

When to use XML?

XML is mostly used in three places which.

i.e

- 1)Data Exchange
- 2)Configuration Files
- 3)Save ,Manipulate and Present Data

1) Data Exchange - When two or more applications have data in common and want exchange that data, xml is the way to go .Because XML has both the data as well as the meta-data.The meta-data tells what the data means ,so that the application can do something meaningful with that data.

Technologies such as SOAP Web Services,REST and remote calls all use XML to exchange messages

2) Configuration Files - If you are a software developer or a tester or a build management engineer you must be aware of several configuration files such as web.xml,build.xml,pom.xml in case of java.

XML can be easily used as configuration files because we can provide the data and the meta data which tells what the configuration is for.

3) Save ,Manipulate and Present Data - The third usage is to save and present the data using XML.

I have once worked on a news portal application which used to collect the news information as XML from various news sources/reuters and stored in its XML Repository.

And then our application used to read that data and present it on the UI/Web Browser once it is transformed into HTML using XSL Transformations.

So the three big areas in which xml is used are Data Exchange, Configuration Files and to Store and Present data.