

## rfc-keywords package

This package makes it easy to use the exact keywords, boilerplate, and definitions provided by BCP 14, RFC2119, and RFC8174.

### Keywords

Use the keywords according to these examples. Note that the **-quoted** versions are only for the unique situation when you want the keywords included in quotation marks. This is not necessary in normal usage.

<b>#must</b>	<i>MUST</i>
<b>#must-not</b>	<i>MUST NOT</i>
<b>#required</b>	<i>REQUIRED</i>
<b>#shall</b>	<i>SHALL</i>
<b>#shall-not</b>	<i>SHALL NOT</i>
<b>#should</b>	<i>SHOULD</i>
<b>#should-not</b>	<i>SHOULD NOT</i>
<b>#recommended</b>	<i>RECOMMENDED</i>
<b>#not-recommended</b>	<i>NOT RECOMMENDED</i>
<b>#may</b>	<i>MAY</i>
<b>#optional</b>	<i>OPTIONAL</i>

<b>#must-quoted</b>	<i>"MUST"</i>
<b>#must-not-quoted</b>	<i>"MUST NOT"</i>
<b>#required-quoted</b>	<i>"REQUIRED"</i>
<b>#shall-quoted</b>	<i>"SHALL"</i>
<b>#shall-not-quoted</b>	<i>"SHALL NOT"</i>
<b>#should-quoted</b>	<i>"SHOULD"</i>
<b>#should-not-quoted</b>	<i>"SHOULD NOT"</i>
<b>#recommended-quoted</b>	<i>"RECOMMENDED"</i>
<b>#not-recommended-quoted</b>	<i>"NOT RECOMMENDED"</i>
<b>#may-quoted</b>	<i>"MAY"</i>
<b>#optional-quoted</b>	<i>"OPTIONAL"</i>

### Boilerplate

According to RFC8174, “authors who follow these guidelines should incorporate this phrase near the beginning of their document.” Do that with **#rfc-keyword-boilerplate**:

The key words “*MUST*”, “*MUST NOT*”, “*REQUIRED*”, “*SHALL*”, “*SHALL NOT*”, “*SHOULD*”, “*SHOULD NOT*”, “*RECOMMENDED*”, “*NOT RECOMMENDED*”, “*MAY*”, and “*OPTIONAL*” in this document are to be interpreted as described in BCP 14 [RFC2119] [RFC8174] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

### Definitions

Although not required (and maybe discouraged), you can include the definitions of the individual keywords in your document individually with **#rfc-keyword-must-definition**, **#rfc-keyword-must-not-definition**, **#rfc-keyword-should-definition**, **#rfc-keyword-should-not-definition**, or **#rfc-keyword-may-definition**.

Or, you can include definitions of all keywords with **#rfc-keyword-definitions**:

**MUST** This word, or the terms “*REQUIRED*” or “*SHALL*”, mean that the definition is an absolute requirement of the specification.

**MUST NOT** This phrase, or the phrase “*SHALL NOT*”, mean that the definition is an absolute prohibition of the specification.

**SHOULD** This word, or the adjective “*RECOMMENDED*”, mean that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular item, but the full implications must be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.

**SHOULD NOT** This phrase, or the phrase “*NOT RECOMMENDED*” mean that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the particular behavior is acceptable or even useful, but the full implications should be understood and the case carefully weighed before implementing any behavior described with this label.

**MAY** This word, or the adjective “*OPTIONAL*”, mean that an item is truly optional. One vendor may choose to include the item because a particular marketplace requires it or because the vendor feels that it enhances the product while another vendor may omit the same item. An implementation which does not include a particular option *MUST* be prepared to interoperate with another implementation which does include the option, though perhaps with reduced functionality. In the same vein an implementation which does include a particular option *MUST* be prepared to interoperate with another implementation which does not include the option (except, of course, for the feature the option provides.)