



Three Common PDF Issues- One Quick Fix Workflow

A Guide to Ally's PDF Quick Fixes

Remediating PDFs: It's Complicated

PDFs can be difficult to remediate, often requiring external tools and technical proficiency. Ally simplifies this with inline remediation that identifies and fixes 3 common issues: scanned PDFs, missing title, and missing a language set. Instructors remain fully in control by reviewing and approving every change. Instructors can still use the guidance in Instructor Feedback, but quick fixes offer a faster, more efficient path.

Quick tip: to streamline your time spent on PDF remediation, use the Course Accessibility Report to quickly pinpoint scanned PDFs and filter for missing titles or missing language settings—ideal starting points for applying the PDF quick fixes.

PDF Quick Fix #1: OCRing Scanned Documents

0%

This PDF is scanned

What this means

Scanned PDFs are essentially images of text, which screen readers and other assistive technologies cannot interpret. Scanned documents must go through OCR (Optical Character Recognition) to convert images into machine readable text.

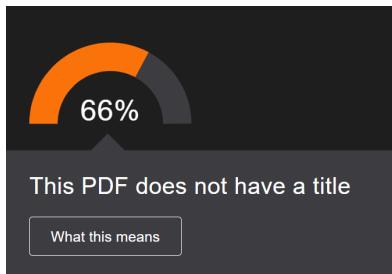
When using the OCR PDF quick fix, Ally adds a text layer to improve readability for students using assistive technology. The instructor must approve the preview before the fix is applied. OCRing a scanned document will raise your Ally score from 0 to 66%!

Scanned PDFs are images that assistive tools cannot read.

Applying OCR adds a hidden text layer, making the content accessible without changing its appearance.

[Preview and Apply](#)

PDF Quick Fix #2: Missing Title



A PDF title helps screen readers announce the document. The title is not visible in the document.

Set PDF Title

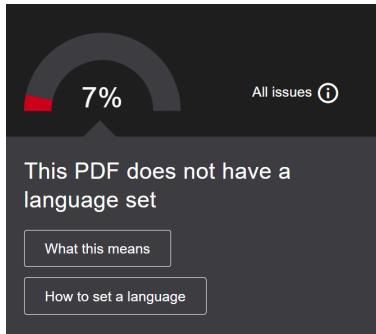
Apply fix to update the document.

Apply fix

A title is essential in a PDF because it's the first piece of information a screen reader announces, helping users understand what the document is before they begin reading. It also supports navigation and organization by clearly identifying the document in tabs, bookmarks, and assistive technology lists.

This fix contributes a 1% boost to the Ally score while significantly improving usability and providing screen reader users with essential context right away.

PDF Quick Fix #3: Missing Language Set



A PDF with a language set can be accurately interpreted by screen readers.

Add PDF Language

▼

Important: This fix will add a language to the file and replace the current version.

Apply fix

A scanned PDF needs a defined document language so screen readers can correctly interpret and pronounce the recognized text. Without it, assistive technologies may misread content.

By helping screen readers deliver accurate and understandable output, this fix provides a significant accessibility benefit—and also adds 5% to the Ally score.

Resources & Support

Please refer to the following PDF Quick Fix resources as needed.

- [Quick Fixes, Big Impact: Accessibility Wins for your PDFs \(Blog Post\)](#)
- [PDF Assisted Remediation FAQ \(Blog Post\)](#)
- [PDF Quick Fixes \(Ally Support Article\)](#)