

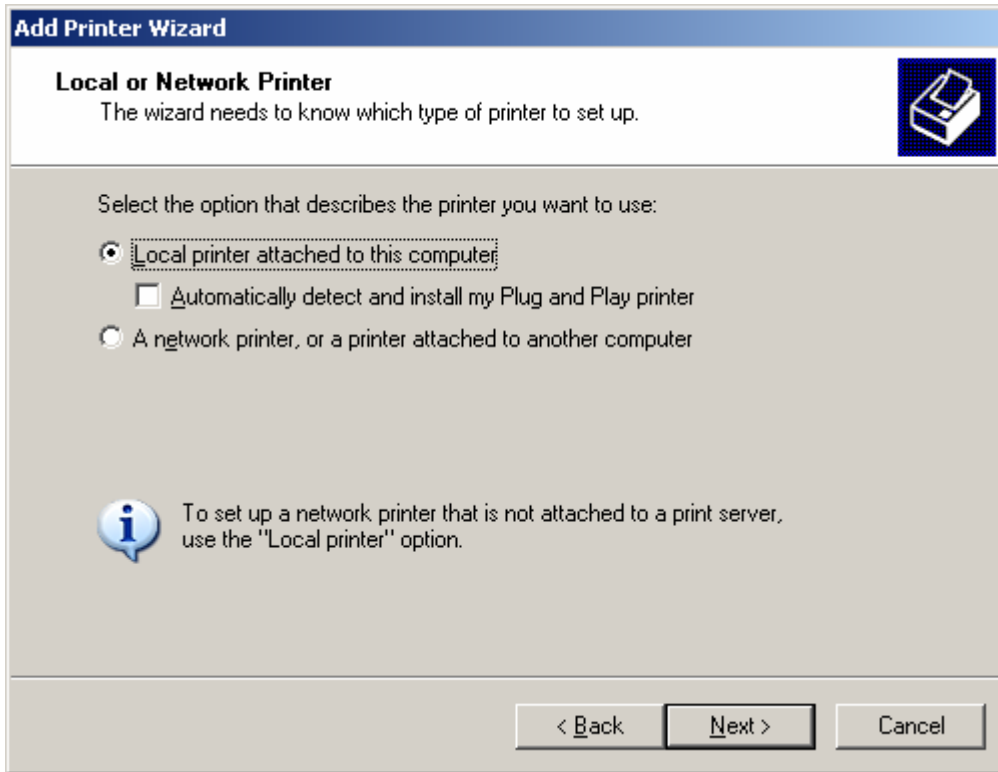
How To Create PDF Files For Free Under Windows 2000/XP

The following instructions will show you how to create PDF files under Windows 2000 or XP without having to utilize any Adobe Acrobat product. All software utilized is available under free licenses. The two products used are [Ghostscript](#), a postscript/pdf interpreter, and [RedMon](#), a Windows port monitor that redirects a special printer port to a program.

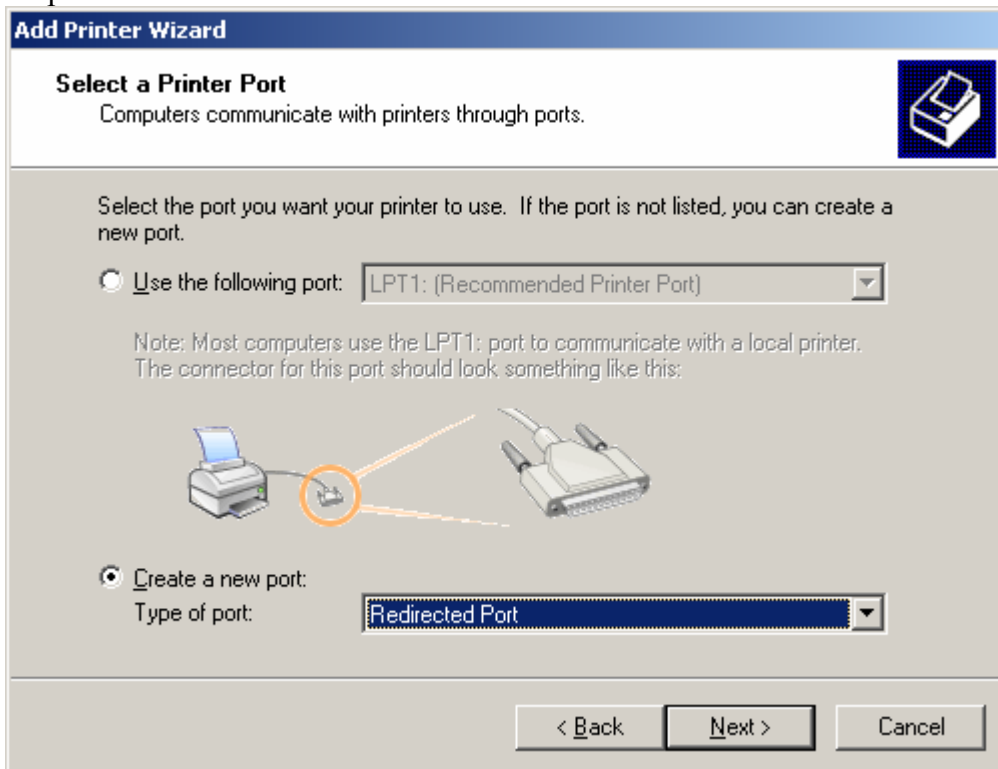
- 1) Install Ghostscript 8.00. Accept all default installation options. Ghostscript 8.00 is available here: <ftp://mirror.cs.wisc.edu/pub/mirrors/ghost/AFPL/gs800/gs800w32.exe>
- 2) Install RedMon 1.7. Accept all default installation options. RedMon 1.7 is available here: <ftp://mirror.cs.wisc.edu/pub/mirrors/ghost/ghostgum/redmon17.zip>
- 3) Start the [Add Printer Wizard](#). Click [Next](#) at the first screen.



