

---

## Stage two: #36 Remove deprecated [▶] items [◀]

Remove [▶] items (elements, attributes, entities, and grammar files) [◀] that have been designated as deprecated, "reserved for future use," or defined by mistake and retained only to maintain backwards compatibility

### Champion

Kristen James Eberlein, Eberlein Consulting LLC

### Tracking information

Event	Date	Links
Initial suggestion	6 June 2017	<a href="#">E-mail</a>
Stage 1 proposal accepted	6 June 2017	<a href="#">Minutes</a> <a href="#">GitHub issue</a>
Stage 2 proposal submitted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• #01: 1 February 2018</li><li>• #02: 19 February 2018</li><li>• #03: 26 February 2018</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">DITA source</a></li><li>• HTML (e-mail to list):<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <a href="#">01</a></li><li>– <a href="#">02</a></li><li>– <a href="#">03</a></li></ul></li></ul>
Stage 2 proposal discussed		Minutes of TC meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">06 February 2018</a></li><li>• <a href="#">13 February 2018</a></li><li>• <a href="#">20 February 2018</a></li></ul>
Stage 2 proposal approved	27 February 2018	Minutes of TC meeting: <a href="#">27 February 2018</a>
[▶] Stage 2 and 3 proposal reopened	01 September 2020	<a href="#">Minutes</a> [◀]
[▶] Revised stage 2 proposal submitted to reviewer	28 September 2020	Robert D. Anderson, Oracle [◀]
[▶] Revised stage 2 proposal submitted to TC	29 September 2020	[◀]
[▶] Revised stage 2 proposal approved		[◀]

### Original requirement or use case

Remove deprecated/reserved for future use items [▶] (elements, attributes, grammar files, and entities) [◀] from the DITA base [▶] and technical content release [◀] .

### Use cases

Not applicable

## New terminology

None

## Proposed solution

Modify the grammar files and documentation to remove [▶] items (elements, attributes, grammar files, and entities) [◀] that have been designated as deprecated, "reserved for future use," or defined by mistake and retained only to maintain backwards compatibility.

## Benefits

Reduced technical debt

## Technical requirements

Figure 1: Element types to be removed

Element type	Module in which the element is defined	Status	Replacement
<boolean>	commonElements.mod	Deprecated since DITA 1.0	<state>
<indextermref>	commonElements.mod	Reserved for future use	None

Figure 2: Attributes to be removed

Attribute and attribute values	Module in which the attribute is defined	Status	Replacement
@alt	commonElements.mod	Deprecated since DITA 1.0	<alt>
@chunk="to-navigation"	None	Deprecated since DITA 1.3	None
@collection-type="tree" on <linkpool> and <linklist>	topic.mod	Deprecated. Only present in DTDs, not XSD or RNG.	None
@collection-type on <reltable> and <relcolspec>	The elements are defined in map.mod. Both attribute declaration groups reference the %topicref-atts-no-toc-no-keyscope; entity.	Undefined and reserved for future use	None
@keyref on <navref>	map.mod	"... unintentionally defined for <navref> in the original DITA grammar files. It is retained for backwards compatibility. The attribute will be removed in a future release, and processors are not expected to support it."	None

Attribute and attribute values	Module in which the attribute is defined	Status	Replacement
@locktitle on <topichead> and <topicgroup>	<topichead> and <topicgroup> are defined in mapGroup.mod. In each case, the %topicref-atts;; entity is referenced.	Housekeeping to correct an unintentional mistake; the attribute was present only because attribute definitions were reused between several elements	None
@longdescref on <image>	commonElements.mod	Deprecated since DITA 1.2	<longdescref>
@navtitle	map.mod	Deprecated since DITA 1.2	<navtitle>
@print	map.mod	Deprecated since DITA 1.3	@deliveryTarget
@query	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &lt;topicref&gt;: map.mod</li> <li>• &lt;anchorref&gt;, &lt;mapref&gt;, &lt;topicset&gt;, &lt;topicset ref&gt;, and &lt;keydef&gt;: mapGroup.mod</li> <li>• &lt;link&gt;: topic.mod</li> </ul>	Declared but never defined	None
@refcols	The attribute is declared in the %simpletable.attributes; group in commonElements.mod.	Undefined and reserved for future use	None
@role="sample" and @role="external"	%relational-atts; and %rel-atts; in topic.mod	Deprecated since DITA 1.0	None
@title on <map>	mapGroup.mod	Deprecated since DITA 1.1	<title>
@type="internal" and @type="external" on <lq>	commonElements.mod  <b>Note</b> While @type="internal" is listed as deprecated in the DITA 1.3 spec, it is not a defined value in commonElements.mod	Deprecated since DITA 1.2?	@scope and @format on <lq>

