### gridBefore (Grid Columns Before First Cell)

This element specifies the number of grid columns in the parent table's [table](table.docx) grid (§; §) which shall be skipped before the contents of this [table](table.docx) row (its [table](table.docx) cells) are added to the parent table. [Note: This property is used to specify tables whose leading edge (left for left-to-right tables, right for right-to-left tables) does not [start](start.docx) at the first grid column (the same shared edge). end note]

If this element is omitted, then its value shall be assumed to be zero grid units. If this element's value is larger than the size of the [table](table.docx) grid, then the value shall be ignored and the first cell in the row may span the full [table](table.docx) grid (i.e. the second cell, if one exists, should [start](start.docx) at the last shared edge in the table).

[Example: Consider a [table](table.docx) whose second row starts after the first grid unit:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | |  |
|  |  |

In this [table](table.docx), the second row skips one grid unit at the beginning which is represented by the following WordprocessingML:

<w:[tr](tr.docx)>

<w:[trPr](trPr.docx)>

<w:gridBefore w:val="1" />

…

</w:[trPr](trPr.docx)>

…

</w:[tr](tr.docx)>

end example]

|  |
| --- |
| Parent Elements |
| [trPr](trPr.docx) (§); [trPr](trPr.docx) (§); [trPr](trPr.docx) (§); [trPr](trPr.docx) (§) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| val (Decimal Number Value) | Specifies that the contents of this attribute will contain a decimal number.  The contents of this decimal number are interpreted based on the context of the parent [XML](XML.docx) element.  [Example: Consider the following numeric WordprocessingML property of [type](type.docx) [ST\_DecimalNumber](ST_DecimalNumber.docx):  <w:… w:val="1512645511" />  The value of the val attribute is a decimal number whose value must be interpreted in the context of the parent element. 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\_DecimalNumber">

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

</complexType>