

XML Encryption Syntax and Processing Version 1.1

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Please refer to the [errata](#) for this document, which may include some normative corrections.

The English version of this specification is the only normative version. Non-normative [translations](#) may also be available.

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Abstract

This document specifies a process for encrypting data and representing the result in XML. The data may be in a variety of formats, including octet streams and other unstructured data, or structured data formats such as XML documents, an XML element, or XML element content. The result of encrypting data is an XML Encryption element that contains or references the cipher data.

Status of This Document

This section describes the status of this document at the time of its publication. Other documents may supersede this document. A list of current W3C publications and the latest revision of this technical report can be found in the [W3C technical reports index](#) at <http://www.w3.org/TR/>.

This document has been reviewed by W3C Members, by software developers, and by other W3C groups and interested parties, and is endorsed by the Director as a W3C Recommendation. It is a

stable document and may be used as reference material or cited from another document. W3C's role in making the Recommendation is to draw attention to the specification and to promote its widespread deployment. This enhances the functionality and interoperability of the Web.

The [original version](#) of this specification was produced by the W3C [XML Encryption Working Group](#) ; the [Interoperability Report](#) shows four implementations with at least two interoperable implementations over every feature.

Please refer to the [implementation report for version 1.1 of this specification](#) for additional details about the implementation status of features added in this revision.

Conformance-affecting changes against the previous Recommendation mainly affect the set of mandatory to implement cryptographic algorithms, by adding Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement, making AES-128 GCM mandatory, changing RSA v1.5 to optional, adding optional AES192-GCM and adding optional RSA-OEAP algorithm variants. Important security considerations have also been added. A detailed summary of changes is available in [[XMLENC-CORE1-CHGS](#)]. Changes are also described in a [diff document showing changes since the original Recommendation](#), as well as a [diff document showing changes since the previous PR draft](#).

This document was published by the [XML Security Working Group](#) as a Recommendation. If you wish to make comments regarding this document, please send them to public-xmlsec@w3.org ([subscribe](#), [archives](#)). All comments are welcome.

This document was produced by a group operating under the [5 February 2004 W3C Patent Policy](#). W3C maintains a [public list of any patent disclosures](#) made in connection with the deliverables of the group; that page also includes instructions for disclosing a patent. An individual who has actual knowledge of a patent which the individual believes contains [Essential Claim\(s\)](#) must disclose the information in accordance with [section 6 of the W3C Patent Policy](#).

[Additional information related to the IPR status of XML Encryption 1.1](#) is also available.

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1. Introduction

This document specifies a process for encrypting data and representing the result in XML. The data may be arbitrary data (including an XML document), an XML element, or XML element content. The result of encrypting data is an XML Encryption **EncryptedData** element that contains (via one of its children's content) or identifies (via a URI reference) the cipher data.

When encrypting an XML element or element content the **EncryptedData** element replaces the element or content (respectively) in the encrypted version of the XML document.

When encrypting arbitrary data (including entire XML documents), the **EncryptedData** element may become the root of a new XML document or become a child element in an application-chosen XML document.

1.1 Editorial and Conformance Conventions

This specification uses XML schemas [**XMLSCHEMA-1**], [**XMLSCHEMA-2**] to describe the content model. The full normative grammar is defined by the XSD schema and the normative text in this specification. The standalone XSD schema file is authoritative in case there is any disagreement between it and the XSD schema portions.

The key words "**MUST**", "**MUST NOT**", "**REQUIRED**", "**SHALL**", "**SHALL NOT**", "**SHOULD**", "**SHOULD NOT**", "**RECOMMENDED**", "**MAY**", and "**OPTIONAL**" in this specification are to be interpreted as described in [**RFC2119**]:

"They **MUST** only be used where it is actually required for interoperation or to limit behavior which has potential for causing harm (e.g., limiting retransmissions)"

Consequently, we use these capitalized keywords to unambiguously specify requirements over protocol and application features and behavior that affect the interoperability and security of implementations. These key words are not used (capitalized) to describe XML grammar; schema definitions unambiguously describe such requirements and we wish to reserve the prominence of these terms for the natural language descriptions of protocols and features. For instance, an XML attribute might be described as being "optional". Compliance with the XML-namespace specification [**XML-NAMES**] is described as "**REQUIRED**".

1.2 Design Philosophy

The design philosophy and requirements of this specification (including the limitations related to instance validity) are addressed in the original [XML Encryption Requirements](#) [XML-ENCRYPTION-REQ] and the XML Security 1.1 Requirements document [XMLSEC11-REQS].

1.3 Versions, Namespaces, URIs, and Identifiers

This specification makes use of XML namespaces, and uses Uniform Resource Identifiers [URI] to identify resources, algorithms, and semantics.

Implementations of this specification **MUST** use the following XML namespace URIs:

URI	namespace prefix	XML internal entity
http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#	<i>default namespace</i> , xenc:	<!ENTITY xenc "http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#	xenc11:	<!ENTITY xenc11 "http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#">

The <http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#> (xenc:) namespace was introduced in version 1.0 of this specification. The present version does not coin any new elements or algorithm identifiers in that namespace; instead, the <http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#> (xenc11:) namespace is used.

No provision is made for an explicit version number in this syntax. If a future version of this specification requires explicit versioning of the document format, a different namespace will be used.

Additionally, this specification uses elements and algorithm identifiers from the XML Signature namespaces [XMLDSIG-CORE1]:

URI	namespace prefix	XML internal entity
http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#	<i>default namespace</i> , ds:, dsig:	<!ENTITY dsig "http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
http://www.w3.org/2009/xmldsig11#	dsig11:	<!ENTITY dsig11 "http://www.w3.org/2009/xmldsig11#">

1.4 Acknowledgements

The contributions of the following members of the original Working Group to the original XML Encryption specification are gratefully acknowledged in accordance with the [contributor policies](#) and the active [WG roster](#): Joseph Ashwood, Simon Blake-Wilson, Certicom, Frank D. Cavallito, BEA Systems, Eric Cohen, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Blair Dillaway, Microsoft (Author), Blake Dournaee, RSA Security, Donald Eastlake, Motorola (Editor), Barb Fox, Microsoft, Christian Geuer-Pollmann, University of Siegen, Tom Gindin, IBM, Jiandong Guo, Phaos, Phillip Hallam-Baker, Verisign, Amir Herzberg, NewGenPay, Merlin Hughes, Baltimore, Frederick Hirsch, Maryann Hondo, IBM, Takeshi Imamura, IBM (Author), Mike Just, Entrust, Inc., Brian LaMacchia, Microsoft, Hiroshi Maruyama, IBM, John Messing, Law-on-Line, Shivaram Mysore, Sun Microsystems, Thane Plambeck, Verisign, Joseph Reagle, ~~W3C~~ (Chair, Editor), Aleksey Sanin, Jim Schaad, Soaring Hawk Consulting, Ed Simon, XMLsec (Author), Daniel Toth, Ford, Yongge Wang, Certicom, Steve Wiley, myProof.

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Scott Cantor, Juan Carlos Cruellas, Pratik Datta, Gerald Edgar, Ken Graf, Phillip Hallam-Baker, Brad Hill, Frederick Hirsch, Brian LaMacchia, Konrad Lanz, Hal Lockhart, Cynthia Martin, Rob Miller, Sean Mullan, Shivaram Mysore, Magnus Nyström, Bruce Rich, Thomas Roessler, Ed Simon, Chris Solc, John Wray, Kelvin Yiu.

The working group also acknowledges the contribution of Juraj Somorovsky raising the issue of the CBC chosen ciphertext attack and contributions to revising the security considerations of XML Encryption 1.1.

2. Encryption Overview and Examples

This section is non-normative.

This section provides an overview and examples of XML Encryption syntax. The formal syntax is found in [section 3. Encryption Syntax](#) ; the specific processing is given in [Processing Rules](#) (section 4).

Expressed in shorthand form, the [EncryptedData](#) element has the following structure (where "?" denotes zero or one occurrence; "+" denotes one or more occurrences; "*" denotes zero or more occurrences; "|" denotes a choice; and the empty element tag means the element must be empty):

EXAMPLE 1

```
<EncryptedData Id? Type? MimeType? Encoding?>
  <EncryptionMethod/?>
  <ds:KeyInfo>
    <EncryptedKey?>
    <AgreementMethod?>
    <ds:KeyName?>
    <ds:RetrievalMethod?>
    <ds:*?>
  </ds:KeyInfo?>
  <CipherData>
    <CipherValue> | <CipherReference URI?>
  </CipherData>
  <EncryptionProperties?>
</EncryptedData>
```

The [CipherData](#) element envelopes or references the raw encrypted data. A [CipherData](#) element must have either a [CipherValue](#) or [CipherReference](#) child element. If enveloping, the raw encrypted data is the [CipherValue](#) element's content; if referencing, the [CipherReference](#) element's [URI](#) attribute points to the location of the raw encrypted data

2.1 Encryption Granularity

This section is non-normative.

Note: Examples in this document do not consider plaintext guessing attacks or other risks, and are only for illustrative purposes.

Consider the following fictitious payment information, which includes identification information and information appropriate to a payment method (e.g., credit card, money transfer, or electronic check):

EXAMPLE 2

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
```



```

<PaymentInfo xmlns="http://example.org/paymentv2">
  <Name>John Smith</Name>
  <CreditCard Limit="5,000" Currency="USD">
    <Number>4019 2445 0277 5567</Number>
    <Issuer>Example Bank</Issuer>
    <Expiration>04/02</Expiration>
  </CreditCard>
</PaymentInfo>

```

This markup represents that John Smith is using his credit card with a limit of \$5,000USD.

2.1.1 Encrypting an XML Element

This section is non-normative.

Smith's credit card number is sensitive information! If the application wishes to keep that information confidential, it can encrypt the `CreditCard` element:

EXAMPLE 3

```

<?xml version="1.0"?>

<PaymentInfo xmlns="http://example.org/paymentv2">
  <Name>John Smith</Name>
  <EncryptedData Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Element"
    xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
    <CipherData>
      <CipherValue>A23B45C56</CipherValue>
    </CipherData>
  </EncryptedData>
</PaymentInfo>

```

By encrypting the entire `CreditCard` element from its start to end tags, the identity of the element itself is hidden. (An eavesdropper doesn't know whether he used a credit card or money transfer.) The `CipherData` element contains the encrypted serialization of the `CreditCard` element.

2.1.2 Encrypting XML Element Content (Elements)

As an alternative scenario, it may be useful for intermediate agents to know that John used a credit card with a particular limit, but not the card's number, issuer, and expiration date. In this case, the content (character data or children elements) of the `CreditCard` element can be encrypted:

EXAMPLE 4

```

<?xml version="1.0"?>

<PaymentInfo xmlns="http://example.org/paymentv2">
  <Name>John Smith</Name>
  <CreditCard Limit="5,000" Currency="USD">
    <EncryptedData xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
      Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Content">
      <CipherData>
        <CipherValue>A23B45C56</CipherValue>
      </CipherData>
    </EncryptedData>
  </CreditCard>
</PaymentInfo>

```

2.1.3 Encrypting XML Element Content (Character Data)

Alternatively, consider the scenario in which all the information *except* the actual credit card number can be in the clear, including the fact that the Number element exists:

EXAMPLE 5

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>

<PaymentInfo xmlns="http://example.org/paymentv2">
  <Name>John Smith</Name>
  <CreditCard Limit="5,000" Currency="USD">
    <Number>
      <EncryptedData xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
        Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Content">
        <CipherData>
          <CipherValue>A23B45C56</CipherValue>
        </CipherData>
      </EncryptedData>
    </Number>
    <Issuer>Example Bank</Issuer>
    <Expiration>04/02</Expiration>
  </CreditCard>
</PaymentInfo>
```

Both **CreditCard** and **Number** are in the clear, but the character data content of **Number** is encrypted.

2.1.4 Encrypting Arbitrary Data and XML Documents

If the application scenario requires all of the information to be encrypted, the whole document is encrypted as an octet sequence. This applies to arbitrary data including XML documents.

EXAMPLE 6

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>

<EncryptedData xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
  MimeType="text/xml">
  <CipherData>
    <CipherValue>A23B45C56</CipherValue>
  </CipherData>
</EncryptedData>
```

Where appropriate, such as in the case of encrypting an entire EXI stream, the Type attribute **SHOULD** be provided and indicate the use of EXI. The optional MimeType **MAY** be used to record the actual (non-EXI-encoded) type, but is not necessary and may be omitted, as in the following EXI encryption example:

EXAMPLE 7

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>

<EncryptedData xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
  Type="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#EXI">
  <CipherData>
    <CipherValue>A23B45C56</CipherValue>
  </CipherData>
</EncryptedData>
```


2.1.5 Super-Encryption: Encrypting EncryptedData

An XML document may contain zero or more `EncryptedData` elements. `EncryptedData` cannot be the parent or child of another `EncryptedData` element. However, the actual data encrypted can be anything, including `EncryptedData` and `EncryptedKey` elements (i.e., super-encryption). During super-encryption of an `EncryptedData` or `EncryptedKey` element, one must encrypt the entire element. Encrypting only the content of these elements, or encrypting selected child elements is an invalid instance under the provided schema.

For example, consider the following:

EXAMPLE 8

```
<pay:PaymentInfo xmlns:pay="http://example.org/paymentv2">
  <EncryptedData Id="ED1"
    xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
    Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Element">
    <CipherData>
      <CipherValue>originalEncryptedData</CipherValue>
    </CipherData>
  </EncryptedData>
</pay:PaymentInfo>
```

A valid super-encryption of "`//xenc:EncryptedData[@Id='ED1']`" would be:

EXAMPLE 9

```
<pay:PaymentInfo xmlns:pay="http://example.org/paymentv2">
  <EncryptedData Id="ED2"
    xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
    Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Element">
    <CipherData>
      <CipherValue>newEncryptedData</CipherValue>
    </CipherData>
  </EncryptedData>
</pay:PaymentInfo>
```

where the `CipherValue` content of '`newEncryptedData`' is the base64 encoding of the encrypted octet sequence resulting from encrypting the `EncryptedData` element with `Id='ED1'`.

2.2 EncryptedData and EncryptedKey Usage

2.2.1 EncryptedData with Symmetric Key (KeyName)

EXAMPLE 10

```
[s01]<EncryptedData xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
  Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Element">
[s02]  <EncryptionMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#tripledes-cbc"/>
[s03]  <ds:KeyInfo xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
[s04]    <ds:KeyName>John Smith</ds:KeyName>
[s05]  </ds:KeyInfo>
[s06]  <CipherData><CipherValue>DEADBEEF</CipherValue></CipherData>
[s07]</EncryptedData>
```

[s1] The type of data encrypted may be represented as an attribute value to aid in decryption and subsequent processing. In this case, the data encrypted was an 'element'. Other alternatives include 'content' of an element, or an external octet sequence which can also be identified via the `MimeType` and `Encoding` attributes.

