

XTL specification



rev.100

29 July 2025

Introduction

eXtensible Tree Language (XTL) is format merging aproach of XML and INI formats – simplicity, fast read within big amount of data and tree based structure. Simultaneously allows for keep well human-readable content.

Content dictionary

1. Introduction
2. Syntax
3. Structure

Syntax

Description

Syntax of XTL files bases on sections and values within these sections. When defining tree, just define subsection of section. To define section only **less than < sign is required**. **Indentations are required only for creating subsections**. Name of section is optional.

So code for section named Section1, and subsections – unnamed and named SuperSubsection will look like:

```
<Section1
  <
    <SuperSubsection
```

Every section can contain **pairs** – key and value. Defining them is simple – firstly must be present **name of key**, after it just define **value of key**. Everything closes within following formula:

key_name='value of key'

Indentations count before definition determines scope of pair. So returning into previous example, added will be:

- two keys within Section1; key named MyFirstKey, its value Word and key LastKey with value End
- one key within unnamed section; key named UnnamedKey and its value UnnamedValue
- one key within SuperSubsection; key named Age and its value 37

Upper example modified in this way looks like:

```
<Section1
  MyFirstKey='Word'
  <
    UnnamedKey='UnnamedValue'
  <SuperSubsection
    Age='37'
  LastKey='End'
```

Important notes

- Names of sections and keys **must not** contain any white space characters. Otherwise on read undefined behavior will appear.
- Indentations **must** be done through tabs. Otherwise on read undefined behavior will appear.
- At this moment only apostrophes within key-value formula can be used. Quotation marks currently are not supported, but it may change in future revisions of XTL.

Structure

Typical structure of XTL file contains head info (XTH section required) and data. Typical content of XTH section is:

```
<XTH  
  rev='100'
```

rev key means revision of XTL language. Currently possible revision is **100**.

All further sections **after** XTH section are treated as data sections.