



UWP



Import and export



WINDOWS > GUIDES > ANNOTATIONS > IMPORT AND EXPORT

Import and export annotations from an XFDF file in UWP

XFDF is an XML-based standard from Adobe [XFDF \(ISO 19444-1:2016\)](#) for encoding annotations and form field values. It's compatible with Adobe Acrobat and several other third-party frameworks.



XFDF has various limitations. In most cases, using [Nutrient Instant](#) will result in a smaller file and better synchronization.

Nutrient UWP SDK supports both reading and writing XFDF files. The `Document` class contains `ImportXfdfAsync()`, `ImportXfdfFileAsync()`, `ExportXfdfToDataWriterAsync()`, and `ExportXfdfToDataSinkAsync()` methods you can use to perform these operations.

Importing XFDF

The following snippet shows how to import XFDF from a file, through `StorageFile`:


```
1 var xfdfFile = await StorageFile.GetFileFromApplicationUriAsync(new Uri("r..."))  
2 await PdfView.Document.ImportXfdfFileAsync(xfdfFile);
```

This will parse the XFDF file, create any annotations that are required, and reload the document.



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It's also possible to import from a custom `DataProvider`, thereby allowing for streams from different mediums:


```
1 using (var stream = Encoding.UTF8.GetBytes(xfdfAnnotationString).AsBuffer(
2 {
3     var xfdfProvider = new RandomAccessStreamDataProvider(stream.AsRandomAccessStream());
4     await PdfView.Document.ImportXfdfAsync(xfdfProvider);
5 }
```

The example above shows how to import XFDF from a string. However, the `DataProvider` can be expanded to, for example, implement custom readers for encryption.

For more information on `DataProvider`s and their uses, see our [data providers](#) guide.

Exporting to XFDF


You can export annotations and form field values from a document to an XFDF file like so:


```
1 using (var dataWriter = new DataWriter(new InMemoryRandomAccessStream())) 
2 {
3     await PDFView.Document.ExportXfdfToDataWriterAsync(dataWriter);
4
5     var buffer = dataWriter.DetachBuffer();
6     xfdfString = Encoding.UTF8.GetString(buffer.ToArray());
7 }
```

This example shows how the XFDF data can be exported to a string by calling

`ExportXfdfToDataWriterAsync()` on the `Document`.

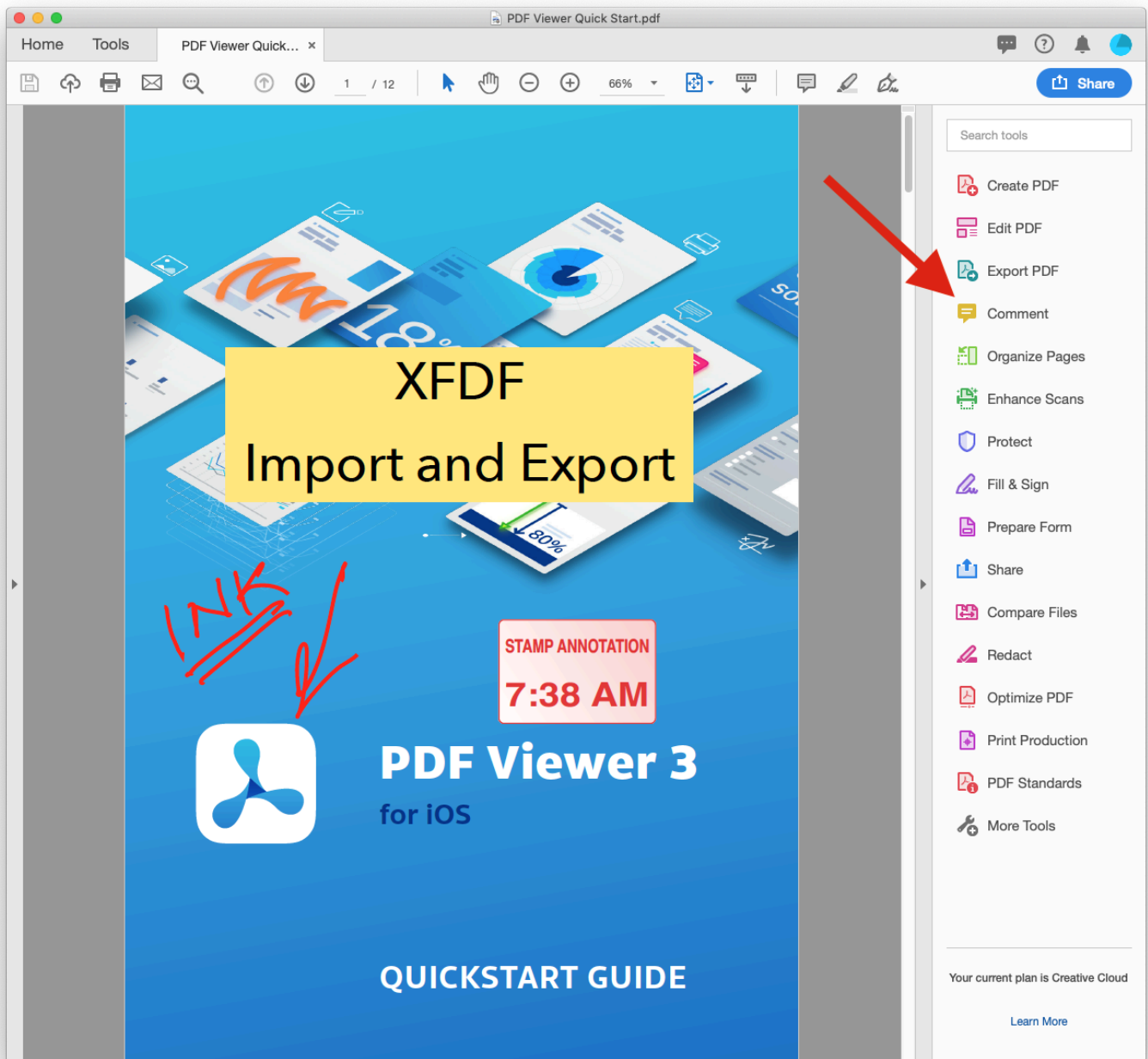
To write to a file, replace the stream with a file stream:

```
1 var xfdfFile = await StorageFile.GetFileFromApplicationUriAsync(new Uri("r
2
3 using (var dataWriter = new DataWriter(await xfdfFile.OpenAsync(FileAccessMode
4 {
5     await PDFView.Document.ExportXfdfToDataWriterAsync(dataWriter);
6 }
```

