#### balanceSingleByteDoubleByteWidth (Balance Single Byte and Double Byte Characters)

This element specifies whether applications shall balance the width of Single Byte Character Set characters and Double Byte Character Set characters when rendering WordprocessingML documents. Specifically, this element specifies to adjust the fixed [pitch](pitch.docx) fonts’ half-width space character and full-width space character to attain a 1 to 2 ratio.

[Note: This element is used with East Asian content. Layout and line breaking for East Asian text is dependent on the character width. Half width characters (or Hankaku characters) are one half of an [em](em.docx) wide, and full width characters (or Zenkaku characters) are one [em](em.docx) wide. Legacy [encoding](encoding.docx) often used a single byte to encode half-width characters and two bytes to encode full width characters. end note]

Typically, no adjustment is done on any character when it is displayed as part of a WordprocessingML document. This element, when present with a val attribute value of true (or equivalent), specifies that character sizes shall be adjusted as needed to meet the 1:2 ratio described above.

[Example: Consider a WordprocessingML document with both SBCS and DBCS characters. The default presentation would have the text displayed as follows:



However, if this compatibility setting is turned on:

<w:[compat](compat.docx)>  
 <w:balanceSingleByteDoubleByteWidth />  
</w:[compat](compat.docx)>

Then this character-level adjustment must be performed, resulting in the following output:



This adjustment is usually very minute in nature, therefore the [result](result.docx) is better illustrated by showing how the characters after the English text were pushed out due to the width balancing of that text:



end example]

|  |
| --- |
| Parent Elements |
| [compat](compat.docx) (§) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| val (On/Off Value) | Specifies a binary value for the property defined by the parent [XML](XML.docx) element.  A value of on, 1, or true specifies that the property shall be explicitly applied. This is the default value for this attribute, and is implied when the parent element is present, but this attribute is omitted.  A value of off, 0, or false specifies that the property shall be explicitly turned off.  [Example: For example, consider the following on/off property:  <w:… w:val="off"/>  The val attribute explicitly declares that the property is turned off. end example]  The possible values for this attribute are defined by the [ST\_OnOff](ST_OnOff.docx) simple [type](type.docx) (§). |

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

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

<attribute [name](name.docx)="val" [type](type.docx)="[ST\_OnOff](ST_OnOff.docx)"/>

</complexType>