

Hey everyone,

Version 0.3 Notes:

Thanks to John Vigor on the OpenOffice.org forum, we now have a way to do ~~almost~~ everything from the last version entirely from one macro. The entire process of converting .txt files is automatic, Author and Title headers are inserted on every page and defined by user input. Also, there are two macros for saving RTF and exporting PDF files.

Introduction:

To run the macros, you'll need OpenOffice.org (with Java Runtime Environment installed) and you'll need to enable macros when you open the "Project Gutenberg Conversion.ott" file.

1. Open "Project Gutenberg Conversion Template.ott" in OpenOffice.org
2. Import macros embedded in "Project Gutenberg Conversion Template.ott" (You can skip this step, but if you're going to convert a few or more files, this will save you from having to enable macros each time.
3. Click Tools > Macros > Organize Macros > OpenOffice.org Basic
4. Click the "Organizer" button
5. Drag the "txt_Conversion" macro from the "Project Gutenberg Conversion.ott" > Standard set into My Macros > Standard
6. Close the dialog box
7. Click File > Save As ...
8. In the drop down box, selected "OpenDocument Text Template (.ott)" and replace "Project Gutenberg Conversion Template" with the new file.
9. Run "Begin_Here" macro
10. Select .txt file to convert
11. This will start the process of removing all those annoying carriage returns from the .txt file. It will automatically run through the following (you don't have to do a thing!):
12. "Begin_Here" calls a prompt for the .txt file that you want to convert
13. "AllToSonyTextBody" makes sure, for future macros, that the text is formatted to the style "Sony Reader – Text Body." Honestly, this probably doesn't need to be in there any more.
14. "ChangeEmptyParaStyle" – this is John Vigor's wonderful macro. It seeks out all empty paragraphs, changes their style to "Heading 1" and then moves the cursor to the next line and reverts it to "Sony Reader – Text Body." I know, I know – blame it on the fact that OpenOffice.org can't handle more than 65,000 characters in a "sentence."

15. "SaveTheQuotes" keeps everything that has been indented in the text file with white spaces (quotes, songs, subtitles, etc.) from jumping up a line and messing everything up. Basically, it replaces the first two spaces with the "Sony Reader – Quotations" style, saving them from the next step.
16. "TextBody_EOL" is the money-maker. This macro selects everything that's still styled "Sony Reader – Text Body" and kills all carriage returns. This is the macro that takes forever.
17. "Formatting Quirks" will replace all underscores (_) with quotation marks ("), all double-dashes (--) with em-dashes (—) and attempts to get rid of any white spaces at the end of paragraphs.
18. "Format_Author_Title" gives a try at automatically applying styles to the title, by-line and author. For this to work, you need to edit the .txt document in Notepad before running the macro – make sure the title is on the top line and there's a line break between the title, the by-line and the author. There's a picture below to illustrate.
19. "Heading Styles" changes all uppercase headings (CHAPTER, BOOK, EPILOGUE, INTRODUCTION, etc.) to proper format and applies the "Sony Reader – Chapter Heading 1" to everything except book headings – those get "Sony Reader – Book Heading." At the end of this macro, the document is saved as "New Document.odt" under All Users > Desktop.

All of this will take a few minutes – a 600 page (3.57" x 4.606" size) book takes approximately three minutes. "Picture of Dorian Gray," an 1800 page document, took about ten minutes. OpenOffice.org will appear to lock up, so just leave it be (or minimize it) and do something else for a bit. You'll know the conversion is done because the document's first sentence will turn to "Sony Reader – Chapter Heading 1" and things won't be so jerky.

Now for the fine-tuning. Click the "Styles and Formatting" button on the OpenOffice.org toolbar and move the floating window to the right side of the document until it docks on the right. It'll be much easier to work with it there. Now click on the drop-down box at the bottom that says "Automatic." Scroll up once and click on "Custom Styles." This is where all of the styles I use in the macro are located. If you don't like my style choices, then right-click on whatever style you want to change and make the appropriate changes. You can modify the styles as you see fit (changing the font and size and what-not) without doing any damage. Actually, you might want to do this before you run any macros and then save the document as a template (Save As ... then use the drop down box to select "Open Document Text Template"). Just save over the template you downloaded. This way, you won't have to re-adjust the fonts every time.

If there are sub-chapter titles, I like to give them a style like "Subtitle" or "Sony Reader – Chapter Heading 3" and then go to Tools > Outline Numbering and change the drop-down boxes to reflect the applied style. This is so that, when you export the document to PDF, the sub-chapter titles will appear as a sub-bookmark of the chapter.

