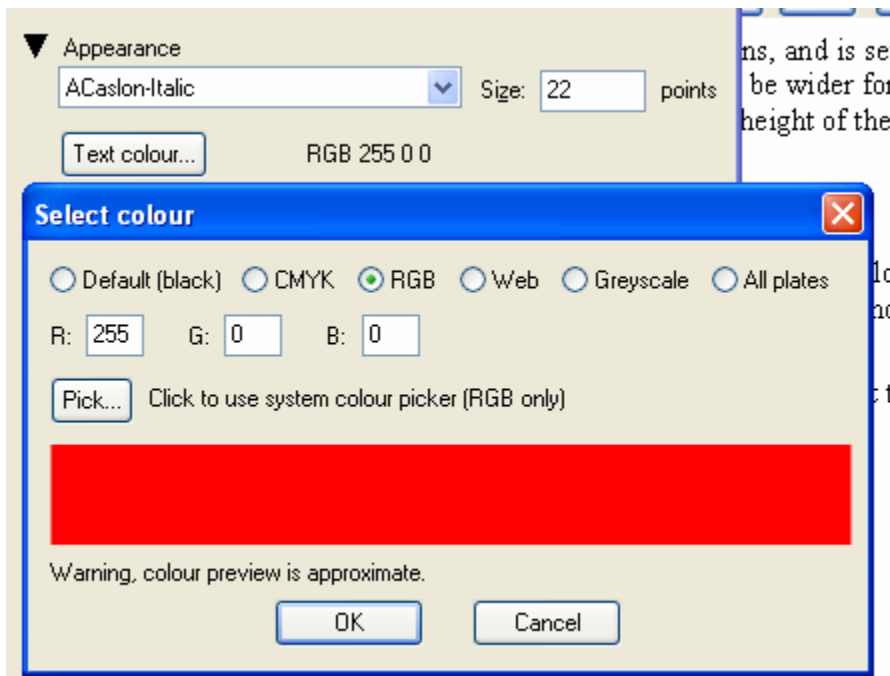
Text rotation

Text may now be rotated by 0/90/180/270 degrees (counterclockwise). To allow text to be positioned down either side, the choice of locations for adding text now includes “left”, “centre” and “right” as well as the top and bottom edges.

It may be useful to know that the text is aligned according to its baseline, not the centre of the text.

Changing colour

Previously text could only be set in black (or registration colour). You can now choose colours in RGB or CMYK, as well as greyscale and registration.



Points to note include:

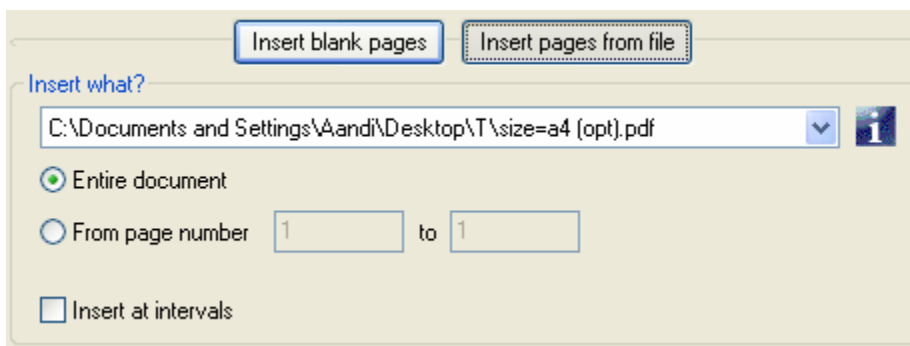
- RGB and CMYK are not tagged with an ICC profile, they are simply uncalibrated colours.
- Colour values for RGB are in the range 0 to 255, while those for CMYK are percentages in the range 0 to 100.
- Colour previews are very approximate.
- If choosing All plates it is recommended to use 100%.

Insert pages

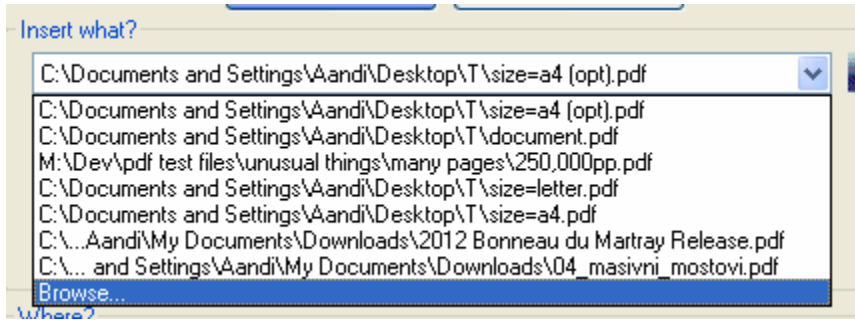
The main change to Insert pages are to allow “Insert at intervals”. The way that files are selected has also been changed to allow more efficient use of recent files.

