XMLmind XML Editor - DITA Support

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XMLmind

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1. About DITA support in XMLmind XML Editor

Out of the box, XMLmind XML Editor (XXE for short) allows to edit topics, maps and bookmaps conforming to the DITA 1.1 DTD or W3C XML Schema.

By default, DITA documents created using XXE conform to the DTD and not to the W3C XML Schema, but this can be easily changed by customizing the DITA configuration as explained in XMLmind XML Editor - Configuration and Deployment.

As of version 4.5, XXE no longer relies on the DITA Open Toolkit to convert DITA documents to formats such as XHTML, PDF, RTF, etc. Instead XXE embeds *XMLmind DITA Converter*:

> XMLmind DITA Converter (ditac for short) allows to convert the most complex DITA 1.1 documents to production-quality XHTML 1.0, XHTML 1.1, HTML 4.1, Java™ Help, HTML Help, Eclipse Help, EPUB, PDF, PostScript®, RTF (can be opened in Word 2000+), WordprocessingML (can be opened in Word 2003+), Office Open XML (`.docx`, can be opened in Word 2007+), OpenOffice (`.odt`, can be opened in OpenOffice.org 2+).
>
> XMLmind DITA Converter is free, open source, software licensed under the very liberal terms of the Mozilla Public License version 1.1.
>
> All this makes XMLmind DITA Converter a very serious alternative to using the DITA Open Toolkit.
>
> More information in http://www.xmlmind.com/ditac/.

2. DITA topic reference

2.1. DITA topic menu

When a DITA topic (of any kind) is opened in XMLmind XML Editor, the **XML** menu becomes the **Topic** menu and this menu is populated with items which are specific to DITA topics. This reference contains a description of such menu items.

Table editor

This table editor may be used to edit `simpletables` as well as CALS `tables`. Note that using this table editor, or simply saving a topic, or checking a topic for validity, guarantees that the `cols` attribute of a `tgroup` is up to date. That is, you may forget about the `cols` attribute, XMLmind XML Editor will always compute it for you.

Menu	Item	Description
Column For a command in this menu to work, click anywhere inside a cell[1].	Insert Before	Insert a column before column containing specified cell.
	Insert After	Insert a column after column containing specified cell.
	Cut	Cut to the clipboard the column containing specified cell.
	Copy	Copy to the clipboard the column containing specified cell.
	Paste Before	Paste copied or cut column before column containing specified cell.
	Paste After	Paste copied or cut column after column containing specified cell.
	Delete	Delete the column containing specified cell.
Row	Insert Before	Insert a row before row containing specified cell.

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[1] or explicitly select a cell or an element having a cell ancestor

Menu	Item	Description
For a command in this menu to work, click anywhere inside a cell[(1)] or explicitly select a row.		**Note** Note that row editing commands are enabled, not only by implicitly or explicitly selecting a table cell or any of its descendants, but also by explicitly selecting a table row.
	Insert After	Insert a row before row containing specified cell.
	Cut	Cut to the clipboard the row containing specified cell.
	Copy	Copy to the clipboard the row containing specified cell.
	Paste Before	Paste copied or cut row before row containing specified cell.
	Paste After	Paste copied or cut row after row containing specified cell.
	Delete	Delete the row containing specified cell.
Cell For a command in this menu to work, click anywhere inside a cell[(1)].	Increment Column Span	Increment the number of columns spanned by specified cell. Not relevant for `simpletables`.
	Decrement Column Span	Decrement the number of columns spanned by specified cell. Not relevant for `simpletables`.
	Increment Row Span	Increment the number of rows spanned by specified cell. Not relevant for `simpletables`.
	Decrement Row Span	Decrement the number of rows spanned by specified cell. Not relevant for `simpletables`.

Paste plain text as one or more paragraphs or as a table

Paste After As

The entries of this submenu allow to paste the plain text copied to the clipboard, typically using a third-party word processor or spreadsheet, as:

- one or more paragraphs,
- OR a `pre` element,
- OR one or more list items,
- OR an itemized list,
- OR one or more table rows,
- OR a table.

The last two menu entries assume that each text line specifies a table row and that, within a text line, the contents of the table cells are separated by tab characters.

Indexterm editor

Insert or Edit indexterm

If the caret is anywhere inside an `indexterm` element, this menu item displays an `indexterm` editor dialog box allowing to modify this `indexterm` element.

If the caret is not inside an `indexterm` element, this menu item displays an `indexterm` editor dialog box allowing to create a new `indexterm` element and then to insert it at caret position.

Cross-reference tools

Go to Opposite Link End

An element having an `id` attribute or an `xref` or `link` element having an `href` attribute must be implicitly or explicitly selected. Scrolls to and selects the opposite link end (if found).