Figure 3: [▶] Grammar files to be removed [◀]

[▶][▶]

Grammar file	Location of grammar file	Status	Replacement
glossary.dtd	technicalContent	Deprecated since DITA 1.2	glossentry.dtd
glossary.ent	technicalContent	Deprecated since DITA 1.2	glossentry.ent

Grammar file	Location of grammar file	Status	Replacement
<code>glossary.mod</code>	technicalContent	Deprecated since DITA 1.2	<code>glossentry.mod</code>
<code>glossary.rng</code>	technicalContent	Deprecated since DITA 1.2	<code>glossentry.rng</code>
<code>glossaryMod.rng</code>	technicalContent	Deprecated since DITA 1.2	<code>glossentryMod.rng</code>

[◀][◀]

**Figure 4: [▶] Entities to be removed [◀]**

[▶][▶]

Entity	Module in which the entity is defined	Status	Replacement
<code>&amp;nbsp;</code>	<code>topic.mod</code>	Deprecated since DITA 1.2	<code>&amp;#160;</code>

[◀][◀]

## Backwards compatibility

**Figure 5: Elements and attributes deprecated in DITA 1.0**

- `@alt`
- `<boolean>`
- `@role="sample"` and `@role="external"`

**Figure 6: Elements and attributes deprecated in DITA 1.1**

- `@title` on `<map>`

**Figure 7: [▶] Elements, attributes, entities, and grammar files deprecated in DITA 1.2 [◀]**

- `@navtitle`
- `@longdescref` on `<image>`
- `@type="internal"` and `@type="external"` on `<lq>`
- [▶] `&nbsp;`; (defined only in `topic.mod`) [◀]
- [▶] DTD: `glossary.dtd`, `glossary.ent`, and `glossary.mod` [◀]
- [▶] RNG: `glossary.rng`, `glossaryMod.rng` [◀]

**Figure 8: Elements and attributes deprecated in DITA 1.3**

- `@chunk="to-navigation"`
- `@print`

**Figure 9: Impact to specialization modules**

If implementations have specialized from `<boolean>` or `<indextermref>`, they will need to redefine the specialization base.

**Figure 10: Impact to constraint modules**

The following constraint modules will need to be refactored:

- Constraint modules that include `<boolean>` or `<indextermref>` in a content model.

- Constraint modules that list any of the deprecated attributes. This will most likely be encountered in regard to `@alt`, `@navtitle`, and `@print`.

## Migration plan

For most cases, migration could be handled by any of the following methods:

- Search and replace across the body of DITA topics and maps
- Prebuilt XSLT scripts

Implementation that use the `@print` attribute will need to do more comprehensive rework of their information architecture. This might include the following:

- Determining values for use with the `@deliveryTarget` attribute
- (Optional) Developing a subjectScheme map to control values for the `@deliveryTarget` attribute
- Developing or modifying DITAval files to include or exclude content tagged with specific values for the `@deliveryTarget` attribute

## Costs

This feature will have an impact on the following:

### Maintainers of the grammar files

The following files must be modified:

#### DTDs

- `commonElements.mod`
- `map.mod`
- `mapGroup.mod`
- `topic.mod`

#### RNG

- `commonElementsMod.rng`
- `mapMod.rng`
- `mapGroupMod.rng`
- `topicMod.rng`

[▶]

[▶] The following files must be removed [◀]

#### DTDs

- `glossary.dtd`
- `glossary.ent`
- `glossary.mod`

#### RNG

- `glossary.rng`
- `glossaryMod.rng`

[◀]

## Editors of the DITA specification

The following topics will need to be removed:

- `<boolean>`
- `<indextermref>`

This proposal will affect all of the following topics (and probably others that I missed). The `@navtitle` attribute appears in **MANY** examples.