Right now, the PDF bookmarks are exported in this tree:

1. Sony Reader - Title
2. Sony Reader - Book Heading
3. Sony Reader - Chapter Heading 1
4. Sony Reader - Chapter Heading 2

This will create a primary bookmark using the Title, a sub-bookmark using the Book Headings (Like in "Moby Dick," where there are multiple "books") and a sub-bookmark of that using Chapter Heading 1. If you want to change the way the PDF bookmarks, you can go to Tools > Outline Numbering and select the style you want bookmarked from the drop-down box. Personally, I sometimes like to bookmark the lines I've styled "Sony Reader - Chapter Heading 3" to show up in the bookmark, as well (like the journal entries in "Dracula" or the sections of Locke's "Two Treatises on Government").

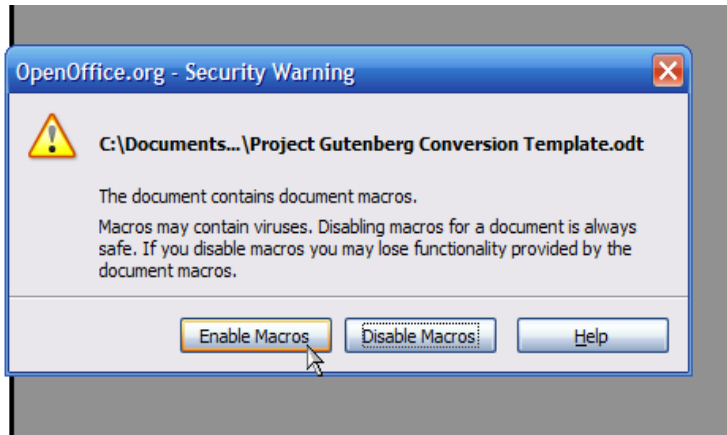
After you've got the document fine-tuned to your liking, run the "SaveAs_RTF_" macro to save a RTF file and run "ExportTo_PDF" to save a PDF file onto the desktop (this will save to All Users > Desktop).

To create a new macro toolbar:

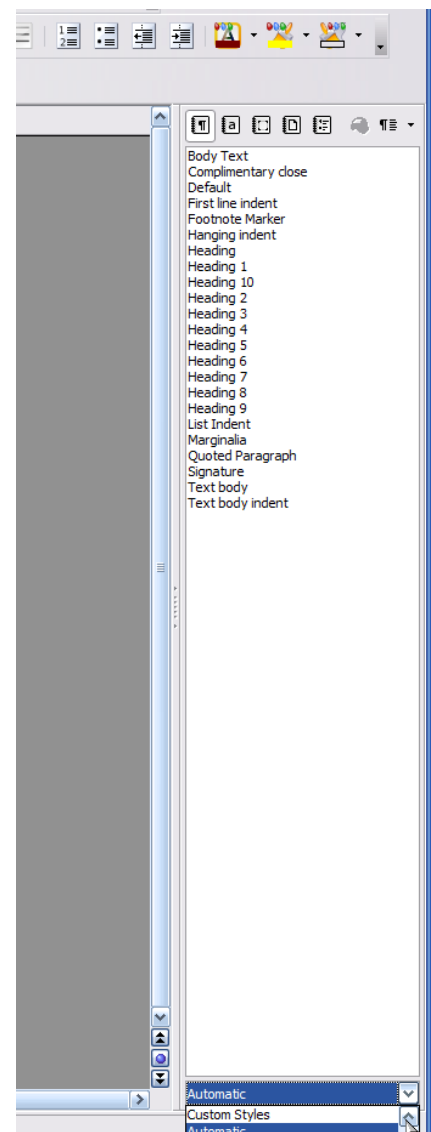
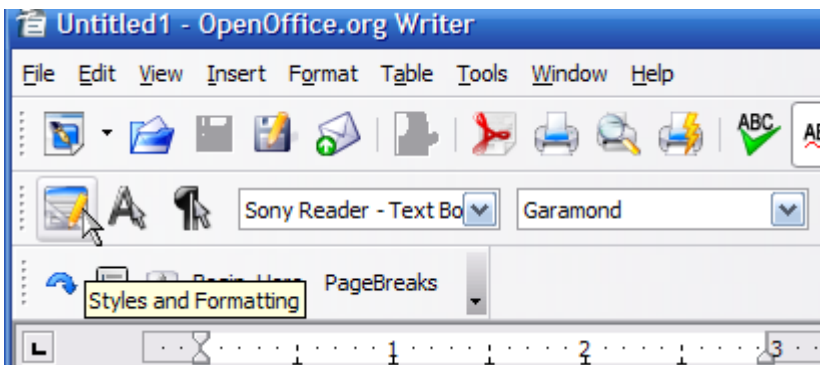
20. Click Tools > Customize
21. Click the "New" button to create a new toolbar – name it whatever you want
22. Click the "Add" button to start adding macros
23. Scroll down to OpenOffice.org Macros > My Macros > Standard
24. Select "txt_Conversion" in the far left window and then select "Begin_Here" in the right window and click "Add." Repeat this for "SaveAs_RTF" and "ExportTo_PDF." The other macros will run silently and don't need to be called.
25. Close out of the dialog box and you've got a quick way to access the macros you need!

