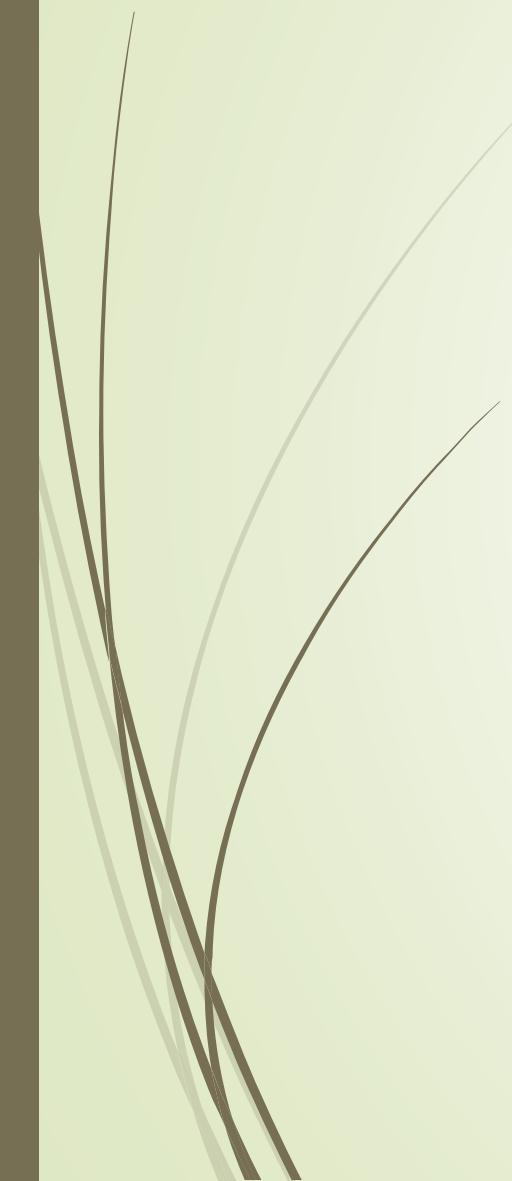




# What is PDF?

- ▶ PDF stands for Portable Document Format
  - ▶ PDF file format was developed by Adobe Systems corporation and is now an open standard (not owned by a particular company)
  - ▶ PDF is application, hardware and operating system independent
- 



# Why PDF?

- There are thousands of computer applications storing data in hundreds of different file formats
- Most of these applications cost money
- Most of these applications are platform specific (only run on 1, maybe 2, platforms)
- For example, I generate a WordPerfect document and save the file as “wpd” file format. I post the “wpd” document on the school website. Let’s say you are interested and would like to read the document. There are two serious problems with the above scenario:
  - 1) WordPerfect cost money
  - 2) You could be using a platform on which WordPerfect can’t run
- PDF files solve the above problem



# PDF Usage

- ▶ Most modern application are capable of saving data in PDF format:
  - ▶ Including MS Office Apps, Google Apps, and other apps
- ▶ PDF readers are free and available for all modern platforms
- ▶ PDF file format is highly capable
- ▶ PDF files can be encrypted – for additional security
- ▶ PDF file format is legally accepted – can't be altered without leaving a fingerprint