

DITA 2.0 Changes

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Overview

This document provides a high-level listing of the changes within the DITA 2.0 standard. It includes changes to both the base and technical content editions.

Removed from standard

Items deprecated in previous versions of the DITA standard have been removed in DITA 2.0. In addition, other structural specializations, domains, elements, and attributes have been removed due to lack of adoption and for simplification. All items in this section have no direct replacements. Individuals wishing to continue using them, must reinstate them through a specialization. See also [Replaced in standard \(5\)](#) for items that have been removed, but that have a direct replacement.

Structural specializations and document-type shells

Classification map

Machinery task

Learning and training

Domains

The following domains have been updated to conform to all DITA 2.0 changes; however, the related files for these domains are not included in the DITA 2.0, and release and development work will not continue on these domains in the future.

- Classification
- Delayed conref
- Learning and training
- Task requirements

Elements

The following elements have been removed from DITA 2.0:

- `<anchor>`
- `<anchorref>`
- `<data-about>`
- `<hasInstance>`
- `<hasKind>`
- `<hasNarrower>`
- `<hasPart>`
- `<hasRelated>`
- `<indexbase>`
- `<indextermref>`
- `<longquoteref>`
- `<relatedSubjects>`
- `<subjectRelTable>`

- <topicset>
- <topicsetref>

Attributes

The following attributes have been removed from DITA 2.0:

- @anchorref
- @lockmeta
- @locktitle
- @query
- @refcols
- @specentry
- @spectitle
- @xtrf and @xtrc

The following elements have had attributes removed from them:

Element	Attributes removed
<audience>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • @otherjob • @othertype
<hazardstatement>	@othertype
<lq>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • @format • @href • @scope • @type
<metadata>	@mapkeyref
<navref>	@keyref
<object>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • @archive • @archivekeyref • @classid • @classidkeyref • @codebase • @codebasekeyref • @declare • @longdescre • @standby
<param>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • @type • @valuetype
<pre>	@spectitle
<reltable>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • @collection-type • @title
<relcolspec>	@collection-type

Attribute values

The following attribute values have been removed from DITA 2.0:

Attribute	Element	Removed values
@collection-type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><linkpool><linklist>	tree
@role		<ul style="list-style-type: none">externalsample
@scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><fig><lines><pre>, and all specializations of <pre>	All enumerations so that any value is allowed
@type	<hazardstatement>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">attentionfastpathimportantnoteotherrememberrestrictiontip

Replaced in standard

Some elements and attributes have been removed from the standard, but have direct replacements. Individuals can write scripts to move to the replacement, rather than create specializations to re-introduce the older items through specializations.

Domain

The entire classification domain has been replaced with the attribute @subjectrefs. See [xref to modified section]

Elements

The following elements have been replaced by other elements within DITA 2.0:

Removed	Replaced by
<boolean>	<state value="yes no">
<index-sort-as>	<sort-as>
<itemgroup>	<div>
<sectiondiv>	<div>
<substeps> and <substep>	nested <steps>

Removed	Replaced by
<titlealts>	<titlealt> in the new alternative titles domain. See Added to standard (6) for more information.

Attributes

The following attributes have been completely removed and replaced by elements within DITA 2.0:

Removed	Replaced by
@alt	<alt>
@copy-to	<resourceid>. See [xref to Modified section]
@longdescref	<longdescref>
@navtitle	<navtitle>
@title on <map>	<title>

The following attributes have been replaced by other attributes within DITA 2.0:

Removed	Replaced by
@domains	@specializations
@id on <resourceid>	@appid
@print	@deliveryTarget
@role="external"	@scope="external"
@type="external" or @type="internal" on <lq>	@scope and @format

Attribute values

The following attribute values have been modified:

Attribute	Old Values	New Values
@chunk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> select-topic select-document select-branch by-topic by-document to-content to-navigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> combine split

Added to standard

New domains, elements, and attributes have been added to DITA 2.0 to improve the usability of the standard or to address use cases where DITA 1.3 failed to offer an acceptable solution.

Domains

DITA 2.0 introduces the following domains and elements within those domains:

Alternative-titles

The alternative-titles domain introduces a new base element type `<titlealt>` which is used to define a variety of alternative titles, including the existing `<navtitle>` and `<searchtitle>` elements which become specializations of the new `<titlealt>`. The domain also adds the following new elements as specializations of `<titlealt>`:

`<linktitle>`

This element provide a title to use when the item is referenced; for example, a title for a non-DITA resource.

`<subtitle>`

This element indicates that the content is a subordinate title for a resource.

`<titlehint>`

This element provides information to map authors about the title of the referenced resource.

Each of these elements are convenience elements, used instead of requiring users to specify an `@title-role` attribute value on the base `<titlealt>` element.

Emphasis

The emphasis domain is used to indicate text that has special meaning or importance, or text that needs to be distinguished from the surrounding text. It includes the following new elements:

``

This element indicates that the content is of particular importance or has special meaning.

``

This element indicates that its text is of greater importance than its surrounding text.

Hardware

The hardware domain is used to document physical devices, much like the user interface domain documents software interfaces. It includes the following new elements:

- `<hwcontrol>`. This element contains the name of a key, button, switch, or other physical control on a device.
- `<partno>`. This element contains a part number.

Syntax diagram

The Syntax diagram domain was split from the Programming domain to contain the `<syntaxdiagram>` element and its children.

