

# XSLT <xsl:value-of> Element

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The <xsl:value-of> element is used to extract the value of a selected node.

## The <xsl:value-of> Element

The <xsl:value-of> element can be used to extract the value of an XML element and add it to the output stream of the transformation:

### Example

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<xsl:stylesheet version="1.0"
xmlns:xsl="http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Transform">

<xsl:template match="/">
  <html>
  <body>
  <h2>My CD Collection</h2>
  <table border="1">
    <tr bgcolor="#9acd32">
      <th>Title</th>
      <th>Artist</th>
    </tr>
    <tr>
      <td><xsl:value-of select="catalog/cd/title"/></td>
      <td><xsl:value-of select="catalog/cd/artist"/></td>
    </tr>
  </table>
```

```
</xsl:stylesheet>
```

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## Example Explained

**Note:** The **select** attribute, in the example above, contains an XPath expression. An XPath expression works like navigating a file system; a forward slash (/) selects subdirectories.

The result from the example above was a little disappointing; only one line of data was copied from the XML document to the output. In the next chapter you will learn how to use the **<xsl:for-each>** element to loop through the XML elements, and display all of the records.

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