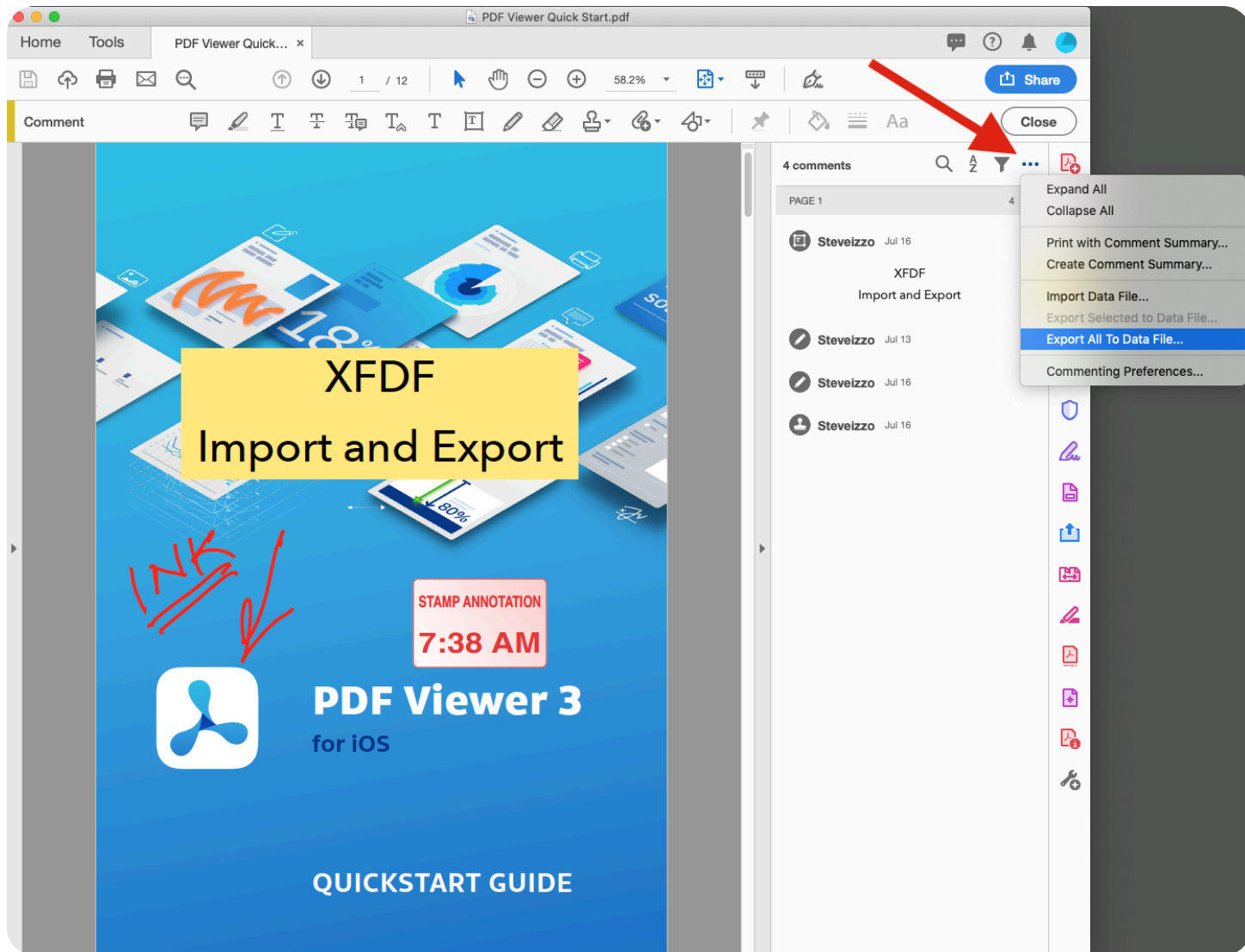


Exporting annotations to XFDF via Adobe Acrobat

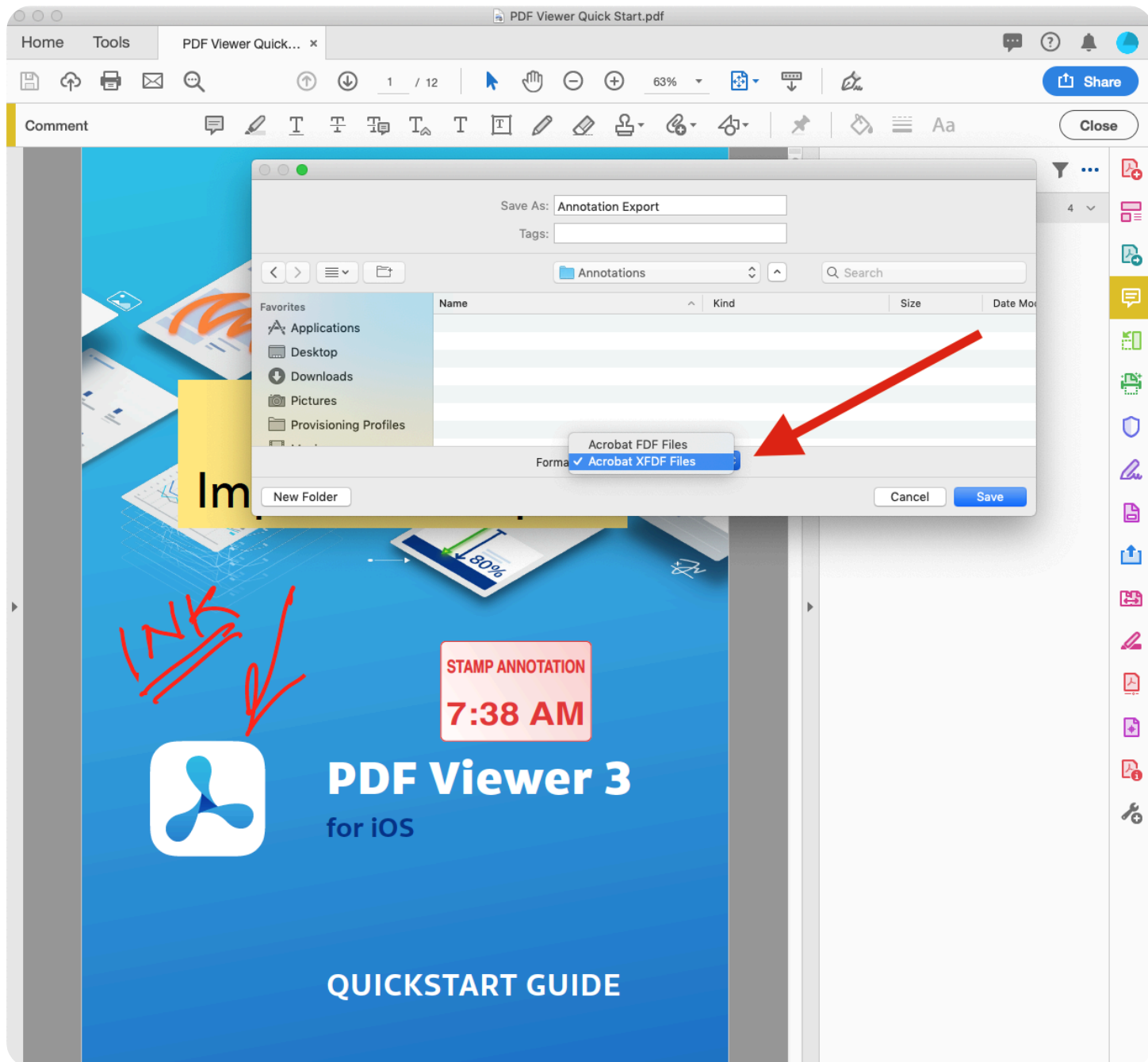
Adobe Acrobat can export annotations into XFDF. The export menu is part of the **Comments** tool and is accessed by opening the tool in the sidebar.



Access the export function by clicking the three dots and then choosing **Export All To Data File**.



- 1 At the bottom of the page, choose **Acrobat XFDF Files**.
- 2 Select the directory you wish to save the XFDF file to and name the file.
- 3 Click save.



A successful export will result in a file with an `.xpdf` extension.

Importing annotations to XFDF via Adobe Acrobat

The export function is part of the **Comments** tool and is accessed by clicking its icon.

Click the three dots to open the import menu, and then click **Import Data File**.

Highlight the `.xdf` file you wish to import and click **Select**.

The import function completes with the annotations being placed on the document.

Adobe Acrobat error conditions

ERROR DESCRIPTION	SCREENSHOT
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Damaged/missing document body

Damaged/missing description tag

Missing document flag

Was this helpful?

 YES

 NO

Questions? [Contact us](#)