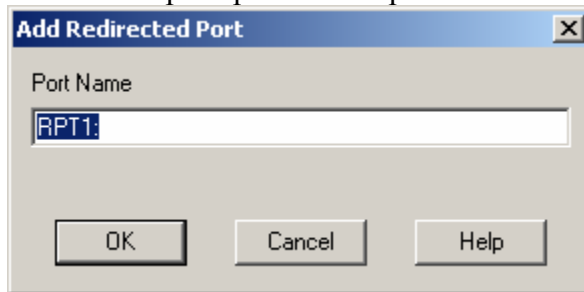
- 4) Choose [Local Printer attached to this computer](#). Uncheck, [Automatically detect and install my Plug and Play printer](#). Click [Next](#).



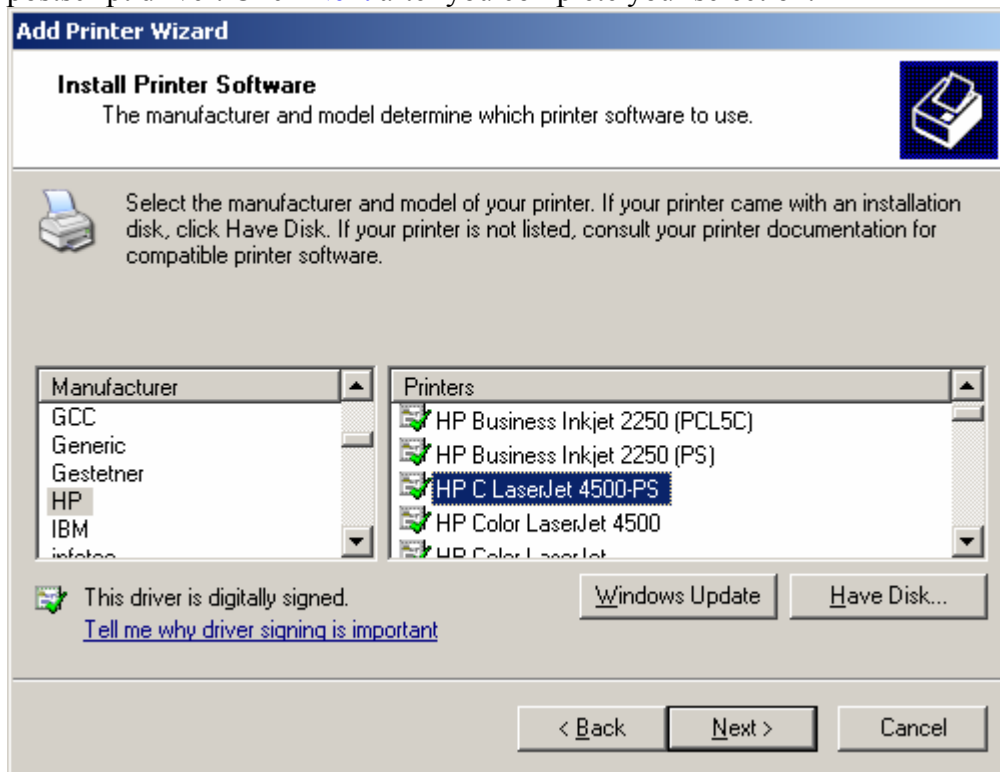
- 5) Choose the option to [Create a New Port](#). Select [Redirected Port](#) from the [Type of Port](#) drop-down menu and click [Next](#).