Choosing a file

The last file used is shown, as before.

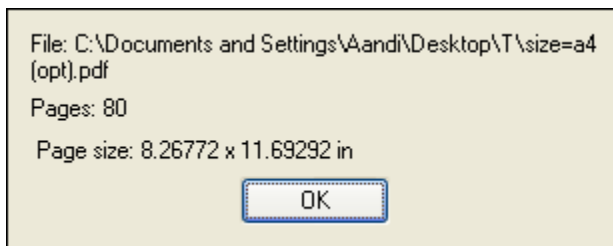


However, to choose a new file, click on the file name to see a pull down list.



This allows you to choose the files you have recently used. To pick a new file choose **Browse** at the end of the list.

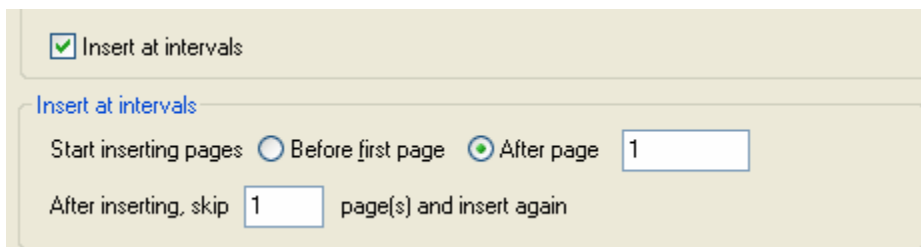
You can also click the **i** (info) icon to the right of the file to get information on the file.



This will show you if a file has a mixture of page sizes, bleed settings etc.

Insert at intervals

The new **Insert at intervals** option is available for both blank pages and for pages from a file. It has many different uses.



For instance, you can insert a “back page” after every page of the current document. Or you could insert a blank page after every 3 original pages.

The rule followed is to insert the number of pages you would normally insert, then skip the number of pages and repeat. Inserting after the last page is special.

- If you choose **Before first page**, we will never insert after the last page.
- If you choose **After page** and we find, after skipping, we are exactly after the last page, we will insert again
- If after skipping we have run out of pages, we do not insert any more.

Advanced options for inserting files at intervals

When inserting pages from a file, you can click **Show advanced options** to see more choices.

Insert at intervals

Start inserting pages ☐ Before first page ☒ After page

After inserting, skip page(s) and insert again

How to repeat

☒ Insert entire document each time

☐ Insert page(s) each time, then...

☐ When entire document is inserted, start again

☐ When entire document is inserted, stop

☒ Show advanced options

These choices reflect different workflows. For example:

- If you are inserting a common back page through the document, you would choose “Insert entire document each time”. This inserts the same back page over and over.
- If you are using this to interleave two documents, for example to take fronts from one document and backs from the other, you would choose **Insert ... page(s) each time**.

If you choose **When entire document is inserted, stop** this might be used if you definitely do not want to repeat the document that you insert. No error is given if there are unused places in the current document.

Undo available

You can undo any Insert Pages function. To do this, click the Undo button on the Imposition Control Panel. This will remove all of the pages inserted.

Manual imposition

The Manual imposition dialog has been redesigned to accommodate more options. To do this, there are now open/close triangles by each group of options. This shows the rotate and scale group first closed, then opened. Notice that a brief summary of options appears when the group is closed.

▶ Rotate, scale 0°, 50%

▼ Rotate, scale

☒ Upright (0°) ☐ 90° CCW ☐ 180° ☐ 270° (90° CW)

Scale (%)

Shortcuts

To speed up work, you can use these shortcuts

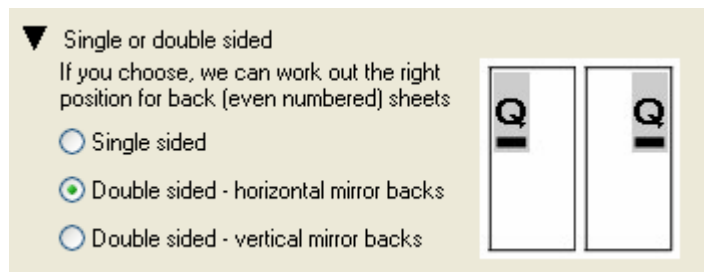
- Shift + **Pick source** picks the current document as a source.
- Shift + **Change target** uses the last options selected in Change target.

- When you click a triangle to open or close a group, you can hold down Shift to open or close all groups.

Double sided

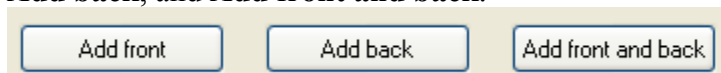
In many situations, you will be using manual imposition for material to be printed on both sides. In the past this has meant carefully setting the positions for the backs of pages to be the mirror image of the front. For example, a page 1 inch from the left may need a back that is 1 inch from the right. You now have a number of options to speed up this process.

