

Attributes

The following attributes are available on this element: [3.10.1 Universal attribute group \(372\)](#) and [outputclass \(382\)](#).

3.2.1.5 <navtitle>

The navigation title (<navtitle>) element is one of a set of alternate titles that can be included inside the <titlealts> element. This navigation title might differ from the first level heading that shows in the main browser window. Use <navtitle> when the actual title of the topic isn't appropriate for use in a table of contents, navigation pane, or online content (for example, because the actual title is too long). Beginning with DITA 1.2, the <navtitle> element is also available in the <topicmeta> element in a <topicref> in a map, and its use is preferred over the <topicref> element's @navtitle attribute.

When <navtitle> is used in a map, it functions in the same way as the @navtitle attribute; both are used to specify a navigation title for the target of the <topicref> element. That is, the title itself will only be used as an actual navigation title when the title is locked; the title is locked when the <topicref> element sets the attribute locktitle="yes". If the title is not locked, processing systems will typically retrieve the current title from the target topic, looking first for a <navtitle> element and second for the general <title>.

When both a <navtitle> element and a @navtitle attribute are specified, the <navtitle> element *SHOULD* be used.

Because the <navtitle> element is available within <topicmeta>, and <topicmeta> is used in many different contexts, it is possible that <navtitle> can be specified in contexts where a navigation title does not make sense (for example, on the <topicgroup> element). In those situations, the <navtitle> element has no defined purpose.

Content models

See [appendix \(466\)](#) for information about this element in OASIS document type shells.

Inheritance

- topic/navtitle

Example

```
<task id="progexample">
  <title>Publishing a DITA information set in PDF</title>
  <titlealts><navtitle>Publishing in PDF</navtitle></titlealts>
  <taskbody><context>Some text</context></taskbody>
</task>
```

Figure 39: <navtitle> sample in a topic

In this sample, the first title is not locked, and will generally be replaced with a title retrieved from a.dita. The second title is locked, and will be displayed when this map is used as a basis for navigation.

```
<map xml:lang="en">
  <title>This is a sample map</title>
  <topicref href="a.dita">
    <topicmeta>
      <navtitle>Title of A</navtitle>
    </topicmeta>
  </topicref>
  <topicref href="b.dita" locktitle="yes">
    <topicmeta>
```

```
<navtitle>Short Title for B</navtitle>
</topicmeta>
</topicref>
</map>
```

Figure 40: <navtitle> samples in a map

Attributes

The following attributes are available on this element: [3.10.1 Universal attribute group](#) (372).

3.2.1.6 <shortdesc>

The <shortdesc> element provides a short description of the topic. The short description, which represents the purpose or theme of the topic, is also intended to be used as a link preview and for search results. The element can occur both in topics and maps.

The short description should be a single, concise paragraph containing one or two sentences of no more than 50 words.

Short descriptions in topics

The content of the <shortdesc> element *SHOULD* be rendered as the initial paragraph of the topic.

Use the <shortdesc> element when the first paragraph of topic content is simple enough to be suitable for use as a link preview or for summaries. Otherwise use the <abstract> element to provide richer content around the <shortdesc>. See the [3.2.1.7 abstract](#) (197) description for more information about the behavior of <shortdesc> in an abstract.

While the <shortdesc> element is optional, it is recommended that topics contain this element. When a topic contains only one paragraph, it is preferable to include the text in the <shortdesc> and omit the topic body or leave it empty.

Short descriptions in maps

The <shortdesc> element can be used in DITA maps and associated with <topicref> elements. This enables map authors to accomplish the following goals:

- Associate a short description with a non-DITA object.
- Provide a short description that is specific to the map context and used for link previews.
- Override the short description located in the associated DITA topic, when the @copy-to attribute is specified. Processors might not implement this behavior.

When processors generate link previews that are based on the map context, they *SHOULD* use the content of the <shortdesc> that is located in the map rather than the <shortdesc> that is located in the DITA topic. However, processors *SHOULD* use the content of the <shortdesc> element in the DITA topic when they render the topic itself, unless the @copy-to attribute is specified on the topic reference to the element.

