
**Information technology — Digital
publishing — EPUB 3.0.1 —**

**Part 5:
Media overlays**

*Technologies de l'information — Publications numériques — EPUB
3.0.1 —*

Partie 5: Superposition de médias

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CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Fax: +41 22 749 09 47
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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This document was prepared by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) (as EPUB Media Overlays 3.0.1) and drafted in accordance with its editorial rules. It was adopted, under the JTC 1 PAS procedure, by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 23736 series can be found on the ISO website.

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EPUB Media Overlays 3.0.1



Recommended Specification 26 June 2014

THIS VERSION

<http://www.idpf.org/epub/301/spec/epub-mediaoverlays-20140626.html>

LATEST VERSION

<http://www.idpf.org/epub3/latest/mediaoverlays>

PREVIOUS VERSION

<http://www.idpf.org/epub/301/spec/epub-mediaoverlays-20140228.html>

A [diff of changes](#) from the previous version is also available.

Please refer to the [errata](#) for this document, which may include some normative corrections.

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Editors

Marisa DeMeglio, DAISY Consortium

Daniel Weck, DAISY Consortium

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

[1. Overview](#)

- [1.1. Purpose and Scope](#)
- [1.2. Relationship to Other Specifications](#)
- [1.3. Terminology](#)
- [1.4. Typographic Conventions](#)
- [1.5. Conformance Statements](#)
- [1.6. Namespace prefix mappings](#)

[2. Media Overlay Document Definition](#)

- [2.1. Introduction](#)
- [2.2. Content Conformance](#)
- [2.3. Reading System Conformance](#)
- [2.4. Media Overlay Document Definition](#)
 - [2.4.1. The **smil** Element](#)
 - [2.4.2. The **head** Element](#)
 - [2.4.3. The **metadata** Element](#)
 - [2.4.4. The **body** Element](#)
 - [2.4.5. The **seq** Element](#)
 - [2.4.6. The **par** Element](#)
 - [2.4.7. The **text** Element](#)
 - [2.4.8. The **audio** Element](#)

[3. Creating Media Overlays](#)

[3.1. Overview](#)

[3.2. Relationship to the EPUB Content Document](#)

[3.2.1. Structure](#)

[3.2.2. Granularity](#)

[3.2.3. Embedded Audio and Video](#)

[3.2.4. Text-to-Speech](#)

[3.3. Semantic Inflection](#)

[3.4. Associating Style Information](#)

[3.5. Packaging](#)

[3.5.1. Including Media Overlays](#)

[3.5.2. Media Overlays Metadata Vocabulary](#)

[4. Playback Behaviors](#)

[4.1. Loading the Media Overlay](#)

[4.2. Basic Playback](#)

[4.2.1. Timing and Synchronization](#)

[4.2.2. Rendering Audio](#)

[4.2.3. Rendering EPUB Content Document Elements](#)

[4.3. Interacting with the EPUB Content Document](#)

[4.3.1. Navigation](#)

[4.3.2. Embedded Audio and Video](#)

[4.3.3. Text-to-Speech](#)

[4.4. Skippability and Escapability](#)

[4.4.1. Skippability](#)

[4.4.2. Escapability](#)

[A. Media Overlays Schema](#)

[B. Examples of Clock Values](#)

[C. Acknowledgements and Contributors](#)

[References](#)

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› 1 Overview

ISO/IEC 23736-5:2020

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› 1.1 Purpose and Scope

This section is informative

This specification, EPUB Media Overlays 3.0.1, defines a usage of [\[SMIL\]](#) (Synchronized Multimedia Integration Language), the [Package Document](#), the [EPUB® Style Sheet](#), and the [EPUB Content Document](#) for representation of audio synchronized with the EPUB Content Document.

This specification is one of a family of related specifications that compose EPUB 3, the third major revision of an interchange and delivery format for digital publications based on XML and Web Standards. It is meant to be read and understood in concert with the other specifications that make up EPUB 3:

- The EPUB 3 Overview [\[EPUB3Overview\]](#), which provides an informative overview of EPUB and a roadmap to the rest of the EPUB 3 documents. The Overview should be read first.
- EPUB Publications 3.0.1 [\[Publications301\]](#), which defines the semantics and overarching conformance requirements for each [Rendition](#) of an [EPUB Publication](#).
- EPUB Content Documents 3.0.1 [\[ContentDocs301\]](#), which defines profiles of XHTML, SVG and CSS for use in the context of [EPUB Publications](#).

- EPUB Open Container Format (OCF) 3.0.1 [OCF301], which defines a file format and processing model for encapsulating a set of related resources into a single-file (ZIP) [EPUB Container](#).

› 1.2 Relationship to Other Specifications

This section is informative

This specification relies on a subset of [\[SMIL\]](#), from which the EPUB Media Overlays elements and attributes defined in [Media Overlay Document Definition](#) are derived.

› 1.3 Terminology

EPUB Publication

A collection of one or more [Renditions](#) conforming to this specification and its [sibling specifications](#), packaged in an [EPUB Container](#).

An EPUB Publication typically represents a single intellectual or artistic work, but this specification and its [sibling specifications](#) do not circumscribe the nature of the content.

Rendition

A logical document entity consisting of a set of interrelated [resources](#) representing one rendering of an [EPUB Publication](#).