- 6) You will be prompted for the port name. Accept the default of **RPT1** by clicking **OK**.




- 7) Now you must select the printer driver to be used. Choose **HP** from the **Manufacturer** list, and then choose **HP C LaserJet 4500-PS** as the specific printer. This configuration is the one that has been tested. You may find another printer driver gives you better results. Whatever printer model you choose, it must be a color postscript driver. Click **Next** after you complete your selection.



- 8) You will be prompted to name your printer. I suggest **PDF Writer**, but you can choose any you prefer. Choose the option not to make this your default printer and click **Next**.

Add Printer Wizard

Name Your Printer
You must assign a name to this printer.



Type a name for this printer. Because some programs do not support printer and server name combinations of more than 31 characters, it is best to keep the name as short as possible.

Printer name:

Do you want to use this printer as the default printer?


Yes
 No

< Back Next > Cancel

- 9) Choose [Do not share this printer](#) and click [Next](#).

Add Printer Wizard

Printer Sharing
You can share this printer with other network users.

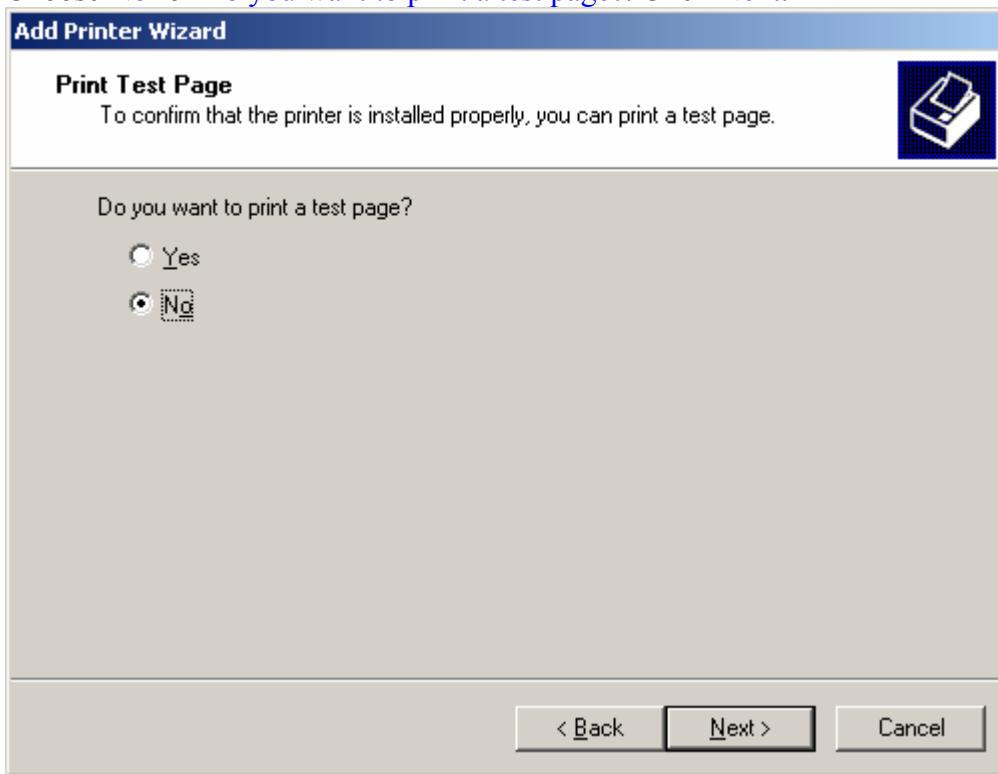


If you want to share this printer, you must provide a share name. You can use the suggested name or type a new one. The share name will be visible to other network users.