Go to Next Link

An `xref` or `link` element having an `href` attribute must be implicitly or explicitly selected. Scrolls to and selects following link (if found).

Go to Previous Link

An `xref` of `link` element having an `href` attribute must be implicitly or explicitly selected. Scrolls to and selects preceding link (if found).

Convert Document menu

Note
- ✚ This menu is absent in XMLmind XML Editor Personal Edition.
- The items of this menu are all disabled if the document being edited needs to be saved to disk.

Convert to XHTML
Convert to XHTML [one page]

Converts the document being edited to multi page or single page XHTML 1.0.

Convert to HTML Help

Converts the document being edited to a `.chm` file. This command is disabled on platforms other than Windows.

Requires:

1. Download and install Microsoft®'s HTML Help Workshop.
2. Declare the HTML Help compiler, `hhc.exe`, as the helper application associated to files having a "`hhp`" extension. This can be specified by using the **Preferences** dialog box, **Helper Applications** section.

Convert to Java Help

Converts the document being edited to a `.jar` file for use by the Java™ Help system.

Requires:

1. Download and install JavaHelp.
2. Declare the Java™ Help indexer, `jhindexer` (`jhindexer.bat` on Windows), as the helper application associated to files having a "`application/x-java-help-index`" MIME type. This can be specified by using the **Preferences** dialog box, **Helper Applications** section.

Convert to Eclipse Help

Converts the document being edited to a directory containing various files for use by the Eclipse Help system.

Convert to EPUB

Converts the document being edited to a `.epub` file.

Convert to RTF (Word 2000+)

Converts the document being edited to RTF (Rich Text Format) using. The document generated by this command can be edited and printed using Microsoft® Word 2000 and above.

Requires downloading and installing the "*XMLmind FO Converter XSL-FO processor plug-in* " add-on using **Options → Install add-ons**.

Convert to WordprocessingML (Word 2003+)

Converts the document being edited to WordprocessingML. The document generated by this command can be edited and printed using Microsoft® Word 2003 and above.

Same requirements as Convert to RTF.

Convert to Office Open XML (Word 2007+)

Converts the document being edited to Office Open XML (.docx file) . The document generated by this command can be edited and printed using Microsoft® Word 2007 and above.

Same requirements as Convert to RTF.

Convert to OpenDocument (OpenOffice.org 2+)
Converts the document being edited to OpenDocument (.odt file). The document generated by this command can be edited and printed using OpenOffice.org 2.

Same requirements as Convert to RTF.

Print PostScript
Convert the document being edited to PostScript® and send the generated file to the chosen printer.

Requires downloading and installing any of the following add-ons using **Options → Install add-ons**.

- *Apache FOP 1.x XSL-FO processor plug-in*;
- *RenderX XEP XSL-FO processor plug-in*[2].

Convert to PDF
Convert the document being edited to PDF.

Same requirements as Print PostScript.

2.2. DITA topic tool bar

When a DITA topic (of any kind) is opened in XMLmind XML Editor, buttons which are specific to this kind of document are automatically added to the tool bar. This reference contains a description of such buttons.

Button	Description
Convert to `i`	Convert selected text or implicitly or explicitly selected element to an `i` element.
Convert to `b`	Convert selected text or implicitly or explicitly selected element to an `b` element.
Convert to `tt`	Convert selected text or implicitly or explicitly selected element to an `tt` element.
Convert to `xref`	Convert selected text or implicitly or explicitly selected element to an `xref` element.
Convert to plain text	Convert selected text or implicitly or explicitly selected element to plain text.
Add `p`	Add a `p` after node selection or after caret at a location where it is valid to do so and where it makes sense to do so. **Note** This command and all the following commands will never add an element *inside* a `p`, even it is valid to do so. These commands add elements always *after* a `p`. That is, a `p` element is always considered by these commands as being a plain paragraph and never as being a division.
Add list item	Add a list item of the right type after current list item. For this command to work, suffice to click anywhere inside an `sl`, `ul`, `ol`, `dl`, `choices`, `substeps`, `steps`, `steps-unordered`.
Add `ul`	Add an `ul` after node selection or after caret at a location where it is valid to do so and where it makes sense to do so (see note).
Add `ol`	Add an `ol` after node selection or after caret at a location where it is valid to do so and where it makes sense to do so (see note).

[2]Unlike all the other add-ons, the RenderX XEP XSL-FO processor plug-in is not self-contained. You'll need to download, install and activate RenderX XEP (for example, free Personal Edition) prior to using the RenderX XEP XSL-FO processor plug-in.