[s2] This (3DES CBC) is a symmetric key cipher.

[s4] The symmetric key has an associated name "John Smith".

[s6] `CipherData` contains a `CipherValue`, which is a base64 encoded octet sequence. Alternately, it could contain a `CipherReference`, which is a URI reference along with transforms necessary to obtain the encrypted data as an octet sequence

2.2.2 `EncryptedKey` (`ReferenceList`, `ds:RetrievalMethod`, `CarriedKeyName`)

The following `EncryptedData` structure is very similar to the one above, except this time the key is referenced using a `ds:RetrievalMethod`:

EXAMPLE 11

```
[t01]<EncryptedData Id="ED"
      xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmenc#">
[t02]  <EncryptionMethod
      Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmenc#aes128-cbc"/>
[t03]  <ds:KeyInfo xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
[t04]    <ds:RetrievalMethod URI="#EK"
      Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmenc#EncryptedKey"/>
[t05]    <ds:KeyName>Sally Doe</ds:KeyName>
[t06]  </ds:KeyInfo>
[t07]  <CipherData><CipherValue>DEADBEEF</CipherValue></CipherData>
[t08]</EncryptedData>
```

[t02] This (AES-128-CBC) is a symmetric key cipher.

[t04] `ds:RetrievalMethod` is used to indicate the location of a key with type `xenc:EncryptedKey`. The (AES) key is located at '#EK'.

[t05] `ds:KeyName` provides an alternative method of identifying the key needed to decrypt the `CipherData`. Either or both the `ds:KeyName` and `ds:KeyRetrievalMethod` could be used to identify the same key.

Within the same XML document, there existed an `EncryptedKey` structure that was referenced within [t04]:

EXAMPLE 12

```
[t09]<EncryptedKey Id="EK" xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmenc#">
[t10]  <EncryptionMethod
      Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmenc#rsa-1_5"/>
[t11]  <ds:KeyInfo xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
[t12]    <ds:KeyName>John Smith</ds:KeyName>
[t13]  </ds:KeyInfo>
[t14]  <CipherData><CipherValue>xyzabc</CipherValue></CipherData>
[t15]  <ReferenceList>
[t16]    <DataReference URI="#ED"/>
[t17]  </ReferenceList>
[t18]  <CarriedKeyName>Sally Doe</CarriedKeyName>
[t19]</EncryptedKey>
```

[t09] The `EncryptedKey` element is similar to the `EncryptedData` element except that the data encrypted is always a key value.

[t10] The `EncryptionMethod` is the RSA public key algorithm.

[t12] `ds:KeyName` of "John Smith" is a property of the key necessary for decrypting (using RSA) the `CipherData`.

[t14] The `CipherData`'s `CipherValue` is an octet sequence that is processed (serialized, encrypted, and encoded) by a referring encrypted object's `EncryptionMethod`. (Note, an `EncryptedKey`'s `EncryptionMethod` is the algorithm used to encrypt these octets and does not speak about what type of octets they are.)

[t15-17] A `ReferenceList` identifies the encrypted objects (`DataReference` and `KeyReference`) encrypted with this key. The `ReferenceList` contains a list of references to data encrypted by the symmetric key carried within this structure.

[t18] The `CarriedKeyName` element is used to identify the encrypted key value which may be referenced by the `KeyName` element in `ds:KeyInfo`. (Since ID attribute values must be unique to a document, `CarriedKeyName` can indicate that several `EncryptedKey` structures contain the same key value encrypted for different recipients.)

3. Encryption Syntax

This section provides a detailed description of the syntax and features for XML Encryption. Features described in this section **MUST** be implemented unless otherwise noted. The syntax is defined via [XMLSCHEMA-1], [XMLSCHEMA-2] with the following XML preamble, declaration, internal entity, and import:

Schema Definition:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE schema PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XMLSchema 200102//EN"
[
  <!ATTLIST schema
    xmlns:xenc CDATA #FIXED 'http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#'
    xmlns:ds CDATA #FIXED 'http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#'
  <!ENTITY xenc 'http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#'
  <!ENTITY % p ''
  <!ENTITY % s ''
]>

<schema xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" version="1.0"
  xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
  xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
  targetNamespace="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
  elementFormDefault="qualified">

  <import namespace="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
    schemaLocation="http://www.w3.org/TR/2002/
      REC-xmldsig-core-20020212/xmldsig-core-schema.xsd"/>
```

(Note: A newline has been added to the schemaLocation URI to fit on this page, but is not part of the URI.)

Additional markup defined in this specification uses the `xenc11:` namespace. The syntax is defined in an XML schema with the following preamble:

Schema Definition:

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE schema PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XMLSchema 200102//EN"
[
<!ATTLIST schema
xmlns:xenc CDATA #FIXED "http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
xmlns:ds CDATA #FIXED "http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
xmlns:xenc11 CDATA #FIXED "http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#">
<!ENTITY xenc "http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
<!ENTITY % p "">
<!ENTITY % s "">
]>

<schema xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" version="1.0"
xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
xmlns:xenc11="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#"
xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
targetNamespace="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#"
elementFormDefault="qualified">

  <import namespace="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
    schemaLocation="http://www.w3.org/TR/2002/
        REC-xmldsig-core-20020212/xmldsig-core-schema.xsd"/>

  <import namespace="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
    schemaLocation="http://www.w3.org/TR/2002/
        REC-xmlenc-core-20021210/xenc-schema.xsd"/>

```

(Note: A newline has been added to the schemaLocation URI to fit on this page, but is not part of the URI.)

3.1 The EncryptedType Element

EncryptedType is the abstract type from which **EncryptedData** and **EncryptedKey** are derived. While these two latter element types are very similar with respect to their content models, a syntactical distinction is useful to processing. Implementations **MUST** generate laxly schema valid [XMLSCHEMA-1], [XMLSCHEMA-2] **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** elements as specified by the subsequent schema declarations. (Note the laxly schema valid generation means that the content permitted by **xsd:ANY** need not be valid.) Implementations **SHOULD** create these XML structures (**EncryptedType** elements and their descendants/content) in Normalization Form C [NFC].

Schema Definition:

```

<complexType name="EncryptedType" abstract="true">
  <sequence>
    <element name="EncryptionMethod" type="xenc:EncryptionMethodType"
      minOccurs="0"/>
    <element ref="ds:KeyInfo" minOccurs="0"/>
    <element ref="xenc:CipherData"/>
    <element ref="xenc:EncryptionProperties" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="Id" type="ID" use="optional"/>
  <attribute name="Type" type="anyURI" use="optional"/>
  <attribute name="MimeType" type="string" use="optional"/>
  <attribute name="Encoding" type="anyURI" use="optional"/>
</complexType>

```

EncryptionMethod is an optional element that describes the encryption algorithm applied to the cipher data. If the element is absent, the encryption algorithm must be known by the recipient or the decryption will fail.

ds:KeyInfo is an optional element, defined by [XMLDSIG-CORE1], that carries information about the key used to encrypt the data. Subsequent sections of this specification define new elements that may appear as children of **ds:KeyInfo**.

CipherData is a mandatory element that contains the **CipherValue** or **CipherReference** with the encrypted data.

EncryptionProperties can contain additional information concerning the generation of the **EncryptedType** (e.g., date/time stamp).

Id is an optional attribute providing for the standard method of assigning a string id to the element within the document context.

Type is an optional attribute identifying type information about the plaintext form of the encrypted content. While optional, this specification takes advantage of it for processing described in [section 4.4 Decryption](#). If the **EncryptedData** element contains data of **Type** 'element' or element 'content', and replaces that data in an XML document context, or contains data of **Type** 'EXI', it is strongly recommended the **Type** attribute be provided. Without this information, the decryptor will be unable to automatically restore the XML document to its original cleartext form.

MimeType is an optional (advisory) attribute which describes the media type of the data which has been encrypted. The value of this attribute is a string with values defined by [\[RFC2045\]](#). For example, if the data that is encrypted is a base64 encoded PNG, the transfer **Encoding** may be specified as '<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsig#base64>' and the **MimeType** as 'image/png'. This attribute is purely advisory; no validation of the **MimeType** information is required and it does not indicate the encryption application must do any additional processing. Note, this information may not be necessary if it is already bound to the identifier in the **Type** attribute. For example, the Element and Content types defined in this specification are always UTF-8 encoded text. In the case of Type EXI the MimeType attribute is not necessary, but if used should reflect the underlying type and not "EXI".

Encoding is an optional (advisory) attribute which describes the transfer encoding of the data that has been encrypted.

3.2 The **EncryptionMethod** Element

EncryptionMethod is an optional element that describes the encryption algorithm applied to the cipher data. If the element is absent, the encryption algorithm must be known to the recipient or the decryption will fail.

Schema Definition:

```
<complexType name="Encryptionmethodtype" mixed="true">
  <sequence>
    <element name="KeySize" minOccurs="0" type="xenc:KeySizeType"/>
    <element name="OAEPparams" minOccurs="0" type="base64Binary"/>
    <any namespace="##other" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="Algorithm" type="anyURI" use="required"/>
</complexType>
```

The permitted child elements of the **EncryptionMethod** are determined by the specific value of the **Algorithm** attribute URI, and the **KeySize** child element is always permitted. For example, the RSA-OAEP algorithm ([section 5.5.2 RSA-OAEP](#)) uses the **ds:DigestMethod** and **OAEPparams** elements, and may use the **xenc11:MGF** element when needed. (We rely upon the **ANY** schema construct because it is not possible to specify element content based on the value of an attribute.)

The presence of any child element under **EncryptionMethod** that is not permitted by the algorithm or the presence of a **KeySize** child inconsistent with the algorithm **MUST** be treated as an error. (All algorithm URIs specified in this document imply a key size but this is not true in general. Most popular stream cipher algorithms take variable size keys.)

3.3 The **CipherData** Element

The **CipherData** is a mandatory element that provides the encrypted data. It must either contain the encrypted octet sequence as base64 encoded text as element content of the **CipherValue** element, or provide a reference to an external location containing the encrypted octet sequence via the **CipherReference** element.

Schema Definition:

```
<element name="CipherData" type="xenc:CipherDataType"/>

<complexType name="CipherDataType">
  <choice>
    <element name="CipherValue" type="base64Binary"/>
    <element ref="xenc:CipherReference"/>
  </choice>
</complexType>
```

3.3.1 The **CipherReference** Element

If **CipherValue** is not supplied directly, the **CipherReference** identifies a source which, when processed, yields the encrypted octet sequence.

The actual value is obtained as follows. The **CipherReference** URI contains an identifier that is dereferenced. Should the **CipherReference** element contain an **OPTIONAL** sequence of **Transforms**, the data resulting from dereferencing the URI is transformed as specified so as to yield the intended cipher value. For example, if the value is base64 encoded within an XML document; the transforms could specify an XPath expression followed by a base64 decoding so as to extract the octets.

The syntax of the URI and Transforms is defined in XML Signature [XMLDSIG-CORE1], however XML Encryption places the **Transforms** element in the XML Encryption namespace since it is used in XML Encryption to obtain an octet stream for decryption. In [XMLDSIG-CORE1] both generation and validation processing start with the same source data and perform that transform in the same order. In encryption, the decryptor has only the cipher data and the specified transforms are enumerated for the decryptor, in the order necessary to obtain the octets. Consequently, because it has different semantics **Transforms** is in the **xenc:** namespace.

For example, if the relevant cipher value is captured within a **CipherValue** element within a different XML document, the **CipherReference** might look as follows:

EXAMPLE 13

```
<CipherReference URI="http://www.example.com/CipherValues.xml">
  <Transforms>
    <ds:Transform Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/TR/1999/REC-xpath-19991116">
      <ds:XPath xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
        self::text()[parent::enc:CipherValue[@Id="example1"]]
      </ds:XPath>
    </ds:Transform>
    <ds:Transform Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#base64"/>
  </Transforms>
</CipherReference>
```

Implementations **MUST** support the **CipherReference** feature and the same URI encoding, dereferencing, scheme, and HTTP response codes as that of [XMLDSIG-CORE1]. The **Transform** feature and particular transform algorithms are **OPTIONAL**.

Schema Definition:

```
<element name="CipherReference" type="xenc:CipherReferenceType"/>
```



```

<complexType name="CipherReferenceType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="Transforms" type="xenc:TransformsType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="URI" type="anyURI" use="required"/>
</complexType>

<complexType name="TransformsType">
  <sequence>
    <element ref="ds:Transform" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>

```

3.4 The EncryptedData Element

The **EncryptedData** element is the core element in the syntax. Not only does its **CipherData** child contain the encrypted data, but it's also the element that replaces the encrypted element, or element content, or serves as the new document root.

Schema Definition:

```

<element name="EncryptedData" type="xenc:EncryptedDataType"/>

<complexType name="EncryptedDataType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="xenc:EncryptedType">
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>

```

3.5 Extensions to ds:KeyInfo Element

There are three ways that the keying material needed to decrypt **CipherData** can be provided:

1. The **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** element specify the associated keying material via a child of **ds:KeyInfo**. All of the child elements of **ds:KeyInfo** specified in [XMLDSIG-CORE1] **MAY** be used as qualified:
 1. Support for **ds:KeyValue** is **OPTIONAL** and may be used to transport public keys, such as Diffie-Hellman Key Values ([section 5.6.1 Diffie-Hellman Key Values](#)). (Including the plaintext decryption key, whether a private key or a secret key, is obviously **NOT RECOMMENDED**.)
 2. Support of **ds:KeyName** to refer to an **EncryptedKey** **CarriedKeyName** is **RECOMMENDED**.
 3. Support for same document **ds:RetrievalMethod** is **REQUIRED**.

In addition, we provide two additional child elements: applications **MUST** support **EncryptedKey** ([section 3.5.1 The EncryptedKey Element](#)) and **MAY** support **AgreementMethod** ([section 5.6 Key Agreement](#)).

2. A detached (not inside **ds:KeyInfo**) **EncryptedKey** element can specify the **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** to which its decrypted key will apply via a **DataReference** or **KeyReference** ([section 3.6 The ReferenceList Element](#)).
3. The keying material can be determined by the recipient by application context and thus need not be explicitly mentioned in the transmitted XML.

3.5.1 The EncryptedKey Element

Identifier

Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#EncryptedKey"

(This can be used within a `ds:RetrievalMethod` element to identify the referent's type.)