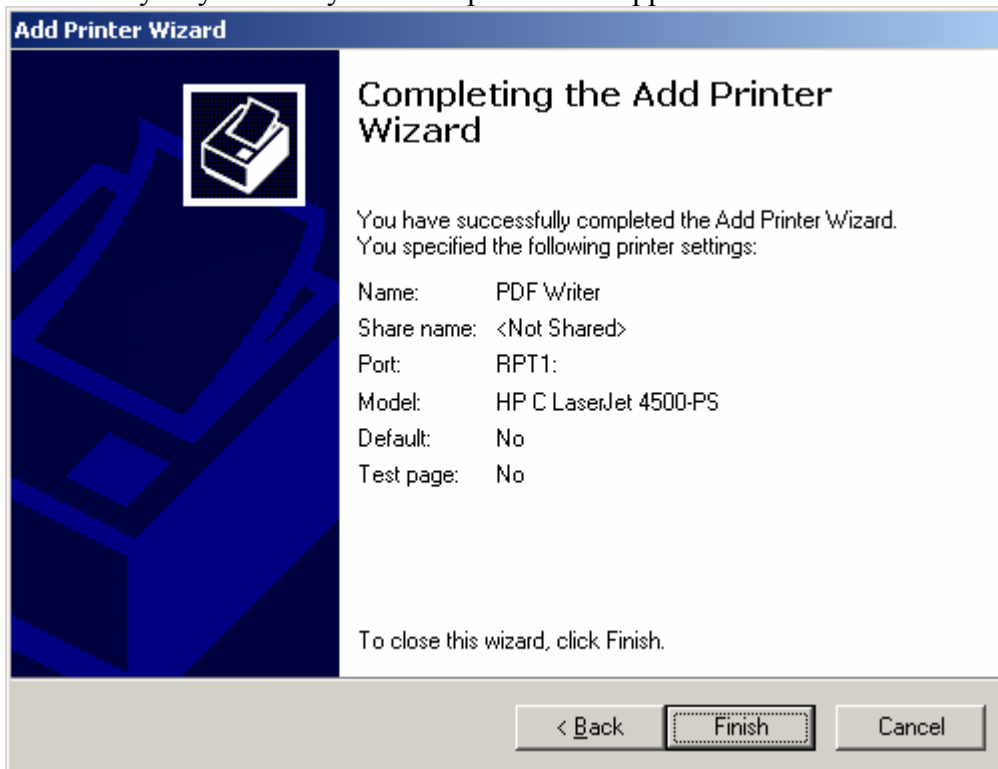
Do not share this printer
 Share name:

< Back Next > Cancel

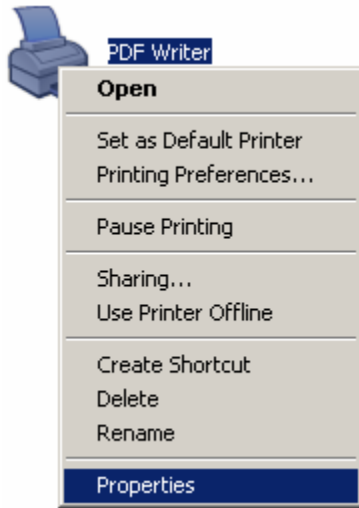
10) Choose **No** for **Do you want to print a test page?**. Click **Next**.



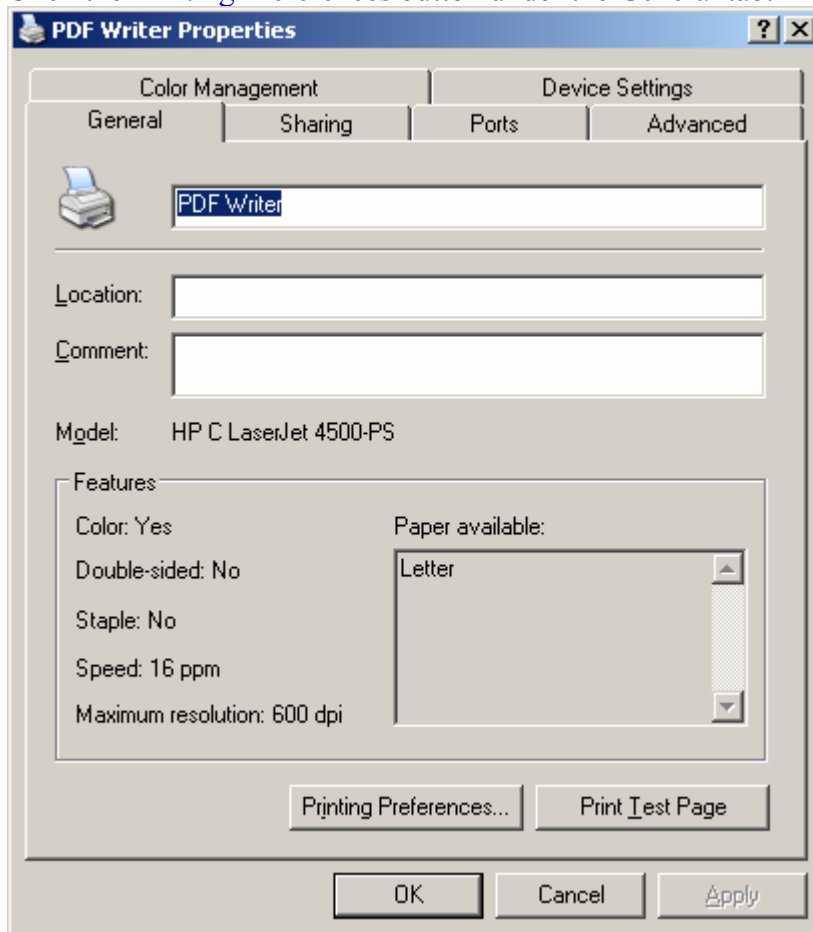
11) A summary of your newly installed printer will appear. Click **Finish**.



