



Red Hat Reference Architecture Series

Style Guide and Template

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Questions and Concerns About using AsciiDoc

Asciidoctor.org

Read as many of these as time allows. This will greatly increase efficiency while writing asciidocs.

- [Asciidoctor.org](#)
- [AsciiDoc cheatsheet](#)
- [Asciidoc Userguide](#)

Style Guide

- System names should be short functional names.
- Avoid long references if possible – folder names, urls, filenames.

Good References

- Red Hat – WordUsage
 - <https://home.corp.redhat.com/node/67041>
- Grammar style guide
 - <https://home.corp.redhat.com/wiki/red-hat-style-guide>
- Grammar Questions
 - <http://www.drgrammar.org/frequently-asked-questions>

Things to Avoid

- Words
 - we
 - us
 - I
 - will
 - you
 - Two spaces next to each other
 - Misspellings
- Single item lists or sub-sections
 - This is a perfect example of what not to do
- Tense
 - Try not to write in past tense (e.g. did)
 - Try not to write in future tense (e.g. will)

- Write in present tense.
- Inconsistency
 - Be consistent with the writing. Don't change from one style to another during the paper.
 - Ensure all items in a list end with a period or do not
 - Headings are similar.
 - Do: Writing, Reading, Erasing
 - Don't: Writing, How to read, Erasing
 - Tables are the same width on all pages.
- Formatting
 - Never manually format by using inserted newlines or inserting page breaks
 - Instead, use "Format" menu and adjust items in this way
 - If the change is something that applies to everything in the document (e.g. All heading level 2 items should start on a new page), edit the style instead (better yet, change this in the template).
- Cross-References
 - Only use a cross-reference when the object to be referenced is not directly below or above the reference
 - See <https://home.corp.redhat.com/node/49989>

Headers

Heading 1 (Level 0)

= Heading 1 (Level 0)

Heading 2 (Level 1)

== Heading 2 (Level 1)

Heading 3 (Level 2)

```
=== Heading 3 (Level 2)
```

Heading 4 (Level 3)

```
==== Heading 4 (Level 3)
```

Heading 5 (Level 4)

```
===== Heading 5 (Level 4)
```

Heading 6 (Level 5)

```
===== Heading 6 (Level 5)
```

Entity Callouts

An *entity* is basically a word or set of words that are not normal English terms that need to be called out in some manner. When using these words in normal paragraphs, they need to be called out with something like **bold**, *italics*, “quotes”, or a different **font**. The point is to ensure that the reader is aware that these terms are special, and not to be confused with a normal English word. A simple example would be a sentence as such:

When a node is detected to be not communicating with the cluster it needs to be fenced by fenced.

Without a callout of some kind, this could be confusing. However, with the command fenced in a different style it makes more sense:

Listing 1. Bold a word syntax

When a node is detected to be not communicating with the cluster it needs to be fenced by ***fenced***.

When a node is detected to be not communicating with the cluster it needs to be fenced by **fenced**.

Character Styles

These styles only apply to a word or a set of characters.

Files

File names should appear in italics if in a paragraph.

Listing 2. Italizes a file name syntax

The `_etc/resolv.conf_` file configures name lookup settings.

Result

The */etc/resolv.conf* file configures name lookup settings.

Software Name

Callout a command, package name, channel name, project names, products, etc.

Listing 3. Software Callout Syntax

`+*CloudForms*` is composed of `+*Aeolus Conductor*`, `+*Application Engine*`, `+*deltacloud*`, and many others.

Result: callout syntax showing in bold monospace font.

CloudForms is composed of **Aeolus Conductor**, **Application Engine**, **deltacloud**, and many others.

UI Element

Use when something needs to be clicked on a UI, selections need to be chosen, radio boxes, check boxes, input field names, etc.

Listing 4. Button Macro Syntax

Press the `btn:[OK]` button when you are finished.
Select a file in the file navigator and click `btn:[Open]`.

Result: macros displaying UI buttons

Press the [**OK**] button when you are finished. Select a file in the file navigator and click [**Open**].

Important Term

When defining a word, make the word(s) italicized, and mono space.

