

The ODT Reader

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AUTHORS

Zen Contributors <team@insan.ai>

DISCUSSION

Mapping, omissions, and round-trip expectations for the ODT reader

LABELS

formats, odt, reader

Status of This Memo

This document is an internal Zen discussion record authored in Typst and tracked in git. It intentionally follows RFC-style structure so the design scope, rationale, trade-offs, and operational constraints remain explicit. Documents that still use the placeholder number XXXXX are provisional drafts. Numbered ZDS documents are part of the project record.

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59. Abstract

The format record for `zenfmt_odt` (`ai.insan.zenfmt.odt`). OpenDocument Text shares the container machinery with the OOXML family and is friendlier in structure: headings carry their level, lists nest explicitly. The hard part is exactly where ZDS 0002 predicted — character styling is indirect, through named styles resolved along `style:parent-style-name` chains.

60. Mapping

Source	Tree result	Facets
text:h	heading, level from text:outline-level, clamped to six.	StyleFacet when the style resolves to a common name from styles.xml.
text:p	paragraph; plain inside list items.	StyleFacet when the style resolves to a common name: an automatic P1-style name follows its parent chain and the facet carries the name a person chose, never a generator's counter.
text:span	Style containers from the resolved style: fo:font-weight bold, fo:font-style italic, style:text-underline-style, style:text-line-through-style, style:text-position super and sub, fo:font-variant small caps. Automatic styles in content.xml win over styles.xml; parent chains flatten with a sixteen-hop bound. Containers open in the canonical order and merge across spans.	none.
Paragraph styles	Contribute the same character properties to the whole paragraph.	none.
text:a	link, target from xlink:href.	none.
text:list, text:list-item	list and list_item, nesting structurally. Ordered when the list's style names a text:list-level-style-number at its first level; bullet otherwise or when the style is unknown.	none.
text:s, text:tab	A space.	none.
text:line-break	hard_break.	none.
text:note	note. The body's byte range is captured during the walk and re-parsed after the docu-	none.

Source	Tree result	Facets
	ment body, where note bodies belong.	
table:table family	table; table:table-header-rows rows in table_head; table:number-columns-spanned becomes col_span; covered cells are skipped.	none.
text:section	container with class section.	none.
draw:frame with draw:image	image: the source from xlink:href (typically Pictures/... inside the package), the description from svg:desc, then svg:title, then the frame's draw:name. Inline frames sit in their paragraph; anchored frames outside one get a wrapping paragraph. Embedded office:binary-data is never spilled into text. A frame inside a frame (an image within a text box) flows as regular content.	Internal package parts register with the resource store under the xlink:href source name, digested at registration; extraction past the limits degrades to odt.media-limit. External references stay references.
office:annotation	Dropped from the flow and counted, as before.	RevisionFacet on the containing paragraph, or the next one when the comment sits between paragraphs: kind comment, dc:creator, dc:date, and the first 256 bytes of the comment text.

61. Deliberate omissions

Report code or fate	What
odt.annotations-dropped	office:annotation comment threads.
Skipped silently	Font declarations, settings, scripts, master styles, tracked-change tables, form controls: file plumbing with no content of their own.
odt.frame-dropped	A draw:frame with neither an image source nor any description — decorative shapes, mostly.

Report code or fate	What
Not yet mapped	Change marks in running text and bookmarks: their containing text survives; the markers do not. Recorded here as decisions, each a candidate amendment.

62. Round-trip expectations

ODT is read-only and writes no preservation namespace. Common style names, comment threads, and image bytes now travel typed through the facet tables and the resource store (ZDS 0013); the manifest summarizes them per kind, with full rows under `--preserve-facets`. A future ODT writer may consult them; nothing may require them.

63. Security

The shared archive limits apply; `content.xml` is mandatory (`odt.missing-content`), malformed or too-deep XML refuses with `odt.malformed-xml`, and note-body re-parsing wraps captured fragments in a namespace-rebinding element so no fragment escapes the parser's rules.

64. References

- ZDS 0002, *Reading the Office Formats*.
- OASIS Open Document Format for Office Applications v1.3.