



Introduction to DITA

for Word users

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It may look familiar

Report title

Subtitle

To replace the placeholder text on this page, just select a line of text and start typing. But don't do that just yet!

First check out a few tips to help you quickly format your report. You might be amazed at how easy it is.

- [Need a heading? On the Home tab, in the Styles gallery, just tap the heading style you want.]
- [Get other styles for text such as bullets or quotes, including this style–List Bullet.]

[“This is the Quote style.”]

XML looks similar

```
1 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
2 <akomaNtoso xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance" xmlns="http://docs.oasis-open.org/legaldocml/ns/akn/3.0/WD17"><!-- Level of compliance 5 from Véronique Parisse --><documentCollection
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It really does!

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3 xmlns:cx1="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/drawing/2015/9/8/chartex" xmlns:cx2="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/drawing/2015/10/21/chartex"
4 xmlns:cx3="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/drawing/2016/5/9/chartex" xmlns:cx4="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/drawing/2016/5/10/chartex"
5 xmlns:cx5="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/drawing/2016/5/11/chartex" xmlns:cx6="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/drawing/2016/5/12/chartex"
6 xmlns:cx7="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/drawing/2016/5/13/chartex" xmlns:cx8="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/drawing/2016/5/14/chartex"
7 xmlns:mc="http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/markup-compatibility/2006" xmlns:aink="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/drawing/2016/ink"
8 xmlns:am3d="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/drawing/2017/model3d" xmlns:o="urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office"
9 xmlns:r="http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/officeDocument/2006/relationships" xmlns:m="http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/officeDocument/2006/math"
10 xmlns:v="urn:schemas-microsoft-com:vm1" xmlns:wp14="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/word/2010/wordprocessingDrawing"
11 xmlns:wp="http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/drawingml/2006/wordprocessingDrawing" xmlns:w10="urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:word"
12 xmlns:w="http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/wordprocessingml/2006/main" xmlns:w14="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/word/2010/wordml"
13 xmlns:w15="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/word/2012/wordml" xmlns:w16="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/word/2016/wordml/cid"
14 xmlns:w16se="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/word/2015/wordml/symex" xmlns:wpg="http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/word/2010/wordprocessingGroup"
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25 w:rsidR="794DCE53"> <w:rPr/> <w:t>First check out a few tips to help you quickly format your report. You might be amazed at how easy it is.</w:t> </w:r> </w:p>
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28 the Styles gallery, just tap the heading style you want.</w:t> </w:r> <w:r w:rsidR="00DC04F7"> <w:t></w:t> </w:r> </w:p> <w:p w:rsidR="004F08A3"
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31 text such as bullets or quotes, including this style-List Bullet.</w:t> </w:r> <w:r w:rsidR="00000D0F"> <w:t><w:t> </w:t> </w:r> </w:p> <w:p w:rsidR="004F08A3"
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```

Source of a Word Document

It looks as nice!

Gardenia

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Gardenia is a [genus](#) of about 250 species of flowering plants in the coffee family, **Rubiaceae**, native to the tropical and subtropical regions of Africa, southern Asia, Australasia and Oceania. Several species occur on the island of Hawaii, where gardenias are known as *na'u*.



The genus was named by [Carl Linnaeus](#) after [Dr. Alexander Garden](#) (1730-1791), a [Scottish-born American naturalist](#).

They are evergreen shrubs and small trees growing to 1–15 metres (3.3–49 ft) tall. The leaves are

Similar basic functionality

- Formatting:
 - Bold/Italic/Underline, Tables, Links, Lists, Code, Drag and Drop
- Objects:
 - Images, Videos, Equations
- Spellcheck & Autocorrect
- Review functionality:
 - Comments & Change tracking
- Publishing: Generate PDF & HTML
- Integration with Sharepoint, Templates

DITA-specific: formatting

- Semantics
 - Not only monospaced but “Java code”
 - Not only bold, but file path, API name, keyword, etc.
- Editing interface optimized for editing, not publishing
 - Inline form controls

DITA: embedded objects

- Image Map
- Embedded CodePen
- Embedded map
- Tabbed code blocks, even nested inside tabbed content

DITA: spell checking

- Spell checking ignores code blocks
- Schematron
 - Advanced structure checks
 - No list with one entry
 - No bold in title - use italic to emphasize
 - Mixed content & structure checks
 - No URL that starts with "http"
 - No "C:\\\" or "D:\\\" in file paths
 - Also supports quick fixes

DITA: review

- Change tracking
 - Can track structural changes as well. E.g. image positioning.
- Compare two versions of a file side-by-side

DITA: profiling

- A procedure has a particular step that is performed differently depending on the user
- Washing machine SpinBoot 1200, SpinBoot 1200s.
 - The products are the same, just that one has an extra setting to schedule the washing cycle after 3, 6 or 9h.
 - Manual is 95% the same except from one button.
 - Just add an “if product=1200s” around that section and you have two manuals with only one file.

DITA: reuse

- Use variables for product names
 - You can reuse the content for a similar product
 - The company may be acquired and the name may be changed

DITA: reuse

- Library of legal notices
 - Approved by the legal department
 - Each year they have to be changed in all the manuals

DITA: reuse

- Products are modular - Docs should be too
 - A car manufacturer has 3 models of infotainment systems that are added on each car.
- Pros:
 - More personalized manual
 - When a new feature is added, only change in one place

DITA: publishing

- Publishing:
 - Convert to Word
 - PDF customizable with CSS
 - WebHelp with feedback
 - Docs portals
 - Epub, CHM, Windows Help, etc.

DITA adoption plan

- Convert to Word and keep existing workflows until a critical mass is reached
- Convert all docs to DITA
 - Customize tools to convert docx/odt to DITA
 - Customize publishing to match previous design or take the opportunity to re-design
 - Content still needs to be split in small topics → some manual work that can be made over time

THANK YOU!

Any questions?

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<https://github.com/ctalau>