You can choose **Single sided**, in which case everything works as before, one side at a time. Or you can choose **Double sided – horizontal mirror backs** or **Double sided – vertical mirror backs**. These two choices allow you to work either with horizontal mirroring (1 inch from the left becomes 1 inch from the right), or vertical mirroring (1 inch from the top becomes 1 inch from the bottom, and the back pages are upside down).



With these options selected, the following apply:

- The target is automatically opened to a double page view, so you can see the front and back side by side. The “front” is always an odd numbered sheet, the “back” is always an even numbered sheet.
- The target is automatically adjusted to have at least two sheets (front and back).
- The **Next/new sheet** button will advance to the next front (odd-numbered) sheet, and makes sure that there is also a back (even-numbered) sheet to follow. So it will usually advance two sheets and add two sheets.
- The **Add page** button is removed and is replaced by three buttons: **Add front**, **Add back**, and **Add front and back**.

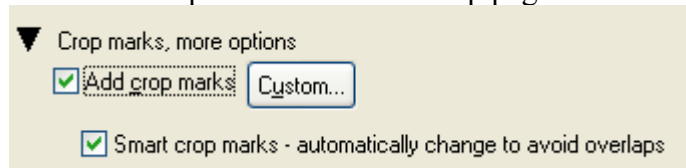


- Both front and back sheets will show a highlighted area where pages could be added.
- If you click **Add front** the next page will be added in its position on the front (odd numbered) sheet. The values for rotate, position, offset etc. are used directly.
- If you click **Add back** the next page will be added in its position on the back (even numbered) sheet. The values for location (top left, bottom right etc.), for horizontal and vertical offset and for rotation are automatically adjusted as needed.

- Both **Add front** and **Add back** take the very next page, without regard to if it is odd or even. So you would normally always click **Add front** before **Add back**.
- **Add front and back** is exactly like clicking **Add front** then **Add back**. So the effect is to add the next two pages in their positions on the front and back sheet.
- **Undo** will remove the last page or pages added, so after **Add front and back**, the **Undo** button would remove two pages.

Smart crop marks

When you select **Add crop marks** you can choose **Smart crop marks**. This then will make sure crop marks do not overlap pages.



The effect is as described in “Smart crop marks” in the manual, and should give the same effect as when using the N-up or Step & Repeat functions.

This means that crop marks, once added, may be removed again or adjusted if they cause an overlap. Because the crop marks are redone after each page, only one crop mark style can apply to the whole sheet.

Crop mark adjustment removes overlap, but adjustment may only be ideal if adjoining pages are the same size.

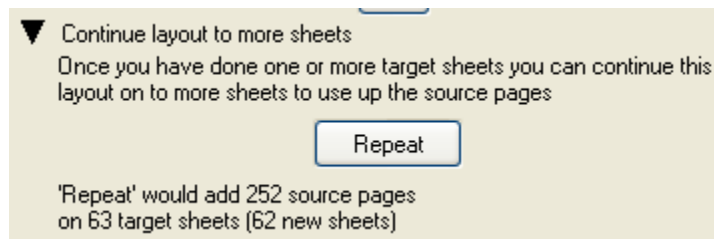
Only crop marks from the current manual imposition session will be affected; existing marks from other impositions will be left in place.

Continue layout to more sheets

In the past, each sheet had to be created separately, which may not be viable for a large number of pages, and is not adjustable to different page counts. You now have the option to create one sheet, or two sheets with front and back, and repeat.

When you repeat, more pages are taken from the source document, and more sheets are added to the target document as needed. Pages are placed in the order, and position, that they appeared in the sheets you first prepared. New sheets are only added if they are not already present in the target document.

Once you have added a page, the **Repeat** button becomes available. Under it you will see an explanation of the effect it will have, and how many new sheets would be created.



Just as when adding a single page, the **Undo** function is available, and will undo the whole repeat process, including removing any sheets inserted.



Ready to undo 252 pages, removing from 1 sheet and deleting 62 new sheets

Stick On PDF Pages

Stick on PDF Pages is a new command in version 4.0. It allows you to add pages of one PDF on top of another. We will discuss this in terms of the “source”, the pages which are to be added, and the “target”, the current document which will get the new additions.

You can add a single page from the source to a single page in the target. For example you can add a graphic, logo, advert, or other identification.

You could add a single page from the source to all pages, or a range of pages, in the target. For example you could add a stamp to each page.

You can also add multiple pages from the source to multiple pages in the target. If the source pages run out, the source range is used again and again. If the target page pages run out, there is no error.