When a <shortdesc> element applies to an entire DITA map, it serves as description only.

Content models

See [appendix](#) (477) for information about this element in OASIS document type shells.

Inheritance

"- topic/shortdesc " when used in topics, and "- map/shortdesc " when used in maps.

<navtitle>

Use <navtitle> when the actual title of the topic isn't appropriate for use in a table of contents, navigation pane, or online content (for example, because the actual title is too long). ~~Beginning with DITA 1.2, the <navtitle> element is also available in the <topicmeta> element in a <topicref> in a map, and its use is preferred over the <topicref> element's @navtitle attribute.~~

Usage information

The navigation title (<navtitle>) element is one of a set of alternate titles that can be included inside the <titlealts> element. This navigation title might differ from the first level heading that shows in the main browser window.

Because the <navtitle> element is available within <topicmeta>, and <topicmeta> is used in many different contexts, it is possible that <navtitle> can be specified in contexts where a navigation title does not make sense (for example, on the <topicgroup> element). In those situations, the <navtitle> element has no defined purpose.

Processing expectations

When <navtitle> is used in a map, it functions ~~in the same way as the @navtitle attribute; both are used to specify a navigation title for the target of the <topicref> element. That is, the title itself will only be used as an actual navigation title when the title is locked; the title is locked when the <topicref> element sets the attribute locktitle="yes". If the title is not locked, processing systems will typically retrieve the current title from the target topic, looking first for a <navtitle> element and second for the general <title>.~~

When both a <navtitle> element and a @navtitle attribute are specified, the <navtitle> element *SHOULD* be used.

Attributes

The following attributes are available on this element: [Universal attribute group](#).

Example

Figure: <navtitle> sample in a topic

```
<task id="progexample">
  <title>Publishing a DITA information set in PDF</title>
  <titlealts><navtitle>Publishing in PDF</navtitle></titlealts>
  <taskbody><context>Some text</context></taskbody>
</task>
```

Figure: <navtitle> samples in a map

In this sample, the first title is not locked, and will generally be replaced with a title retrieved from a.dita. The second title is locked, and will be displayed when this map is used as a basis for navigation.

```
<map xml:lang="en">
  <title>This is a sample map</title>
  <topicref href="a.dita">
    <topicmeta>
      <navtitle>Title of A</navtitle>
    </topicmeta>
  </topicref>
  <topicref href="b.dita" locktitle="yes">
    <topicmeta>
      <navtitle>Short Title for B</navtitle>
    </topicmeta>
  </topicref>
</map>
```

</topicref>
</map>

Attributes

The following attributes are available on this element: [3.10.1 Universal attribute group](#) (362).

Example

```
<topic id="sample" xml:lang="en">
  <title>Sample for bodydiv</title>
  <body>
    <bodydiv id="div">
      <p>This set of information is reusable as a group.</p>
      <p>Lists of three contain three items.</p>
      <ul>
        <li>This is one item.</li>
        <li>This is another item.</li>
        <li>This is the third item.</li>
      </ul>
    </bodydiv>
    <p>This concludes my topic.</p>
  </body>
</topic>
```

3.2.1.4 <dita>

The <dita> element provides a top-level container for multiple topics when you create documents using the ditabase document type.

Usage information

The <dita> element lets you create any sequence of topics, and the ditabase document type lets you nest these topic types inside each other. The <dita> element has no particular output implications; it simply allows you to create multiple topics of different types at the same level in a single document.

Attributes

The following attributes are available on this element: @xmlns:ditaarch and @DITAArchVersion from [3.10.2 Architectural attribute group](#) (366), and [3.10.1.3 Localization attribute group](#) (365).

Example

```
<dita>
  <concept id="batintro"><title>Intro to bats</title><conbody><!-- ... --></conbody></concept>
  <reference id="batparts"><title>Parts of bats</title><refbody><!-- ... --></refbody></reference>
  <task id="batfeeding"><title>Feeding a bat</title><taskbody><!-- ... --></taskbody></task>
  <task id="battraining"><title>Training a bat</title><taskbody><!-- ... --></taskbody></task>
  <task id="batcleanup"><title>Cleaning a bat</title><taskbody><!-- ... --></taskbody></task>
</dita>
```

3.2.1.5 <navtitle>

A navigation title provides a title for a resource. When used in topics, it is an alternate title that is designed for situations when the topic title is unsuitable for use in a table of contents or navigation pane.

