

# lang HTML attribute v6.x

The HTML lang attribute has a number of uses:

- when OTL tables are being used for a font, the language from the lang attribute is used to select which OTL features are applied;
- used in conjunction with CSS :lang selector to allow CSS styles to be applied;
- can be used in conjunction with autoLangToFont and autoScriptToLang (cf.)

mPDF supports use of the lang selector in CSS. All of the following are supported:

- :lang(fr)
- p:lang(fr)
- span:lang("syr")
- [lang="fr"]
- [lang='fr']
- p[lang=fr]
- p[lang="zh-TW"]

Note: [lang=zh] will match lang="zh-TW" and lang="zh-HK"

Limitation: class selectors and attribute selectors should be of equal specificity in CSS specification e.g.

```
:lang(syr) { color: blue; }  
.syriac { color: red; }
```

should be of equal specificity, and thus apply whichever comes later in the CSS stylesheet. mPDF however gives :lang priority over .class

**The use of the lang attribute and CSS selector is the recommended method for handling multi-lingual documents**

## Language tags

IETF tags should be used for lang which comply with the following:

- a 2 or 3 letter Language code, followed optionally by
- a hyphen and a 4 letter Script code, and or
- a hyphen and a 2 letter Region code
- i.e. [xx|xxx]{-Xxxx}{-XX}
- mPDF deals with IETF tags as case insensitive

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