Button	Description
⊟ Add dl	Add a dl after node selection or after caret at a location where it is valid to do so and where it makes sense to do so (see note).
⊞▾ Add table	Displays a menu which allows to add a simpletable or a table after node selection or after caret at a location where it is valid to do so and where it makes sense to do so (see note).
▦▾ Add image	Displays a menu which allows to • insert an image at caret position; • OR add a fig (containing an image) after node selection or after caret at a location where it is valid to do so and where it makes sense to do so (see note).
§ Add section	Add a section after node selection or after caret at a location where it is valid to do so and where it makes sense to do so (see note).
▨ Edit referenced topic	Open in XMLmind XML Editor the topic referenced in the conref or href attribute of selected element. If this document is already opened in XMLmind XML Editor, this command brings its view to front and makes it the active one.
◉ Browse the DITA reference manual found on the OASIS Web site	Use the Web browser to display the documentation of the element explicitly or implicitly selected. (Contributed by Mark Fletcher.) *Requires to be connected to the Internet* because the reference manual of DITA elements is found on the OASIS Web site.

2.3. DITA topic bindings

When a DITA topic (of any kind) is opened in XMLmind XML Editor, additional keyboard shortcuts and additional drag and drop facilities which are specific to this kind of document are automatically made available to the user. This reference contains a description of such user input/command bindings.

Keyboard shortcut	Description
Enter	Inside a p, splits the p in two parts. Elsewhere, normal behaviour.
Del	At the end of a p, if there is no node or text selection, joins this p with following sibling p if any. Otherwise, normal behaviour.
BackSpace	At the beginning of a p, if there is no node or text selection, joins this p with preceding sibling p if any. Otherwise, normal behaviour.
Ctrl-Enter	Inside a p or inside any list item, inserts same element after this one.
Ctrl+Shit-Enter	Inside a p or inside any list item, inserts same element before this one.
F2 e	Edit referenced topic
Esc w	Converts text copied to the clipboard using an external application (Web browser, word processor, etc) to one or more p elements. Then paste these paragraphs after implicitly or explicitly selected element.
Ctrl-F1	Browse the DITA reference manual found on the OASIS Web site

Keyboard shortcut	Description
Alt-Drag	Alt-Drag only works for elements having an `id` attribute. • If an element having an `id` attribute is explicitly selected and if the mouse is dragged anywhere over this element, the URL of this element, *including a fragment containing the fully qualified ID of the element*, is made available for a drop. • If the mouse is dragged outside the node selection if any and if it is dragged over an element having an `id` attribute, he URL of this element, *including a fragment containing the fully qualified ID of the element*, is made available for a drop. This kind of drag is mainly useful to build a DITA map by dropping `topicrefs`. See Creating a DITA map using drag and drop.
Drop	If the drop occurs above an element having an `href` attribute other than an `image` (e.g. an `xref`), the dropped string is considered to be an URL and is used to change the value of the `href` attribute. Note that this kind of drop attempts to *relativize* the dropped URL against the location of the drop site. For example, if you drop `"file://home/john/doc/topic1.dita"` onto an `xref` contained in file `"file://home/john/doc/ref/reference2.dita"`, its `href` is set to `"../topic1.dita"`. Elsewhere, normal behaviour which is: **Drop onto an `image` element** Considers the dropped string to be the URL or the filename of a graphics file. Displays a dialog box allowing to copy or reference this graphics file for use by the `image` element. **Drop elsewhere** Considers the dropped string to be the URL or the filename of an XML document. Opens this document in XXE.

2.4. Using the `indexterm` editor

This dialog box, displayed by menu item **Topic → Insert or Edit indexterm**, allows to edit the selected `indexterm` element if any, or to create a new `indexterm` element and then insert it at caret position otherwise.

Note that this editor does not allow to modify `indexterm` elements which are invalid, inconsistent or simply too complex. In such case, you'll have to revert using the normal editing tool (**Edit** tool, **Attributes** tool, etc) in order to modify such `indexterm` elements. However, this `indexterm` editor is sufficiently powerful to fulfill the vast majority of needs.

We'll explain with examples how to use the `indexterm` editor.

- If you want to get this kind of entry in your back of the book index:

```
P
Pet 12
```

specify **Term\Primary**=Pet.

- Back of the book index:

```
P
Pet
    Cat 26
```

specify **Term\Primary**=Pet, **Term\Secondary**=Cat.

- Back of the book index:

```
P
"+" 54
```

specify **Term\Primary**="+", **Sort As\Primary**=plus. Without this **Sort As** specification, the index entry corresponding to "+" would have been found in the **Symbols** category:

```
Symbols
"*" 53, 78
"+" 54
"-" 55, 91-95
...
```

- Back of the book index:

```
D
Domesticated animals 34 See also Pet
```

specify **Term\Primary**=Domesticated animals, **See Also**=Pet.