Usage information

Because the `<navtitle>` element is available within `<topicmeta>`, a `<navtitle>` element might occur in contexts where a navigation title does not make sense (for example, on a `<topicgroup>` element). In those situations, the `<navtitle>` element has no defined purpose.

Processing expectations

When the `<navtitle>` element is used in a topic, processors *SHOULD* use the contents of the element to generate the navigation title.

When the `<navtitle>` element is used in a map, processors *SHOULD* retrieve the navigation title in the following order:

1. From the content of a `<navtitle>` element in the map, if the containing `<topicref>` element sets the value of the `@locktitle` attribute to "yes"
2. From the contents of a `<navtitle>` element in the referenced topic
3. From the title of the referenced topic

Attributes

The following attributes are available on this element: [3.10.1 Universal attribute group](#) (362).

Example

In the following example, the `<navtitle>` element contains a shorter title that will be used in a TOC or navigation pane when the topic is published.

```
<task id="publishing-dita">
  <title>Publishing a DITA information set in PDF</title>
  <titlealts>
    <navtitle>Publishing in PDF</navtitle>
  </titlealts>
  <shortdesc>You can quickly publish your DITA information to PDF.
  </shortdesc>
  <!-- ... -->
</task>
```

Figure 39: `<navtitle>` in a topic

In this sample, the first navigation title is not locked; when the DITA map is published, it is replaced with the title retrieved from `GUID-gibberish.dita`. The second navigation title is locked; when the DITA map is published, "Publishing to ePub" is displayed in the TOC or navigation pane.

```
<map xml:lang="en">
  <title>Publishing a DITA information set</title>
  <topicref href="GUID-gibberish.dita">
    <topicmeta>
      <navtitle>Publishing to PDF</navtitle>
    </topicmeta>
  </topicref>
  <topicref href="publishing-ePub.dita" locktitle="yes">
    <topicmeta>
      <navtitle>Publishing to ePub</navtitle>
    </topicmeta>
  </topicref>
</map>
```

Figure 40: <navtitle> in a map

3.2.1.6 <related-links>

The related information links of a topic (<related-links> element) are stored in a special section following the body of the topic.

Processing expectations

After a topic is processed into its final output form, the related links usually are displayed at the end of the topic, although some Web-based help systems might display them in a separate navigation frame.

Links specified within the <related-links> element typically are displayed together with links generated based on a map context.

The following lists contains processing expectations for the <related-link> element:

1. Links within a <linklist> element appear in the order defined, while those outside of a <linklist> might be sorted and displayed in a different order or location (based upon their role, target, importance, or other qualifiers).
2. PDF or print-oriented output typically ignores hierarchical links such as those with roles of ancestor, parent, child, descendant, next, previous, or sibling, although this behavior is not required.

Attributes

The following attributes are available on this element: [3.10.1 Universal attribute group](#) (362), [3.10.8 Link relationship attribute group](#) (372) (apart from @href), and [3.10.13.12 The role and otherrole attributes](#) (388).

Example

The following indicates that the two external links are always applicable to this topic, regardless of how the topic is used.

```
<related-links scope="external" format="html">
  <link href="http://www.example.org">
    <linktext>Example 1</linktext>
  </link>
  <link href="http://www.example.com">
    <linktext>Example 2</linktext>
  </link>
</related-links>
```

3.2.1.7 <searchtitle>

The <searchtitle> element is used to specify a title that is displayed by search tools that locate the topic.

Usage information

This is most useful when the topic has a title that makes sense in the context of a single information set, but might be too general in a list of search results; for example, a topic title of "Markup example" might make sense as part of a guide to DITA, but when found among thousands of unrelated topics, a search title of "DITA markup example" is more useful.