You choose the location to add pages with an offset relative to a corner, edge, or the centre. The offset is in the “natural” direction. For example from the bottom left hand corner, distances are measured to the right, and up. You can place a page dead centre by choosing centre and offsets of 0 and 0.

A red box appears on the target page to show you where the source will be placed.

Like Stick On Text and Numbers, you have an Apply, Close and Undo button. If a page is not added in the right place, you can immediately undo and try again.

Selecting a file

You select a source file by going to the pull-down and choosing **Browse**. The list will contain the files you have most recently used, to save time. Next to the file name is an “i” icon. Click this to see a summary of the page sizes and page count in the source.

You may need to choose a specific page or range of pages in the source, but if there is only one page, you can simply choose **Entire document**.

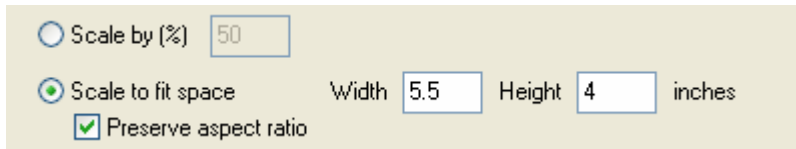
The range of *target* pages is chosen under **Pages to process**.

Scaling

Most often pages are placed at 100%.

You can also choose any other percentage.

However, sometimes you do not know the exact percentage needed because you just have to fit a particular space.

The image shows a control panel for scaling. It has three radio buttons: 'Scale by (%)' with a value of 50 in a text box, 'Scale to fit space' (which is selected), and 'Preserve aspect ratio' (which is checked with a green box). To the right of the 'Scale to fit space' option, there are text boxes for 'Width' (5.5) and 'Height' (4), followed by the unit 'inches'.

So you can give the dimensions of the space on the target page where the source page will be placed. Pay close attention to the red preview box to see where this will be.

If you choose **Preserve aspect ratio** the aspect ratio (shape) of the source page will not change when it is placed on the target page. Either the width or the height will be reduced as needed.

Pay close attention to the red box to see where the source will be placed. This will reflect your choice of **Preserve aspect ratio**.

It is not recommended to use different sized pages in the source, but it will work, and the red box will preview each size used. When scaling to a size, the pages are scaled independently.

Rotation is also available.

User interface changes, tricks and tips

The Control Panel has been redesigned so it uses less space, but some other changes are less obvious.

Shift key

The Shift key now has a special meaning in certain places, to speed up processing. It usually means “don’t ask any questions, use the same as last time”.

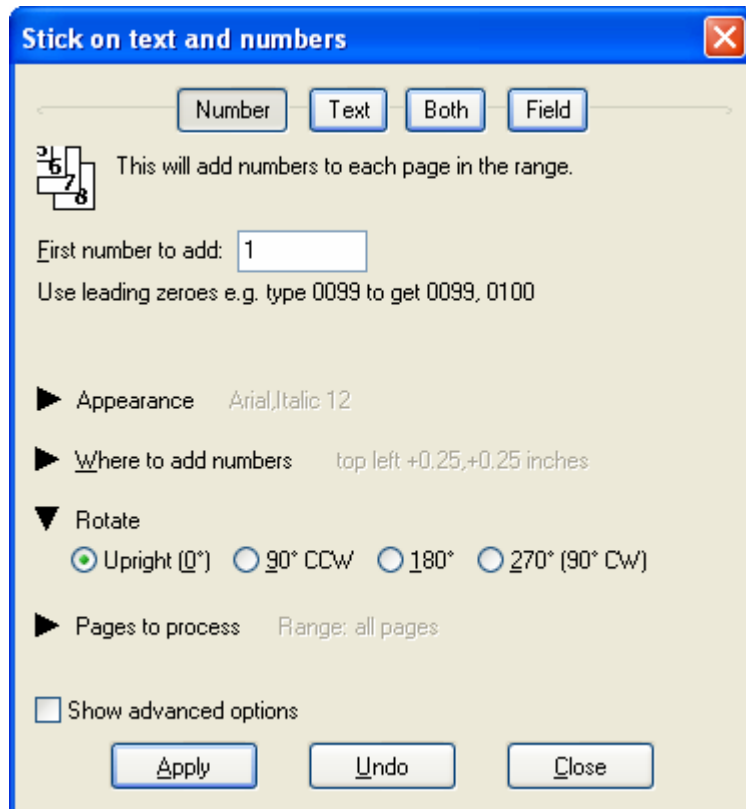
- On the **Control Panel**, you can Shift+click any command button. The effect is as if you had clicked the button then chosen OK/Next/Finish on all dialogs, and makes it easy to just repeat a command. On the **Undo** button, the effect is to undo without a prompt to confirm.
- On the **Manual Imposition** screen, you can Shift+click **Change target** or **Pick source**. For **Pick source** it means “Pick the current document as source” (not the same document as last time!). For **Change target** it means to use the same size as last time.
- On the **Stick on text and numbers**, the **Stick on masking tape** and the **Stick on PDF Pages** screens, you can use
 - Shift+**Apply** to combine **Apply** and **Close**.
 - Shift+**Undo** will undo without a prompt to confirm.
- On functions which show a series of dialogs with **Next** buttons, ending with a **Finish** button, you can click Shift+**Next** to skip the remaining dialogs. This applies to **Create Booklet**, **N-Up**, **Step & Repeat**, and **Trim & Shift**.

