



Processor



Redaction



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How to redact PDFs using RegEx in Linux



PSPDFKit Processor has been deprecated and replaced by [Document Engine](#). To migrate to Document Engine and unlock advanced document processing capabilities, refer to our migration guide. Learn more about these enhancements on our [blog](#).

PSPDFKit Processor lets you create redactions on top of text matching a provided regular expression via the `createRedactions` action. This is the most versatile redaction creation strategy.

```
1  {
2    "type": "createRedactions",
3    "strategy": "regex",
4    "strategyOptions": {
5      "regex": "\\d+"
6    }
7  }
```



See the [API Reference](#) for details regarding the regular expression syntax and escaping rules.

Applying Redactions

After redaction annotations are created, they need to be applied to the document to effectively and permanently remove the covered content. You can achieve this by adding the `applyRedactions` to the `/build` [instructions](#).



ASK AI

Before you get started, make sure [Processor is up and running](#).

You can download and use either of the following sample documents for the examples in this guide:

✧ [Example eight-page PDF](#)

✧ [Example four-page PDF](#)

You'll be sending [multipart POST requests](#) with [instructions](#) to Processor's `/build` endpoint. To learn more about multipart requests, refer to our blog post on the topic, [A Brief Tour of Multipart Requests](#).

Check out the [API Reference](#) to learn more about the `/build` endpoint and all the actions you can perform on PDFs with PSPDFKit Processor.

Creating and Applying Redactions in a File on Disk

Send a multipart request to the `/build` endpoint attached with the input file and the `instructions` JSON:

SHELL HTTP

```
1 curl -X POST http://localhost:5000/api/build \
2   -F file=@/path/to/example-document.pdf \
3   -F instructions='{
4     "parts": [
5       {
6         "file": "document",
7         "actions": [
8           {
9             "type": "createRedactions",
10            "strategy": "regex",
11            "strategyOptions": {
12              "regex": "\\d+"
13            }
14          },
15          {
16            "type": "applyRedactions"
17          }
18        ]
19      }
20    ]
21  }' \
22   -o result.pdf
```

This creates redaction annotations and applies them to the file, removing the content beneath them.

Creating and Applying Redactions in a File from a URL

Send a request to the `/build` endpoint and include a URL pointing to the file you want to redact:

SHELL HTTP

```
1 curl -X POST http://localhost:5000/api/build \  
2   -F instructions='{  
3     "parts": [  
4       {  
5         "file": {  
6           "url": "https://pspdfkit.com/downloads/examples/credit-card-application.pdf"  
7         },  
8         "actions": [  
9           {  
10            "type": "createRedactions",  
11            "strategy": "regex",  
12            "strategyOptions": {  
13              "regex": "\\d+"  
14            }  
15          },  
16          {  
17            "type": "applyRedactions"  
18          }  
19        ]  
20      }  
21    ]  
22  }' \  
23   -o result.pdf
```

This creates redaction annotations and applies them to the file, removing the content beneath them.

Was this helpful?

☒ YES

☐ NO