I've added a couple pictures to make it a little easier for everyone:

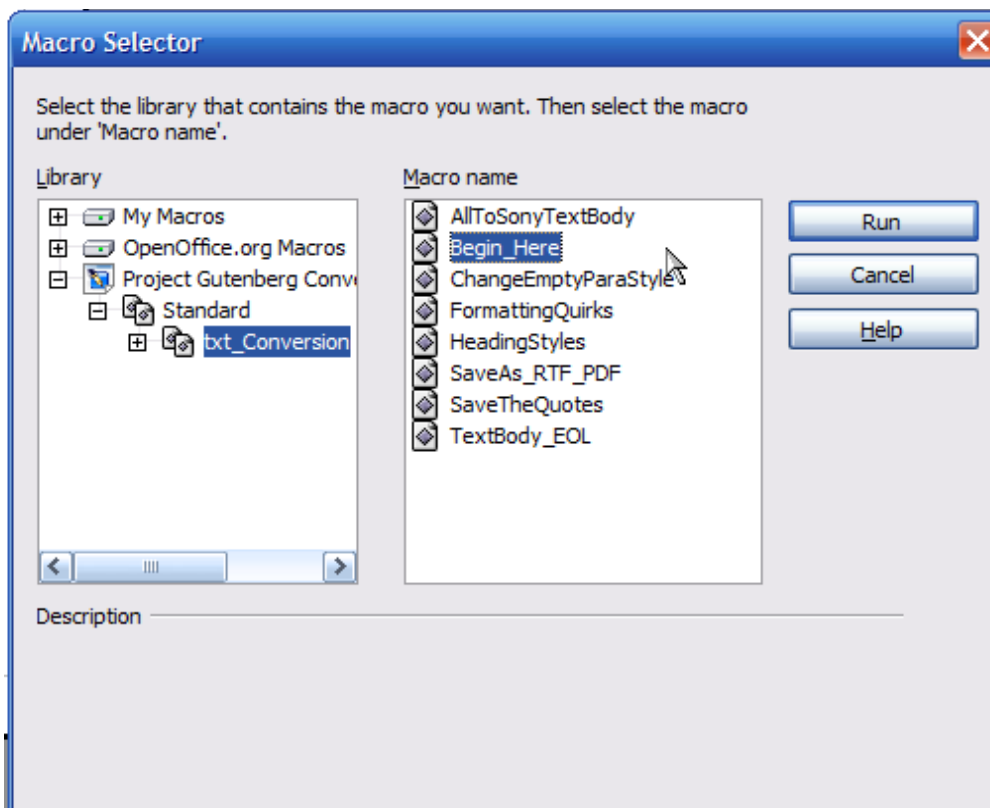
Enable Macros!

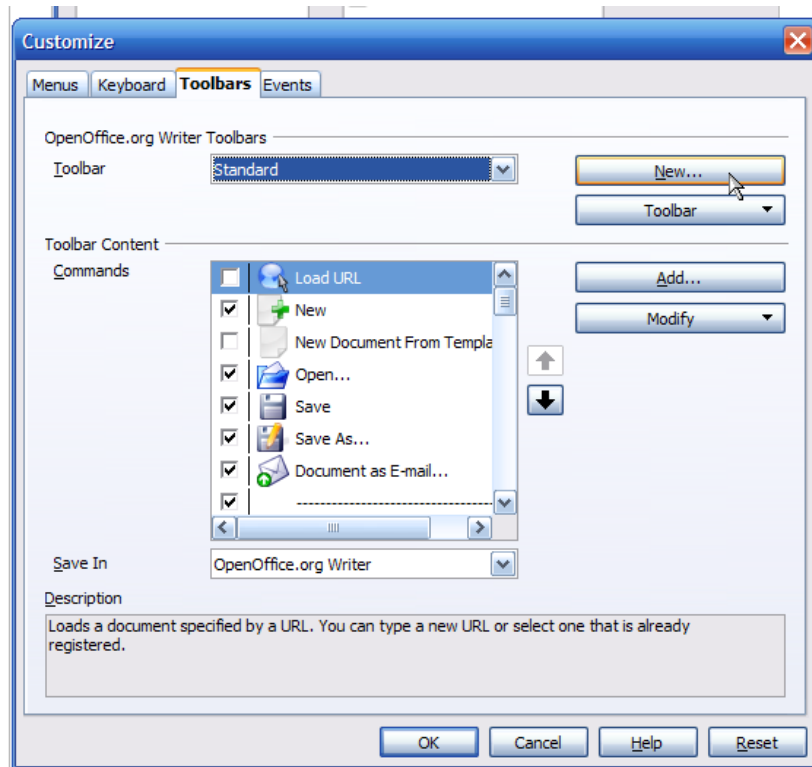


The “Styles and Formatting” Button and the sidebar.



Run the “Begin_Here” macro to get started





Creating a new toolbar