The `EncryptedKey` element is used to transport encryption keys from the originator to a known recipient(s). It may be used as a stand-alone XML document, be placed within an application document, or appear inside an `EncryptedData` element as a child of a `ds:KeyInfo` element. The key value is always encrypted to the recipient(s). When `EncryptedKey` is decrypted the resulting octets are made available to the `EncryptionMethod` algorithm without any additional processing.

Schema Definition:

```
<element name="EncryptedKey" type="xenc:EncryptedKeyType"/>

<complexType name="EncryptedKeyType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="xenc:EncryptedType">
      <sequence>
        <element ref="xenc:ReferenceList" minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="CarriedKeyName" type="string" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
      <attribute name="Recipient" type="string" use="optional"/>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

`ReferenceList` is an optional element containing pointers to data and keys encrypted using this key. The reference list may contain multiple references to `EncryptedKey` and `EncryptedData` elements. This is done using `KeyReference` and `DataReference` elements respectively. These are defined below.

`CarriedKeyName` is an optional element for associating a user readable name with the key value. This may then be used to reference the key using the `ds:KeyName` element within `ds:KeyInfo`. The same `CarriedKeyName` label, unlike an ID type, may occur multiple times within a single document. The value of the key **MUST** be the same in all `EncryptedKey` elements identified with the same `CarriedKeyName` label within a single XML document. Note that because whitespace is significant in the value of the `ds:KeyName` element, whitespace is also significant in the value of the `CarriedKeyName` element.

`Recipient` is an optional attribute that contains a hint as to which recipient this encrypted key value is intended for. Its contents are application dependent.

The `Type` attribute inherited from `EncryptedType` can be used to further specify the type of the encrypted key if the `EncryptionMethod Algorithm` does not define a unambiguous encoding/representation. (Note, all the algorithms in this specification have an unambiguous representation for their associated key structures.)

3.5.2 The `DerivedKey` Element

Identifier

`Type="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#DerivedKey"`

(This can be used within a `ds:RetrievalMethod` element to identify the referent's type.)

The `DerivedKey` element is used to transport information about a derived key from the originator to recipient(s). It may be used as a stand-alone XML document, be placed within an application document, or appear inside an `EncryptedData` or `Signature` element as a child of a `ds:KeyInfo` element. The key value itself is never sent by the originator. Rather, the originator provides information to the recipient(s) by which the recipient(s) can derive the same key value. When the key has been derived the resulting octets are made available to the `EncryptionMethod` or `SignatureMethod` algorithm without any additional processing.

Schema Definition:

```

<!-- targetNamespace=&#x27;http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11&#x27; -->

<element name="DerivedKey" type="xenc11:DerivedKeyType"/>

<complexType name="DerivedKeyType">
  <sequence>
    <element ref="xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod" minOccurs="0"/>
    <element ref="xenc:ReferenceList" minOccurs="0"/>
    <element name="DerivedKeyName" type="string" minOccurs="0"/>
    <element name="MasterKeyName" type="string" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="Recipient" type="string" use="optional"/>
  <attribute name="Id" type="ID" use="optional"/>
  <attribute name="Type" type="anyURI" use="optional"/>
</complexType>

<element name="KeyDerivationMethod" type="xenc:KeyDerivationMethodType"/>

<complexType name="KeyDerivationMethodType">
  <sequence>
    <any namespace="##any" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="Algorithm" type="anyURI" use="required"/>
</complexType>

```

KeyDerivationMethod is an optional element that describes the key derivation algorithm applied to the master (underlying) key material. If the element is absent, the key derivation algorithm must be known by the recipient or the recipient's key derivation will fail.

ReferenceList is an optional element containing pointers to data and keys encrypted using this key. The reference list may contain multiple references to **EncryptedKey** or **EncryptedData** elements. This is done using **KeyReference** and **DataReference** elements from XML Encryption.

The optional **DerivedKeyName** element is used to identify the derived key value. This element may then be referenced by the **ds:KeyName** element in **ds:KeyInfo**. The same **DerivedKeyName** label, unlike an ID type, may occur multiple times within a single document. Note that because whitespace is significant in the value of the **ds:KeyName** element, whitespace is also significant in the value of the **DerivedKeyName** element.

MasterKeyName is an optional element for associating a user readable name with the master key (or secret) value. The same **MasterKeyName** label, unlike an ID type, may occur multiple times within a single document. The value of the master key **MUST** be the same in all **DerivedKey** elements identified with the same **MasterKeyName** label within a single XML document. If no **MasterKeyName** is provided, the master key material must be known by the recipient or key derivation will fail.

Recipient is an optional attribute that contains a hint as to which recipient this derived key value is intended for. Its contents are application dependent.

The optional **Id** attribute provides for the standard method of assigning a string id to the element within the document context.

The **Type** attribute can be used to further specify the type of the derived key if the **KeyDerivationMethod** algorithm does not define an unambiguous encoding/representation.

3.5.3 The **ds:RetrievalMethod** Element

The **ds:RetrievalMethod** [XMLDSIG-CORE1] with a **Type** of 'http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#EncryptedKey' provides a way to express a link to an **EncryptedKey** element containing the key needed to decrypt the **CipherData** associated with an **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** element. The **ds:RetrievalMethod** [XMLDSIG-CORE1] with a **Type** of 'http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#DerivedKey' provides a way to express a link to a **DerivedKey** element used to derive the key needed to decrypt the **CipherData** associated with an

EncryptedData or **EncryptedKey** element. The **ds:RetrievalMethod** with one of these types is always a child of the **ds:KeyInfo** element and may appear multiple times. If there is more than one instance of a **ds:RetrievalMethod** in a **ds:KeyInfo** of this type, then the **EncryptedKey** objects referred to must contain the same key value, possibly encrypted in different ways or for different recipients.

3.6 The **ReferenceList** Element

ReferenceList is an element that contains pointers from a key value of an **EncryptedKey** or **DerivedKey** to items encrypted by that key value (**EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** elements).

Schema Definition:

```
<element name="ReferenceList">
  <complexType>
    <choice minOccurs="1" maxOccurs="unbounded">
      <element name="DataReference" type="xenc:ReferenceType"/>
      <element name="KeyReference" type="xenc:ReferenceType"/>
    </choice>
  </complexType>
</element>

<complexType name="ReferenceType">
  <sequence>
    <any namespace="##other" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="URI" type="anyURI" use="required"/>
</complexType>
```

DataReference elements are used to refer to **EncryptedData** elements that were encrypted using the key defined in the enclosing **EncryptedKey** or **DerivedKey** element. Multiple **DataReference** elements can occur if multiple **EncryptedData** elements exist that are encrypted by the same key.

KeyReference elements are used to refer to **EncryptedKey** elements that were encrypted using the key defined in the enclosing **EncryptedKey** or **DerivedKey** element. Multiple **KeyReference** elements can occur if multiple **EncryptedKey** elements exist that are encrypted by the same key.

For both types of references one may optionally specify child elements to aid the recipient in retrieving the **EncryptedKey** and/or **EncryptedData** elements. These could include information such as XPath transforms, decompression transforms, or information on how to retrieve the elements from a document storage facility. For example:

EXAMPLE 14

```
<ReferenceList>
  <DataReference URI="#invoice34">
    <ds:Transforms>
      <ds:Transform Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/TR/1999/REC-xpath-19991116">
        <ds:XPath xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmldsig#">
          self::xenc:EncryptedData[@Id="example1"]
        </ds:XPath>
      </ds:Transform>
    </ds:Transforms>
  </DataReference>
</ReferenceList>
```

3.7 The **EncryptionProperties** Element

Identifier

Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmldsig#EncryptionProperties"

(This can be used within a `ds:Reference` element to identify the referent's type.)

Additional information items concerning the generation of the `EncryptedData` or `EncryptedKey` can be placed in an `EncryptionProperty` element (e.g., date/time stamp or the serial number of cryptographic hardware used during encryption). The `Target` attribute identifies the `EncryptedType` structure being described. `anyAttribute` permits the inclusion of attributes from the XML namespace to be included (i.e., `xml:space`, `xml:lang`, and `xml:base`).

Schema Definition:

```
<element name="EncryptionProperties" type="xenc:EncryptionPropertiesType"/>

<complexType name="EncryptionPropertiesType">
  <sequence>
    <element ref="xenc:EncryptionProperty" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="Id" type="ID" use="optional"/>
</complexType>

<element name="EncryptionProperty" type="xenc:EncryptionPropertyType"/>

<complexType name="EncryptionPropertyType" mixed="true">
  <choice maxOccurs="unbounded">
    <any namespace="##other" processContents="lax"/>
  </choice>
  <attribute name="Target" type="anyURI" use="optional"/>
  <attribute name="Id" type="ID" use="optional"/>
  <anyAttribute namespace="http://www.w3.org/XML/1998/namespace"/>
</complexType>
```

4. Processing Rules

This section describes the operations to be performed as part of encryption and decryption processing by implementations of this specification. The conformance requirements are specified over the following roles:

Encryptor

An XML Encryption implementation with the role of encrypting data.

Decryptor

An XML Encryption implementation with the role of decrypting data.

Encryptor and Decryptor are invoked by the Application. This specification does not include normative definitions for application behavior. However, this specification does include conformance requirements on encrypted data that may only be achievable through appropriate behavior by all three parties. It is up to specific deployment contexts how this is achieved.

4.1 Intended Application Model

The processing rules for XML Encryption are designed around an intended application model that this version of the specification does not cover normatively.

In the intended processing model, XML Encryption is used to encrypt an octet-stream, an EXI stream, or a fragment of an XML document that matches either the `content` or `element` production from [XML10].

If XML Encryption is used with some octet-stream, the precise encoding and meaning of that octet-stream is up to the application, but treated as opaque by the Encryptor or Decryptor. The application may use the `Type`, `Encoding` and `MimeType` parameters to transport further information about the nature of that octet-stream. Hence, an unknown `Type` parameter is, in general, not treated as an error by

either the Encryptor or Decryptor, but instead simply passed through, along with the other relevant parameters and the cleartext octet-stream.

If XML Encryption is used with an XML **element** or XML **content**, then Encryptors and Decryptors commonly perform type-specific processing:

- If an **element** is encrypted, then the Encryptor will replace the element in question with an appropriately constructed **EncryptedData** element. The Decryptor will, conversely, replace the **EncryptedData** element with its cleartext.
- If XML **content** is encrypted, then the Encryptor will likewise replace this content with an appropriately constructed **EncryptedData** element, and the Decryptor will reverse this operation.

Note that the intended Encryptor behavior will often cause the document with encrypted parts to become invalid with respect to its schema for the hosting XML format, unless that format is specifically prepared to be used with XML Encryption. An Encryptor or Decryptor that implements the intended processing model is **NOT REQUIRED** to ensure that the resulting XML is schema-valid for the hosting XML format.

If XML processing is handled inside the Encryptor and Decryptor, and the **Type** attribute values for **element** and **content** cleartext are used, then the Encryptor and Decryptor **MUST** ensure that the XML cleartext is serialized as UTF-8 before encryption, and -- if needed -- converted back to whatever other encoding might be used by the surrounding XML context.

If XML Encryption is used with an EXI stream [EXI], then Encryptors and Decryptors process content as for XML element or XML content processing, but taking into account EXI serialization. In particular, the encryptor will replace the XML element or XML fragment in question with an appropriately constructed **EncryptedData** element. The Decryptor will conversely replace the **EncryptedData** element with its cleartext XML element or XML fragment. Note that the XML document into which the **EncryptedData** element is embedded may be encoded using EXI and/or EXI may be used to encode the cleartext before encryption.

4.2 Well-known **Type** parameter values

For interoperability purposes, the following types **MUST** be implemented such that an implementation will be able to take as input and yield as output data matching the production rules 39 and 43 from [XML10]:

element '<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Element>'

"[39] **element** ::= **EmptyElemTag** | **STag content ETag**"

content '<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Content>'

"[43] **content** ::= **CharData?** ((**element** | **Reference** | **CD Sect** | **PI** | **Comment**) **CharData?**)*"

Support for the following type is **OPTIONAL** for Encryptors and Decryptors:

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#EXI>

Presence of this **Type** indicates that the cleartext is an EXI stream [EXI]. Encryptors and Decryptors that support this type **MAY** operate directly on (parts of) EXI streams.

Encryptors and Decryptors **SHOULD** handle unknown or empty **Type** attribute values as a signal that the cleartext is to be handled as an opaque octet-stream, whose specific processing is up to the invoking application. In this case, the **Type**, **MimeType** and **Encoding** parameters **SHOULD** be treated as opaque data whose appropriate processing is up to the application.

4.3 Encryption

The selection of the algorithm, parameters, and encryption keys is out of scope for this specification.

The cleartext data are assumed to be present as an octet stream. If the cleartext is of type **element** or **content**, the data **MUST** be serialized in UTF-8 as specified in [XML10], using Normal Form C [NFC].

For each data item to be encrypted as an **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** element, the **encryptor MUST**:

1. Obtain (or derive) and (optionally) represent the key.
 1. If the key is to be identified (via naming, URI, or included in a child element), construct the **ds:KeyInfo** as appropriate (e.g., **ds:KeyName**, **ds:KeyValue**, **ds:RetrievalMethod**, etc.)
 2. If the key itself is to be encrypted, construct an **EncryptedKey** element by recursively applying this encryption process. The result may then be a child of **ds:KeyInfo**, or it may exist elsewhere and may be identified in the preceding step.
 3. If the key was derived from a master key, construct a **DerivedKey** element with associated child elements. The result may, as in the **EncryptedKey** case, be a child of **ds:KeyInfo**, or it may exist elsewhere.

2. Encrypt the data:

1. Encrypt the octets using the algorithm and key.
2. Unless the **decryptor** will implicitly know the type of the encrypted data, the **encryptor SHOULD** set the **Type** to indicate the intended interpretation of the cleartext data. See [section 4.2 Well-known Type parameter values](#) for known parameter values.

If the data is a simple octet sequence it **MAY** be described with the **MimeType** and **Encoding** attributes. For example, the data might be an XML document (**MimeType**="text/xml"), sequence of characters (**MimeType**="text/plain"), or binary image data (**MimeType**="image/png").

3. Build the **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** structure:

An **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** structure represents all of the information previously discussed including the type of the encrypted data, encryption algorithm, parameters, key, type of the encrypted data, etc.

1. If the encrypted octet sequence obtained in step 2 is to be stored in the **CipherData** element within the **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** element, then the base64 representation of the encrypted octet sequence is inserted as the content of a **CipherValue** element.
2. If the encrypted octet sequence is stored externally to the **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** element, then the URI and transforms (if any) required for the Decryptor to retrieve the encrypted octet sequence are described within a **CipherReference** element.

4.4 Decryption

For each **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** to be decrypted, the **decryptor MUST**:

1. Determine the algorithm, parameters and key information to be used. This information may be obtained out-of-band, or determined according to a **ds:KeyInfo** element; see [section 3.5 Extensions to ds:KeyInfo Element](#).
2. Decrypt the data contained in the **CipherData** element.
 1. If a **CipherValue** child element is present, then the associated text value is retrieved and base64 decoded so as to obtain the encrypted octet sequence.

2. If a **CipherReference** child element is present, the URI and transforms (if any) are used to retrieve the encrypted octet sequence.
3. The encrypted octet sequence is decrypted using the algorithm, parameters and key value already determined from step 1.

4.5 XML Encryption

Encryption and decryption operations are operations on octets. The **application** is responsible for the marshalling XML such that it can be serialized into an octet sequence, encrypted, decrypted, and be of use to the recipient.

For example, if the application wishes to canonicalize its data or encode/compress the data in an XML packaging format, the application needs to marshal the XML accordingly and identify the resulting type via the **EncryptedData Type** attribute. The likelihood of successful decryption and subsequent processing will be dependent on the recipient's support for the given type. Also, if the data is intended to be processed both before encryption and after decryption (e.g., XML Signature [XMLDSIG-CORE1] validation or an XSLT transform) the encrypting application must be careful to preserve information necessary for that process's success.

The following sections contain specifications for decrypting, replacing, and serializing XML content (i.e., **Type 'element'** or element '**content**') using the [XPath] data model. These sections are non-normative and **OPTIONAL** to implementers of this specification, but they may be normatively referenced by and be required by other specifications that require a consistent processing for applications, such as [XMLENC-DECRYPT].

4.5.1 A Decrypt Implementation (Non-normative)

Where *P* is the context in which the serialized XML should be parsed (a document node or element node) and *O* is the octet sequence representing UTF-8 encoded characters resulting from step 4.3 in [section 4.4 Decryption](#). *Y* is node-set representing the decrypted content obtained by the following steps:

1. Let *C* be the parsing context of a child of *P*, which consists of the following items:
 - Prefix and namespace name of each namespace that is in scope for *P*.
 - Name and value of each general entity that is effective for the XML document causing *P*.
2. Wrap the decrypted octet stream *O* in the context *C* as specified in [section 4.5.4 Text Wrapping](#).
3. Parse the wrapped octet stream as described in [The Reference Processing Model](#) (section 4.3.3.2) of [XMLDSIG-CORE1], resulting in a node-set.
4. *Y* is the node-set obtained by removing the root node, the wrapping element node, and its associated set of attribute and namespace nodes from the node-set obtained in Step 3.

4.5.2 A Decrypt and Replace Implementation (Non-normative)

Where *X* is the [XPath] node set corresponding to an XML document and *e* is an **EncryptedData** element node in *X*.

1. *Z* is an [XPath] node-set that identical to *X* except where the element node *e* is an **EncryptedData** element type. In which case:
 1. Decrypt *e* in the context of its parent node as specified in the [section 4.5.1 A Decrypt Implementation \(Non-normative\)](#) yielding *Y*, an [XPath] node set.
 2. Include *Y* in place of *e* and its descendants in *X*. Since [XPath] does not define methods of replacing node-sets from different documents, the result **MUST** be equivalent to replacing *e* with the octet stream resulting from its decryption in the serialized form of *X* and re-parsing the document. However, the actual method of performing this operation is left to the implementor.

4.5.3 Serializing XML (Non-normative)

4.5.3.1 Default Namespace Considerations

In [section 4.3 Encryption](#) (step 3.1), when serializing an XML fragment special care **SHOULD** be taken with respect to default namespaces. If the data will be subsequently decrypted in the context of a parent XML document then serialization can produce elements in the wrong namespace. Consider the following fragment of XML:

EXAMPLE 15