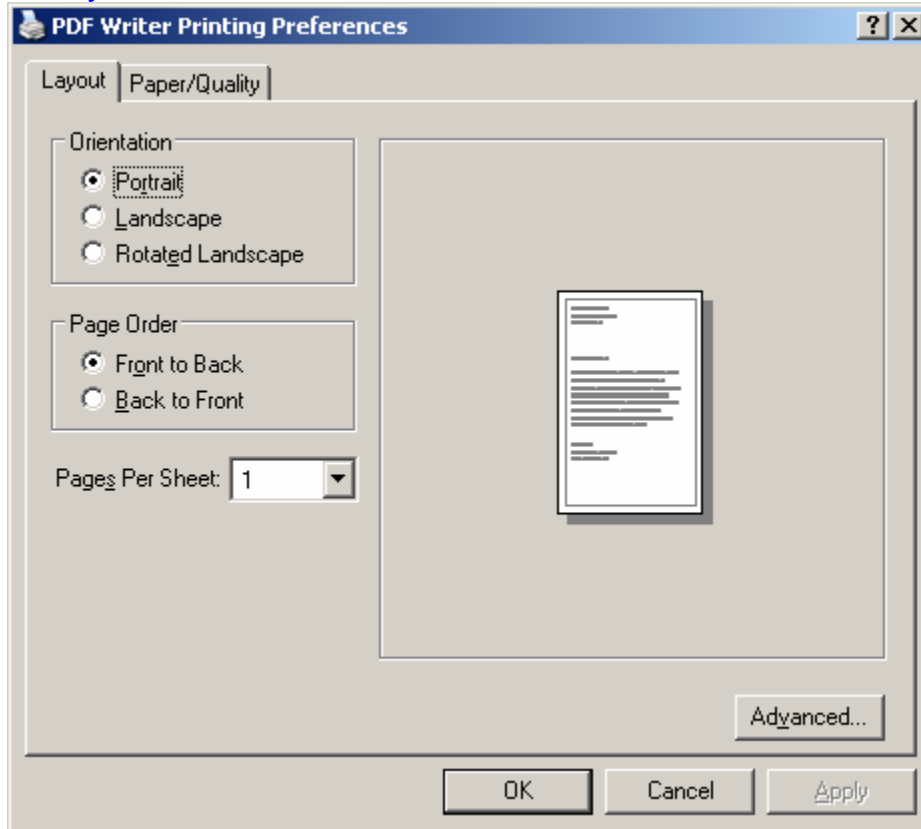
- 12) Open up your [Printers](#) folder. Find the icon for the printer you just created and right-click on it. Choose Properties from the menu.



