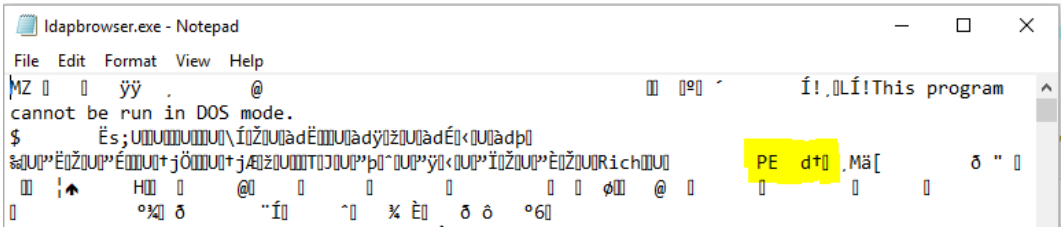
Is it 64 or 32 bit?

Have you ever wished for a simple and easy way to determine if a Windows application or library (dll) is 32 bit or 64 bit code? If so then this article might just be for you.

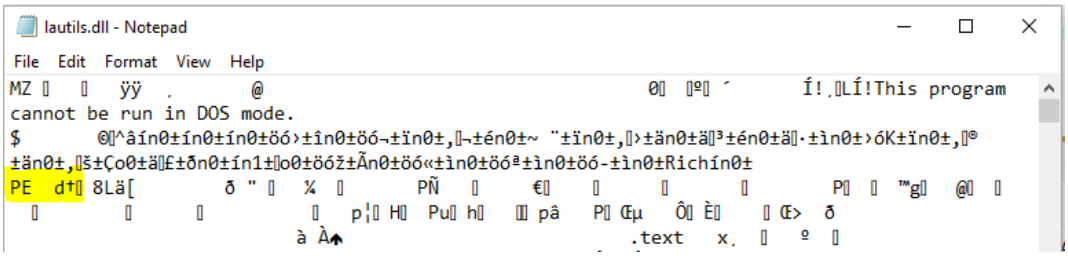
To determine which is the case simply open notepad (or any other text editor) and drag and drop the file in question on it. Do a FIND and look for the first occurrence of the string “PE”. What follows it determines if your file, application or dll, is 32 or 64 bit. If PE is followed by an “L”, your file is 32 bit. If PE is followed by L†, a lowercase d followed by a dagger, your file is 64 bit.

In the examples that follow, note the values listed immediately after the PE header (yellow highlighted). A quick visual inspection tells you if you have 32 bit or 64 bit code.

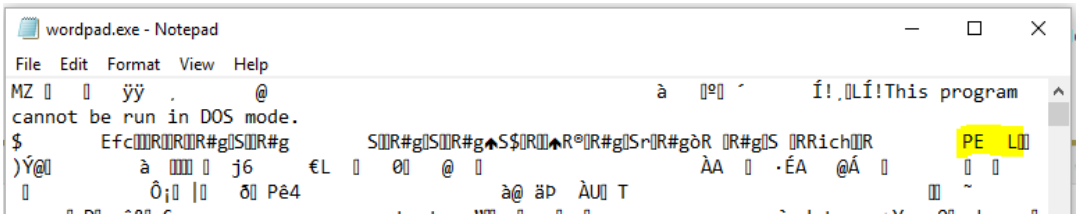
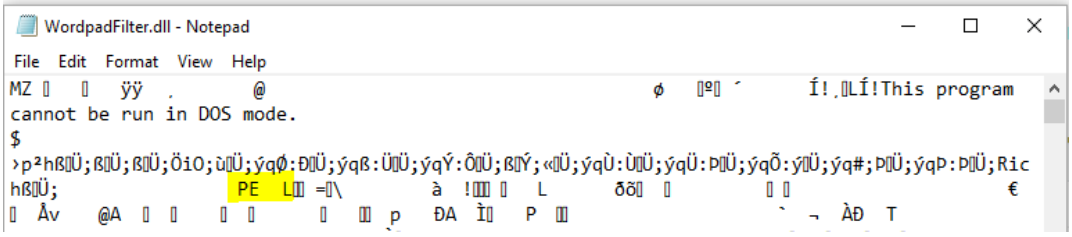
Example 1. The executable program **ldapbrowser.exe** is 64 bit.



Example 2. The dll file **lautils.dll** is 64 bit.



Example 3. The executable program **wordpad.exe** is 32 bit.



Example 4. The dll file **WordpadFilter.dll** is 32 bit.