```
<Document xmlns="http://example.org/">
  <ToBeEncrypted xmlns="" />
</Document>
```

Serialization of the element **ToBeEncrypted** fragment via [XML-C14N] would result in the characters "**<ToBeEncrypted></ToBeEncrypted>**" as an octet stream. The resulting encrypted document would be:

EXAMPLE 16

```
<Document xmlns="http://example.org/">
  <EncryptedData xmlns="...">
    <!-- Containing the encrypted "<ToBeEncrypted></ToBeEncrypted>" -->
  </EncryptedData>
</Document>
```

Decrypting and replacing the **EncryptedData** within this document would produce the following incorrect result:

EXAMPLE 17

```
<Document xmlns="http://example.org/">
  <ToBeEncrypted/>
</Document>
```

This problem arises because most XML serializations assume that the serialized data will be parsed directly in a context where there is no default namespace declaration. Consequently, they do not redundantly declare the empty default namespace with an `xmlns=""`. If, however, the serialized data is parsed in a context where a default namespace declaration is in scope (e.g., the parsing context as described in [section 4.5.1 A Decrypt Implementation \(Non-normative\)](#)), then it may affect the interpretation of the serialized data.

To solve this problem, a canonicalization algorithm **MAY** be augmented as follows for use as an XML encryption serializer:

- A default namespace declaration with an empty value (i.e., `xmlns=""`) **SHOULD** be emitted where it would normally be suppressed by the canonicalization algorithm.

While the result may not be in proper canonical form, this is harmless as the resulting octet stream will not be used directly in a [XMLDSIG-CORE1] signature value computation. Returning to the preceding example with our new augmentation, the **ToBeEncrypted** element would be serialized as follows:

```
<ToBeEncrypted xmlns=""></ToBeEncrypted>
```

When processed in the context of the parent document, this serialized fragment will be parsed and interpreted correctly.

This augmentation can be retroactively applied to an existing canonicalization implementation by canonicalizing each apex node and its descendants from the node set, inserting `xmlns=""` at the appropriate points, and concatenating the resulting octet streams.

4.5.3.2 XML Attribute Considerations

Similar attention between the relationship of a fragment and the context into which it is being inserted should be given to the `xml:base`, `xml:lang`, and `xml:space` attributes as mentioned in the [Security Considerations](#) of [XML-EXC-C14N]. For example, if the element:

EXAMPLE 18

```
<Bongo href="example.xml"/>
```

is taken from a context and serialized with no `xml:base` [XMLBASE] attribute and parsed in the context of the element:

EXAMPLE 19

```
<Baz xml:base="http://example.org/">
```

the result will be:

EXAMPLE 20

```
<Baz xml:base="http://example.org/"><Bongo href="example.xml"/></Baz>
```

`Bongo`'s `href` is subsequently interpreted as `"http://example.org/example.xml"`. If this is not the correct URI, `Bongo` should have been serialized with its own `xml:base` attribute.

Unfortunately, the recommendation that an empty value be emitted to divorce the default namespace of the fragment from the context into which it is being inserted cannot be made for the attributes `xml:base`, and `xml:space`. ([Error 41](#) of the [XML 1.0 Second Edition Specification Errata](#) clarifies that an empty string value of the attribute `xml:lang` is considered as if, "there is no language information available, just as if `xml:lang` had not been specified".) The interpretation of an empty value for the `xml:base` or `xml:space` attributes is undefined or maintains the contextual value. Consequently, applications **SHOULD** ensure (1) fragments that are to be encrypted are not dependent on XML attributes, or (2) if they are dependent and the resulting document is intended to be [valid](#) [XML10], the fragment's definition permits the presence of the attributes and that the attributes have non-empty values.

4.5.4 Text Wrapping

This section specifies the process for wrapping text in a given parsing context. The process is based on the proposal by Richard Tobin [[Tobin](#)] for constructing the infoset [XML-INFOSET] of an external entity.

The process consists of the following steps:

1. If the parsing context contains any general entities, then emit a document type declaration that provides entity declarations.
2. Emit a **dummy** element start-tag with namespace declaration attributes declaring all the namespaces in the parsing context.
3. Emit the text.
4. Emit a **dummy** element end-tag.

In the above steps, the document type declaration and **dummy** element tags **MUST** be encoded in UTF-8.

Consider the following document containing an **EncryptedData** element:

EXAMPLE 21

```
<!DOCTYPE Document [  
  <!ENTITY dsig "http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">  
<Document xmlns="http://example.org/">  
  <foo:Body xmlns:foo="http://example.org/foo">  
    <EncryptedData xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"   
      Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Element">  
      ...  
    </EncryptedData>  
  </foo:Body>  
</Document>
```

If the **EncryptedData** element is decrypted to the text "**<One><foo:Two/></One>**", then the wrapped form is as follows:

EXAMPLE 22

```
<!DOCTYPE dummy [  
  <!ENTITY dsig "http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">  
<dummy xmlns="http://example.org/"   
  xmlns:foo="http://example.org/foo">  
  <One>  
    <foo:Two/>  
  </One>  
</dummy>
```

5. Algorithms

This section discusses algorithms used with the XML Encryption specification. Entries contain the identifier to be used as the value of the **Algorithm** attribute of the **EncryptionMethod** element or other element representing the role of the algorithm, a reference to the formal specification, definitions for the representation of keys and the results of cryptographic operations where applicable, and general applicability comments.

5.1 Algorithm Identifiers and Implementation Requirements

All algorithms listed below have implicit parameters depending on their role. For example, the data to be encrypted or decrypted, keying material, and direction of operation (encrypting or decrypting) for

encryption algorithms. Any explicit additional parameters to an algorithm appear as content elements within the element. Such parameter child elements have descriptive element names, which are frequently algorithm specific, and **SHOULD** be in the same namespace as this XML Encryption specification, the XML Signature specification, or in an algorithm specific namespace. An example of such an explicit parameter could be a nonce (unique quantity) provided to a key agreement algorithm.

This specification defines a set of algorithms, their URIs, and requirements for implementation. Levels of requirement specified, such as "**REQUIRED**" or "**OPTIONAL**", refer to implementation, not use. Furthermore, the mechanism is extensible, and alternative algorithms may be used.

5.1.1 Table of Algorithms

The table below lists the categories of algorithms. Within each category, a brief name, the level of implementation requirement, and an identifying URI are given for each algorithm.

Block Encryption

1. **REQUIRED** TRIPLEDES
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#tripleDES-cbc>
2. **REQUIRED** AES-128
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes128-cbc>
3. **REQUIRED** AES-256
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes256-cbc>
4. **REQUIRED** AES128-GCM
<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#aes128-gcm>
5. **OPTIONAL** AES-192
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes192-cbc>
6. **OPTIONAL** AES192-GCM
<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#aes192-gcm>
7. **OPTIONAL** AES256-GCM
<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#aes256-gcm>

Note: Use of AES GCM is strongly recommended over any CBC block encryption algorithms as recent advances in cryptanalysis [[XMLENC-CBC-ATTACK](#)][[XMLENC-CBC-ATTACK-COUNTERMEASURES](#)] have cast doubt on the ability of CBC block encryption algorithms to protect plain text when used with XML Encryption. Other mitigations should be considered when using CBC block encryption, such as conveying the encrypted data over a secure channel such as TLS. The CBC block encryption algorithms that are listed as required remain so for backward compatibility.

Stream Encryption

1. none
Syntax and recommendations are given below to support user specified algorithms.

Key Derivation

1. **REQUIRED** ConcatKDF
<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#ConcatKDF>
2. **OPTIONAL** PBKDF2
<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#pbkdf2>

Key Transport

1. **REQUIRED** RSA-OAEP (including MGF1 with SHA1)
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-oaep-mgf1p>
2. Optional RSA-OAEP

- <http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#rsa-oaep>
3. **OPTIONAL** RSA-v1.5 (see [RSA-v1.5 security note](#))
http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-1_5

Key Agreement

1. **REQUIRED** Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman (Ephemeral-Static mode)
<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#ECDH-ES>
2. **OPTIONAL** Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement (Ephemeral-Static mode) with Legacy Key Derivation Function
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#dh>
3. **OPTIONAL** Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement (Ephemeral-Static mode) with explicit Key Derivation Functions
<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#dh-es>

Symmetric Key Wrap

1. **REQUIRED** TRIPLEDES KeyWrap
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#kw-tripledes>
2. **REQUIRED** AES-128 KeyWrap
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#kw-aes128>
3. **REQUIRED** AES-256 KeyWrap
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#kw-aes256>
4. **OPTIONAL** AES-192 KeyWrap
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#kw-aes192>

Message Digest

1. **REQUIRED** SHA1 (*Use is DISCOURAGED*; see below).
<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1>
2. **REQUIRED** SHA256
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha256>
3. **OPTIONAL** SHA384
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha384>
4. **OPTIONAL** SHA512
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha512>
5. **OPTIONAL** RIPEMD-160
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#ripemd160>

Canonicalization

1. **OPTIONAL** Canonical XML 1.0 (omit comments)
<http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xml-c14n-20010315>
2. **OPTIONAL** Canonical XML 1.0 (with comments)
<http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xml-c14n-20010315#WithComments>
3. **OPTIONAL** Canonical XML 1.1 (omit comments)
<http://www.w3.org/2006/12/xml-c14n11>
4. **OPTIONAL** Canonical XML 1.1 (with comments)
<http://www.w3.org/2006/12/xml-c14n11#WithComments>
5. **OPTIONAL** Exclusive XML Canonicalization 1.0 (omit comments)
<http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#>
6. **OPTIONAL** Exclusive XML Canonicalization 1.0 (with comments)
<http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#WithComments>

Encoding

1. **REQUIRED** base64 ([*note](#))

<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsig#base64>

Transforms

1. **REQUIRED** base64 (**note*)
<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsig#base64>

*note: The same URI is used to identify base64 both in "encoding" context (e.g. when used with the **Encoding** attribute of an **EncryptedKey** element, see [section 3.1 The EncryptedType Element](#)) as well as in "transform" context (when identifying a base64 transform for a **CipherReference**, see [section 3.3.1 The CipherReference Element](#)).

5.2 Block Encryption Algorithms

Block encryption algorithms are designed for encrypting and decrypting data in fixed size, multiple octet blocks. Their identifiers appear as the value of the **Algorithm** attributes of **EncryptionMethod** elements that are children of **EncryptedData**.

Note: CBC block encryption algorithms should not be used without consideration of [possibly severe security risks](#).

Block encryption algorithms take, as implicit arguments, the data to be encrypted or decrypted, the keying material, and their direction of operation. For all of these algorithms specified below, an initialization vector (IV) is required that is encoded with the cipher text. For user specified block encryption algorithms, the IV, if any, could be specified as being with the cipher data, as an algorithm content element, or elsewhere.

The IV is encoded with and before the cipher text for the algorithms below for ease of availability to the decryption code and to emphasize its association with the cipher text. Good cryptographic practice requires that a different IV be used for every encryption.

5.2.1 Padding

Since the data being encrypted is an arbitrary number of octets, it may not be a multiple of the block size. This is solved by padding the plain text up to the block size before encryption and unpadding after decryption. The padding algorithm is to calculate the smallest non-zero number of octets, say **N**, that must be suffixed to the plain text to bring it up to a multiple of the block size. We will assume the block size is **B** octets so **N** is in the range of 1 to **B**. Pad by suffixing the plain text with **N-1** arbitrary pad bytes and a final byte whose value is **N**. On decryption, just take the last byte and, after sanity checking it, strip that many bytes from the end of the decrypted cipher text.

For example, assume an 8 byte block size and plain text of **0x616263**. The padded plain text would then be **0x616263??????05** where the "??" bytes can be any value. Similarly, plain text of **0x2122232425262728** would be padded to **0x2122232425262728??????????08**.

5.2.2 Triple DES

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#tripleDES-cbc>

NIST SP800-67 [[SP800-67](#)] specifies three sequential FIPS 46-3 [[DES](#)] operations. The XML Encryption TRIPLEDES consists of a DES encrypt, a DES decrypt, and a DES encrypt used in the Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode with 192 bits of key and a 64 bit Initialization Vector (IV). Of the key bits, the first 64 are used in the first DES operation, the second 64 bits in the middle DES operation, and the third 64 bits in the last DES operation.

Note: Each of these 64 bits of key contain 56 effective bits and 8 parity bits. Thus there are only 168 operational bits out of the 192 being transported for a TRIPLEDES key. (Depending on the criterion used for analysis, the effective strength of the key may be thought to be 112 bits (due to meet in the middle attacks) or even less.)

The resulting cipher text is prefixed by the IV. If included in XML output, it is then base64 encoded. An example TRIPLEDES EncryptionMethod is as follows:

EXAMPLE 23