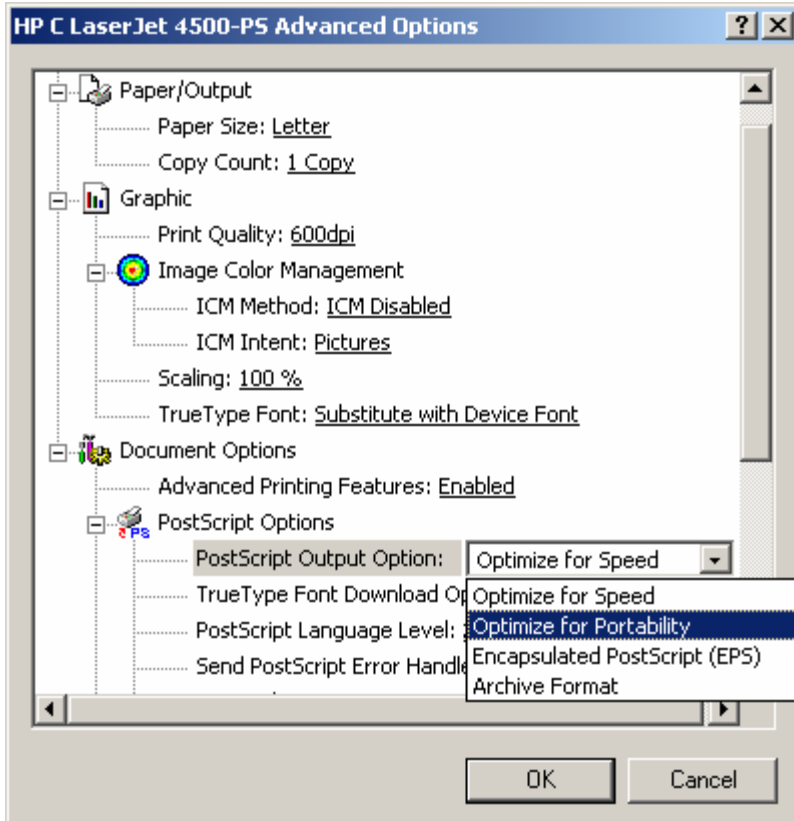
- 13) The printer Properties will appear. Confirm that under [Paper available](#), you see [Letter](#). Click the [Printing Preferences](#) button under the [General](#) tab.



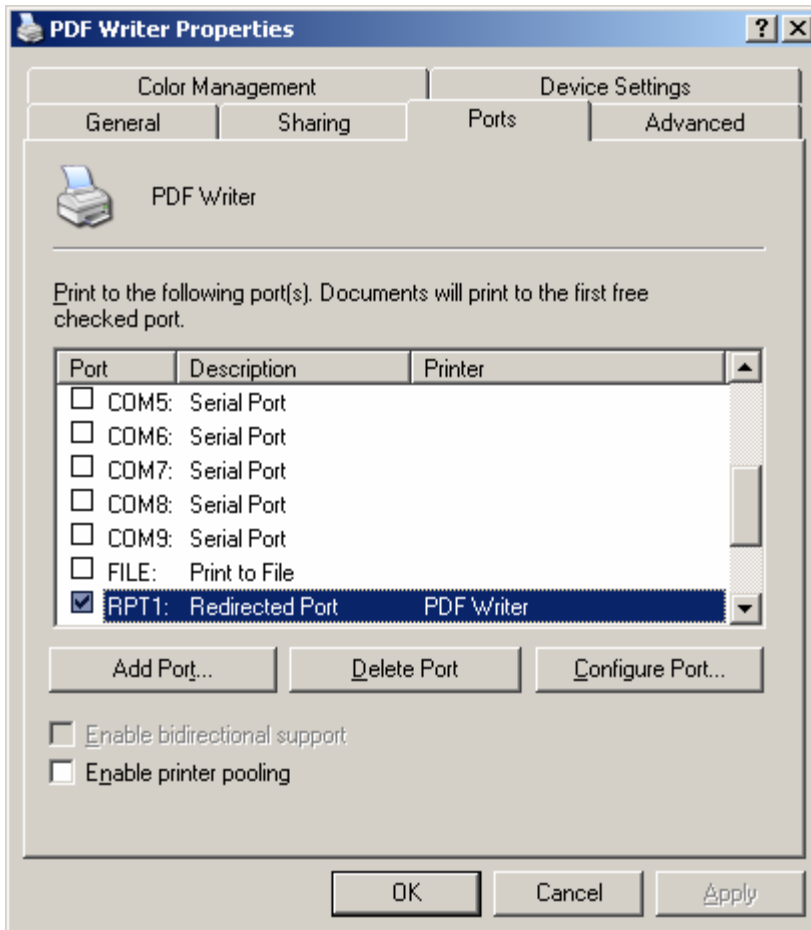
- 14) The [Printing Preferences](#) dialogue box will appear. Click the [Advanced](#) button under the [Layout](#) tab.