Note that the content of the **See Also** field must refer to an existing index entry. That's why instead of typing "Pet", you can select this index entry by using the dialog box displayed by the **Pick from list** button found at the right of the **See Also** row.

It is possible to specify up to two **See Also** entries for a **Term**.

- Back of the book index:

```
F
Felis catus See Pet, Cat
```

specify **Term\Primary**=Felis catus, **See\Primary**=Pet, **See\Secondary**=Cat. (In the above example, notice that Felis catus has no associated page number.)

Like **See Also**, the content of the **See** field must refer to an existing index entry. Unlike **See Also**, a **See** entry is merely a redirection to an actual index entry.

- Back of the book index:

```
O
Operation
    Additive
        "+" 87-90
```

1. Insert a first indexterm element at the beginning the range (this will give us page number 87).

   In order to do that, use **Topic → Insert or Edit indexterm** and specify **Term\Primary**=Operation, **Term\Secondary**=Additive, **Term\Tertiary**="+", **Sort As\Tertiary**=plus.

   Then check **Range**/**Start** and give your range an identifier by specifying "plus_reference" in the **Range** field.

2. Insert another indexterm element at the end the range (this will give us page number 90).

   In order to do that, use **Topic → Insert or Edit indexterm**, check **Range/End** and specify the same identifier, "plus_reference", in the **Range** field. All the other fields must be left blank.

Note that instead of typing "plus_reference" in the **Range** field, you can select this identifier by using the dialog box displayed by the **Pick from list** button found at the right of the **Range** row.

Related information

➥ The "Insert or Edit indexterm" menu item

3. DITA map reference

3.1. DITA map menu

When a DITA map is opened in XMLmind XML Editor, the **XML** menu becomes the **Map** menu and this menu is populated with items which are specific to DITA maps. This reference contains a description of such menu items.

Convert Document menu

Note
- ✚ This menu is absent in XMLmind XML Editor Personal Edition.
- The items of this menu are all disabled if the document being edited needs to be saved to disk.

Convert to XHTML
Convert to XHTML [one page]
> Converts the document being edited to multi page or single page XHTML 1.0.

Convert to HTML Help
> Converts the document being edited to a `.chm` file. This command is disabled on platforms other than Windows.
>
> Requires:
>
> 1. Download and install Microsoft®'s HTML Help Workshop.
> 2. Declare the HTML Help compiler, `hhc.exe`, as the helper application associated to files having a "hhp" extension. This can be specified by using the **Preferences** dialog box, **Helper Applications** section.

Convert to Java Help
> Converts the document being edited to a `.jar` file for use by the Java™ Help system.
>
> Requires:
>
> 1. Download and install JavaHelp.
> 2. Declare the Java™ Help indexer, `jhindexer` (`jhindexer.bat` on Windows), as the helper application associated to files having a "`application/x-java-help-index`" MIME type. This can be specified by using the **Preferences** dialog box, **Helper Applications** section.

Convert to Eclipse Help
> Converts the document being edited to a directory containing various files for use by the Eclipse Help system.

Convert to EPUB
> Converts the document being edited to a `.epub` file.

Convert to RTF (Word 2000+)
> Converts the document being edited to RTF (Rich Text Format) using. The document generated by this command can be edited and printed using Microsoft® Word 2000 and above.

Requires downloading and installing the "*XMLmind FO Converter XSL-FO processor plug-in* " add-on using **Options → Install add-ons**.

Convert to WordprocessingML (Word 2003+)
Converts the document being edited to WordprocessingML. The document generated by this command can be edited and printed using Microsoft® Word 2003 and above.

Same requirements as Convert to RTF.

Convert to Office Open XML (Word 2007+)
Converts the document being edited to Office Open XML (.docx file) . The document generated by this command can be edited and printed using Microsoft® Word 2007 and above.

Same requirements as Convert to RTF.

Convert to OpenDocument (OpenOffice.org 2+)
Converts the document being edited to OpenDocument (.odt file). The document generated by this command can be edited and printed using OpenOffice.org 2.

Same requirements as Convert to RTF.

Print PostScript
Convert the document being edited to PostScript® and send the generated file to the chosen printer.

Requires downloading and installing any of the following add-ons using **Options → Install add-ons**.

- *Apache FOP 1.x XSL-FO processor plug-in*;
- *RenderX XEP XSL-FO processor plug-in*[3].

Convert to PDF
Convert the document being edited to PDF.

Same requirements as Print PostScript.

Changing the look and contents of the files generated by the Convert Document menu

There are two ways to change the look and contents of the files generated by the items of the **Convert Document** menu.

1. Specifying custom XSLT stylesheet parameters. This is done by using **Options → Customize Configuration → Change Document Conversion Parameters**.