```
<EncryptionMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#tripledes-cbc" />
```

Note: CBC block encryption algorithms should not be used without consideration of [possibly severe security risks](#).

5.2.3 AES

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes128-cbc>

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes192-cbc>

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes256-cbc>

[AES] is used in the Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode with a 128 bit initialization vector (IV). The resulting cipher text is prefixed by the IV. If included in XML output, it is then base64 encoded. An example AES EncryptionMethod is as follows:

EXAMPLE 24

```
<EncryptionMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes128-cbc" />
```

Note: CBC block encryption algorithms should not be used without consideration of [possibly severe security risks](#).

5.2.4 AES-GCM

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#aes128-gcm>

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#aes192-gcm>

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#aes256-gcm>

AES-GCM [SP800-38D] is an authenticated encryption mechanism. It is equivalent to doing these two operations in one step - AES encryption followed by HMAC signing.

AES-GCM is very attractive from a performance point of view because the cost of AES-GCM is similar to regular AES-CBC encryption, yet it achieves the same result as encryption and HMAC signing. Also AES-GCM can be pipelined so it is amenable to hardware acceleration.

For the purposes of this specification, AES-GCM shall be used with a 96 bit Initialization Vector (IV) and a 128 bit Authentication Tag (T). The cipher text contains the IV first, followed by the encrypted octets and finally the Authentication tag. No padding should be used during encryption. During decryption the implementation should compare the authentication tag computed during decryption with the specified Authentication Tag, and fail if they don't match. For details on the implementation of AES-GCM, see [SP800-38D].

5.3 Stream Encryption Algorithms

Simple stream encryption algorithms generate, based on the key, a stream of bytes which are XORed with the plain text data bytes to produce the cipher text on encryption and with the cipher text bytes to produce plain text on decryption. They are normally used for the encryption of data and are specified by the value of the `Algorithm` attribute of the `EncryptionMethod` child of an `EncryptedData` element.

NOTE: It is critical that each simple stream encryption key (or key and initialization vector (IV) if an IV is also used) be used once only. If the same key (or key and IV) is ever used on two messages then, by XORing the two cipher texts, you can obtain the XOR of the two plain texts. This is usually very compromising.

No specific stream encryption algorithms are specified herein but this section is included to provide general guidelines.

Stream algorithms typically use the optional `KeySize` explicit parameter. In cases where the key size is not apparent from the algorithm URI or key source, as in the use of key agreement methods, this parameter sets the key size. If the size of the key to be used is apparent and disagrees with the `KeySize` parameter, an error **MUST** be returned. Implementation of any stream algorithms is optional. The schema for the `KeySize` parameter is as follows:

Schema Definition:

```
<simpleType name="KeySizeType">
  <restriction base="integer"/>
</simpleType>
```

5.4 Key Derivation

Key derivation is a well-established mechanism for generating new cryptographic key material from some existing, original ("master") key material and potentially other information. Derived keys are used for a variety of purposes including data encryption and message authentication. The reason for doing key derivation itself is typically a combination of a desire to expand a given, but limited, set of original key material and prudent security practices of limiting use (exposure) of such key material. Key separation (such as avoiding use of the same key material for multiple purposes) is an example of such practices.

The key derivation process may be based on passphrases agreed upon or remembered by users, or it can be based on some shared "master" cryptographic keys (and be intended to reduce exposure of such master keys), etc. Derived keys themselves may be used in XML Signature and XML Encryption as any other keys; in particular, they may be used to compute message authentication codes (e.g. digital signatures using symmetric keys) or for encryption/decryption purposes.

5.4.1 ConcatKDF

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#ConcatKDF>

The ConcatKDF key derivation algorithm, defined in Section 5.8.1 of NIST SP 800-56A [SP800-56A] (and equivalent to the KDF3 function defined in ANSI X9.44-2007 [ANSI-X9-44-2007] when the contents of the `OtherInfo` parameter is structured as in NIST SP 800-56A), takes several parameters. These parameters are represented in the `xenc11:ConcatKDFParamsType`:

Schema Definition:

```
<!-- targetNamespace=&#x27;http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11&#x27; -->

<!-- use this element type as a child of xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod
```

```

    when used with ConcatKDF -->
<element name="ConcatKDFParams" type="xenc11:ConcatKDFParamsType"/>

<complexType name="ConcatKDFParamsType">
  <sequence>
    <element ref="ds:DigestMethod"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="AlgorithmID" type="hexBinary"/>
  <attribute name="PartyUInfo" type="hexBinary"/>
  <attribute name="PartyVInfo" type="hexBinary"/>
  <attribute name="SuppPubInfo" type="hexBinary"/>
  <attribute name="SuppPrivInfo" type="hexBinary"/>
</complexType>

```

The `ds:DigestMethod` element identifies the digest algorithm used by the KDF. Compliant implementations **MUST** support SHA-256 and SHA-1 (support for SHA-1 is present only for backwards-compatibility reasons). Support for SHA-384 and SHA-512 is **OPTIONAL**.

The `AlgorithmID`, `PartyUInfo`, `PartyVInfo`, `SuppPubInfo` and `SuppPrivInfo` attributes are as defined in [SP800-56A]. Their presence is optional but `AlgorithmID`, `PartyVInfo` and `PartyUInfo` **MUST** be present for applications that need to comply with [SP800-56A]. Note: The `PartyUInfo` component shall include a nonce when ConcatKDF is used in conjunction with a static-static Diffie-Hellman (or static-static ECDH) key agreement scheme; see further [SP800-56A].

In [SP800-56A], `AlgorithmID`, `PartyUInfo`, `PartyVInfo`, `SuppPubInfo` and `SuppPrivInfo` attributes are all defined as arbitrary-length bitstrings, thus they may need to be padded in order to be encoded into hexBinary for XML Encryption. The following padding and encoding method **MUST** be used when encoding bitstring values for the `AlgorithmID`, `PartyUInfo`, `PartyVInfo`, `SuppPubInfo` and `SuppPrivInfo`:

1. The bitstring is divided into octets using big-endian encoding. If the length of the bitstring is not a multiple of 8 then add padding bits (value 0) as necessary to the last octet to make it a multiple of 8.
2. Prepend one octet to the octets string from step 1. This octet shall identify (in a big-endian representation) the number of padding bits added to the last octet in step 1.
3. Encode the octet string resulting from step 2 as a hexBinary string.

Example: the bitstring `11011`, which is 5 bits long, gets 3 additional padding bits to become the bitstring `11011000` (or `D8` in hex). This bitstring is then prepended with one octet identifying the number of padding bits to become the octet string (in hex) `03D8`, which then finally is encoded as a hexBinary string value of `"03D8"`.

Note that as specified in [SP800-56A], these attributes shall be concatenated to form a bit string "OtherInfo" that is used with the key derivation function. The concatenation **SHALL** be done using the original, unpadded bit string values." Applications **MUST** also verify that these attributes, in an application-specific way not defined in this document, identify algorithms and parties in accordance with NIST SP800-56.

An example of an `xenc11:DerivedKey` element with this key derivation algorithm given below. In this example, the bitstring value of `AlgorithmID` is `00000000`, the bitstring value of `PartyUInfo` is `11011` and the bitstring value of `PartyVInfo` is `11010`:

EXAMPLE 25

```

<xenc11:DerivedKey
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
  xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmenc#"
  xmlns:xenc11="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmenc11#">

```

```

<xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#ConcatKDF">
  <xenc11:ConcatKDFParams AlgorithmID="0000" PartyUIInfo="03D8" PartyVInfo="03D0">
    <ds:DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha256"/>
  </xenc11:ConcatKDFParams>
</xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod>
<xenc:Referencelist>
  <xenc:DataReference URI="#ED"/>
</xenc:Referencelist>
<xenc11:MasterKeyName>Our other secret</xenc11:MasterKeyName>
</xenc11:DerivedKey>

```

NOTE

While any bit string can be used with ConcatKDF, it is **RECOMMENDED** to keep byte aligned for greatest interoperability.

5.4.2 PBKDF2

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#pbkdf2>

The PBKDF2 key derivation algorithm and the ASN.1 type definitions for its parameters are defined in PKCS #5 v2.0 [PKCS5]. The XML schema definitions for the parameters is defined in [PKCS5Amd1] and the same can be specified by enclosing them within an `xenc11:PBKDF2-params` child element of the `xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod` element.

Schema Definition:

```

<element name="PBKDF2-params" type="xenc11:PBKDF2ParameterType"/>

<complexType name="PBKDF2ParameterType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="Salt">
      <complexType>
        <choice>
          <element name="Specified" type="base64Binary"/>
          <element name="OtherSource" type="xenc11:AlgorithmIdentifierType"/>
        </choice>
      </complexType>
    </element>
    <element name="IterationCount" type="positiveInteger"/>
    <element name="KeyLength" type="positiveInteger"/>
    <element name="PRF" type="xenc11:PRFAlgorithmIdentifierType"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>

<complexType name="AlgorithmIdentifierType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="Parameters" type="anyType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="Algorithm" type="anyURI"/>
</complexType>

<complexType name="PRFAlgorithmIdentifierType">
  <complexContent>
    <restriction base="xenc11:AlgorithmIdentifierType">
      <attribute name="Algorithm" type="anyURI"/>
    </restriction>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>

```

(Note: A newline has been added to the Algorithm attribute to fit on this page, but is not part of the URI.)

The `PKDF2-params` element and its child elements have the same names and meaning as the corresponding components of the `PKDF2-params` ASN.1 type in [PKCS5]. Note, in case of ConcatKDF and the Diffie Hellman legacy KDF, `KeyLength` is an implied parameter and needs to be inferred from the context, but in the case of PBKDF2 the `KeyLength` child element has to be specified, as it has been made a mandatory parameter to be consistent with PKCS5. For PBKDF2, the inferred key length must match the specified key length, otherwise it is an error condition.

The `AlgorithmIdentifierType` corresponds to the `AlgorithmIdentifier` type of [PKCS5] and carries the algorithm identifier in the `Algorithm` attribute. Algorithm specific parameters, where applicable, can be specified using the `Parameters` element.

The `PRFAlgorithmIdentifierType` is derived from the `AlgorithmIdentifierType` and constrains the choice of algorithms to those contained in the PBKDF2-PRFs set defined in [PKCS5]. This type is used to specify a pseudorandom function (PRF) for PBKDF2. Whereas HMAC-SHA1 is the default PRF algorithm in [PKCS5], use of HMAC-SHA256 is **RECOMMENDED** by this specification (see [XMLDSIG-CORE1], [HMAC]).

An example of an `xenc11:DerivedKey` element with this key derivation algorithm is:

EXAMPLE 26

```
<xenc11:DerivedKey
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
  xmlns:xenc11="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#">
  <xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#pbkdf2"/>
  <xenc11:PBKDF2-params>
    <xenc11:Salt>
      <xenc11:Specified>Df3dRAhjGh8=</xenc11:Specified>
    </xenc11:Salt>
    <xenc11:IterationCount>2000</xenc11:IterationCount>
    <xenc11:KeyLength>16</xenc11:KeyLength>
    <xenc11:PRF Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc11#hmac-sha256"/>
  </xenc11:PBKDF2-params>
</xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod>
<xenc:ReferenceList>
  <xenc:DataReference URI="#ED"/>
</xenc:ReferenceList>
<xenc11:MasterKeyName>Our shared secret</xenc11:MasterKeyName>
</xenc11:DerivedKey>
```

5.5 Key Transport

Key Transport algorithms are public key encryption algorithms especially specified for encrypting and decrypting keys. Their identifiers appear as `Algorithm` attributes to `EncryptionMethod` elements that are children of `EncryptedKey`. `EncryptedKey` is in turn the child of a `ds:KeyInfo` element. The type of key being transported, that is to say the algorithm in which it is planned to use the transported key, is given by the `Algorithm` attribute of the `EncryptionMethod` child of the `EncryptedData` or `EncryptedKey` parent of this `ds:KeyInfo` element.

(Key Transport algorithms may optionally be used to encrypt data in which case they appear directly as the `Algorithm` attribute of an `EncryptionMethod` child of an `EncryptedData` element. Because they use public key algorithms directly, Key Transport algorithms are not efficient for the transport of any amounts of data significantly larger than symmetric keys.)

5.5.1 RSA Version 1.5

Identifier:

http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-1_5

The RSAES-PKCS1-v1_5 algorithm, specified in RFC 3447 [PKCS1], takes no explicit parameters. An example of an RSA Version 1.5 **EncryptionMethod** element is:

EXAMPLE 27

