



# How-To Guide

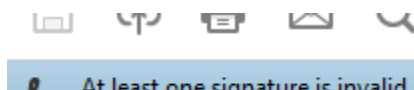
## Trusting Certificates in Adobe to Validate PDFs (Windows)

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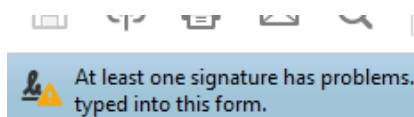
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## Overview

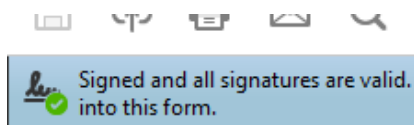
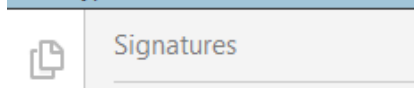
PDF documents signed with PKI certificates can be validated using Adobe Acrobat or Reader. The result of the evaluation is indicated by a symbol and color.



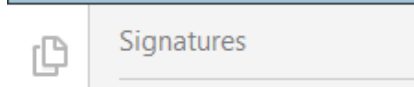
A red “X” means the document has been tampered with and its integrity not trusted.



A yellow “!” means the document integrity is fine but the certificate used to digitally sign the document is invalid or not trusted.



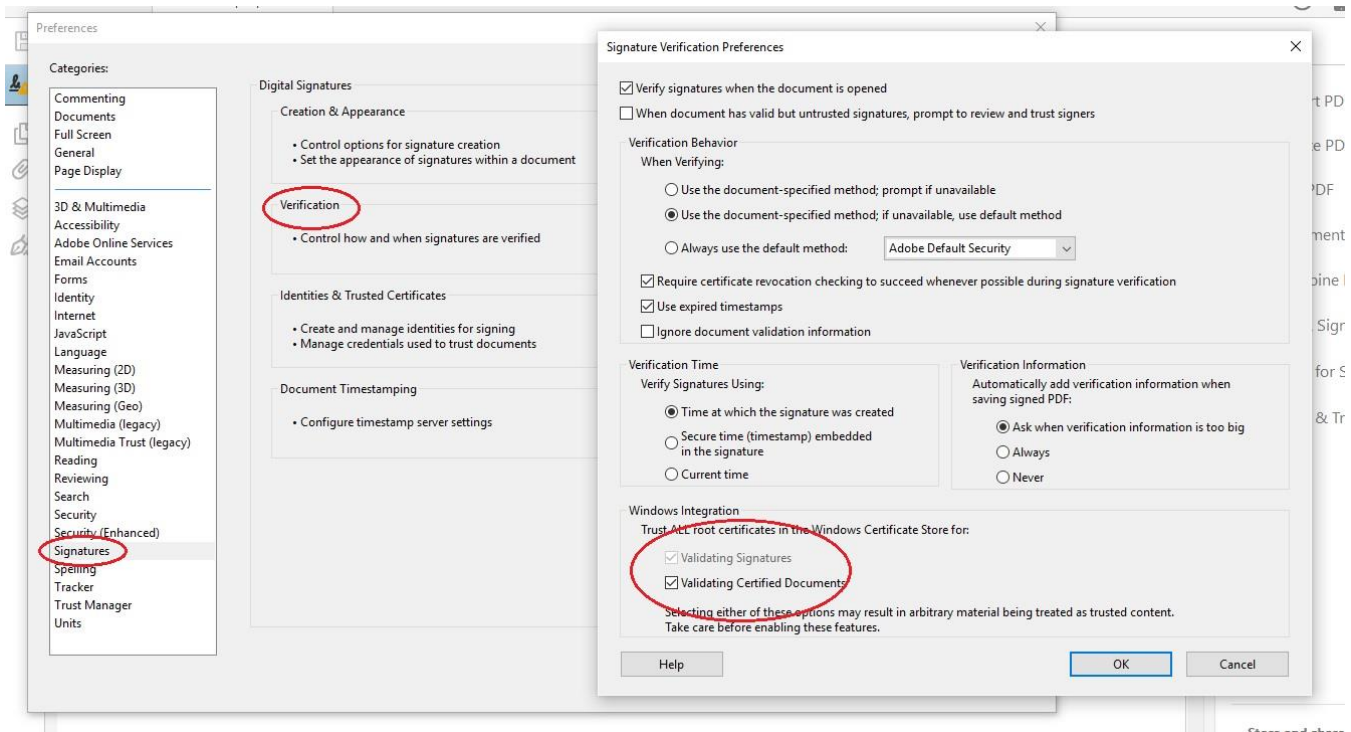
A green tick means the document integrity is fine and the certificate used to digitally sign the document is valid issued by a trusted CA (Certificate Authority).



Adobe Acrobat and Reader applications have their own certificate trust stores, however, the Windows trusted certificate store may already contain additional certificates needed in order to establish the trust chain of the certificates from the issuer’s certificate to the signing certificate. In order to best serve the purposes of web browsing, Microsoft Windows and browser vendors have created lists of trusted identities (CA root certificates) to enable more secure transactions online.

Users of Adobe products have the option to include the root certificates of these trusted certificate provides from the Windows Certificate Store, though this option is not selected by default. This option, called “Windows integration”, is an option that allows Adobe Acrobat and Reader to search for and use certificates in the Trusted Windows Certificate Store when validating the trust chain of digital signatures.

End users can configure Adobe Acrobat and Reader for Windows integration through the application's **Preference** panel.



**NOTE:** When changing Preference options in Adobe products, always close and reopen the application for the changes to take effect.