   For example, selecting parameter group "**Convert to HTML Help**" and adding parameter `number` with value `all` allows to number the sections of the generated `.chm` file.

   The reference manual of the parameters of the XSLT stylesheets used to perform the conversion is found in XMLmind DITA Converter Manual - XSLT stylesheets parameters. This reference manual can be directly accessed from the "**Change Document Conversion Parameters**" dialog box.

2. To a lesser extent, changing the options of the XMLmind DITA Convert (ditac) preprocessor. This is done by using **Options → Customize Configuration → Preprocessing Options**.

   For example, selecting option group "**Convert to PDF, PostScript**" and specifying a `.ditaval` file in the "**Conditional processing profile**" field allows to filter and/or flag the generated `.pdf` file.

   More information about this facility in Section 7.

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[3]Unlike all the other add-ons, the RenderX XEP XSL-FO processor plug-in is not self-contained. You'll need to download, install and activate RenderX XEP (for example, free Personal Edition) prior to using the RenderX XEP XSL-FO processor plug-in.

Note that a technical writer is not expected to know which parameter or which option is to be specified to get the desired effect. Unless she/he is the local guru, a technical writer is expected to post a support request to the xmleditor-support public, moderated, mailing list in order to learn this. But at least the two above facilities allow her/him to customize her/his deliverables without having to hand edit configuration files.

3.2. DITA map tool bar

When a DITA map is opened in XMLmind XML Editor, buttons which are specific to this kind of document are automatically added to the tool bar. This reference contains a description of such buttons.

Button	Description
Insert `topicref` before	Insert a `topicref` before selected `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`.
Insert `topicref` into	Append a `topicref` child element to the selected `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`.
Insert `topicref` after	Insert a `topicref` after selected `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`.
Move up	If selected element is a `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`, `navref` or `anchor` and if this selected element is preceded by a `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`, `navref` or `anchor`, this command moves selected element one position up in its container element.
Move down	If selected element is a `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`, `navref` or `anchor` and if this selected element is preceded by a `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`, `navref` or `anchor`, this command moves selected element one position down in its container element.
Promote	If selected element is a `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`, itself contained in a `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`, this command removes selected element from its parent and makes it a sibling following its ex-parent. Moreover, all elements that followed selected element in the ex-parent are also removed from this ex-parent and made children of the newly ``promoted'' element.
Demote	If selected element is a `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`, itself preceded by a `topicref`, `topichead`, `topicgroup`, this command moves selected element at the end of its predecessor.
Edit referenced topic or map	Opens in XMLmind XML Editor the topic or map referenced in the `conref`, `href` or `mapref` attribute of selected element. If this document is already opened in XMLmind XML Editor, this command brings its view to front and makes it the active one. If this document does not exist yet, the **File → New** dialog box is displayed and allows the user to choose which document (i.e. `topic`, `task`, `reference`, `map`, etc) is to be created at the location specified by attribute `href`, `mapref` or `conref`.

3.3. DITA map bindings

When a DITA map is opened in XMLmind XML Editor, additional keyboard shortcuts which are specific to this kind of document are automatically made available to the user. This reference contains a description of such keyboard shortcuts.

Keyboard shortcut	Description
F2 Up	Move up
F2 Down	Move down
F2 Left	Promote
F2 Right	Demote
F2 e	Edit referenced topic or map

4. DITA bookmap reference

4.1. About DITA bookmap support

When a DITA bookmap is opened in XMLmind XML Editor, the **XML** menu becomes the **BookMap** menu and this menu is populated with items which are specific to DITA bookmaps. Similarly, buttons which are specific to this kind of document are automatically added to the tool bar. The **BookMap** menu and tool bar are identical to those specific to DITA maps.

Related information

➥ Section 3.1. DITA map menu

5. Creating a DITA map using drag and drop

Procedure

1. Use **File** → **New** and choose **DITA Map** | **Map**.
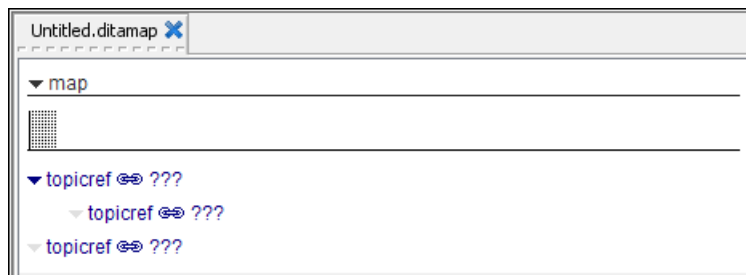
2. Use **File** → **Save As** to give a filename to the newly created map.

3. Drag a reference to a topic:

   ❍ **Using your file manager**. Simply drag the icon representing the XML file containing the topic.

