

How to prepare DITA content for localization



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Chapter 1. Writing with localization in mind

Writing translation-friendly text

Learn a few tips to make your text easier to translate and less likely to cause translation errors.

Clarity

A text that is easy to understand is usually also easier to translate. To make your writing clearer, use these tips:

- Avoid overly long sentences and paragraphs.
- Repeat important words to avoid misunderstanding.



~~If the shaft of your wand breaks, you can
get a new **one** online.~~



If the shaft of your wand breaks, you can
get a new **wand** online.

- Don't describe more than one action in a sentence unless writing about strictly related actions.
- Use words such as "and," "then," "but," "a," "the," "this," and "that" to make your message clear.

Grammar

You can make your text easier to understand by using certain grammatical forms. To make your writing clearer, follow these rules:

- Express actions with verbs, not nouns.



~~Applying excessive force can lead to
rupture of your wand.~~



If you apply excessive force, your wand can
break.

- Use active voice.
- Split clusters of nouns into smaller logical units.



~~magic wand cleaning center~~



center for cleaning magic wands

Formating

Search your text for unintended linebreaks and punctuation marks (such as periods in place of commas). Translation tools may misinterpret such characters and split sentences into artificial units. This can lead to translation errors and inconsistencies.



Important:

When localizing a DITA project, always send the translators your source files rather than the output, for instance PDF or HTML files.

Related information

[Localization-friendly images \(on page 3\)](#)

[Organizing your project structure \(on page 4\)](#)

Content reuse

Conrefs

Keys

Konkeyrefs

Conditional text

Related information

[Resolving conrefs, keyrefs, and conkeyrefs \(on page 4\)](#)

[Organizing your project structure \(on page 4\)](#)

Non-translatable content

UI strings

Related information

[Localization-related attributes \(on page 4\)](#)

[Localization-friendly images \(on page 3\)](#)

Localization-friendly images

Related information

[Writing translation-friendly text \(on page 1\)](#)

[Non-translatable content \(on page 3\)](#)

Glossaries

Related information

[Importing terms into a term base \(on page 5\)](#)

Chapter 2. Preparing content in oXygen

Organizing your project structure

Related information

[Writing translation-friendly text \(on page 1\)](#)

[Content reuse \(on page 2\)](#)

[Importing a DITA project into memoQ \(on page 5\)](#)

Localization-related attributes

Related information

[Non-translatable content \(on page 3\)](#)

[Text sorting \(on page 4\)](#)

Text sorting

Related information

[Localization-related attributes \(on page 4\)](#)

Resolving conrefs, keyrefs, and conkeyrefs

Related information

[Content reuse \(on page 2\)](#)

Chapter 3. Translating content in memoQ

Importing a DITA project into memoQ

Related information

[Organizing your project structure \(on page 4\)](#)

[Translating repetitions \(on page 5\)](#)

Importing terms into a term base

Related information

[Glossaries \(on page 3\)](#)

Translating repetitions

Related information

[Importing a DITA project into memoQ \(on page 5\)](#)