# 4.2.5 Task elements

Task elements provide the fundamental structure for task topics. The task topic includes sections for describing the context, prerequisites, actual steps, expected results, troubleshooting, example, and expected next steps for a task.

### 4.2.5.1 chdesc
The `<chdesc>` element provides the content of the second cell in a choice table row. This content describes the option that users can take to complete the step, and it explains the result of the choice, if it is not immediately obvious.

### 4.2.5.2 chdeschd
The `<chdeschd>` element provides a label for the second column in a choice table.

### 4.2.5.3 chhead
The `<chhead>` element contains elements that provide labels for the columns in a choice table.

### 4.2.5.4 choice
A `<choice>` element describes a way that users can complete the current step.

### 4.2.5.5 choices
The `<choices>` element contains a list of choices. Each choice represents a way that users can complete the current step.

### 4.2.5.6 choicetable
A choice table provides information about a set of options for completing a step.

### 4.2.5.7 choption
The `<choption>` element contains the content of the first cell in a choice table row. This content names the option that users can take to complete the step.

### 4.2.5.8 choptionhd
The `<choptionhd>` element provides a label for the first column in a choice table.

### 4.2.5.9 chrow
The `<chrow>` element represents a row in a choice table. It contains a pair of elements: `<choption>` and `<chdesc>`.

### 4.2.5.10 cmd
A command specifies the action that users take to complete a step.

### 4.2.5.11 context
Contextual information is background information that helps users understand the purpose of the task and what they will gain by completing it.

### 4.2.5.12 info
The `<info>` element contains additional information about the step.

### 4.2.5.13 postreq
Post-requisites are steps or tasks that users might need to perform after completing the current task.

### 4.2.5.14 prereq
Prerequisites are things that users need to know or preliminary tasks that users need to perform before starting the current task.

### 4.2.5.15 result
The `<result>` element describes the expected outcome for the task as a whole.

### 4.2.5.16 step
A step is an action that users take to complete a task. It can also contain additional information about the step, such as an example, result, or troubleshooting guidance.

### 4.2.5.17 stepresult
The `<stepresult>` element provides information about the expected outcome of a step.

### 4.2.5.18 steps
Steps are a series of actions that users perform in a specific order and manner.

### 4.2.5.19 steps-informal
Informal steps are steps that do not follow a strict content model. A paragraph might describe more than one step, or a paragraph might combine procedural information along with other information.

### 4.2.5.20 stepsection
The `<stepsection>` element contains expository text that might be rendered before a step.

### 4.2.5.21 steptroubleshooting
Step troubleshoooting is information that is intended to help users respond to the situation if a step does not complete as expected.

### 4.2.5.22 steps-unordered
Unordered steps are steps in which the order of the steps to be performed might vary from one situation to another.

### 4.2.5.23 stepxmp
A step example illustrates how a step is completed. The example might be text-based, an image, a code sample, a link to a video, or some other representation.

### 4.2.5.24 task
The `<task>` element is the top-level element for a task topic. Task topics provide the instructions that guide users to perform a task.

### 4.2.5.25 taskbody
The `<taskbody>` element contains the body of a task topic. The task body can include prerequisites, contextual information, steps, results, examples, troubleshooting information, and post-requisites. General task topics can also contain generic sections.

### 4.2.5.26 tasktroubleshooting
Task troubleshooting information is information that is intended to help users respond to the situation if a task does not complete as expected.

### 4.2.5.27 tutorialinfo

The `<tutorialinfo>` element contains additional information that is useful when the task topic is part of a tutorial.

**Parent topic:** [4.2 Topic and map specializations](#)
**Previous topic:** [4.2.4.13 refsyn](#)
**Next topic:** [4.2.5.1 chdesc](#)

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