   ❍ OR **using your web browser**. Simply drag the link to the topic as found in an HTML page (or the corresponding bookmark icon as found in the location bar).

   ❍ OR **using XXE itself**.

   In such case, open in XXE the topic you want to reference and click on the dashed line found at the bottom the tab of the document view to have both the map and the topic side by side.

For this task, it may be more convenient to have one view at the right of the other rather than one view below the other. To do this, use **Options → Quick Preferences → Split Window Vertically**.
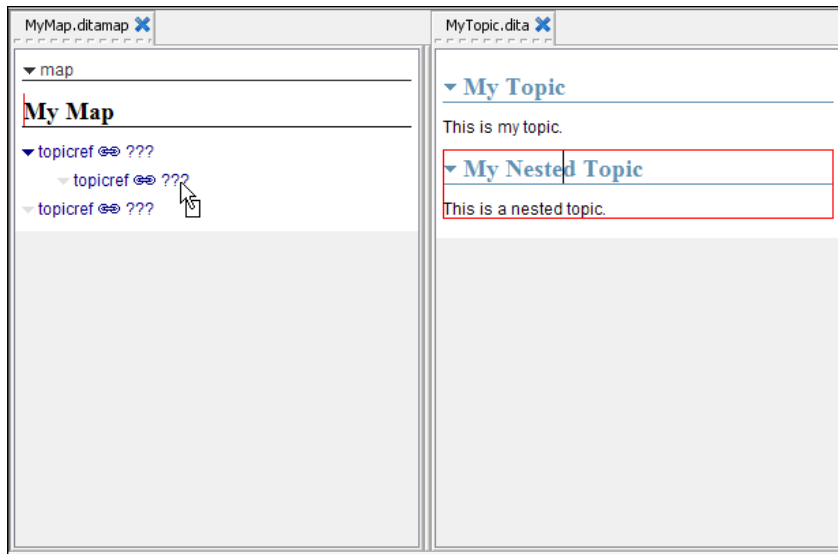
– Click anywhere on the document view containing the topic to make sure this document is the active one and then, drag the file icon[4] found in XXE's node path bar.
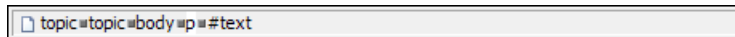
– OR, if the DITA file contains several nested topics, first select the topic element you want to reference as if you wanted to edit it[5] and then drag anywhere inside it *while pressing the Alt key* to drag its reference.

> **Note** Alt-drag allows to drag any element having an `id` attribute without having to select it first. However in the case of a container element such as a `section` or a `topic`, it is much easier to first select the element for which you want to drag a reference and then, alt-drag anywhere inside it.
>
> Note that this drag facility is fully aware of the way elements are referenced in DITA. For example, if you drag a `p` element having `"audience"` as its `id` attribute and if this `p` element is contained in a `topic` element contained in file `file://home/john/doc/topic1.dita` and having `"introduction"` as its `id` attribute, you'll end up dragging string `"file://home/john/doc/topic1.dita#introduction/audience"`.

4. Drop the dragged reference onto the text which immediately follows the link icon of a `topicref`. This text is `"???"` in the case of a newly created `topicref` such as the one depicted in this screen shot: .

   XXE will automatically attempt to make the dropped reference *relative* to the location of the drop site. If, for example, you drop `file://home/john/doc/topic1.dita` onto a `topicref` element contained in `file://home/john/doc/maps/book.ditamap`, its `href` attribute will contain `"../topic1.dita"`. If

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[4]For an unknown reason, this will not work on the Mac.

[5]There are many ways to do this. For example, click several times anywhere inside the topic, while pressing the Ctrl key and without moving the mouse, until you ``reach'' it. More information in XMLmind XML Editor - User's Guide, "Being productive with XXE".

the dropped reference cannot be made relative to the location of the drop site (for example, if it is an `http://` URL) then the `href` attribute will contain the dropped reference as is.

6. Content inclusion

6.1. Easy content inclusion

About this task

The `conref` attribute of an element allows to reference the contents (text, child elements, some of the attributes) of another element.

Instead of just seeing an empty element having a `conref` attribute (that is, the ``pointer''), it is nicer to see the referenced contents. This process is called transclusion and XMLmind XML Editor can do it for you.

Note Everything explained here should also work for DITA maps.

Note The following procedure (**Copy as Reference** then **Paste**) is not specific to DITA. The same procedure could be used to add references to DocBook or XHTML documents. This is why it is explained in great details in our tutorial.

