

Numbering for lawyers

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Collabora
Online



Technical Day
COOL
days





Hierarchical numbering

Hierarchical numbering is one of the widely used features of all word processor software. Often such numbering includes upper levels' numbers in lower levels, like 1.4.2. Writer has always had this functionality, too.

Many documents use “mixed” numbering styles, where higher levels use e.g. Roman numerals *I, II, III, IV...*, and lower levels use e.g. Arabic numerals *1, 2, ...*

Usually, when including upper levels' numbers in lower levels, they are represented the same way as in the upper level numbering. E.g., *IV.2* for the second section in article IV – the first level's part is Roman.



“Legal style numbering”

Some word processors offer a special kind of numbering, where a given numbering level uses Arabic for all parts, including upper levels. E.g., it would show the number of the second section in article IV as 4.2, turning Roman IV into Arabic 4.

There are many existing documents using this scheme.

In the last year, Collabora Office got support for this feature, providing better compatibility with different document types, and better interoperability with other office suites.



Situation before the change

Reference rendering

Article I.	First article, describing the feature	1
Section 1.01	A section.....	1
Article II.	Second article, delivering good news.....	1
Section 2.01	Another section.....	1
Section 2.02	Another section.....	1
Section 2.03	Another section.....	2
Section 2.04	Another section.....	2

Old behaviour of Writer

Article I.	First article, describing the feature.....	2
Section I.01	A section.....	2
Article II.	Second article, delivering good news.....	2
Section II.01	Another section.....	2
Section II.02	Another section.....	2
Section II.03	Another section.....	2
Section II.04	Another section.....	2



How it looks in Collabora Online now

The screenshot displays the Collabora Online web interface for editing a document. The document content includes:

- Article I. First article, describing the feature**
 - One of the standard multi-level list presets in many office suites features a special option, where the first list level uses Roman numerals, and the second level references the first level's numbers using Arabic numbers. Just like here.
 - Section 1.01 A section**
 - Of course, there are a lot of existing documents using this numbering type, which is often called "Legal style numbering".
- Article II. Second article, delivering good news**
 - In the past year, Collabora Online and Collabora Office got proper support of this feature.
 - Section 2.01 Another section**
 - Existing documents are rendered correctly; and it is available for new documents as well. It is called "All sublevels Arabic" in the **Bullets and Numbering** dialog.
 - Section 2.02 Another section**
 - Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vestibulum consequat mi quis pretium semper. Proin luctus orci ac neque venenatis, quis commodo dolor posuere. Curabitur dignissim sapien quis cursus egestas. Donec blandit auctor arcu, nec pellentesque eros molestie eget. In consectetur aliquam hendrerit. Sed cursus mauris vitae ligula pellentesque, non pellentesque urna aliquet. Fusce placerat mauris enim, nec rutrum purus semper vel. Praesent tincidunt neque eu pellentesque pharetra. Fusce pellentesque est orci.
 - Section 2.03 Another section**

The **Bullets and Numbering** dialog box is open, showing the **Ordered** tab. The **Numbering** section is configured with:

- Level:** 1
- Numbering:** 1, 2, 3, ...
- Start at:** 1
- Character style:** ListLabel 2
- Show sublevels:** 2
- All sublevels Arabic:** ☒
- Separator:** Section
- Before:** Section
- After:**
- All Levels:** ☐ Consecutive numbering

The **Style** pane on the right shows the document is using **Heading 1** style with **Calibri Light** font and **16 pt** size. The **Paragraph** pane shows standard paragraph settings.



How it looks in Collabora Online now

Bullets and Numbering ✕

UnorderedOrderedOutlineImagePositionCustomize

Level

123456

Numbering

Number: I, II, III, ...

Start at: 1

Character style: ListLabel 2

Show sublevels: 2

☒ All sublevels Arabic

Separator


Before: Section


After:


All Levels


☐ Consecutive numbering


Preview


Article I. 


Section 1.01 


(a) 


(i) 


1) 

a) 

i) 

a. 

i. 



Help

RemoveCancelOK



Easy to implement

Two core commits:

- fd64b426bc6175841143714ccc16bad181fd088f “tdf#150408: Implement "Legal" numbering (all levels using Arabic numbers)”
- b13a7112d89b402b41640a19f55ad9edb6433592 “tdf#150408: Implement UI for "Legal" numbering”
- Can be used as a reference by those implementing new core features

Thank you!

By Mike Kaganski



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