

DTD (Document Type Definition)

In simple cases, **DTD** is used to describe the syntax of a data structure stored in XML. This DTD can be saved in a file with a `.dtd` extension, but it can also be part of the XML document itself.

Basic Properties of DTD

- Allows for simple **syntactic validation**.
- A descriptive language similar to **extended Backus-Naur form**.
- You can define structures, required sequences, type constraints, and cardinality.

If an XML document has a document type declaration, it must be indicated in the file with a special declaration starting with `<!DOCTYPE>`. The type declaration can be **internal** or **external** (referenced via **URI** or a **file**).

Internal declaration

```
<!DOCTYPE uzenet [  
    ....  
>
```

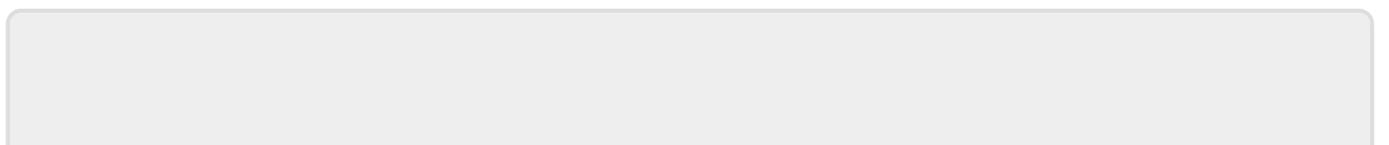
External URI

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"  
"http://www.w3.org/TR/.....dtd">
```

External file

```
<!DOCTYPE uzenet SYSTEM "filename.dtd">
```

The DTD defines the structure and rules that an XML document must follow to be considered valid.



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