```
<EncryptionMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-1_5" />
```

The **CipherValue** for such an encrypted key is the base64 [RFC2045] encoding of the octet string computed as per RFC 3447 [PKCS1], section 7.2.1: Encryption operation]. As specified in the EME-PKCS1-v1_5 function RFC 3447 [PKCS1], section 7.2.1, the value input to the key transport function is as follows:

EXAMPLE 28

```
CRYPT ( PAD ( KEY ))
```

where the padding is of the following special form:

EXAMPLE 29

```
02 | PS* | 00 | key
```

where "|" is concatenation, "02" and "00" are fixed octets of the corresponding hexadecimal value, PS is a string of strong pseudo-random octets [RANDOM] at least eight octets long, containing no zero octets, and long enough that the value of the quantity being CRYPTed is one octet shorter than the RSA modulus, and "key" is the key being transported. The key is 192 bits for TRIPLEDES and 128, 192, or 256 bits for AES.

Implementations **MUST** support this key transport algorithm for transporting 192-bit TRIPLEDES keys. Support of this algorithm for transporting other keys is **OPTIONAL**. RSA-OAEP is **RECOMMENDED** for the transport of AES keys.

The resulting base64 [RFC2045] string is the value of the child text node of the **CipherData** element, e.g.

EXAMPLE 30

```
<CipherData>
  <CipherValue>IWiJxQjUrcXBYoCei4QxjWo9Kg8D3p9t1WoT4
  t0/gyTE96639In0FZFY2/rvP+/bMJ01EArmKZsR5VW3rwoPxw=</CipherValue>
</CipherData>
```

(Note: A newline has been added to the **CipherValue** to fit on this page, but is not part of value.)

Note: Implementation of RSA v1.5 is **NOT RECOMMENDED** due to security risks associated with the algorithm.

5.5.2 RSA-OAEP

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-oaep-mgf1p> (including MGF1 with SHA1 mask generation function)

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#rsa-oaep>

The RSAES-OAEP-ENCRYPT algorithm, as specified in RFC 3447 [PKCS1], has options that define the message digest function and mask generation function, as well as an optional `PSourceAlgorithm` parameter. Default values defined in RFC 3447 are SHA1 for the message digest and MGF1 with SHA1 for the mask generation function. Both the message digest and mask generation functions are used in the EME-OAEP-ENCODE operation as part of RSAES- OAEP-ENCRYPT.

The <http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-oaep-mgf1p> identifier defines the mask generation function as the fixed value of MGF1 with SHA1. In this case the optional `xenc11:MGF` element of the `xenc:EncryptionMethod` element **MUST NOT** be provided.

The <http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#rsa-oaep> identifier defines the mask generation function using the optional `xenc11:MGF` element of the `xenc:EncryptionMethod` element. If not present, the default of MGF1 with SHA1 is to be used.

The following URIs define the various mask generation function URI values that may be used. These correspond to the object identifiers defined in RFC 4055 [RFC4055]:

- MGF1 with SHA1: <http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#mgf1sha1>
- MGF1 with SHA224: <http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#mgf1sha224>
- MGF1 with SHA256: <http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#mgf1sha256>
- MGF1 with SHA384: <http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#mgf1sha384>
- MGF1 with SHA512: <http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#mgf1sha512>

Otherwise the two identifiers define the same usage of the RSA-OAEP algorithm, as follows.

The message digest function **SHOULD** be specified using the Algorithm attribute of the `ds:DigestMethod` child element of the `xenc:EncryptionMethod` element. If it is not specified, the default value of SHA1 is to be used.

The optional RSA-OAEP `PSourceAlgorithm` parameter value **MAY** be explicitly provided by placing the base64 encoded octets in the `xenc:OAEPparams` XML element.

The XML Encryption 1.0 schema definition and description for the `EncryptionMethod` element is in [section 3.2 The EncryptionMethod Element](#). The following shows the XML Encryption 1.1 addition for the MGF type:

Schema Definition:

```
<element name="MGF" type="xenc11:MGFType"/>

<complexType name="MGFType">
  <complexContent>
    <restriction base="xenc11:AlgorithmIdentifierType">
      <attribute name="Algorithm" type="anyURI" use="required" />
    </restriction>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

An example of an RSA-OAEP element is:

EXAMPLE 31

```
<EncryptionMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-oaep-mgf1p">
  <OAEPparams>91Wu3Q==</OAEPparams>
  <ds:DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1" />
</EncryptionMethod>
```



```
<EncryptionMethod>
```

EXAMPLE 32

```
<EncryptionMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmldsig#rsa-oaep-mgf1p">
  <OAEPparams>91Wu3Q==</OAEPparams>
  <ds:DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1"/>
</EncryptionMethod>
```

Another example is:

EXAMPLE 33

```
<EncryptionMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmldsig#rsa-oaep">
  <OAEPparams>91Wu3Q==</OAEPparams>
  <xenc11:MGF Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmldsig#MGF1withSHA1" />
  <ds:DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1" />
</EncryptionMethod>
```

The **CipherValue** for an RSA-OAEP encrypted key is the base64 [RFC2045] encoding of the octet string computed as per RFC 3447 [PKCS1], section 7.1.1: Encryption operation. As described in the EME-OAEP-ENCODE function RFC 3447 [PKCS1], section 7.1.1, the value input to the key transport function is calculated using the message digest function and string specified in the **DigestMethod** and **OAEPparams** elements and using either the mask generator function specified with the **xenc11:MGF** element or the default **MGF1 with SHA1** specified in RFC 3447. The desired output length for EME-OAEP-ENCODE is one byte shorter than the RSA modulus.

The transported key size is 192 bits for TRIPLEDES and 128, 192, or 256 bits for AES. Implementations **MUST** implement RSA-OAEP for the transport of all key types and sizes that are mandatory to implement for symmetric encryption. They **MAY** implement RSA-OAEP for the transport of other keys.

5.6 Key Agreement

A Key Agreement algorithm provides for the derivation of a shared secret key based on a shared secret computed from certain types of compatible public keys from both the sender and the recipient. Information from the originator to determine the secret is indicated by an optional **OriginatorKeyInfo** parameter child of an **AgreementMethod** element while that associated with the recipient is indicated by an optional **RecipientKeyInfo**. A shared key is derived from this shared secret by a method determined by the Key Agreement algorithm.

Note: XML Encryption does not provide an online key agreement negotiation protocol. The **AgreementMethod** element can be used by the originator to identify the keys and computational procedure that were used to obtain a shared encryption key. The method used to obtain or select the keys or algorithm used for the agreement computation is beyond the scope of this specification.

The **AgreementMethod** element appears as the content of a **ds:KeyInfo** since, like other **ds:KeyInfo** children, it yields a key. This **ds:KeyInfo** is in turn a child of an **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** element. The **Algorithm** attribute and **KeySize** child of the **EncryptionMethod** element under this **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** element are implicit parameters to the key agreement computation. In cases where this **EncryptionMethod** algorithm URI is insufficient to determine the key length, a **KeySize** **MUST** have been included.

Key derivation algorithms (with associated parameters) may be explicitly declared by using the **xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod** element. This element will then be placed at the extensibility point of the

xenc:AgreementMethodType (see below).

In addition, the sender may place a **KA-Nonce** element under **AgreementMethod** to assure that different keying material is generated even for repeated agreements using the same sender and recipient public keys. For example:

EXAMPLE 34

```
<EncryptedData>
  <EncryptionMethod Algorithm="Example:Block/Alg">
    <KeySize>80</KeySize>
  </EncryptionMethod>
  <ds:KeyInfo xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
    <AgreementMethod Algorithm="example:Agreement/Algorithm">
      <KA-Nonce>Zm9v</KA-Nonce>
      <xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod
        Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#ConcatKDF">
        <xenc11:ConcatKDFParams
          AlgorithmID="00" PartyUInfo="" PartyVInfo="">
            <ds:DigestMethod
              Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha256"/>
            </xenc11:ConcatKDFParams>
          </xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod>

      <OriginatorKeyInfo>
        <ds:KeyValue>...</ds:KeyValue>
      </OriginatorKeyInfo>
      <RecipientKeyInfo>
        <ds:KeyValue>...</ds:KeyValue>
      </RecipientKeyInfo>
    </AgreementMethod>
  </ds:KeyInfo>
  <CipherData>...</CipherData>
</EncryptedData>
```

If the agreed key is being used to wrap a key, rather than data as above, then **AgreementMethod** would appear inside a **ds:KeyInfo** inside an **EncryptedKey** element.

The Schema for **AgreementMethod** is as follows:

Schema Definition:

```
<element name="AgreementMethod" type="xenc:AgreementMethodType"/>

<complexType name="AgreementMethodType" mixed="true">
  <sequence>
    <element name="KA-Nonce" minOccurs="0" type="base64Binary"/>
    <!-- <element ref="ds:DigestMethod" minOccurs="0"/> -->
    <any namespace="##other" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <element name="OriginatorKeyInfo" minOccurs="0"
      type="ds:KeyInfoType"/>
    <element name="RecipientKeyInfo" minOccurs="0"
      type="ds:KeyInfoType"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="Algorithm" type="anyURI" use="required"/>
</complexType>
```

5.6.1 Diffie-Hellman Key Values

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#DHKeyValue>

Diffie-Hellman keys can appear directly within `KeyValue` elements or be obtained by `ds:RetrievalMethod` fetches as well as appearing in certificates and the like. The above identifier can be used as the value of the `Type` attribute of `Reference` or `ds:RetrievalMethod` elements.

As specified in [ESDH], a DH public key consists of up to six quantities, two large primes p and q , a "generator" g , the public key, and validation parameters "seed" and "pgenCounter". These relate as follows: The public key = $(g^x \bmod p)$ where x is the corresponding private key; $p = j \cdot q + 1$ where $j \geq 2$. "seed" and "pgenCounter" are optional and can be used to determine if the Diffie-Hellman key has been generated in conformance with the algorithm specified in [ESDH]. Because the primes and generator can be safely shared over many DH keys, they may be known from the application environment and are optional. The schema for a `DHKeyValue` is as follows:

Schema Definition:

```
<element name="DHKeyValue" type="xenc:DHKeyValue"/>

<complexType name="DHKeyValue">
  <sequence>
    <sequence minOccurs="0">
      <element name="P" type="ds:CryptoBinary"/>
      <element name="Q" type="ds:CryptoBinary"/>
      <element name="Generator" type="ds:CryptoBinary"/>
    </sequence>
    <element name="Public" type="ds:CryptoBinary"/>
    <sequence minOccurs="0">
      <element name="seed" type="ds:CryptoBinary"/>
      <element name="pgenCounter" type="ds:CryptoBinary"/>
    </sequence>
  </sequence>
</complexType>
```

5.6.2 Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement

The Diffie-Hellman (DH) key agreement protocol [ESDH] involves the derivation of shared secret information based on compatible DH keys from the sender and recipient. Two DH public keys are compatible if they have the same prime and generator. If, for the second one, $Y = g^y \bmod p$, then the two parties can calculate the shared secret $ZZ = (g^{(x \cdot y)} \bmod p)$ even though each knows only their own private key and the other party's public key. Leading zero bytes **MUST** be maintained in `zz` so it will be the same length, in bytes, as p . The size of p **MUST** be at least 512 bits and g at least 160 bits. There are numerous other complex security considerations in the selection of g , p , and a random x as described in [ESDH].

The Diffie-Hellman shared secret `zz` is used as the input to a KDF to produce a secret key. XML Signature 1.0 defined a specific KDF to be used with Diffie-Hellman; that KDF is now known as the "Legacy KDF" and is defined in Section 5.6.2.2. Use of Diffie-Hellman with explicit KDFs is described in Section 5.6.2.1.

Implementation of Diffie-Hellman key agreement is **OPTIONAL**. However, if implemented, such implementations **MUST** support the Legacy Key Derivation Function and **SHOULD** support Diffie-Hellman with explicit Key Derivation Functions

An example of a DH `AgreementMethod` element using the Legacy Key Derivation Function (Section 5.6.2.2) is as follows:

EXAMPLE 35

```
<AgreementMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmldh"
  ds:xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
  <KA-Nonce>Zm9v</KA-Nonce>
```

```

<ds:DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1"/>
<OriginatorKeyInfo>
  <ds:X509Data>
    <ds:X509Certificate>...</ds:X509Certificate>
  </ds:X509Data>
</OriginatorKeyInfo>
<RecipientKeyInfo>
  <ds:KeyValue>...</ds:KeyValue>
</RecipientKeyInfo>
</AgreementMethod>

```

5.6.2.1 Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement with Explicit Key Derivation Functions

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#dh-es>

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the shared key material for a Diffie-Hellman key agreement be calculated from the Diffie-Hellman shared secret using a key derivation function (KDF) in accordance with [Section 5.4](#).

An example of a DH **AgreementMethod** element using an explicit key derivation function is as follows:

EXAMPLE 36

```

<xenc:AgreementMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#dh-es">
  <xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#ConcatKDF">
    <xenc11:ConcatKDFParams AlgorithmID="00" PartyUInfo="" PartyVInfo="">
      <ds:DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha256"/>
    </xenc11:ConcatKDFParams>
  </xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod>
  <xenc:OriginatorKeyInfo>
    <ds:X509Data>
      <ds:X509Certificate><!-- X.509 Certificate here --></ds:X509Certificate>
    </ds:X509Data>
  </xenc:OriginatorKeyInfo>
  <xenc:RecipientKeyInfo>
    <ds:X509Data>
      <ds:X509SKI></ds:X509SKI>
      <!-- hint for the recipient's private key -->
    </ds:X509Data>
  </xenc:RecipientKeyInfo>
</xenc:AgreementMethod>

```

5.6.2.2 Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement with Legacy Key Derivation Function

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#dh>

XML Signature 1.0 defined a specific KDF for use with Diffie-Hellman key agreement. In order to guarantee interoperability, implementations that choose to implement Diffie-Hellman **MUST** support the use of the Diffie-Hellman Legacy KDF defined in this section.

Assume that the Diffie-Hellman shared secret is the octet sequence **zz**. The Diffie-Hellman Legacy KDF calculates the shared keying material as follows:

EXAMPLE 37

```
Keying Material = KM(1) | KM(2) | ...
```

where "|" is byte stream concatenation and

EXAMPLE 38

```
KM(counter) = DigestAlg ( ZZ | counter | EncryptionAlg |  
                        KA-Nonce | KeySize )
```

DigestAlg

The message digest algorithm specified by the `DigestMethod` child of `AgreementMethod`.

