



# The Simplified DocBook Document Type

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Abstract:

Simplified DocBook is a subset of DocBook XML V4.5. It is a general purpose XML document type suited to articles about computer hardware and software (though it is by no means limited to these applications).

Status:

This is a working draft constructed by the editor. It is not an official committee work product and may not reflect the consensus opinion of the committee.

Please send comments on this specification to the <[docbook@lists.oasis-open.org](mailto:docbook@lists.oasis-open.org)> list. To subscribe, send an email message to <[docbook-request@lists.oasis-open.org](mailto:docbook-request@lists.oasis-open.org)> with the word "subscribe" as the body of the message.

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## 1. Introduction

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

Simplified DocBook is an attempt to provide a proper subset of DocBook that is simultaneously smaller and still useful. Its original genesis was a desire to make "the HTML subset of DocBook," that is, a subset that had roughly as many tags as HTML and roughly the same descriptive power.

The DocBook Technical Committee maintains the Simplified DocBook schema. Simplified DocBook is officially available as an [XML] Document Type Definition (DTD).

The Version 1.2 release is based on DocBook V4.5.

The DocBook Technical Committee welcomes bug reports and requests for enhancement (RFEs) from the user community. The current list of outstanding requests is available through the SourceForge tracker interface. This is also the preferred mechanism for submitting new requests. Old RFEs, from a previous legacy tracking system, are archived for reference.

## 2. Terminology

The key words *must*, *must not*, *required*, *shall*, *shall not*, *should*, *should not*, *recommended*, *may*, and *optional* in this Working Draft are to be interpreted as described in [RFC 2119]. Note that for reasons of style, these words are not capitalized in this document.

## 3. The Simplified DocBook Document Type V1.2CR1

The Simplified DocBook document type is a subset of [DocBook V4.5]. It is distributed from the DocBook site at OASIS.

### 3.1. Usage

To use this document type, specify the public and system identifiers in your document type declaration. For example:

```
<!DOCTYPE article PUBLIC "-//OASIS//DTD Simplified DocBook XML V1.2CR1//EN"  
    "http://docbook.org/xml/simple/1.2CR1/sdocbook.dtd">
```

Naturally, you can include an internal subset if you wish.

To incorporate this module into a higher-level customization layer, use the public and system identifiers of this module's customization layer in your own. For example:

```
<!DOCTYPE % sdocbook PUBLIC "-//OASIS//DTD Simplified DocBook XML Customization V1.2CR1//E  
    "http://docbook.org/xml/simple/1.2CR1/sdocbook-custom.dtd">  
%sdocbook;
```

## 4. Changes in Simplified DocBook V1.2CR1

Version 1.2CR1 is the first candidate release of Simplified DocBook based on DocBook V4.5. It fixes the following bugs in V1.1:

- The `caption` element is no longer required on `informaltable` (in fact, it is now forbidden, as it should always have been).

## 5. Release Notes

None.

## A. OASIS DocBook Technical Committee (Non-Normative)

The following individuals were members of the committee during the formulation of this Working Draft:

- Adam Di Carlo
- Steve Cogorno
- Gary Cornelius
- Dick Hamilton
- Nancy Harrison
- Scott Hudson
- Paul Grosso
- Mark Johnson
- Jirka Kosek
- Larry Rowland
- Michael Smith
- Robert Stayton, Secretary
- Norman Walsh, Chair, Editor

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## D. Revision History

1.2CR1

09 Mar 2006

## References

### Normative

[XML] Tim Bray, Jean Paoli, C. M. Sperberg-McQueen, *et. al.*, editors. *Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0 (Third Edition)*. World Wide Web Consortium, 04 Feb 2004.

[RFC 2119] IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force). *RFC 2119: Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels*. S. Bradner. 1997.

[DocBook V4.5] Norman Walsh, editor. *The DocBook Document Type: Version 4.5*. OASIS, 2006.