

Steps to add a certificate-based signature to a PDF

A *certificate-based signature*, like a conventional handwritten signature, identifies the person signing a document. Unlike a handwritten signature, a certificate-based signature is difficult to forge because it contains encrypted information that is unique to the signer. It can be easily verified and informs recipients whether the document was modified after the signer initially signed it.

To sign a document with a certificate-based signature, you must obtain a digital ID or create a self-signed digital ID in Acrobat or **Acrobat Reader**. The digital ID contains a private key and a certificate with a public key, and more. The private key is used to create the certificate-based signature. The certificate is a credential that is automatically applied to the signed document. The signature is verified when recipients open the document.

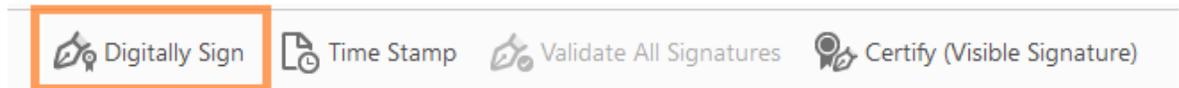
Credit Card	<input type="text"/>	Number	<input type="text"/>	ExpDate	<input type="text"/>
Your Signature					Digitally signed by John Smith Date: 2023.03.09 08:53:30 +05'30'
Please keep a copy for your records.					

Certificate-based signature in a PDF form

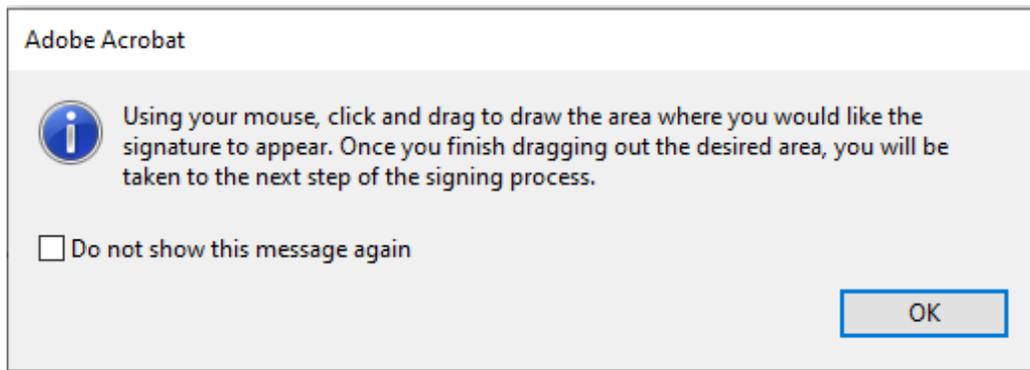
1. Open a PDF in Acrobat and choose **All Tools > more > Use a certificate** in the global bar.

Alternatively, from Acrobat Home, select **See all tools**. In the Protect section, select **Use a certificate**, and then **select a file** you want to certify.

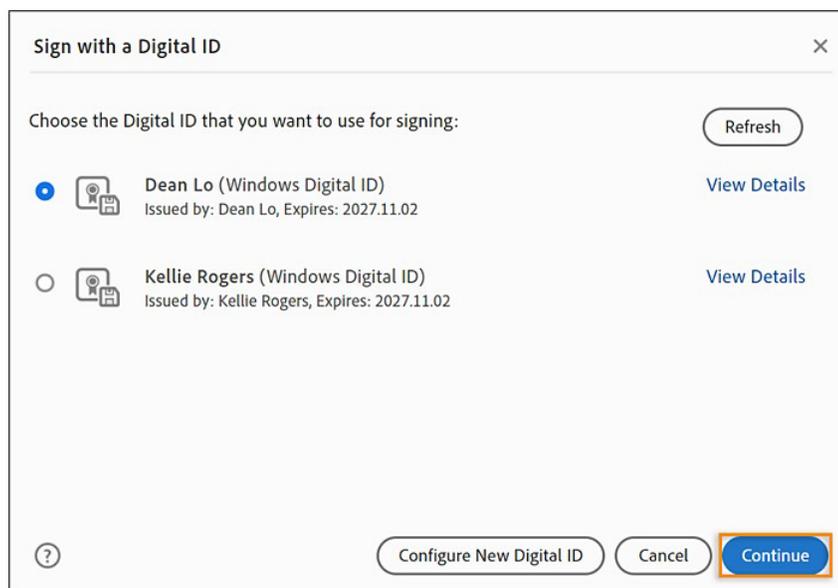
2. The **Use a certificate** tool is open on the side pane.



- Select **Digitally Sign** to certify with a visible digital signature, and then select **OK** in the dialog box that appears.



3. If you've selected, Digitally Sign in step 2, use the mouse to drag and draw a rectangle area where you want your signature to appear.
4. In the Sign with a Digital ID dialog box, choose the Digital ID you want to use for certifying the document and select **Continue**, or select **Configure New Digital ID** to create a new ID.



5. Select **Review** to review the document content before signing, then select **Sign**. Save the PDF when prompted. Your document is now certified.