

XML - XHTML Conversion Tip Sheet [www.rockjethwa.com]

Summary

Many web pages have been developed using HTML, which does not allow for searching of specific information with the page, or having the ability to exchange specific sections of the page with applications such as Microsoft Word, Quark Xpress or eBusiness/eCommerce systems.

To help migrate to XHTML, HTML documents can be easily modified by designers and developers using the following simple steps, to make the pages well formed XML documents.

5 Steps in converting HTML into an XHTML format

Step 1) Add end tags to tag that only have start tags.

HTML: `<p>Convert this paragraph.`

`<p>To make it well formed.`

XML: `<p>Convert this paragraph.</p>`

`<p>To make it well formed.</p>`

Step 2) Put tags in correct order.

HTML: `<tt>HTML Conversion</tt>`

XML: `<tt>HTML Conversion</tt>`

Step 3) Tidy up attributes and values so they are in "quotes".

HTML: ``

XML: ``

Step 4) Convert empty elements that do not need a closing tag into XML format.

HTML: ``

XML: ``

Step 5) Add XML declaration to beginning of HTML code.

HTML: `<html>`

XML: `<?XML version="1.0:?">`

`<html>`

These simple 5 techniques are a start to migrate HTML documents into XHTML. XML documents have the advantages of content sharing, sophisticated document management, data sharing and preparation for fully electronic solutions across different systems.