

# getString()

Return an attribute's value as a string.

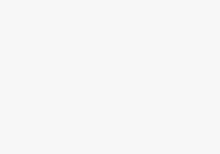
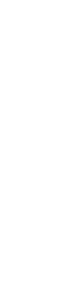
The first parameter, `name`, is a string with the name of the attribute being checked. For example, calling `myXML.getString('color')` returns the element's `id` attribute as a string.

The second parameter, `defaultValue`, is optional. If a string is passed, as in `myXML.getString('color', 'deeppink')`, it will be returned if the attribute doesn't exist.

Note: Use `myXML.getString()` or `myXML.getNum()` to return an attribute's value.

## Examples

Turtle:  
Caretta  
caretta



```
let myXML;

// Load the XML and create a p5.XML object.
function preload() {
    myXML = loadXML('/assets/animals.xml');
}

function setup() {
    createCanvas(100, 100);

    background(200);

    // Get the first reptile child element.
    let reptile = myXML.getChild('reptile');

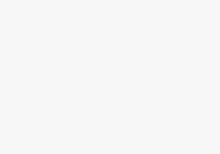
    // Get the reptile's content.
    let content = reptile.getContent();

    // Get the reptile's species.
    let species = reptile.getString('species');

    // Style the text.
    textAlign(LEFT, CENTER);
    textStyle('Courier New');
    textSize(14);

    // Display the species attribute.
    text(` ${content}: ${species} `, 5, 50, 90);

    describe(`The text "${content}: ${species}" written in black
on a gray background.`);
}
```



```
let myXML;

// Load the XML and create a p5.XML object.
function preload() {
    myXML = loadXML('/assets/animals.xml');
}

function setup() {
    createCanvas(100, 100);

    background(200);

    // Get the first reptile child element.
    let reptile = myXML.getChild('reptile');

    // Get the reptile's content.
    let content = reptile.getContent();

    // Get the reptile's color.
    let attribute = reptile.getString('color', 'green');

    // Style the text.
    textAlign(CENTER, CENTER);
    textStyle('Courier New');
    textSize(14);
    fill(attribute);

    // Display the element's content.
    text(content, 50, 50);

    describe(`The text "${content}" written in green on a gray
background.`);
}
```

## Syntax

```
getString(name, [defaultValue])
```



## Parameters

`name` String: name of the attribute to be checked.  
`defaultValue` Number: value to return if the attribute doesn't exist.

## Returns

String: attribute value as a string.

This page is generated from the comments in `src/io/p5.XML.js`. Please feel free to edit it and submit a pull request!

## Related References

### addChild

Adds a new child element and returns a reference to it.

### getAttributeCount

Returns the number of attributes the element has.

### getChild

Returns the first matching child element as a new p5.XML object.

### getChildren

Returns an array with the element's child elements as new p5.XML objects.

