#### [textDirection](textDirection.docx) (Paragraph Text Flow Direction)

This element specifies the direction of the text flow for this paragraph.

If this element is omitted on a given paragraph, its value is determined by the setting previously set at any level of the style hierarchy (i.e. that previous setting remains unchanged). If this setting is never specified in the style hierarchy, then the paragraph shall inherit the text flow settings from the parent section.

[Example: Consider a document with a paragraph in which text should flow bottom to top vertically, and left to right horizontally. This setting would be specified with the following WordprocessingML:

<w:[pPr](pPr.docx)>  
 <w:textFlow w:val="btLr" />  
</w:[pPr](pPr.docx)>

The textFlow element specifies via the btLr value in the val attribute that the text flow should go bottom to top, and left to right. end example]

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| Parent Elements |
| [pPr](pPr.docx) (§); [pPr](pPr.docx) (§); [pPr](pPr.docx) (§); [pPr](pPr.docx) (§); [pPr](pPr.docx) (§); [pPr](pPr.docx) (§) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| val (Direction of Text Flow) | Specifies the direction of the text flow for this object.  [Example: Consider a document with a section in which text shall flow bottom to top vertically, and left to right horizontally. This setting requires the following WordprocessingML:  <w:[sectPr](sectPr.docx)>  …  <w:[textDirection](textDirection.docx) w:val="btLr" /> </w:[sectPr](sectPr.docx)>  The [textDirection](textDirection.docx) element specifies via the btLr value in the val attribute that the text flow shall go bottom to top, and left to right. end example]  The possible values for this attribute are defined by the [ST\_TextDirection](ST_TextDirection.docx) simple [type](type.docx) (§). |

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

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

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

</complexType>