Listing 5. Important Term Syntax

```
+_DM Multipath_+ - Provides multipathing ...
```

DM Multipath - Provides multipathing ...

Variable Data

User input that changes based on the circumstance.

```
Connect to the server via *_ssh username@domain.name_*
```

Connect to the server via **ssh** *username@domain.name*

Generic Entity

When none of these character styles apply but something needs to be called out, use *italics*.

Paragraph Styles

These styles apply to the entire paragraph.

Code

File contents are highlighted using a background color and `monospace font`.

- Command prompts should be simple, # for root, \$ for users
- Command prompts should **not** be bolded.
- Commands should be **bolded**.
- Show the commands in a way that the reader can cut and paste them.
- Use long command line options instead of the single character options if possible.

```
# virsh list --all
```

Id	Name	State

0	Domain-0	running
20	x-RHEL4.8-64-FV	idle
23	x-RHEL6.0-32-FV	idle
-	x-RHEL5.6-64-FV	shut off
-	x-RHEL5.6-PV	shut off
-	x-W2K3-64-FV	shut off

File Contents

Listing 6. File Contents Syntax

```
; generated by /sbin/dhclient-script
search cloud.lab.eng.bos.redhat.com
nameserver 10.16.143.247
nameserver 10.16.143.248
nameserver 10.16.255.2
```

```
; generated by /sbin/dhclient-script search cloud.lab.eng.bos.redhat.com nameserver 10.16.143.247
nameserver 10.16.143.248 nameserver 10.16.255.2
```

Tables

Should be consistent and same or similar style. If you use cross references for some tables, use them on all tables. Tables should not be the first item on a page.

Table 1. An example table

Col 1	Col 2	Col 3
1	Item 1	a
2	Item 2	b
3	Item 3	c

Table 2. CSV data, 15% each column

1	2	3	4
a	b	c	d
A	B	C	D

Table 3. Table Examples

ID	FName	LName	Address	Phone
1	Vasya	Pupkin	London	+123
2	X	Y	A,B	45678

Table 4. Multiline cells, row/col span

Date	Duration	Avg HR	Notes
22-Aug-08	10:24	157	Worked out MSHR (max sustainable heart rate) by going hard for this interval.
22-Aug-08		152	Back-to-back with previous interval.
24-Aug-08	none		

Table 5. RA-Column Heading

Column	Headings
This is	Data
And still	More Data
Data	

Figures

Should be consistent. If you use cross references for some figures, use them for all figures. Figures should not be the first item on a page. Use **inkscape** to create the figures in **Scalable Vector Graphics** format. This makes it easy to re-size the image as needed without losing quality. It also allows easy sharing of images among the teams. Export the image as a png once it is ready and include it in the document.

Listing 7. Different Ways of Adding an Image

```
image::images/rh-ra-banner.png[]  
image::images/rh-ra-banner.png[RA-Banner]  
  
[[img-rabanner]]  
image::images/rh-ra-banner.png[caption="Figure 1: ", title="The RA Banner", alt="Banner",  
width="300", height="200"]
```



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Figure 1: The RA Banner

Admonition

There are certain statements that you may want to draw attention to by taking them out of the content's flow and labeling them with a priority. These are called admonitions. It's rendered style is determined by the assigned label (i.e., value). AsciiDoctor provides five admonition style labels:

- NOTE
- TIP
- IMPORTANT
- CAUTION
- WARNING

When you want to call attention to a single paragraph, start the first line of the paragraph with the label you want to use. The label must be uppercase and followed by a colon (:).

WARNING | Continued usage of Libreoffice is harmful to your health.

Appendix A: Example Appendix

AsciiDoc article appendices are just just article sections with *specialsection* titles.

Appendix B: Another Appendix

AsciiDoc article appendices are just just article sections with *specialsection* titles.

Appendix Sub-section

Appendix sub-section at level 2.

Example Glossary

Glossaries are optional. Glossaries entries are an example of a style of AsciiDoc labeled lists.

A glossary term

The corresponding (indented) definition.

A second glossary term

The corresponding (indented) definition.