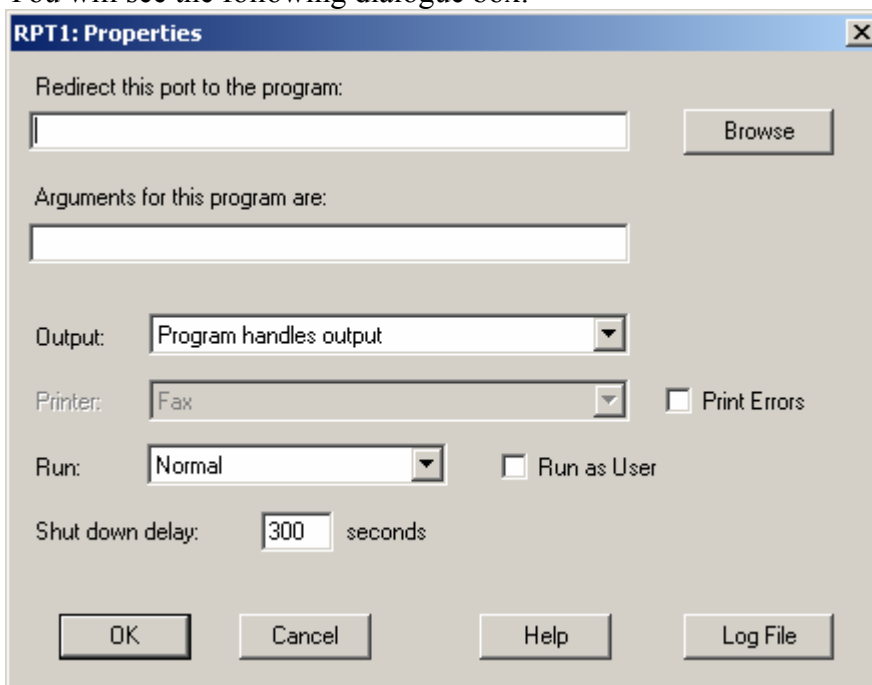
- 15) The Advanced Options will appear. Find and expand the [Postscript Options](#). For [Postscript Output Option](#), choose [Optimize for Portability](#). Click [OK](#). Click [Apply](#), then [OK](#) on the Printing Preferences dialogue box.



- 16) Choose the [Ports](#) tab on the Properties dialogue box. The [RPT1](#) port will be selected. [Enable bidirectional support](#) and [Enable printer pooling](#) should NOT be checked. Click [Configure Port](#).



17) You will see the following dialogue box:



18) Fill in the following port options. You must include every dash and space:

Redirect this port to the program:

`c:\gs\gs8.00\bin\gswin32c.exe`

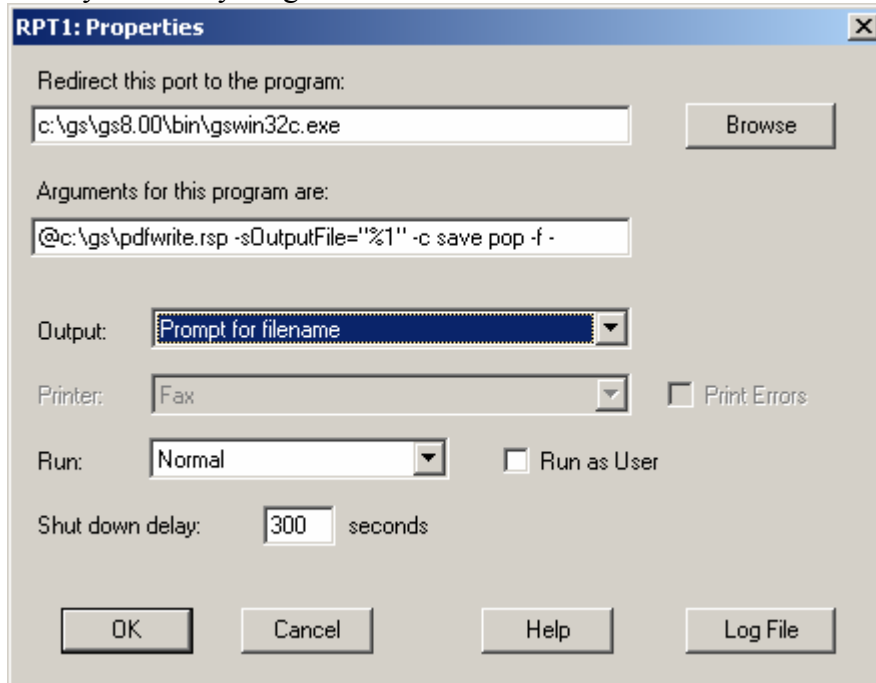
Arguments for this program are:

`@c:\gs\pdfwrite.rsp -sOutputFile="%1" -c save pop -f -`

Output:

