

Compress PDF Online – Size Optimization Guide 2026

Shrink PDF Megabytes Without Sacrificing Image Quality

1. Understanding PDF Compression

PDF compression reduces file size by optimizing embedded image resolution, removing redundant font subsets, and streamlining data streams. This allows large documents (e.g., 20MB scans) to shrink down to under 1MB for portal uploads and email attachments.

2. Quality vs. File Size Balance

Compressing PDFs involves balancing resolution DPI and text sharpness:

- Extreme Compression: Best for text-heavy reports and portal limits (<500KB).
- Recommended Compression: Ideal balance between 150 DPI image clarity and 70% file size reduction.
- Light Compression: Keeps high-res photography crisp while removing unneeded streams.

3. How to Compress a PDF Step-by-Step

- Step 1: Visit <https://ipdfdesign.com/compress-pdf>.
- Step 2: Upload your large PDF file.
- Step 3: Select your preferred compression intensity.
- Step 4: Click "Compress PDF" to let WebAssembly process the file instantly.
- Step 5: Download your optimized PDF with up to 90% size savings.

4. Email & Application Portal Upload Limits

Most email platforms enforce 25MB attachment limits, while government, ATS job portals, and university admission forms cap uploads at 1MB or 500KB. Using iPDFDesign guarantees your document passes portal checks.

5. Compression FAQ

Q: Will my text become blurry?

A: No, text vectors remain sharp while image streams are optimized.

Q: Is file compression private?

A: Yes, all compression algorithm routines run on your local device CPU.

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