### numStyleLink (Numbering Style Reference)

This element specifies an abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) does not contain the actual [numbering](numbering.docx) properties for its [type](type.docx), but rather serves as a reference to a [numbering](numbering.docx) style stored in the document, which shall be applied when this abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition is referenced, and itself points at the actual underlying abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition to be used.

The [numbering](numbering.docx) style that is to be applied when this abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition is referenced is identified by the string contained in numStyleLink's val attribute.

[Example: Consider the abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition below:

<w:[abstractNum](abstractNum.docx) w:[abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx)="0">  
 <w:[nsid](nsid.docx) w:val="38901FA4" />  
 <w:[multiLevelType](multiLevelType.docx) w:val="multilevel" />  
 <w:numStyleLink w:val="TestNumberingStyle" />  
</w:[abstractNum](abstractNum.docx)>

This abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition references the [numbering](numbering.docx) style with a styleId attribute equal to TestNumberingStyle, as follows below:

<w:[style](style.docx) w:[type](type.docx)="[numbering](numbering.docx)" w:styleId="TestNumberingStyle">

…

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

Therefore, this [numbering](numbering.docx) style shall be applied whenever the base abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition is inherited by a numbered paragraph. end example]

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| val (String Value) | Specifies that its contents will contain a string.  The contents of this string are interpreted based on the context of the parent [XML](XML.docx) element.  [Example: Consider the following WordprocessingML fragment:  <w:[pPr](pPr.docx)>  <w:[pStyle](pStyle.docx) w:val="heading1" />  </w:[pPr](pPr.docx)>  The value of the val attribute is the ID of the associated paragraph style's styleId.  However, consider the following fragment:  <w:[sdtPr](sdtPr.docx)>  <w:[alias](alias.docx) w:val="SDT Title Example" />  ...  </w:[sdtPr](sdtPr.docx)>  In this case, the decimal number in the val attribute is the [caption](caption.docx) of the parent structured document tag. In each case, the value is interpreted in the context of the parent element. end example]  The possible values for this attribute are defined by the [ST\_String](ST_String.docx) simple [type](type.docx) (§). |

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

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

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

</complexType>