

Tips for writing and formatting documentation

{scrollbar}

This page is included in an attempt to provide some standard guidelines for the **naming** and **formatting** used in the development of Geronimo's documentation. This will help us all to maintain a consistent look and feel throughout the entire documentation and Geronimo spaces.

First of all, get familiar with Confluence markup, see the [Notation Help](#). You may also find this [guide](#) useful.

For comments and/or concern, please join our [mailing list](#) and post your inquires there.

This document is organized in the following sections:

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IMPORTANT

When making a reference to any document in the wiki you should point to this autoexported HTML content, avoid pointing directly to Confluence content. If the page you are browsing does not have the Geronimo banner on top then you are not looking at the HTML version.

✔ **Good:** <http://cwiki.apache.org/geronimo/geronimo-cwiki-documentation-architecture.html>

✘ **Bad:** <http://cwiki.apache.org/confluence/display/geronimo/Tips+for+writing+and+formatting+documentation>

Tip:

One way to get back to the **HTML** version of the page you just edited is to navigate to that particular page from <http://cwiki.apache.org/geronimo> .

Refer to [Geronimo cwiki documentation architecture](#) for further details.

Use {scrollbar}

Every time you create a new page add at the top the {scrollbar} macro unless that page is (and will remain that way) the only child page of it's parent.

Installation paths

For installation paths use something like this:

solid <geronimo_home>/ <sampleApp_home>/ <JBoss_home>/ <WAS_home>/ <WLS_home>/ ...

Versions

For versions use:

solid Apache Geronimo v1.0 Apache Geronimo v1.1 Apache Geronimo v1.1.1 JBoss v4 Tomcat v5.5.9

Ultimately v1.0 or v1.1, the lower case "v" always precede the number.

File extensions

For reference to file extensions use:

solid .zip .tar .gz .gzip .jar .war

Make sure to include the "."

Images

To display an image proceed this way:

- Attach the image file first.
- Avoid blank spaces in the file name.
- in a new line reference the image `!file_name.gif!` optionally for flow charts you can use center alignment `!file_name.gif|align=center!`.

To create the diagram you could use any presentation software such as OpenOffice (<http://www.openoffice.org>) and export the slide as JPG and then attach it to the documentation page. THIS IS THE PREFERRED METHOD.

Alternatively you could use the "Add Diagram" option to build one chart online. This option depends on a plugin and uses a web based interface to create the various diagrams. For additional information on this plugin visit:

<http://confluence.atlassian.com/display/CONFEXT/Gliffy+Plugin+for+Confluence++Diagram+and+draw+in+Confluence>

Command samples

For command samples, as in a command line window use:

```
solid *{{sample command}}*
```

The result will look like this:

```
sample command
```

Use a new line when possible.

Unformatted plain text

For unformatted, plain text samples use:

```
solid
{noformat:borderStyle=solid|title=some_title}
sample text
{noformat}
```

The result will look like this:

```
solidsome_title sample text
```

Code formatting

The current version of Confluence supports color coding for **XML**, **Java**, **JavaScript**, **HTML**, **SQL** and **ActionScript**. Here are some examples for those formats likely to be used in Geronimo's documentation.

33%

For XML samples use:

```
solid {code:XML|borderStyle=solid|title=some_title} XML code {code}
```

The result will look like this:

```
XMLsolidsome_title <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?> <web-app xmlns="http://geronimo.apache.org/xml/ns/j2ee/web-1.2"> <environment>
<moduleId> <groupId>sample.applications</groupId> <artifactId>SampledApp</artifactId> <version>2.0</version> <type>war</type> </moduleId> <
/environment> <context-root>/sample</context-root> </web-app> 33%
```

For Java samples use:

```
solid {code:JAVA|borderStyle=solid|title=file_name} Java Code {code}
```

The result will look like this:

```
JAVAsolidsome_title package org.apache.geronimo.samples.sampleapp; import java.awt.Dimension; import java.awt.Toolkit; import java.awt.event.
ActionEvent; import java.awt.event.ActionListener; import java.util.Hashtable; // ... 33%
```

For JavaScript samples use:

```
solid {code:JavaScript|borderStyle=solid|title=file_name} JavaScript code {code}
```

The result will look like this:

```
JavaScriptsolidsome_title <script language="JavaScript"> function showBreadcrumbsEllipsis() { document.getElementById('breadcrumbsEllipsis').style.
display = 'none'; document.getElementById('breadcrumbsExpansion').style.display = 'inline'; } </script> 50%
```

For HTML samples use:

```
solid {code>ActionScript|borderStyle=solid|title=file_name} HTML Code {code}
```

The result will look like this:

```
HTMLsolidsome_title <html> <head> <title>Page title</title> </head> <body text="#000000" link="#000000" vlink="#666666"> <h1> Some title </h1> <p>
Some text... </p> .... </body> </html> 50%
```

For SQL samples use:

```
solid {code:SQL|borderStyle=solid|title=file_name} SQL Code {code}
```

The result will look like this:

```
SQLsolidsome_title CREATE TABLE customer( CUST_ID VARCHAR(15) PRIMARY KEY, CUST_NAME VARCHAR(40) ); INSERT INTO customer
(CUST_ID,CUST_NAME) VALUES('12345','Your_Name');
```

Command samples and results

For command samples and results as a command line screen capture use:

```
solid
{noformat:borderStyle=solid}
sample text
{noformat}
```

The result will look like this:

```
solid d:\geronimo-jetty6-jee5-2.0-M2>ls -l total 195 -rwx-----+ 1 user None 4114 Jan 27 00:12 DISCLAIMER.txt -rwx-----+ 1 user None 144208 Jan 27 00:
12 LICENSE.txt -rwx-----+ 1 user None 31741 Jan 27 00:12 NOTICE.txt -rwx-----+ 1 user None 17697 Jan 27 00:12 RELEASE-NOTES-2.0-M2.TXT
drwx-----+ 3 user None 0 Feb 6 09:20 bin drwx-----+ 2 user None 0 Feb 5 14:34 deploy drwx-----+ 3 user None 0 Jan 27 00:12 lib drwx-----+ 48 user
None 0 Feb 5 14:36 repository drwx-----+ 2 user None 0 Jan 27 00:12 schema drwx-----+ 10 user None 0 Feb 5 14:34 var
```

Commands in paragraph

For commands or code within a paragraph use:

```
solid sample text in the paragraph {{command}} sample text in the paragraph {{some_java_code}}.
```

The result will look like this:

```
"sample text in the paragraph command sample text in the paragraph some_java_code."
```

Special notes

For special notes to bring reader's attention use the already existing standard macros such as:

```
solid {note}Message goes here.{note} {warning}Warning message goes here.{warning} {info}Info message goes here.{info} {tip}Tips goe here.{tip}
```

When necessary, you can also add a title to these boxes, for example:

```
solid {warning:title=Warning}Warning message goes here.{warning}
```

The result will look like these:

```
25% Note title
Message goes here.
25% Info title
Info message goes here.
25% Tip title
Tips goe here.
25% Warning title
Warning message goes here.
```

Spell checking

Currently, Confluence does not provide spell check so you should use the method of your choice to perform spell checking.

Mac OS X users can simply right-click on text areas and select `Spelling -> Check Spelling as You Type`.

Firefox 2.0 provides a built-in spell-checking, older versions of Firefox can get a plugin to fill in the gap.