- On screens with an open/close triangle (see below), you can hold down Shift when you click a triangle to open or close the information shown. It means the same as clicking all of them, so it means open all, or close all.

Open/close triangles

Some dialogs have a lot of options and are in danger of using too much screen space. To avoid this we have introduced “open/close triangles”. These mark areas of the dialog which can be opened or closed.

Here is an example:



This shows that the **Appearance**, **Where to add numbers** and **Pages to process** items are closed (triangle points to the right), and the **Rotate** item is open (triangle points down).

When a triangle is closed, we will often show a summary of the choices made, as here where the **Appearance** item shows “Arial,Italic 12” for the selected font. This is not always complete. For example, under **Appearance**, if it were open, you could also change font colour.

As a shortcut, if you hold down the Shift key when you open or close a triangle, it will open-all or close-all.

Peel off functions

In Quite Imposing Plus 3 there were three “Peel off” functions: **Peel off text and numbers**, **Peel off masking tape** and **Peel off registration marks**. These are important,

but not often needed. In 4.0 there is a new Peel off function, **Peel off PDF Pages** (to remove information added by **Stick on PDF Pages**).

These functions used a lot of space on the control panel and in the menus. To simplify, there is now just one function called **Peel off** which will ask which of the four choices.

(Note: in automation sequences there remain four separate functions, for compatibility).

Undo

The Manual Imposition function had an Undo option in 3.0. This has been extended to more commands in 4.0. The control panel now has an Undo button which shows which command would be undone.

Undo in Quite Imposing Plus is a little different from some other Undo functions. It uses the XML information written into the PDF to see the last imposition done, and to decide whether it would be possible to undo. This means that it is possible to Undo even after saving, closing and re-opening the file. The Undo function prompts with a message indicating how long ago the command was done, to avoid accidentally undoing work done, saved and forgotten.

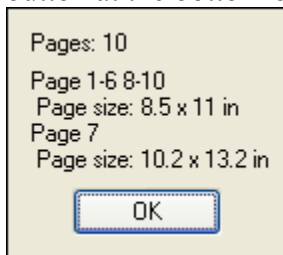
Undo is independent of the Undo function in Acrobat (Edit > Undo menu). Acrobat's Undo should be avoided if you want to undo Quite Imposing Plus functions.

Adjust page sizes

There are many new ways of working and tools available in Adjust Page Sizes.

Page size report

It is often useful to check the page sizes used in a document. Click the **Document info** button at the bottom of the Adjust Page Sizes dialog for a report like this:



The report also includes information on bleed, if it is present.

Percentage scale

In 3.0 you could only choose a target size. You can now choose a fixed percentage scale. For example, choose 200% to double width and height. Many other options are not applicable if you choose a percentage.

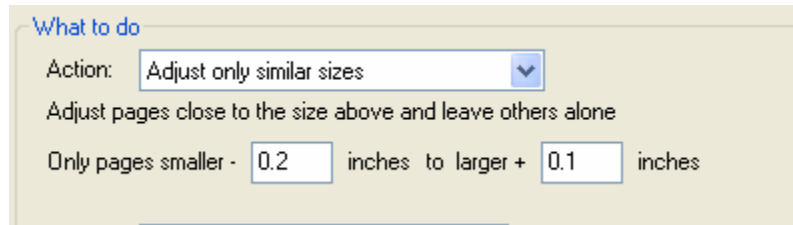
Set page size the same

Sometimes you may want to set all the pages of a document the same size, without knowing the size in advance, so the layout is consistent. This is an option when **Show advanced options** is selected. You would typically choose **Same as page: 1**.

You can also verify that all the pages are the same size by choosing **Action: Verify: report if any pages wrong size**. Instead of changing sizes, it will check the sizes are the same as the page you choose. If all the pages are the same size, it will say nothing.

Adjust only similar size

The option Adjust only similar sizes, available in advanced actions, allows you to adjust the size of pages which are close to your required size, but leave others alone. This may be useful if faced with an ad hoc mixture of pages, some of which need to be left a special size, but most of which may have random variations because of different authors or software.



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "What to do". Inside, there is a dropdown menu labeled "Action:" with "Adjust only similar sizes" selected. Below this, a text label reads "Adjust pages close to the size above and leave others alone". At the bottom, there are two input fields: "Only pages smaller -" followed by a box containing "0.2" and the word "inches", and "to larger + " followed by a box containing "0.1" and the word "inches".