EncryptionAlg

The URI of the encryption algorithm, including possible key wrap algorithms, in which the derived keying material is to be used ("Example:Block/Alg" in the example above), not the URI of the agreement algorithm. This is the value of the `Algorithm` attribute of the `EncryptionMethod` child of the `EncryptedData` or `EncryptedKey` grandparent of `AgreementMethod`.

KA-Nonce

The base64 decoding the content of the `KA-Nonce` child of `AgreementMethod`, if present. If the `KA-Nonce` element is absent, it is null.

Counter

A one byte counter starting at one and incrementing by one. It is expressed as two hex digits where letters A through F are in upper case.

KeySize

The size in bits of the key to be derived from the shared secret as the UTF-8 string for the corresponding decimal integer with only digits in the string and no leading zeros. For some algorithms the key size is inherent in the URI. For others, such as most stream ciphers, it must be explicitly provided.

For example, the initial `KM(1)` calculation for the `EncryptionMethod` of the [Key Agreement](#) example (section 5.5) would be as follows, where the binary one byte counter value of 1 is represented by the two character UTF-8 sequence `01`, `ZZ` is the shared secret, and `"foo"` is the base64 decoding of `"Zm9v"`.

EXAMPLE 39

```
SHA-1 ( ZZ01Example:Block/Algfoo80 )
```

Assuming that `ZZ` is `0xDEADBEEF`, that would be

EXAMPLE 40

```
SHA-1( 0xDEADBEEF30314578616D706C653A426C6F636B2F416C67666F6F3830 )
```

whose value is

EXAMPLE 41

```
0x534C9B8C4ABDCB50038B42015A181711068B08C1
```

Each application of `DigestAlg` for successive values of `Counter` will produce some additional number of bytes of keying material. From the concatenated string of one or more `KM`'s, enough leading bytes are taken to meet the need for an actual key and the remainder discarded. For example, if `DigestAlg` is SHA-1 which produces 20 octets of hash, then for 128 bit AES the first 16 bytes from `KM(1)` would be

taken and the remaining 4 bytes discarded. For 256 bit AES, all of **KM(1)** suffixed with the first 12 bytes of **KM(2)** would be taken and the remaining 8 bytes of **KM(2)** discarded.

5.6.3 Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman (ECDH) Key Values

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlsig11#ECKeyValue>

ECDH has identical public key parameters as ECDSA and can be represented with the **ECKeyValue** element [XMLDSIG-CORE1]. Note that if the curve parameters are explicitly stated using the **ECPParameters** element, then the Cofactor element **MUST** be included.

As with Diffie-Hellman keys, Elliptic Curve Key Values can appear directly within **KeyValue** elements or be obtained by **ds:RetrievalMethod** fetches as well as appearing in certificates and the like. The above identifier can be used as the value of the **Type** attribute of **Reference** or **ds:RetrievalMethod** elements.

5.6.4 Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman (ECDH) Key Agreement (Ephemeral-Static Mode)

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#ECDH-ES>

ECDH is the elliptic curve analogue to the Diffie-Hellman key agreement algorithm. Details of the ECDH primitive can be found in [ECC-ALGS]. When ECDH is used in Ephemeral-Static (ES) mode, the recipient has a static key pair, but the sender generates a ephemeral key pair for each message. The same ephemeral key may be used when there are multiple recipients that use the same curve parameters.

Compliant implementations are **REQUIRED** to support ECDH-ES key agreement using the P-256 prime curve specified in Section D.2.3 of FIPS 186-3 [FIPS-186-3]. (This is the same curve that is **REQUIRED** in XML Signature 1.1 to be supported for the ECDSAwithSHA256 algorithm.) It is further **RECOMMENDED** that implementations also support the P-384 and P-521 prime curves for ECDH-ES; these curves are defined in Sections D.2.4 and D.2.5 of FIPS 186-3, respectively.

The shared key material is calculated from the Diffie-Hellman shared secret using a key derivation function (KDF). While applications may define other KDFs, compliant implementations **MUST** implement ConcatKDF (see [section 5.4.1 ConcatKDF](#)). An example of **xenc:EncryptedData** using the ECDH-ES key agreement algorithm with the ConcatKDF key derivation algorithm is as follows:

EXAMPLE 42

```
<xenc:EncryptedData
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#"
  xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsig#"
  xmlns:dsig11="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlsig11#"
  xmlns:xenc11="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#"
  Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">

  <xenc:EncryptionMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes128-cbc" />
  <!-- describes the encrypted AES content encryption key -->
  <ds:KeyInfo>
    <xenc:EncryptedKey>
      <xenc:EncryptionMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#kw-aes128"/>
      <!-- describes the key encryption key -->
      <ds:KeyInfo>
        <xenc:AgreementMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#ECDH-ES">
          <xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#ConcatKDF">
            <xenc11:ConcatKDFParams AlgorithmID="00" PartyUInfo="" PartyVInfo="">
              <ds:DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha256"/>
```

```

        </xenc11:ConcatKDFParams>
    </xenc11:KeyDerivationMethod>
    <xenc:OriginatorKeyInfo>
        <ds:KeyValue>
            <dsig11:ECKeyValue>
                <!-- ephemeral ECC public key of the originator -->
            </dsig11:ECKeyValue>
        </ds:KeyValue>
    </xenc:OriginatorKeyInfo>
    <xenc:RecipientKeyInfo>
        <ds:X509Data>
            <ds:X509SKI></ds:X509SKI>
            <!-- hint for the recipient's private key -->
        </ds:X509Data>
    </xenc:RecipientKeyInfo>
    </xenc:AgreementMethod>
</ds:KeyInfo>
<xenc:CipherData>
    <xenc:CipherValue><!-- encrypted AES content encryption key --></xenc:CipherValue>
</xenc:CipherData>
</xenc:EncryptedKey>
</ds:KeyInfo>

<xenc:CipherData>
    <xenc:CipherValue>
        <!-- encrypted data -->
    </xenc:CipherValue>
</xenc:CipherData>
</xenc:EncryptedData>

```

5.7 Symmetric Key Wrap

Symmetric Key Wrap algorithms are shared secret key encryption algorithms especially specified for encrypting and decrypting symmetric keys. When wrapped keys are used, then an **EncryptedKey** element will appear as a child of a **ds:KeyInfo** element. This **EncryptedKey** element will have an **EncryptionMethod** child whose **Algorithm** attribute in turn identifies the key wrap algorithm.

The algorithm for which the encrypted key is intended depends on the context of the **ds:KeyInfo** element: **ds:KeyInfo** can occur as a child of either an **EncryptedData** or **EncryptedKey** element; in both cases, **ds:KeyInfo** will have an **EncryptionMethod** sibling that identifies the algorithm.

EXAMPLE 43

```

<EncryptedData | EncryptedKey>
  <EncryptionMethod Algorithm="@alg1"/>
  <ds:KeyInfo>
    <EncryptedKey>
      <EncryptionMethod Algorithm="@alg2"/>
    </EncryptedKey>
  </ds:KeyInfo>
</EncryptedData | EncryptedKey>

```

5.7.1 CMS Triple DES Key Wrap

Identifiers:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#kw-tripledes>

XML Encryption implementations **MUST** support TRIPLEDES wrapping of 168 bit keys as described in [CMS-WRAP] and may optionally support TRIPLEDES wrapping of other keys.

An example of a TRIPLEDES Key Wrap `EncryptionMethod` element is as follows:

EXAMPLE 44

```
<EncryptionMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#kw-tripledes" />
```

5.7.2 AES KeyWrap

Identifiers:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#kw-aes128>
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#kw-aes192>
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#kw-aes256>

Implementation of AES key wrap is described in [AES-WRAP]. It provides for confidentiality and integrity. This algorithm is defined only for inputs which are a multiple of 64 bits. The information wrapped need not actually be a key. The algorithm is the same whatever the size of the AES key used in wrapping, called the key encrypting key or `KEK`. The implementation requirements are indicated below.

128 bit AES Key Encrypting Key

Implementation of wrapping 128 bit keys **REQUIRED**.

Wrapping of other key sizes **OPTIONAL**.

192 bit AES Key Encrypting Key

All support **OPTIONAL**.

256 bit AES Key Encrypting Key

Implementation of wrapping 256 bit keys **REQUIRED**.

Wrapping of other key sizes **OPTIONAL**.

5.8 Message Digest

Message digest algorithms can be used in `AgreementMethod` as part of the key derivation, within RSA-OAEP encryption as a hash function, and in connection with the HMAC message authentication code method [HMAC] as described in [XMLDSIG-CORE1].) Use of SHA-256 is strongly recommended over SHA-1 because recent advances in cryptanalysis (see e.g. [SHA-1-Analysis], [SHA-1-Collisions]) have cast doubt on the long-term collision resistance of SHA-1. Therefore, SHA-1 support is **REQUIRED** in this specification only for backwards-compatibility reasons.

5.8.1 SHA1

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1>

The SHA-1 algorithm [FIPS-180-3] takes no explicit parameters. An example of an SHA-1 `DigestMethod` element is:

EXAMPLE 45

```
<DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1" />
```

A SHA-1 digest is a 160-bit string. The content of the `DigestValue` element shall be the base64 encoding of this bit string viewed as a 20-octet octet stream. For example, the `DigestValue` element for the message digest:

EXAMPLE 46

A9993E36 4706816A BA3E2571 7850C26C 9CD0D89D

from Appendix A of the SHA-1 standard would be:

EXAMPLE 47

```
<DigestValue>qZk+NkcGgWq6PiVxeFDCbJzQ2J0=</DigestValue>
```

5.8.2 SHA256

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha256>

The SHA-256 algorithm [FIPS-180-3] takes no explicit parameters. An example of an SHA-256 **DigestMethod** element is:

EXAMPLE 48

```
<DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha256" />
```

A SHA-256 digest is a 256-bit string. The content of the **DigestValue** element shall be the base64 encoding of this bit string viewed as a 32-octet octet stream.

5.8.3 SHA384

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha384>

The SHA-384 algorithm [FIPS-180-3] takes no explicit parameters. An example of an SHA-384 **DigestMethod** element is:

EXAMPLE 49

```
<DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha384" />
```

A SHA-384 digest is a 384-bit string. The content of the **DigestValue** element shall be the base64 encoding of this bit string viewed as a 48-octet octet stream.

5.8.4 SHA512

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha512>

The SHA-512 algorithm [FIPS-180-3] takes no explicit parameters. An example of an SHA-512 **DigestMethod** element is:

EXAMPLE 50

```
<DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha512" />
```

A SHA-512 digest is a 512-bit string. The content of the **DigestValue** element shall be the base64 encoding of this bit string viewed as a 64-octet octet stream.

5.8.5 RIPEMD-160

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#ripemd160>

The RIPEMD-160 algorithm [**RIPEMD-160**] takes no explicit parameters. An example of an RIPEMD-160 **DigestMethod** element is:

EXAMPLE 51

```
<DigestMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#ripemd160" />
```

A RIPEMD-160 digest is a 160-bit string. The content of the **DigestValue** element shall be the base64 encoding of this bit string viewed as a 20-octet octet stream.

5.9 Canonicalization

A Canonicalization of XML is a method of consistently serializing XML into an octet stream as is necessary prior to encrypting XML.

5.9.1 Inclusive Canonicalization

Identifiers:

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xml-c14n-20010315>

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xml-c14n-20010315#WithComments>

<http://www.w3.org/2006/12/xml-c14n11>

<http://www.w3.org/2006/12/xml-c14n11#WithComments>

Canonical XML [**XML-C14N11**] is a method of serializing XML which includes the in scope namespace and xml namespace attribute context from ancestors of the XML being serialized.

If XML is to be encrypted and then later decrypted into a different environment and it is desired to preserve namespace prefix bindings and the value of attributes in the "xml" namespace of its original environment, then the canonical XML with comments version of the XML should be the serialization that is encrypted.

5.9.2 Exclusive Canonicalization

Identifiers:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#>

<http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#WithComments>

Exclusive XML Canonicalization [**XML-EXC-C14N**] serializes XML in such a way as to include to the minimum extent practical the namespace prefix binding and xml namespace attribute context inherited from ancestor elements.

It is the recommended method where the outer context of a fragment which was signed and then encrypted may be changed. Otherwise the validation of the signature over the fragment may fail because the canonicalization by signature validation may include unnecessary namespaces into the fragment.

6. Security Considerations

6.1 Chosen-Ciphertext Attacks

A number of chosen-ciphertext attacks against implementations of this specification have been published and demonstrated. They all involve the following elements:

1. The attacker knows about the format of the cleartext.
2. The attacker is able to submit substantial numbers of ciphertext messages.
3. The attacker is able to send arbitrary ciphertext, based on previous results.
4. The attacker is able to force the server to use the same key (secret key by CBC-based attacks and server's private key by PKCS#1.5 attacks) for processing of the adapted ciphertext.
5. The server attempting to decrypt the ciphertext in some way signals whether the decrypted text is well-formed or not.

The attacker uses the knowledge of the format and the information about well-formedness to construct a series of ciphertext guesses which reveal the plaintext with much less work than brute force. Attacks of this type have been demonstrated against symmetric encryption using CBC mode [[XMLENC-CBC-ATTACK](#)][[XMLENC-CBC-ATTACK-COUNTERMEASURES](#)] and on PKCS#1 v1.5. Other future attacks can be expected whenever these conditions are met.

6.1.1 Attacks against the encrypted data (<EncryptedData> part)

Using the CBC-based chosen-ciphertext attacks, the attacker sends to the server an XML document with modified encrypted data in the symmetric part (<EncryptedData>). After a few requests, the attacker is able to get the whole cleartext without knowledge of the symmetric key.

It would seem that these attacks can be countered by by disrupting any of the conditions, however in practice only preventing condition 3 (sending arbitrary ciphertext) is fully effective. To counter condition 3, it is necessary for the decrypting system to require authenticated integrity protection over the ciphertext. However, unless the mechanism used is bound to the encryption key, there will no way to be sure that the signer is not attempting to recover the plaintext. The simplest and most efficient way to do this is to use an authenticating block mode, such as GCM. An alternative would be an HMAC based on the encryption key over the ciphertext, but it is less efficient and provides no advantages.

Other countermeasures are not likely to be effective. Limiting the number of messages presented or the number of messages using the same key is not practical in large server farms. Attackers can spread their attempts over different servers and long or short periods of time, to foil attempts to detect attacks in progress or determine the location of the attacker.

Signaling well-formedness can occur by emitting different messages for distinct security errors or by exhibiting timing differences. Implementations should avoid these practices, however that is not sufficient to prevent such attacks in an XML protocol environment, such as SOAP. Using a technique called encryption wrapping, the attacker can insert the ciphertext in some schema-legal part of the message. If the decryption code notices a format error, an error will be returned, but if not the message will be passed to the application which will ignore the bogus plaintext and ultimately respond with an application level success or failure message.

