### start (Starting Value)

This element specifies the starting value for the [numbering](numbering.docx) used by the parent [numbering](numbering.docx) level within a given [numbering](numbering.docx) level definition. This value is used when this level initially starts in a document, as well as whenever it is restarted via the properties set in the [lvlRestart](lvlRestart.docx) element (§).

If this element is omitted, then the starting value shall be zero (0).

[Example: Consider the following WordprocessingML fragment for an abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition:

<w:[abstractNum](abstractNum.docx) w:[abstractNumId](abstractNumId.docx)="1">

…

<w:[lvl](lvl.docx) w:[ilvl](ilvl.docx)="0">

  <w:start w:val="2" />

<w:[numFmt](numFmt.docx) w:val="upperLetter"/>

…

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

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

In this example, since upper case Western letters (upperLetter) are being used as [numbering](numbering.docx) symbols for this [numbering](numbering.docx) level, the first instance of a [numbering](numbering.docx) paragraph associated with this abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition and [numbering](numbering.docx) level would have the [numbering](numbering.docx) symbol B, the second letter in the number format.

Subsequent numbered paragraphs with this abstract [numbering](numbering.docx) definition and at this level would have their [numbering](numbering.docx) symbols incremented from B (the starting value for this [numbering](numbering.docx) level). end example]

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