The DocBook Schema Version 5.2

OASIS Standard

06 February 2024

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Additional artifacts:
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- RELAX NG Schemas: https://docs.oasis-open.org/docbook/docbook/v5.2/os/rng/
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Abstract:
Update of the DocBook XML schema.

Status:
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**Key words:**

Within the normative text of this document, the terms "shall", "shall not", "should", "should not", "may", "may not", "can", and "cannot" are to be interpreted as described in "Verbal forms for expressions of provisions", Clause 7 of [ISO/IEC Directives].

**Citation format:**

When referencing this document, the following citation format should be used:

[DocBook-v5.2]


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1 Introduction

[All text is normative unless otherwise labeled]

DocBook is general purpose [XML] schema particularly well suited to books and papers about computer hardware and software (though it is by no means limited to these applications).


1.1 Changes from earlier Versions

This section provides a description of significant differences from previously published, differently numbered Versions of this specification, if any. (Detailed revision history of this numbered Version should be tracked in an Appendix.)

- Added these new synopsis elements for programming languages: enumsynopsis, macrosynopsis, packagesynopsis, typedefsynopsis, and unionsynopsis.
- New danger admonition element.
- New formalgroup element to support subfigures, etc.
- New transclusion fixup attributes.
- New class attribute on section et al to support legal sections.
- New meta element added to info.
- Added XInclude-enabled schema versions assemblyxi.rng and dbitsxi.rng.
2 The DocBook RELAX NG Schema

The DocBook RELAX NG Schema is distributed with this specification at the locations described under “Additional Artifacts”. DocBook is also available from the mirror on http://docbook.org/.

DocBook 5.2 includes the following schemas:

- docbook, the main DocBook V5.2-csd01 schema.
- docbookxi, the DocBook XInclude V5.2-csd01 schema. (This schema allows XInclude elements in many places.)
- assembly, the DocBook Assembly V5.2-csd01 schema.
- assemblyxi, The DocBook Assembly XInclude V5.2-csd01 schema.
- dbits, The DocBook Internationalization Tag Set V5.2-csd01 schema.
- dbitsxi, The DocBook Internationalization Tag Set XInclude V5.2-csd01 schema.

2.1 DocBook Assemblies

Beginning with DocBook V5.1, topic-based authoring of documents was supported. This style of authoring creates independent units of documentation, often called topics, rather than a single narrative. In DocBook, topics can be written using the specific topic element as well as other hierarchical elements such as chapter, appendix, section, etc.

These topics can then be assembled into complete documents using the assembly schema. That schema allows the creation of an outline of references to content in other files. When the assembly is processed, the outline is filled in with the external content to form a valid DocBook document that can then be formatted or otherwise processed.

2.2 DocBook Internationalization Tag Set

The DocBook ITS schema adds elements and attributes from the Internationalization Tag Set [ITS] namespace (http://www.w3.org/2005/11/its) to provide support for internationalization and localization of DocBook documents.

The DocBook ITS schema components conform to the ITS 2.0 Recommendation produced by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C).

2.3 Xinclude

Each of the DocBook schemas is available in a version that directly supports the [Xinclude] W3C Recommendation. This schema version allows the direct replacement of many DocBook elements with the xinclude element and still validate.

To ensure that a document is fully DocBook conformant, however, the document should be processed to resolve all the xinclude elements and then validated against the non-xinclude DocBook schema.

2.4 Identifying DocBook Documents and Schemas

Historically, when DocBook was defined by a DTD, DocBook documents could be identified by the presence of standard public and/or system identifiers in the document type declaration. RELAX NG, the normative schema language for DocBook V5.0, does not provide any equivalent mechanism.

For systems that can make use of public identifiers, e.g., systems where the informative DTD is being used, the following public identifier should be used for DocBook V5.2: "-//OASIS//DTD DocBook V5.2//EN//XML".
3 Conformance

This specification normatively defines DocBook V5.2 with a RELAX NG grammar and a set of Schematron assertions. A conformant DocBook V5.2 document must be valid according to both the grammar and the assertions.

The reference documentation describes additional constraints and processing expectations. A conformant DocBook V5.2 document should respect those constraints and anticipate those processing expectations.

See http://www.relaxng.org/ for a list of tools that can validate an XML document using RELAX NG. Note that not all products are capable of evaluating the Schematron assertions in the schema.
Appendix A. References

This appendix contains the normative and informative references that are used in this document. Normative references are specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or Version number) and Informative references are either specific or non-specific.

While any hyperlinks included in this appendix were valid at the time of publication, OASIS cannot guarantee their long term validity.

A.1 Normative References

The following documents are referenced in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document.


A.2 Informative References

The following referenced documents are not required for the application of this document but may assist the reader with regard to a particular subject area.


Appendix B. Security and Privacy Considerations

Several DocBook elements may refer to arbitrary URIs. In this case, consider the security issues of RFC 2396, section 7.
Appendix C. Acknowledgments

C.1 Special Thanks

Substantial contributions to this document from the following individuals are gratefully acknowledged:

[Dick Hamilton, | Individual Member]
[Scott Hudson, ServiceNow, Inc. | Secretary]
[Jirka Kosek, | Individual Member]
[Larry Rowland, Hewlett Packard | Individual Member]
[Robert Stayton, Sagehill Enterprises | Chair]
[Norman Walsh | Individual Member]
## Appendix D. Revision History

Revisions made since the initial stage of this numbered Version of this document will be tracked here.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revision</th>
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Appendix E. Notices

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