You choose how close the page sizes need to be before they are adjusted.

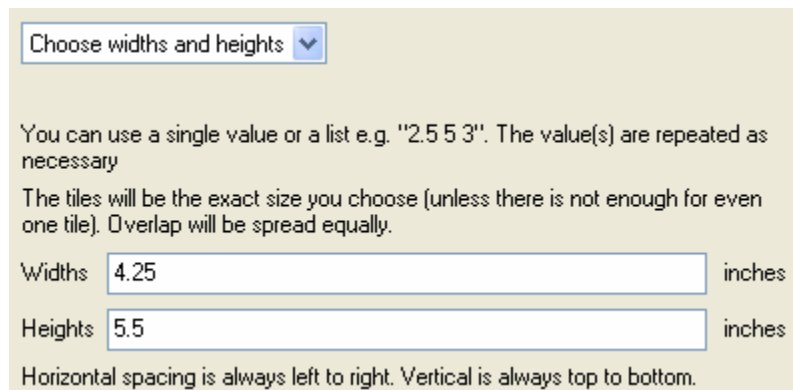
Tile pages

A new way of using Tile Pages has been added. You can now select two different ways of working.

Choose columns and rows is the method available in version 3.

Choose widths and heights is new in version 4.

This gives detailed control for advanced users who need to choose the exact size of each tile. You can give just one size, which is used for all tiles, or a list of sizes. The tiles will always form a grid with cut lines, so you need only give the widths and heights for each tile.



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Choose widths and heights". Below the title is a dropdown menu with a downward arrow. The main text area contains two paragraphs: "You can use a single value or a list e.g. '2.5 5 3'. The value(s) are repeated as necessary" and "The tiles will be the exact size you choose (unless there is not enough for even one tile). Overlap will be spread equally." Below this are two input fields: "Widths" with a box containing "4.25" and the word "inches", and "Heights" with a box containing "5.5" and the word "inches". At the bottom, a note states "Horizontal spacing is always left to right. Vertical is always top to bottom."

In the example above, all tiles will be 4.25 inches wide and 5.5 inches tall. If you have an 8.5 x 11 inch original, you will get four tiles with no overlap.

You can use a single value or a list e.g. "2.5 5 3". The value(s) are repeated as necessary

The tiles will be the exact size you choose (unless there is not enough for even one tile). Overlap will be spread equally.

Widths inches

Heights inches

Horizontal spacing is always left to right. Vertical is always top to bottom.

In this example, there are widths of 4 and 4.5 inches and heights of 4, 3 and 4 inches. The same 8.5 x 11 inch original will become six tiles of sizes 4x4, 4.5x4, 4x3, 4.5x3, 4x4 and 4.5x4 inches.

In detail, the widths and heights are used this way.

1. We step through all the widths until we reach the width of the original page. If we run out of widths in the list, we start the list again. (This is why we only need to list one width if they are all the same).
2. We step through all the heights until we reach the height of the original page.
3. The tiles will all be the size requested, they will not be reduced.
4. If the width of the tiles together is more than the width of the page, there will be an overlap. Similarly, if the height of the tiles together is more than the height of the page, there will be an overlap.
5. The overlap is equal between all tiles.
6. No warning is given for overlap.

Page tools

Free rotation

You can now rotate pages by any angle, not just 90/180/270 degrees. You can give an angle exactly, like 1.25 degrees. There are additional options for this

Rotate

☐ 90° CCW
 ☐ 180°
 ☐ 270° (90° CW)
 ☒ Other
 °

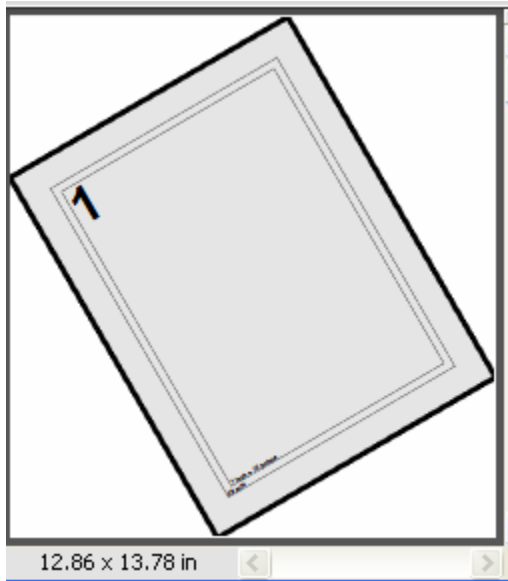
Free rotate options

☐ Crop page to the original size shown (otherwise details not now visible may be seen)

☒ Keep the original page size, bleed etc. Usually only suitable for very small angles.