- Edits to the following element-reference topics:
  - 3.1 Base DITA elements, A to Z
  - 3.2.1.5 `<navtitle>`
  - 3.2.2.1 `<alt>`
  - 3.2.2.17 `<image>`
  - 3.2.2.23 `<lq>`
  - 3.2.2.25 `<object>`
  - 3.2.4.1 `<link>`
  - 3.2.4.2 `<linklist>`
  - 3.2.4.3 `<linkpool>`
  - 3.3.1.5 `<navref>`
  - 3.3.1.1 `<map>`
  - 3.3.1.6 `<reltable>`
  - 3.3.1.10 `<relcolspec>`
  - 3.3.2.4 `<topicgroup>`
  - 3.3.2.5 `<topichead>`
  - 3.4.1.22 `<resourceid>`
  - 3.5.1.3 `<hazardsymbol>`
  - 3.6.1.2 `<schemeref>`
  - 3.6.1.15 `<relatedSubjects>`
  - 3.6.2.2 `<topicapply>`
  - 3.10.1.2 Metadata attribute group
  - 3.10.3 Attributes common to many map elements:
  - 3.10.10 Simpletable attribute group
  - 3.10.12 Topicref element attributes group
  - 3.10.13.5.1 Using the `-dita-use-conref-target` value
  - 3.10.13.12 The `@role` and `@otherrole` attributes
- Edits to the examples in the following element-reference topics
  - 3.3.1.4 `<anchor>`
  - 3.3.2.3 `<mapref>`
  - 3.4.1.14 `<metadata>`
  - 3.6.1.1 `<subjectScheme>`
  - 3.6.1.3 `<hasInstance>`
  - 3.6.1.4 `<hasKind>`
  - 3.6.1.5 `<hasNarrower>`
  - 3.6.1.6 `<hasPart>`
  - 3.6.1.7 `<hasRelated>`

- 3.6.1.8 <enumerationdef>
- 3.6.1.10 <attributedef>
- 3.6.1.14 <subjectdef>
- 3.6.2.1 <subjectref>
- 3.6.2.3 <topicsubject>
- 3.6.2.4 <topicSubjectTable>
- Edits to the following appendix topics:
  - "Element-by-element recommendations for translators: Base edition"
- Edits to the following architectural specification topics:
  - 2.2.2.4 DITA map attributes
  - 2.2.2.5.4 Example: How the @cascade attribute functions
  - 2.2.3.6 Scaling a list of controlled values to define a taxonomy
  - 2.2.3.8.1 Example: How hierarchies defined in a subject scheme map affect filtering
  - 2.2.3.8.2 Example: Extending a subject scheme
  - 2.2.3.8.3 Example: Extending a subject scheme upwards
  - 2.2.4.2.1 Conditional processing attributes
  - 2.2.4.4 Cascading of metadata attributes in a DITA map
  - 2.2.4.5 Reconciling topic and map metadata elements
  - 2.2.4.6.1 Cascading of attributes from map to map
  - 2.3.4.9 Processing key references to generate text or link text [@alt]
  - 2.4.1.1 Table of contents
  - 2.4.3.4 Conditional processing to generate multiple deliverable types
  - 2.4.5.2 Chunking examples
  - 2.6.3.3 DTD: Coding requirements for element type declarations
  - 2.6.4.3 RELAX NG: Coding requirements for element type declarations
- No changes to the basic information architecture of the specification
- No new terminology

### **Vendors of tools: XML editors, component content management systems, processors, etc.**

If tool vendors have built features around any of the deprecated items, those features will need to be migrated to use alternate markup.

### **DITA community-at-large**

Removing the @navtitle and @print attributes is likely to have the greatest impact. While DITA maps that contain @navtitle attributes could be automatically rewritten to use <navtitle> elements, reworking maps that use the @print attribute will require more fundamental architectural rework.

### **DITA migration procedures or tools**

The DITA TC will deliver a separate document that contains migration information.

It is possible that the TC should provide some basic scripts to make migration easier.

## **Examples**

The following table contains examples of code that contains deprecated elements and attributes; it also provides example of how the code could be constructed in DITA 2.0.