Procedure

1. Open in XMLmind XML Editor the topic containing the element you want to reference.

2. Select this element.

   Let's call this element the *conref source*.
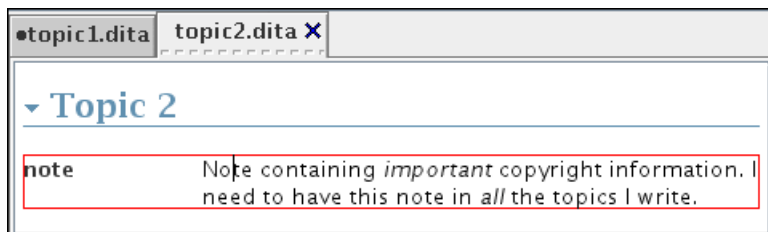
3. If this element has no `id` attribute, specify one using the **Attributes** tool.

4. Press Ctrl+Shift-C (**Edit → Reference → Copy as Reference**).

   You'll see the name of the element copied as reference displayed in dimmed blue at the bottom right of XMLmind XML Editor main window.
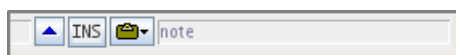
5. Switch to the topic where you want to create the reference.

6. Use Ctr-U (**Edit → Paste Before**), Ctrl-V (**Edit → Paste**) or Ctrl-W (**Edit → Paste After**) to paste a reference to the conref source.

   Let's call this pasted reference the *conref target*.
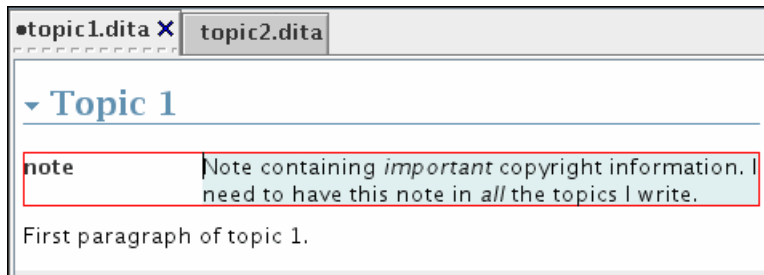
7. Sometimes, you'll want to add attributes which are specific to the conref target (typically an `id` attribute). In such case:

   a. Select the conref target.

   b. Use **Edit → Reference → Untransclude** to un-transclude the conref target.

      You'll see an element having the same name as the conref source but having no content and having a conref attribute pointing the conref source.

   c. Use the **Attributes** tool to specify one or more attributes.

   d. Use **Edit → Reference → Retransclude** to re-transclude the conref target.

Related information

➥ Section 6.2. Content inclusion: an alternative, low-level, method

6.2. Content inclusion: an alternative, low-level, method

Procedure

1. Insert the element (the conref target) you wish to transform to a *reference* to another element contained elsewhere (the conref source).

   You may use Ctrl-H (**Edit → Insert Before**), Ctrl-I (**Edit → Insert**) or Ctrl-J (**Edit → Insert After**) to do this.

2. Using the **Attributes** tool, specify an `href` attribute for the conref target.

   Specifying a value for the href attribute is tedious and error-prone. That's why using this method rather than the easy one described in Section 6.1 is not recommended.

3. Specify other attributes, for example an `id` attribute, if you want.

4. Use **Edit → Reference → Retransclude** to transclude the conref target.

Related information

➥ Section 6.1. Easy content inclusion

7. Preprocessing options

Converting a DITA document to formats such as HTML, PDF, RTF, etc, comprises two steps. First step consists in preprocessing the DITA document. Second step consists in translating the preprocessed DITA document to the other format by the means of XSLT stylesheets.

The XSLT stylesheets are parameterized by using **Options → Customize Configuration → Change Document Conversion Parameters**, while the preprocessor is parameterized by using **Options → Customize Configuration → Preprocessing Options**. The latter menu item displays a dialog box which is described in this section.

*Figure 1. The **Preprocessing Options** dialog box*
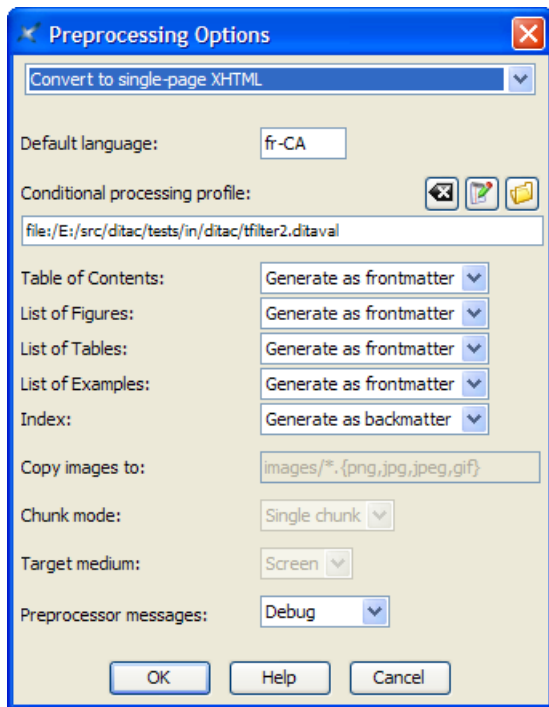
The top combobox allows to select the group of options to be edited. Each group of options is completely separated from the other. For example, specifying `tfilter2.ditaval` as the conditional processing profile of "**Convert to single-page XHTML**" will have an effect when you'll use **Map → Convert Document → Convert to XHTML [one page]** and no effect at all when you'll use **Map → Convert Document → Convert to HTML Help**[6].