Elements

DITA 2.0 introduces the following new elements:

`<audio>`

This element references audio content in a DITA topic. It is based on the HTML5 `<audio>` element and includes the following new attributes:

- `@autoplay`. Specifies whether the resource automatically plays when it is presented.
- `@controls`. Specifies whether the presentation of the resource includes user interface controls.
- `@loop`. Specifies whether the resource loops when played.
- `@muted`. Specifies whether the resource is muted.

- `@tabindex`. Specifies whether the resource can be focused and where it participates in sequential keyboard navigation.

<diagnostics>

This element provides information used in determining which cause-remedy pair applies in a given situation. It can contain one or both of the following new elements:

<diagnostics-general>

The element provides non-procedural diagnostic information, such as flowchart diagram or a look-up table of symptoms.

<diagnostics-steps>

This element provides step-by-step instructions for diagnosing the problem.

<fallback>

This element is used to specify content to be rendered if a referenced item cannot be rendered or resolved.

<include>

This element points to non-DITA resources that should be directly included in rendered results. The attributes `@encoding` and `@parse` character encoding and processing expectations.

<keytext>

This element contains variable or link text that is used when resolving key references. It also specifies alternate text for images that are referenced by keys.

<mapresources>

This element serves as a general container within maps and bookmaps for resource-only topic references, such as key definitions and topics that contain content used only by content reference. It sets `@processing-role` to "resource-only" by default.

<media-source>

This element specifies the location of an audio or video resource.

<media-track>

This element specifies supplemental text-based data for the referenced media. It includes the following new attributes:

@kind

Specifies the usage for the track resource. Recognized values are limited to:

- captions
- chapters
- descriptions
- metadata
- subtitles

@srclang

Specifies the language of the track resource.

<poster>

This element specifies an image to display in place of the video referenced by its parent element before playback begins.

<video>

This element references video content in a DITA topic. It is based on the HTML5 `<audio>` element and includes the same new attributes as those listed for `<audio>`.

Attributes

DITA 2.0 introduces the following new attributes:

- `@impose-rule`. When specified on a `<topicref>` element, with a value of "impose", and the `<topicref>` is a reference to a map, this attribute indicates that the role of the `<topicref>` overrides the role of the referenced map.
 - `@specializations`. This attribute enables processors to determine which attribute specializations are available in a document.
 - `@subjectrefs`. This attribute associates `<map>` and `<topicref>` elements with subjects defined in subject scheme maps by specifying one or more keys that are each defined by a subject definition in the subject scheme map. Multiple values are separated by white space.
-

Modified in standard

Existing items within the DITA standard have been modified. Modifications include changing domains, content models, attribute sets, and specialization bases.

Domain changes

The following changes have been made to existing domains within DITA:

Programming

The Programming domain has been split into two separate domains, with `<syntaxdiagram>` and its child elements being moved to a new syntax diagram domain.

Indexing

`<index-see>` and `<index-see-also>` have been moved to be base elements.

Content Model Changes

DITA 2.0 has changed the content models of the following elements:

`<booklists>`

Allow zero or more `<amendments>` elements

`<bookmap>`

- Allow zero or more `<ditavalref>` elements after `<bookmeta>`
- Allow zero or more `<mapresources>` elements after `<ditavalref>`

`<ditavalmeta>`

- Remove `<navtitle>`
- Add `<titlealt>`

`<example>`

Allow example to occur in most places where block elements, such as `<p>`, may occur.

`<glossentry>` elements

If other inline elements are allowed, also allow `<sub>` and `<sup>`

`<hazardstatement>`

- Move `@hazardsymbol` element to be a child of `<messagepanel>`
- Allow `<hazardsymbol>` within `<typeofhazard>`

- Within `<messagepanel>`, allow `<howtoavoid>` and `<consequence>` elements to be paired in either order

<object>

Allow one or more `<fallback>` elements.

<prolog>

Add `<titlealt>`

<simpletable>

Add `<title>` as a child of `<simpletable>`

<step>

Add `<steps>` as a child of `<step>`

<subjectHeadMeta>

- Remove `<navtitle>`
- Add `<titlealt>`

<topicmeta>

- Remove `<linktext>`, `<navtitle>`, and `<searchtitle>`
- Add `<titlealt>`

Attributes

Attributes have been added to the following elements:

Element	Added attributes
Specializations of <code><body></code>	Universal attributes
Specializations of <code><keyword></code>	@keyref
<code><lq></code>	@keyref
<code><prop></code>	@outputclass
<code><resourceid></code>	@appid-role
<code><simpletable></code>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • @colspan • @rowspan • @headers • @scope

The following attributes have been modified:

- The `@class` attribute for `<linktext>`, `<shortdesc>`, and `<searchtitle>` now has the same declarations for use in maps and topics.
- The `@outputclass` attribute was added to the list of universal attributes, thereby making it available on a variety of elements where it had not been explicitly declared.

Specialization base changes

The following elements have been re-architected to be specialized from a different base element, allowing more flexibility or consistency in the way they are used.

Element	New specialization base
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <navtitle> • <searchtitle> 	<titlealt>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <codref> • <mathmlref> • <svgref> 	<include>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <area> • <consequence> • <howtoavoid> • <imagemap> • <messagepanel> • <typeofhazard> • 	<div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • @audience • @otherprops • @platform • @product 	@props

Specialization rules

In addition to the changes in specific domains, elements, and attributes, DITA 2.0 relaxes specialization rules to permit more flexibility in information modeling.

Specialization rules are relaxed as follows:

- Specialized elements may have attributes unique to that element and not present on the specialization base.
- Specializations of the @base and @props attributes may be targeted to a specific element, rather than made available on every other element in the DTD.
- Specialized elements can be introduced into content models selectively, without adding the element globally to all locations where the specialization base is valid.