Which pages to work on

These options are needed because, when you rotate a page, the original page is no longer a neat rectangle aligned with the edges. Let's look at a page rotated 30 degrees.



This shows a white area around the original page. But it is possible that the original page was cropped, or had a bleed area. You can use the option **Crop pages to the original size shown** to be sure they are cropped first, and the area that appears is guaranteed to just be blank background.

Naturally, the page size has to be increased. The original here was 8.5 x 11 inches. Normally you need this increase but it is optional. You can use the option **Keep the original page size, bleed etc.** This shows the effect of a 30 degree rotation on the same file with this option selected:



This option is particularly useful in making very small rotations, where the adjustment is lost in the original document margins. It also preserves bleed information.

Some output devices have alignment problems on one or both sides, and it may be possible to successfully compensate using this option, if the error is consistent.

Shuffle Pages

Performance and limits

In most versions of Acrobat, the **Shuffle Pages** function can be very slow with large files. (Large meaning maybe 10,000 pages or more; the file size is not important). The shuffle pages function has been rewritten to avoid this Acrobat problem, so some customers should see much faster shuffles.

The same performance speed up may be seen for very large files used with **Reverse Pages** and **Shuffle Even/Odd**.

The space for typing a rule was fairly limited in previous releases, but large enough for most rules that would be manually typed. But we understand some customers want to generate shuffle rules automatically, and may do so for large documents or repeat counts. In 4.0, the limits have been removed and very large shuffle rules can be used (pasted in, typically). Note that, because shuffles are automatically repeated, it is rarely necessary to do this.

The shuffle dialog can now be resized, which also makes it easier to deal with large rules. However, the rule does not have to fit on screen, it can be scrolled.

Shuffle ranges

It is now possible to use .. (two dots) in a rule for a range of pages. For example **5..8** is exactly the same as typing **5 6 7 8**, and **4..1** is exactly the same as typing **4 3 2 1**.

Here is an example rule: “1.100 200..101”. This rule, with normal repeat and a group size of 200, would reverse the order of pages 101 to 200, and repeat to reverse pages 301 to 400, 701 to 800 and so on.

Trim & Shift, Creep

Creep function

The Trim & Shift function has always included a Creep option, to shift pages by a variable amount for booklet binding. We have found that we are often asked if this function is available, so the location in Trim & Shift is not obvious enough.

So, there is now a separate Creep function on the control panel and menus. This has no new features, but offers all the Creep options on a single screen. Nothing has been removed from Trim & Shift.

Keep bleed margins

Trim & Shift has always removed bleed information, if present. This is because the bleed area is usually made specially and is of limited size, so moving the pages will typically move the bleed area out of its original place.

Also, imposition will use the bleed area to find the area to impose. If the bleed area simply shifted with the contents, the same area would be imposed, and the Trim & Shift would seem to be ignored.

We do sometimes hear from customers who want to work within these limitations and still keep bleed. Under **Advanced options** there is a new **Keep bleed margins the same** option. With this option, the trim or shift is done as normal, and a new bleed definition is added. To work out the new bleed size, we first look at the bleed offsets on all four edges. The bleed margin is the bleed area relative to the page size. After trimming or shifting the bleed is put back at the same space.

(Technically, we examine the BleedBox, TrimBox and ArtBox, relative to the CropBox, or MediaBox if there is no CropBox. The distance between the CropBox and the first three boxes is saved, on all four edges, and after trimming or shifting, the BleedBox, TrimBox and/or ArtBox are recreated using the new CropBox and the same distance on each edge).

Use this option with caution, and generally only with very small shifts or trims.

Stick on masking tape

Stick on masking tape has been redesigned to have Apply/Close/Undo buttons like Stick on text and numbers.

In addition it allows a colour for the mask to be chosen, rather than the default of white. Colours can be device RGB, CMYK, greyscale or registration, but an ICC profile cannot be assigned.

PDF/X support

One of the rules of all PDF/X formats is that fonts must be embedded. Previously the “preserve PDF/X” option stopped adding text to PDF/X files because fonts were not embedded. Now you can add text, provided you choose an embedded font.

Automation sequences – Sequences Manager

The Remember last and Playback functions have always been a convenient way to save a single command, and play it back, showing all the choices but with the options filled in as before. This has been much simpler than Automation Sequences, so some people have kept using it. These functions can now work in two ways:

- Single action – as before, a single command, which shows all its options when you playback.
- Whole job – this saves an automation sequence from all the commands done in the current document. These sequences can be edited in the Sequences control panel, and all sequences are available for use in the streamlined Playback panel.

Version 4 includes a Sequences Manager to assist in working with large numbers of sequences.

To run the manager click the **Manage** button. Once open, the manager has a number of tabs:

- Manage – work with individual sequences (e.g. rename, duplicate) and with entire categories.