Deprecated item	DITA 1.3 markup	DITA 2.0 markup
@alt	<pre>&lt;image href="bike.gif" alt="Two-wheeled bicycle"/&gt;</pre>	<pre>&lt;image href="bike.gif" &lt;alt&gt;Two-wheeled bicycle&lt;/alt&gt; &lt;/image&gt;</pre>
<boolean>	<pre>She said "&lt;boolean state="yes"/&gt;" when I asked her to marry me!</pre>	<pre>&lt;step&gt;&lt;cmd&gt;Verify the presence of an "on" or high condition at the input gate (ie, &lt;state name="inflag" value="high"/&gt;&lt;/cmd&gt;&lt;/step&gt;</pre>
@print	<pre>&lt;topicref href="foo.dita" print="no"&gt;</pre>	<pre>&lt;topicref href="foo.dita" deliveryTarget="Web-only"&gt;</pre>
@navtitle	<pre>&lt;subjectScheme&gt;   &lt;subjectdef keys="os" navtitle="Operating system"&gt;     &lt;subjectdef keys="linux" navtitle="Linux"&gt;       &lt;subjectdef keys="redhat" navtitle="RedHat Linux"/&gt;       &lt;subjectdef keys="suse" navtitle="SuSE Linux"/&gt;     &lt;/subjectdef&gt;     &lt;subjectdef keys="windows" navtitle="Windows"/&gt;     &lt;subjectdef keys="zos" navtitle="z/OS"/&gt;   &lt;/subjectdef&gt;   &lt;enumerationdef &lt;attributedef name="platform"/&gt;     &lt;subjectdef keyref="os"/&gt;   &lt;/enumerationdef&gt; &lt;/subjectScheme&gt;</pre>	<pre>&lt;subjectScheme&gt;   &lt;subjectdef keys="os"&gt;     &lt;topicmeta&gt;       &lt;navtitle&gt;Operating systems&lt;/navtitle&gt;     &lt;/topicmeta&gt;     &lt;subjectdef keys="linux"&gt;       &lt;topicmeta&gt;         &lt;navtitle&gt;Linux&lt;/navtitle&gt;       &lt;/topicmeta&gt;       &lt;subjectdef keys="redhat"&gt;         &lt;topicmeta&gt;           &lt;navtitle&gt;RedHat Linux&lt;/navtitle&gt;         &lt;/topicmeta&gt;       &lt;/subjectdef&gt;       &lt;subjectdef keys="suse"&gt;         &lt;topicmeta&gt;           &lt;navtitle&gt;SuSE Linux&lt;/navtitle&gt;         &lt;/topicmeta&gt;       &lt;/subjectdef&gt;       &lt;subjectdef keys="windows"&gt;         &lt;topicmeta&gt;           &lt;navtitle&gt;Windows&lt;/navtitle&gt;         &lt;/topicmeta&gt;       &lt;/subjectdef&gt;       &lt;subjectdef keys="zos"&gt;         &lt;topicmeta&gt;           &lt;navtitle&gt;z/OS&lt;/navtitle&gt;         &lt;/topicmeta&gt;       &lt;/subjectdef&gt;     &lt;/subjectdef&gt;     &lt;enumerationdef &lt;attributedef name="platform"/&gt;       &lt;subjectdef keyref="os"/&gt;     &lt;/enumerationdef&gt;   &lt;/subjectdef&gt; &lt;/subjectScheme&gt;</pre>



Deprecated item	DITA 1.3 markup	DITA 2.0 markup
		<pre>&lt;/enumerationdef&gt; &lt;/subjectScheme&gt;</pre>
<p>@longdescref on &lt; image&gt;</p>	<pre>&lt;image href="puffin.jpg" longdescref="http:// www.example.org/birds/ puffin.html"&gt;   &lt;alt&gt;Puffin picture&lt;/alt&gt; &lt;/image&gt;</pre>	<pre>&lt;image href="puffin.jpg"&gt;   &lt;alt&gt;Puffin picture&lt;/alt&gt;   &lt;longdescref href="http:// www.example.org/birds/ puffin.html"  scope="external"  format="html"/&gt; &lt;/image&gt;</pre>
<p>@title on &lt;map&gt;</p>	<pre>&lt;map id="mybats" title="Bats"&gt;   &lt;topicref href="bats.dita" type="topic"&gt;     &lt;topicref href="batcaring.dita" type="task"/&gt;     &lt;topicref href="batfeeding.dita" type="task"/&gt;     &lt;topicref href="batsonar.dita" type="concept"/&gt;     &lt;topicref href="batguano.dita" type="reference"/&gt;     &lt;topicref href="bathistory.dita" type="reference"/&gt;   &lt;/topicref&gt; &lt;/map&gt;</pre>	<pre>&lt;map id="mybats"&gt;   &lt;title&gt;Bats&lt;/title&gt;   &lt;topicref href="bats.dita" type="topic"&gt;     &lt;topicref href="batcaring.dita" type="task"/&gt;     &lt;topicref href="batfeeding.dita" type="task"/&gt;     &lt;topicref href="batsonar.dita" type="concept"/&gt;     &lt;topicref href="batguano.dita" type="reference"/&gt;     &lt;topicref href="bathistory.dita" type="reference"/&gt;   &lt;/topicref&gt; &lt;/map&gt;</pre>
<p>[▶] &amp;nbsp;</p>	<pre>&lt;p&gt;When using Feline&amp;nbsp;Greenies pill pockets, you might need to keep them secured in order to prevent your cat from absconding with the delicious morsels. A mason jar with a tight lid will work well.&lt;/p&gt;</pre>	<pre>&lt;p&gt;When using Feline&amp;#160;Greenies pill pockets, you might need to keep them secured in order to prevent your cat from absconding with the delicious morsels. A mason jar with a tight lid will work well.&lt;/p&gt;</pre> <p>[◀]</p>