### abstractNum (Abstract [Numbering](Numbering.docx) Definition)

This element specifies a set of properties which shall dictate the appearance and [behavior](behavior.docx) of a set of numbered paragraphs in a WordprocessingML document. These properties are collectively called an abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition, and are the basis for all [numbering](numbering.docx) information in a WordprocessingML document.

Although an abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition contains a complete set of [numbering](numbering.docx), it shall not be directly referenced by content (hence the use of abstract). Instead, these properties shall be inherited by a [numbering](numbering.docx) definition instance using the [num](num.docx) element (§), which can then itself be referenced by content.

[Example: Consider the following example of an abstractNum in a WordprocessingML document:

<w:abstractNum w:[abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx)="4">  
 <w:[nsid](nsid.docx) w:val="FFFFFF7F" />  
 <w:[multiLevelType](multiLevelType.docx) w:val="singleLevel" />  
 <w:[lvl](lvl.docx) w:[ilvl](ilvl.docx)="0">  
 <w:[start](start.docx) w:val="1" />  
 <w:[lvlText](lvlText.docx) w:val="%1." />  
 <w:[lvlJc](lvlJc.docx) w:val="left" />  
 <w:[pPr](pPr.docx)>  
 <w:[tabs](tabs.docx)>  
 <w:[tab](tab.docx) w:val="[num](num.docx)" w:[pos](pos.docx)="720" />  
 </w:[tabs](tabs.docx)>  
 <w:[ind](ind.docx) w:left="720" w:hanging="360" />  
 </w:[pPr](pPr.docx)>  
 </w:[lvl](lvl.docx)>  
</w:abstractNum>

This abstractNum element defines an abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition which shall be inherited by any [numbering](numbering.docx) definition instance which inherits from abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition with an [abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx) equal to 4. end example]

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| Parent Elements |
| [numbering](numbering.docx) (§) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Child Elements | Subclause |
| [lvl](lvl.docx) (Numbering Level Definition) | § |
| [multiLevelType](multiLevelType.docx) (Abstract [Numbering](Numbering.docx) Definition Type) | § |
| name (Abstract [Numbering](Numbering.docx) Definition Name) | § |
| [nsid](nsid.docx) (Abstract [Numbering](Numbering.docx) Definition Identifier) | § |
| [numStyleLink](numStyleLink.docx) (Numbering Style Reference) | § |
| [styleLink](styleLink.docx) (Numbering Style Definition) | § |
| [tmpl](tmpl.docx) (Numbering Template Code) | § |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| [abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx) (Abstract [Numbering](Numbering.docx) Definition ID) | Specifies a unique number which shall be used as the identifier for this abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition. This unique number shall be referenced by any [numbering](numbering.docx) definition instance in order to inherit the properties specified by this abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition.  [Example: Consider the WordprocessingML for an abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition with an [abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx) attribute of 4:  <w:abstractNum w:[abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx)="4">  <w:[nsid](nsid.docx) w:val="FFFFFF7F" />  <w:[multiLevelType](multiLevelType.docx) w:val="singleLevel" />  <w:[lvl](lvl.docx) w:[ilvl](ilvl.docx)="0">  <w:[start](start.docx) w:val="1" />  <w:[lvlText](lvlText.docx) w:val="%1." />  <w:[lvlJc](lvlJc.docx) w:val="left" />  <w:[pPr](pPr.docx)>  <w:[tabs](tabs.docx)>  <w:[tab](tab.docx) w:val="[num](num.docx)" w:[pos](pos.docx)="720" />  </w:[tabs](tabs.docx)>  <w:[ind](ind.docx) w:left="720"/>  </w:[pPr](pPr.docx)>  </w:[lvl](lvl.docx)> </w:abstractNum>  The [abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx) attribute serves as a unique identifier for the abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition, allowing [numbering](numbering.docx) definition instances (§) with a [abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx) element with a matching attribute value to inherit the abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition properties, for example:  <w:[numbering](numbering.docx)>  ...  <w:[num](num.docx) w:[numId](numId.docx)="2">  <w:[abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx) w:val="0" />  </w:[num](num.docx)>  <w:[num](num.docx) w:[numId](numId.docx)="3">  <w:[abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx) w:val="1" />  </w:[num](num.docx)>  <w:[num](num.docx) w:[numId](numId.docx)="4">  <w:[abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx) w:val="4" />  </w:[num](num.docx)>  <w:[num](num.docx) w:[numId](numId.docx)="5">  <w:[abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx) w:val="4" />  </w:[num](num.docx)> </w:[numbering](numbering.docx)>  In this case, the final two [numbering](numbering.docx) definition instances both inherit from the abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition with a [abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx) of 4. end example]  The possible values for this attribute are defined by the [ST\_DecimalNumber](ST_DecimalNumber.docx) simple [type](type.docx) (§). |

The following [XML](XML.docx) Schema fragment defines the contents of this element:

<complexType [name](name.docx)="CT\_AbstractNum">

<sequence>

<element [name](name.docx)="[nsid](nsid.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_LongHexNumber" minOccurs="0"/>

<element [name](name.docx)="[multiLevelType](multiLevelType.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_MultiLevelType" minOccurs="0"/>

<element [name](name.docx)="[tmpl](tmpl.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_LongHexNumber" minOccurs="0"/>

<element [name](name.docx)="[name](name.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_String" minOccurs="0"/>

<element [name](name.docx)="[styleLink](styleLink.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_String" minOccurs="0"/>

<element [name](name.docx)="[numStyleLink](numStyleLink.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_String" minOccurs="0"/>

<element name="[lvl](lvl.docx)" [type](type.docx)="CT\_Lvl" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="9"/>

</sequence>

<attribute [name](name.docx)="[abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx)" [type](type.docx)="[ST\_DecimalNumber](ST_DecimalNumber.docx)" use="required"/>

</complexType>