

Usage: qpdf [options] infilename outfilename

An option summary appears below. Please see the documentation for details.

Basic Options

--password=password specify a password for accessing encrypted files
--linearize generated a linearized (web optimized) file
--encrypt options -- generate an encrypted file
--decrypt remove any encryption on the file

If neither --encrypt or --decrypt are given, qpdf will preserve any encryption data associated with a file.

Encryption Options

--encrypt user-password owner-password key-length flags --

Note that -- terminates parsing of encryption flags.

Either or both of the user password and the owner password may be empty strings.

key-length may be 40 or 128

Additional flags are dependent upon key length.

If 40:

--print=[yn] allow printing
--modify=[yn] allow document modification
--extract=[yn] allow text/graphic extraction
--annotate=[yn] allow comments and form fill-in and signing

If 128:

--accessibility=[yn] allow accessibility to visually impaired
--extract=[yn] allow other text/graphic extraction
--print=print-opt control printing access
--modify=modify-opt control modify access
--cleartext-metadata prevents encryption of metadata
--use-aes=[yn] indicates whether to use AES encryption
--force-V4 forces use of V=4 encryption handler

print-opt may be:

full allow full printing
low allow only low-resolution printing
none disallow printing

modify-opt may be:

all allow full document modification
annotate allow comment authoring and form operations
assembly allow form field fill-in and signing
none allow document assembly only
allow no modifications

The default for each permission option is to be fully permissive.

Specifying cleartext-metadata forces the PDF version to at least 1.5.

Specifying use of AES forces the PDF version to at least 1.6. These options are both off by default.

The --force-V4 flag forces the V=4 encryption handler introduced in PDF 1.5 to be used even if not otherwise needed. This option is primarily useful for testing qpdf and has no other practical use.