6.1.2 Attacks against the encrypted key (Bleichenbacher's Million question attack on PKCS#1.5)

The goal of the attacker applying the Bleichenbacher's attack is to get the symmetric secret key, which is encrypted in the <EncryptedKey> part. Afterward, he would be able to decrypt the whole data carried in the <EncryptedData> part.

The basic idea of this attack is to modify the data in the [<EncryptedKey>](#) part, send the document to the server, and observe if the modified ciphertext contains PKCS#1.5 conformant data. This can be done by:

1. Observing fault messages of the server notifying directly that the request was not PKCS#1.5 conformant (this should not happen).
2. Enlarging the data in the [<EncryptedData>](#) part and observing the timing differences between inclusion of PKCS-valid and PKCS-invalid keys: if the key is PKCS-valid, the session key is extracted, and the large data is decrypted. Otherwise, the session key cannot be extracted and the large data is not processed, which yields a timing difference.
3. Making specific modifications of the [<EncryptedData>](#) part based on CBC and padding-properties.

These problems are described in detail in RFC 3218 [[RFC3218](#)].

The most effective countermeasure against the timing attack (2) is to generate a random secret key every time when the decrypted data was not PKCS#1-conformant. This way, the attacker would not get any timing side-channel.

Please note however that this is not a valid countermeasure against the specific modification of the [<EncryptedData>](#) described in part (3). The attacker could still use a few millions of requests to decrypt the encrypted symmetric key. Therefore, we recommend the usage of RSA-OAEP. RSA-OAEP also has a risk of a chosen ciphertext attack [[OAEP-ATTACK](#)] which can be mitigated in security library implementations.

6.1.3 Backwards Compatibility Attacks

Use of state-of-the-art and secure encryption algorithms such as RSA-OAEP and AES-GCM can become insecure when the adversary can force the server to process eavesdropped ciphertext with legacy algorithms such as RSA-PKCS#1 v1.5 or AES-CBC [[XMLENC-BACKWARDS-COMP](#)]:

1. The attacker may be able to break the security of an AES-GCM ciphertext if he is able to force the server to process the ciphertext with AES-CBC and the same symmetric key.
2. The attacker may be able to decrypt an RSA-OAEP ciphertext if he is able to force the server to process the ciphertext with RSA-PKCS#1 v1.5 and the same asymmetric key.
3. The attacker may be able to forge valid server signatures if the server decrypts RSA-PKCS#1 v1.5 ciphertexts and the signatures are computed with the same asymmetric key pair.

Accordingly, in situations where an attacker may be able to mount chosen-ciphertext attacks, we recommend the following to implementers:

1. Implementations **SHOULD** always use a different public key pair for data confidentiality and for data integrity functionality.
2. Implementations using symmetric keys **SHOULD NOT** use the same key material for different algorithms, even if serving the same purpose. Key derivation based on a single key and the algorithm identifier can be used to accomplish this, for example.
3. Implementations that plan to use the same symmetric key for both confidentiality and integrity functions **SHOULD** use it as the basis for a key derivation producing different keys for those functions.
4. Implementations **SHOULD** restrict algorithm usage to algorithms known to be secure in the face of chosen-ciphertext attacks (RSA-OAEP, AES-GCM). In that case, documents containing RSA-PKCS#1 v1.5 [[XMLENC-PKCS15-ATTACK](#)] and AES-CBC [[XMLENC-CBC-ATTACK](#)] ciphertexts **SHOULD** be rejected without decryption.

6.2 Relationship to XML Digital Signatures

The application of both encryption and digital signatures over portions of an XML document can make subsequent decryption and signature verification difficult. In particular, when verifying a signature one must know whether the signature was computed over the encrypted or unencrypted form of elements.

A separate, but important, issue is introducing cryptographic vulnerabilities when combining digital signatures and encryption over a common XML element. Hal Finney has suggested that encrypting digitally signed data, while leaving the digital signature in the clear, may allow plaintext guessing attacks. This vulnerability can be mitigated by using secure hashes and the nonces in the text being processed.

In accordance with the requirements document [[XML-ENCRYPTION-REQ](#)] the interaction of encryption and signing is an application issue and out of scope of the specification. However, we make the following recommendations:

1. When data is encrypted, any digest or signature over that data should be encrypted. This satisfies the first issue in that only those signatures that can be seen can be validated. It also addresses the possibility of a plaintext guessing vulnerability, though it may not be possible to identify (or even know of) all the signatures over a given piece of data.
2. Employ the "decrypt-except" signature transform [[XMLENC-DECRYPT](#)]. It works as follows: during signature transform processing, if you encounter a decrypt transform, decrypt all encrypted content in the document except for those excepted by an enumerated set of references.

Additionally, while the following warnings pertain to incorrect inferences by the user about the authenticity of information encrypted, applications should discourage user misapprehension by communicating clearly which information has integrity, or is authenticated, confidential, or non-repudiable when multiple processes (e.g., signature and encryption) and algorithms (e.g., symmetric and asymmetric) are used:

1. When an encrypted envelope contains a signature, the signature does not necessarily protect the authenticity or integrity of the ciphertext [[Davis](#)].
2. While the signature secures plaintext it only covers that which is signed, recipients of encrypted messages must not infer integrity or authenticity of other unsigned information (e.g., headers) within the encrypted envelope, see [[XMLDSIG-CORE1](#)], [section 8.1.1 Only What is Signed is Secure](#)].

6.3 Information Revealed

Where a symmetric key is shared amongst multiple recipients, that symmetric key should *only* be used for the data intended for *all* recipients; even if one recipient is not directed to information intended (exclusively) for another in the same symmetric key, the information might be discovered and decrypted.

Additionally, application designers should be careful not to reveal any information in parameters or algorithm identifiers (e.g., information in a URI) that weakens the encryption.

6.4 Nonce and IV (Initialization Value or Vector)

An undesirable characteristic of many encryption algorithms and/or their modes is that the same plaintext when encrypted with the same key has the same resulting ciphertext. While this is unsurprising, it invites various attacks which are mitigated by including an arbitrary and non-repeating (under a given key) data with the plaintext prior to encryption. In encryption chaining modes this data is the first to be encrypted and is consequently called the IV (initialization value or vector).

Different algorithms and modes have further requirements on the characteristic of this information (e.g., randomness and secrecy) that affect the features (e.g., confidentiality and integrity) and their resistance to attack.

Given that XML data is redundant (e.g., Unicode encodings and repeated tags) and that attackers may know the data's structure (e.g., DTDs and schemas) encryption algorithms must be carefully implemented and used in this regard.

For the Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode used by this specification, the IV must not be reused for any key and should be random, but it need not be secret. Additionally, under this mode an adversary modifying the IV can make a known change in the plain text after decryption. This attack can be avoided by securing the integrity of the plain text data, for example by signing it.

Note: CBC block encryption algorithms should not be used without consideration of possibly severe security risks.

For the Galois/Counter Mode (GCM) used by this specification, the IV must not be reused for any key and should be random, but it need not be secret.

6.5 Denial of Service

This specification permits recursive processing. For example, the following scenario is possible: **EncryptedKey A** requires **EncryptedKey B** to be decrypted, which itself requires **EncryptedKey A!** Or, an attacker might submit an **EncryptedData** for decryption that references network resources that are very large or continually redirected. Consequently, implementations should be able to restrict arbitrary recursion and the total amount of processing and networking resources a request can consume.

6.6 Unsafe Content

XML Encryption can be used to obscure, via encryption, content that applications (e.g., firewalls, virus detectors, etc.) consider unsafe (e.g., executable code, viruses, etc.). Consequently, such applications must consider encrypted content to be as unsafe as the unsafest content transported in its application context. Consequently, such applications may choose to (1) disallow such content, (2) require access to the decrypted form for inspection, or (3) ensure that arbitrary content can be safely processed by receiving applications.

6.7 Error Messages

Implementations **SHOULD NOT** provide detailed error responses related to security algorithm processing. Error messages should be limited to a generic error message to avoid providing information to a potential attacker related to the specifics of the algorithm implementation. For example, if an error occurs in decryption processing the error response should be a generic message providing no specifics on the details of the processing error.

6.8 Timing Attacks

It has been known for some time that it is feasible for an attacker to recover keys or cleartext by repeatedly sending chosen ciphertext and measuring the time required to process different requests with different types of errors. It has been demonstrated that attacks of this type are practical even when communicating over large and busy networks, especially if the receiver is willing to process large numbers of ciphertext blocks.

Implementers **SHOULD** ensure that distinct errors detected during security algorithm processing do not consume systematically different amounts of processing time from each other. Implementers **SHOULD** consult the technical literature for more details on specific attacks and recommended

countermeasures.

Deployments **SHOULD** treat as suspect inputs when a large number of security algorithm processing errors are detected within a short period of time, especially in messages from the same origin.

6.9 CBC Block Encryption Vulnerability

Note: CBC block encryption algorithms should not be used without consideration of [possibly severe security risks](#).

7. Conformance

An implementation is conformant to this specification if it successfully generates syntax according to the schema definitions and satisfies all **MUST/REQUIRED/SHALL** requirements, including [algorithm](#) support and [processing](#). Processing requirements are specified over the roles of [decryptor](#), [encryptor](#), and their calling [application](#).

8. XML Encryption Media Type

8.1 Introduction

XML Encryption Syntax and Processing (XMLENC-CORE1, this document) specifies a process for encrypting data and representing the result in XML. The data may be arbitrary data (including an XML document), an XML element, or XML element content. The result of encrypting data is an XML Encryption element which contains or references the cipher data.

The [application/xenc+xml](#) media type allows XML Encryption applications to identify encrypted documents. Additionally it allows applications cognizant of this media-type (even if they are not XML Encryption implementations) to note that the media type of the decrypted (original) object might be a type other than XML.

8.2 application/xenc+xml Registration

This is a media type registration as defined in Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME) Part Four: Registration Procedures [[MIME-REG](#)]

Type name: application

Subtype name: xenc+xml

Required parameters: none

Optional parameters: charset

The allowable and recommended values for, and interpretation of the charset parameter are identical to those given for 'application/xml' in section 3.2 of RFC 3023 [[XML-MT](#)].

Encoding considerations:

The encoding considerations are identical to those given for 'application/xml' in section 3.2 of RFC 3023 [[XML-MT](#)].

Security considerations:

See the (XMLENC-CORE1, this document) [Security Considerations](#) section.

Interoperability considerations: none

Published specification: (XMLENC-CORE1, this document)

Applications which use this media type:

XML Encryption is device-, platform-, and vendor-neutral and is supported by a range of Web applications.

Additional Information:

Magic number(s): none

Although no byte sequences can be counted on to consistently identify XML Encryption documents, there will be XML documents in which the root element's QName's LocalPart is 'EncryptedData' or 'EncryptedKey' with an associated namespace name of '<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#>'. The [application/xenc+xml](#) type name **MUST** only be used for data objects in which the root element is from the XML Encryption namespace. XML documents which contain these element types in places other than the root element can be described using facilities such as [[XMLSCHEMA-1](#)], [[XMLSCHEMA-2](#)].

File extension(s): .xml

Macintosh File Type Code(s): "TEXT"

Person & email address to contact for further information:

World Wide Web Consortium <web-human at w3.org>

Intended usage: COMMON

Author/Change controller:

The XML Encryption specification is a work product of the World Wide Web Consortium ([W3C](#)) which has change control over the specification.

9. Schema

9.1 XSD Schema

XML Encryption Core Schema Instance

[xenc-schema.xsd](#)

XML Encryption 1.1 Schema Instance

[xenc-schema11.xsd](#)

This schema document defines the additional material defined in XML Encryption 1.1.

Example (non-normative)

[enc-example.xml](#) (not cryptographically valid but exercises much of the schema)

9.2 RNG Schema

This section is non-normative.

Non-normative RELAX NG schema [[RELAXNG-SCHEMA](#)] information is available in a separate document [[XMLSEC-RELAXNG](#)].

A. Reserved Algorithm Identifiers

This informative section outlines the definition and reserves identifiers for algorithms that have no requirements for implementation and have not been tested for interoperability.

A.1 AES KeyWrap with Padding

This section is non-normative.

Identifiers:

<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#kw-aes-128-pad>
<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#kw-aes-192-pad>
<http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#kw-aes-256-pad>

These identifiers are reserved for symmetric key wrapping using the AES key wrap with padding algorithm with a 128, 192, and 256 bit AES key encrypting key, respectively. Implementation of AES key wrap with padding is defined in [AES-WRAP-PAD]. The algorithm is defined for inputs between 9 and 2^{32} octets. Unlike the unpadded AES Key Wrap algorithm, the input length is not constrained to multiples of 64 bits (8 octets).

Note that the wrapped key will be distinct from the one generated by the unpadded AES Key Wrap algorithm, even if the input length is a multiple of 64 bits.

B. References

Dated references below are to the latest known or appropriate edition of the referenced work. The referenced works may be subject to revision, and conformant implementations may follow, and are encouraged to investigate the appropriateness of following, some or all more recent editions or replacements of the works cited. It is in each case implementation-defined which editions are supported.

B.1 Normative references

[AES]

[NIST FIPS 197: Advanced Encryption Standard \(AES\)](#). November 2001. URL: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/fips/fips197/fips-197.pdf>

[AES-WRAP]

J. Schaad; R. Housley. [RFC3394: Advanced Encryption Standard \(AES\) Key Wrap Algorithm](#). September 2002. IETF Informational RFC. URL: <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3394.txt>

[AES-WRAP-PAD]

R. Housley; M. Dworkin. [RFC 5649: Advanced Encryption Standard \(AES\) Key Wrap with Padding Algorithm](#). August 2009. IETF Informational RFC. URL: <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc5649.txt>

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[DES]

[NIST FIPS 46-3: Data Encryption Standard \(DES\)](#). October 1999. URL: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/fips/fips46-3/fips46-3.pdf>

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E. Rescorla. [Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement Method](#). IETF RFC 2631 Standards Track, 1999. URL: <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2631.txt>

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H. Krawczyk, M. Bellare, R. Canetti. *HMAC: Keyed-Hashing for Message Authentication*. February 1997. IETF RFC 2104. URL: <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2104.txt>

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[PKCS5]

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[PKCS5Amd1]

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[SP800-56A]

NIST Special Publication 800-56A: Recommendation for Pair-Wise Key Establishment Schemes Using Discrete Logarithm Cryptography (Revised). March 2007 URL: http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-56A/SP800-56A_Revision1_Mar08-2007.pdf

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