Prompt for filename

19) Verify that everything is filled in as indicated below then click **OK**

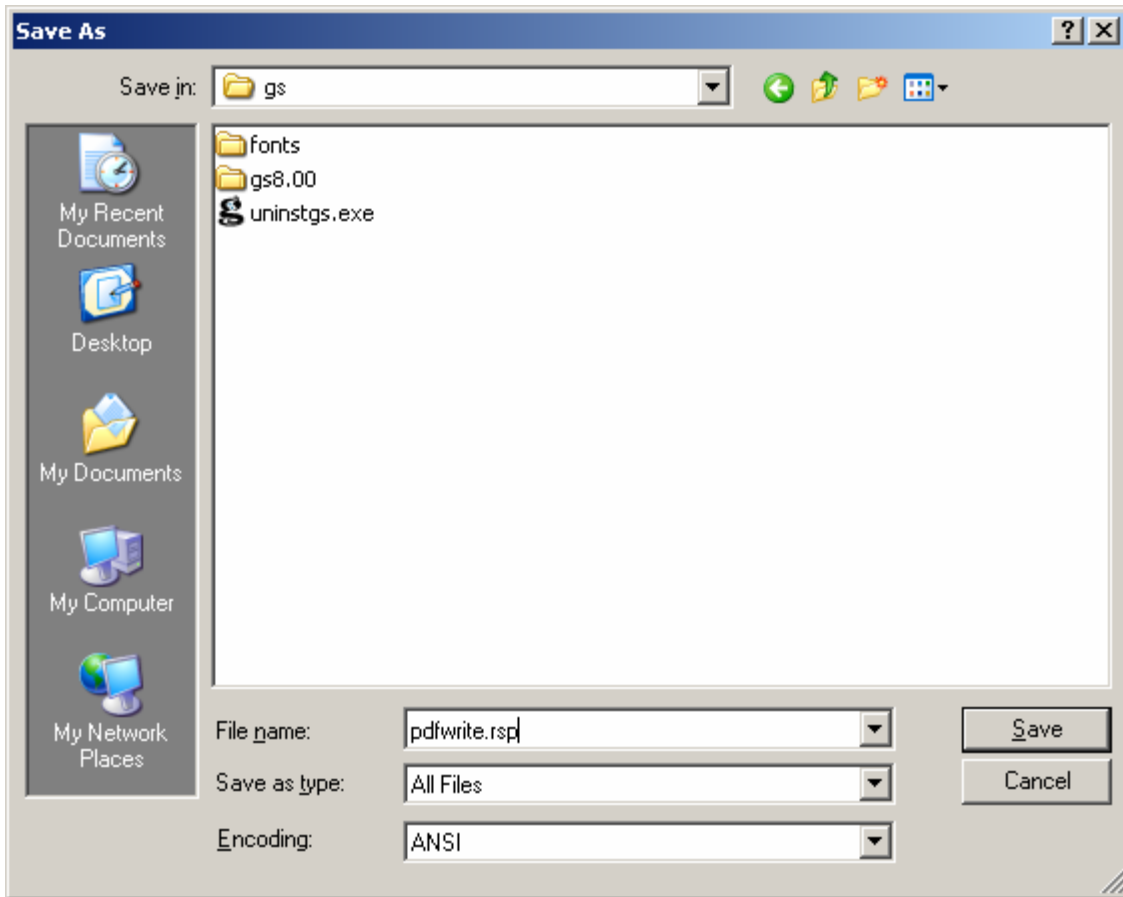


20) Click **OK** to close the Printer Properties dialogue box.

21) Create a new document in Notepad. Enter the following exactly as indicated below. Include a line return after the last line.

```
-Ic:\gs\gs8.00\lib;c:\gs\fonts  
-sDEVICE=pdfwrite  
-r600  
-dNOPAUSE  
-dSAFER  
-sPAPERSIZE=letter
```

22) Choose **Save As** from the **File** menu. Navigate to the `c:\gs` directory. Enter `pdfwrite.rsp` for the filename, and choose **All Files** from the **Save as type** drop-down menu. Click the **Save** button.



23) You are now ready to create PDF's using the new virtual printer you just created. To create a PDF in any application, simply choose [PDF Writer](#) as your printer. You will be prompted for a location and a filename. **NOTE:** You must include the file extension [.PDF](#) in your filename. It will not be added automatically.

That's all there is to it. This setup should provide all the features that the average user needs without the bloat or expense of Acrobat. I find that this produces much smaller PDF files as well.

As a final note, I would like to thank Ken for the PDF creation guide he has posted at <http://kenchiro.tripod.com/howtoPDF.html> . This guide would not have been possible without it.