Default language

    Specifies the main language of the document. Examples: `en`, `en-US`, `fr`, `fr-CA`. This information is needed in order to sort the index entries. By default, this information is taken from the `xml:lang` attribute of the root element of the topic map (if any, `"en"` otherwise).

Conditional processing profile

    Apply specified conditional processing profile (a `.ditaval` file) to the topics.

    The buttons found at the top/right of this field allow respectively to:

- clear this field;
- edit, or simply view, the `.ditaval` file specified in this field;
- specify the URL of a `.ditaval` file by selecting it using a file chooser dialog box.

---

[6]Or when you'll use **Topic → Convert Document → Convert to XHTML [one page]**. There is a separate "**Convert to single-page XHTML**" group of options for the **Map**, **BookMap** and **Topic** configurations.

Table of Contents

Specifies whether to automatically generate a **Table of Contents** and, if a **Table of Contents** is to be generated, where to generate it. *Frontmatter* means at the beginning of the document. *Backmatter* means at the end of the document.

This option, like **List of Figures**, **List of Tables**, **List of Examples** and **Index**, is mainly useful when working with maps or individual topics. When working with a bookmap, the preferred way to specify the location, if any, of a **Table of Contents** is to do it in the bookmap itself. In all cases, what's specified in the bookmap has priority over the value of this option.

List of Figures

Specifies whether to automatically generate a **List of Figures** and, if a **List of Figures** is to be generated, where to generate it.

List of Tables

Specifies whether to automatically generate a **List of Tables** and, if a **List of Tables** is to be generated, where to generate it.

List of Examples

Specifies whether to automatically generate a **List of Examples** and, if a **List of Examples** is to be generated, where to generate it.

Index

Specifies whether to automatically generate an **Index** and, if an **Index** is to be generated, where to generate it.

Copy images to

Copy the image files referenced in the topics to specified directory. If specified path is relative, it is relative to the output directory.

In the above screenshot, `"images/*.{png,jpg,jpeg,gif}"` means:

- copy to directory `images/`, relative to the output directory,
- as is (that is, without having to convert the image to another image format),
- all the images referenced in the document source, having a `png`, `jpg`, `jpeg` or `gif` filename extension.
- Any image referenced in the document source having a filename extension other than `png`, `jpg`, `jpeg` or `gif` (e.g. `svg`, `tif`) will be automatically converted to an image having a `png`, `jpg`, `jpeg` or `gif` filename extension.

When this field is left empty, the generated document will reference the image files using absolute URLs. This is harmless for PDF, RTF, etc, files because at the end of the conversion process, such files will *embed* a copy of the image files. However, this is rarely what is wanted for HTML-based formats (XHTML, Java Help, HTML Help, Eclipse Help, EPUB, etc).

Chunk mode

Allowed values are **Automatic**, **Single** and **None**.

Chunk **Automatic** means: ignore the chunk specification found in the topic map and output a single chunk for the **Print** medium; honor the chunk specification for the **Screen** medium.

Chunk **None** means ignore the chunk specification found in the topic map and output a single chunk. As explained above, chunk **None** is implicit for some formats (PostScript, PDF, RTF, etc).

Both the **None** and **Single** values may be used to force the generation of a single output file. Chunk **Single** allows to reuse a map designed to output multiple HTML pages in order to generate a single HTML file or a PDF file.

Target medium

Explicitly specifies the output medium: **Screen** (XHTML, HTML Help, Eclipse Help, etc) or **Print** (PDF, RTF, etc). By default, the output media is guessed using the extension of the output file.

Preprocessor messages

Specifies the level of verbosity of the preprocessor. Allowed values are (from not verbose to very verbose): **None**, **Information**, **Verbose**, **Debug**.

Some fields may be ``grayed out'' (disabled). This happens in two cases:

1. The DITA configuration has been customized by the local guru. This automatically prevents the end user from making any change to the preprocessing options.
2. Changing the values of some options (e.g. **Target medium**) would break the stock configuration.