

## DITA LANGUAGE - Oasis Help Feedback

Reviewed by Alfresco Software Doc team ([Docs@alfresco.com](mailto:Docs@alfresco.com)). Please contact us if you have any questions.

Category	Element	Content	Typos / grammar	Comments
Table elements	table			Colors for table and simpletable display differently in output - is this default? RDA: Do you mean in the output? If that is the case, it is up to the rendering engine – the spec has to stay clear of this sort of description.
				Is there a way to handle awkward page breaks with tables? RDA: That's also something that is up to an implementation engine. Many renderers have their own algorithms for breaking tables, and that is outside the scope of the DITA specification.
		P1: two types of table		Making assumptions. For example: it talks about two types of table but does not then state what they are called. The first para talks about the <CALS table>, and lucky that I already knew that they were talking about <table>. RDA: Thanks, I've fixed that. Also changed it to talk about the OASIS table (formerly CALS), rather than about CALS (now OASIS).
		CALS table in comparison with the <simpletable>		See previous point
		Numbered list		The numbered list shows the <table> element plus all of the related elements, and it also includes <simpletable> and all of the related elements. These should be separated out into two lists because you cannot use these elements interchangeably. (Looking at the rest of the spec, they have this format at the start of each section, so maybe there's good reason for it, but I found it confusing - also using numbered list for these elements implies ordering, whereas this is not the case). RDA: That will be a little difficult. The numbering is automatic based upon the organization of the spec – all elements under the general "table" heading are linked to and get next/previous headings. The only real way to avoid this would be to break it up into two sections, rather than having both under the table section. What do you think?
		P2	...DITA attributes <i>that</i> enable it for specialization... RDA: fixed	
	tgroup			
	colspec			Char or charoff descriptions unclear RDA: These definitions are taken word-for-word from their description in the OASIS table model, which is equally confusing. I've added an example to each attribute.
	thead			The colname attributes should indicate the restrictions on naming syntax. For example, XMLMind automatically added the name "_2", "_3", and so on, to the colname attributes when using the column

				<p>span option. The underscore is apparently not allowed. The Data type is shown as NMTOKEN, which should imply that underscores are allowed.</p> <p>RDA: NMTOKEN is defined by XML as beginning with a letter, although underscores may appear after that. I am a little reluctant to define it here, as we would potentially have to define it every time we use NMTOKEN, CDATA, or any other term common to XML standards. A quick scan shows that HTML and OASIS Exchange also do not define this value.</p>
	tbody			
	row			
	entry			
	simpletable			<p>Unclear how to apply keycol to a column. Keycol is only available when selecting the entire simpletable element. Example output with three-part definition list and keycol attribute would be useful</p> <p>RDA: I've updated the definition of keycol and added an example.</p>
	sthead			
	strow			
	stentry			See Content Model Definitions
Content Model Definitions	General			<p>Entries are either separated with the word "or", or by a comma, and are not alphabetical. Unclear whether there is any logical order.</p> <p>RDA: The 'contained by', which has no order, uses commas. The 'contains' does have an order, expressed by using either "this or that" (no defined order) or "this then that" (required order). I'm not sure how to improve this, but would be happy to hear suggestions. Note that these models are all generated based on the DTD definition, so I may be a bit limited in what I can do (but this does mean I do not have to hand-edit changes).</p>
General				<p>Where DITA markup is used to show an example, a visual of the output would be helpful (for example, <i>d/</i>)</p> <p>RDA: I have started including these in some places. However in many places it is intentionally left out, so as not to seemingly define required presentation behaviors. It's a balance between two communities – one would like demonstrations of every element, the other feels sample output is completely out of scope and should be up to the implementation. This document has to be geared towards both. However – if you see any specific places where you really feel it is needed, I can add them; I've done this for a few already based on review comments. I did so for &lt;dl&gt; based on your comment here.</p>
Images				<p>Add image guidelines for sizes if scale is deprecated</p> <p>RDA: I do not think that it is deprecated – the only deprecated attributes are alt and longdesc. Any size image may be referenced and/or scaled; different output formats may have their own limitations that are outside the scope of the DITA spec.</p>