

Soda Tests XML Coding Standard:

Question:

Why have a coding standard for creating soda tests when XML is a standardized file format?

Answer:

Having a coding standard makes code easier to write, read, and debug. Often times there are many ways to write the same code all of which are correct, but having one standard allows everyone to create data that is formatted the same way so every test is consistent and readable by everyone.

File Format:

All soda tests should be saved the Unix file format, not DOS! This means you need to make sure that if you are writing tests on a windows computer you are not including the: "CR-LF" at the end of the file.

Soda Command Indenting:

All soda commands should be indented using tabs. Make sure your text editor does not convert tabs into whitespaces. By always indenting using tags then each person view or editing the file can set their own editor to handle the tags at will. This is normally done by setting an editors "tabstop" setting.

If you are using nested Soda commands such are <table> or <csv> for example then all code inside the Soda commands should be indented.

Example:

```
<soda>
  <table id="tbl_one">
    <textfield name="text_1" set="{@global.username}" />
    <button id="btn_1" click="true" />
  </table>

  <csv file="scripts/csvs/users.csv" var="foo">
    <textfield id="tmp_1" set="{@foo.password}" />
  </csv>
</soda>
```

File Line Length:

All Soda tests line should not exceed 80 characters. This is not always possible as XML does not support appending strings, but should be followed when possible. If a line is going to exceed the 80 char length you should first see if that line can be broken into more then one single line and then use proper indentation.

Example:

```
<soda>
  <browser url=http://www.google.com />
  <textfield name="my_text" id="text_fd1"
    set="{@global.value} {@users.name}" />
  <browser assert="something here" />
</soda>
```

Main Document: opening and closing tags:

Every soda tests needs to have a main opening and closing XML document tag. Both the opening and closing tags have to be on their own line both starting at the beginning of the line. The "soda" tag is always lower case.

Opening Tag:

```
<soda>
```

Ending Tag:

```
</soda>
```

Example:

```
<soda>
  <puts text="Simple Soda Test!" />
</soda>
```

Single Line Soda Commands:

Most commands in soda are a single line of XML text that is terminated using: `</>`. This XML element terminator should always have a single white space before it so it is not butted against the end of the last set Soda attribute for a given Soda command.

Example:

```
<soda>
  <puts text="Attribute Setting" />
  <button id="btn_save" click="true" />
</soda>
```

Text Strings:

All text strings should be in double quotes: "some text". Single quotes are supported but in order to keep all of our tests looking the same we are standardizing on the double quote.

Example:

```
<soda>
  <browser url="http://www.google.com" />
  <browser assert="google" />
  <puts text="Google was here!" />
  <browser url="{@global.url}" />
  <puts text="Test Done..." />
</soda>
```

Useful Information & Formatting:

When writing a Soda test you should always make sure that there is not any information in the test that is useless or over kill. Also there is not need to add any type of message formatting in text as Soda will reformat all of the text into a nice user friendly HTML file ones a test as completed.

Example: Bad Formatting:

```
<soda>
  <puts text="-----" />
  <puts text="===some message=====" />
</soda>
```

Soda File Paths:

All paths in Soda commands should be in Unix format not windows! Soda knows how to convert Unix paths into DOS paths at runtime.