- Files – work with the files used in sequences and also background page size definitions.
- Collect – collect together all sequences and the files used, to take to another system or for a backup.
- Report – generate reports on sequences.
- Backup – make backups of sequences. Backups are also taken automatically.
- Restore – restore a backup, either merging with current sequences or replacing them. You can also restore page size/background definitions.

Sequences Manager: Manage tab

You can do the following functions under Manage.

- Edit – edit a sequence (same as on the main Sequences screen).
- Rename – rename a sequence. If the new name already exists, you have the chance to replace it.
- Duplicate – duplicate a sequence, so you can use a sequence as the starting point for a new one.
- Delete – delete a sequence.
- Copy to – copy a sequence to a different category.
- Move – move a sequence to a different category. It will be deleted from the current category.
- Delete category – delete entire category and all of the sequences in it. Note that the default category will be recreated, but the sequences in it will be gone.
- Duplicate category – make a new category with copies of all of the sequences in it.
- Rename category – the new name must not already be used for a category.

Sequences Manager: Files tab

You can set up sequences and other things in Quite Imposing Plus which use files, that is, external PDF files. The names of these files are stored. It can happen that files need to be moved, or you lose track of which files are needed. The Files section of the Sequences Manager helps you to work with these. Please see also the Collect function.

Files may be used in the following places:

- In a sequence which uses the Stick On PDF Pages command
- In a sequence which uses the Insert Pages command. This may insert blank pages, but it could also be inserting pages from a file.
- In a background used as a target “page size” in sequences. For example, in N-Up as the background for a layout.

- In a named “page size” which is actually a background. These are not part of sequences, but they are shown and you can manage them anyway. Note that once a sequence is made using a named page size or background, the file or size used is fixed; it will not change if the page size definition is changed or deleted.

Files will show you a list of the directories used. Within each directory, you see each file used. If the file or directory no longer exists, this is also shown. Under each file you see a list of the sequences and page sizes which refer to the file.

The following functions are available. After any change the file list is updated.

- Edit sequence – available if a sequence is selected in the display (under a file name). It allows you to edit or review a single sequence which uses the file.
- Change directory – available if a directory is selected. This label changes to Locate directory if the directory is not found. In either case, you select a new directory, and all of the sequences and page sizes that use this directory are updated. This **does not move any files**, so you can easily break your sequences by picking a directory without copies of the files. (If you break anything, see under Restore).
- Open file – this is available when an existing file is selected. It opens the file and closes the Sequences Manager. You can use this to review the file contents.
- Change file – this is available when a file is selected. If the file does not exist, the label changes to Locate file. You will pick a single existing PDF file. All of the sequences and page sizes that use this file are updated.

Sequences Manager: Collect tab

The collect function collects together all your sequences and files. A new directory is made. In the directory will be copies of all of the files used in every sequence and page size. A collect.xml file is written which is a backup of all sequences. If the file names are not unique, some of the files will be renamed by adding numbers.

This folder can be backed up, or moved to another system. On the new system use Restore and select “My collect”, which will import all the sequences, updating the directory used in the sequences and page sizes to be the new location.

You can also use this method without changing system, if you have built up sequences and page sizes that use files from an untidy collection of directories and you want them in one place.

Sequences Manager: Report tab

You can generate TXT file reports in the following formats:

- Short report – a list of all the sequences and categories you have
- Long report – this gives all of the commands and options in every sequence and category. This can be very long.
- File report – similar to the information shown under the Files function, but in a printable text format.

Sequences Manager: Backup tab

To avoid losing the time spent setting up sequences, there are various automatic backups. You can also do manual backups. Backups do **not** include the files used in sequences, see the Collect function for that.

You can select Automatic backup to make the same backups done automatically. Automatic backups are stored in your user profile indefinitely. One is made before the first time sequences are changed on each day, and before a restore. When you choose automatic backup, the file is written behind the scenes, you do not choose a name.

You can select Choose a file, and you will be prompted for a filename. This backup can be taken to another system, but will not include the files used in sequences. The backup will also include page size definitions.

Sequences Manager: Restore tab

Three types of restore are available. In all cases you can choose **Delete all sequences first (full restore)**. If you do **not** choose this, your existing sequences are left, and you are asked to confirm replacing each one.

If you do choose **Delete all sequences first (full restore)**, you can choose **Also restore page size definitions**. This deletes all your existing page size and background definitions, then restores from the backup.

- Restore from an automatic backup – shows you a list of the automatic backups made, with date and time, most recent first.
- My file – lets you select a backup file, which will be an XML file.
- My collect – lets you select a directory written by the Collect function, on this computer or a different one. The directory will contain a collect.xml file and may contain PDF files. All sequences restored will be updated, if they use files, to reflect the directory in its current location. So **do not remove** the directory after restoring.