Set Language-Independent Type for YAML™

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Status

This specification is a release candidate and reflects consensus reached by members of the yaml-core mailing list. Any questions regarding this draft should be raised on this list at http://lists.sourceforge.net/lists/listinfo/yaml-core. With this release of the YAML specification, all further changes will be strictly limited to clarifications, or fixing bugs in productions. At this point, further enhancement or correction of logical flaws will be put off to the next version (1.1) of the YAML specification.

URI:	`tag:yaml.org,2002:set`
Shorthand:	`!set`
Kind:	Mapping.
Definition:	Unordered set of non-equal values.

A set is an unordered collection of nodes such that no two nodes are equal. While sets are a fundamental mathematical type, YAML only supports them as the domains of a mapping. Hence the YAML syntax for a set is a mapping with all-null values.

Most programming languages do not have a built-in native data type for supporting sets. Such data types are usually provided by libraries. If no such data type is available, an application may resort to loading a "`!set`" into a native hash table where all values are null.

The "`!set`" tag may be given explicitly, or the application may choose to implicitly type mappings with all-null values to sets. In this case, an explicit "`!map`" transfer must be given to mappings that have all-null values but do not represent sets.

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Example 1. **!set** Examples

```
# Explicitly typed set.
baseball players: !set
? Mark McGwire
? Sammy Sosa
? Ken Griffey
# Flow style
baseball teams: !set { Boston Red Sox, Detroit Tigers, New York Yankees }
```