How-to create a forrest table in Excel

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1. Create your table in Excel

Follow these steps to create a new table in Excel:

1. Set the document title in `File#Properties...`
2. Set the sheet's title as section title; Put each table in a separate sheet
3. Create a table header in the first row
4. Insert your content into the table
5. Put spaces into empty cells
6. Set the output format to XML: `File#Save as...`, then select File type `XML`
7. Choose a filename that ends in `-table.xml` and save

You may open the XML file directly with Excel afterwards.

See the Simple Table as an example.

2. Include your table in forrest

Follow these steps to include a new table in your project:

1. In your `forrest.properties` file: Include `org.apache.forrest.plugin.excel` in `project.required.plugins`
2. Include the file in your `site.xml` as usual: `<mytable label="My Table" href="my-table.xml"/>`

> **Note:**
> The plugin will treat **all** files ending in `-table.xml` as Excel-XML files.

3. Options

3.1. Including figures

If you want to include a figure above your table, put the keyword `figure` into the first column and the path into the second column (relative to `images`). You may include a caption in the fourth (4th) column. See the Table with figure as an example.

3.2. Descriptive Text

If you want to include a descriptive text for a section, put the keyword `text` into the first column and the text itself into the second column. You may include more than one paragraph.

3.3. Coloring cells

For a color table you may specify the background color for single cells: put the color's hex-triplet (e.g. `#FFD0AA`) into the cell. Make sure this is the only content. See the Color Table as an example.