

# Value Key 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:	<b>tag:yaml.org,2002:value</b>
Shorthand:	<b>!value</b>
Kind:	Scalar.
Canonical:	N/A (single format).
Regexp:	=
Definition:	Specify the default value of a mapping.

The “=” key is used to denote the "default value" of a mapping. In some cases, it is useful to evolve a schema so that a scalar value is replaced with a mapping. A processor may present a "scalar value" method that provides the value directly if the node is a scalar, or returns the value of this key if the node is a mapping. If applications only access the scalar value through this interface, then the schema may freely grow over time replacing scalar values with richer data constructs without breaking older processing systems.

**Example 1. !value Examples**

```
---      # Old schema
link with:
- library1.dll
- library2.dll
---      # New schema
link with:
- = : library1.dll
version: 1.2
- = : library2.dll
version: 2.3
```