

Link to a PDF

Due to security updates to Microsoft's HTML Help 1.x format, links from a CHM to external files (such as a PDF) may no longer work as expected.

Links that don't work:

Test link	Details
Click here	A typical hypertext marker with a relative link to the auto-generated PDF.
Click here	A hypertext marker with a relative path (from the document) to a PDF.
Click here	Hypertext marker with absolute path to PDF.
Click Here	Anchored frame with openfile link.

There are several reasons those links won't work all the time, ranging from the way ePublisher processes hypertext markers to HTML Help's special link requirements. Using pass-through conditional text and some useful scripts, you can make external links work in HTML Help output.

Links that work:

Test Link	Details
Click Here	Regular hypertext marker to a known absolute URL.

Test Link	Details
<pre> <OBJECT id=hhctrl type="application/x-oleobject" classid="clsid:adb880a6-d8ff-11cf-9377-00aa003b7a11" codebase="hhctrl.ocx#Version=4,73,8412,0"> <PARAM name="Command" value="ShortCut"> <PARAM name="Font" value="Verdana,10, #000000"> <PARAM name="Text" value="Text:Click Here"> <PARAM name="Item1" value=",PDFLink/PDFLink.pdf,"> </OBJECT> </pre>	<p>Using the Shortcut command to place a text link in HTML Help to the auto-generated PDF.</p>
<pre> <OBJECT id=hhctrl type="application/x-oleobject" classid="clsid:adb880a6-d8ff-11cf-9377-00aa003b7a11" codebase="hhctrl.ocx#Version=4,73,8412,0"> <PARAM name="Command" value="ShortCut"> <PARAM name="Font" value="Verdana, 10pt"> <PARAM name="Button" value="Text:Click Here"> <PARAM name="Item1" value=",PDFLink/Quick Start Guide.pdf,"> </OBJECT> </pre>	<p>Using the Shortcut command to insert a button link to a PDF from the Files folder.</p>

Test Link	Details
<pre>Click here</pre>	<p>Using the JavaScript method to determine the absolute path for a PDF.</p>

Hidden JavaScript definition:

```
<SCRIPT Language="JScript">
function parser(fn) {
var X, Y, sl, a, ra, link;
ra = /:/;
a = location.href.search(ra);
if (a == 2)
X = 14;
else
X = 7;
sl = "\\";
Y = location.href.lastIndexOf(sl) + 1;
link = 'file:/// ' + location.href.substring(X, Y) + fn;
location.href = link;
}
</SCRIPT>
```