Publication Resource

A resource that contains content or instructions that contribute to the logic and rendering of at least one [Rendition](#) of an [EPUB Publication](#). In the absence of this resource, the EPUB Publication might not render as intended by the Author. Examples of Publication Resources include a Rendition's [Package Document](#), [EPUB Content Document](#), [EPUB Style Sheets](#), audio, video, images, embedded fonts and scripts.

With the exception of the Package Document itself, the Publication Resources required to render a Rendition are listed in that Rendition's [manifest](#) [Publications301] and bundled in the [EPUB Container](#) file (unless specified otherwise in [Publication Resource Locations](#) [Publications301]).

Examples of resources that are not Publication Resources include those identified by the Package Document [link](#) [Publications301] element and those identified in outbound hyperlinks that resolve outside the [EPUB Container](#) (e.g., referenced from an [\[HTML5\]](#) [a](#) element [href](#) attribute).

EPUB Content Document

A [Publication Resource](#) that conforms to one of the EPUB Content Document definitions ([XHTML](#) or [SVG](#)).

An EPUB Content Document is a [Core Media Type](#), and may therefore be included in the EPUB Publication without the provision of [fallbacks](#) [Publications301].

XHTML Content Document

An EPUB Content Document conforming to the profile of [HTML5] defined in XHTML Content Documents [ContentDocs301] .

XHTML Content Documents use the XHTML syntax of [HTML5].

SVG Content Document

An EPUB Content Document conforming to the constraints expressed in SVG Content Documents [ContentDocs301] .

EPUB Navigation Document

A specialization of the XHTML Content Document, containing human- and machine-readable global navigation information, conforming to the constraints expressed in EPUB Navigation Documents [ContentDocs301] .

Core Media Type

A set of Publication Resource types for which no fallback is required. Refer to Publication Resources [Publications301] for more information.

Package Document

A Publication Resource carrying bibliographical and structural metadata about a given Rendition of an EPUB Publication, as defined in Package Documents [Publications301] .

Manifest

A list of all Publication Resources that constitute the given Rendition of a EPUB Publication.

Refer to manifest [Publications301] for more information.

Spine

An ordered list of Publication Resources, typically EPUB Content Documents, representing the default reading order of the given Rendition of an EPUB Publication.

Refer to spine [Publications301] for more information.

Media Overlay Document

An XML document that associates the XHTML Content Document with pre-recorded audio narration in order to provide a synchronized playback experience, as defined in this specification.

Text-to-Speech (TTS)

The rendering of the textual content of an EPUB Publication as artificial human speech using a synthesized voice.

EPUB Style Sheet (or Style Sheet)

A CSS Style Sheet conforming to the CSS profile defined in EPUB Style Sheets [ContentDocs301] .

Viewport

The region of an EPUB Reading System in which the content of an EPUB Publication is rendered visually to a User.

CSS Viewport

A Viewport capable of displaying CSS-styled content.

EPUB Container (or Container)

The ZIP-based packaging and distribution format for EPUB Publications defined in [OCF301].

Author

The person(s) or organization responsible for the creation of an EPUB Publication, which is not necessarily the creator of the content and resources it contains.

User

An individual that consumes an EPUB Publication using an EPUB Reading System.

EPUB Reading System (or Reading System)

A system that processes EPUB Publications for presentation to a User in a manner conformant with this specification and its sibling specifications.

› 1.4 Typographic Conventions

The following typographic conventions are used in this specification:

markup

All markup (elements, attributes, properties), code (JavaScript, pseudo-code), machine processable values (string, characters, media types) and file names are in red-orange monospace font.

markup

Links to markup and code definitions are underlined and in red-orange monospace font. Only the first instance in each section is linked.

<http://www.idpf.org/>

URIs are in navy blue monospace font.

[hyperlink](#)

Hyperlinks are underlined and in blue.

[reference]

Normative and informative references are enclosed in square brackets.

Term

Terms defined in the [Terminology](#) are in capital case.

Term

Links to term definitions have a dotted blue underline. Only the first instance in each section is linked.

Normative element, attribute and property definitions are in blue boxes.

Informative markup examples are in white boxes.

NOTE

Informative notes are in yellow boxes with a "Note" header.

CAUTION

Informative cautionary note are in red boxes with a "Caution" header.

› 1.5 Conformance Statements

The keywords **MUST**, **MUST NOT**, **REQUIRED**, **SHALL**, **SHALL NOT**, **SHOULD**, **SHOULD NOT**, **RECOMMENDED**, **MAY**, and **OPTIONAL** in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

All sections of this specification are normative except where identified by the informative status label "This section is informative". The application of informative status to sections and appendices applies to all child content and subsections they may contain.

All examples in this specification are informative.

› 1.6 Namespace prefix mappings

For convenience, the following namespace prefix mappings [XMLNS] are used throughout this specification:

prefix	namespace URI
epub	http://www.idpf.org/2007/ops

› 2 Media Overlay Document Definition

› 2.1 Introduction

This section is informative

Books featuring synchronized audio narration are found in mainstream e-books, educational tools and e-books formatted for persons with print disabilities. In EPUB 3, these types of books are created by using Media Overlay Documents to describe the timing for the pre-recorded audio narration and how

it relates to the EPUB Content Document markup. The file format for Media Overlays is defined as a subset of [SMIL](#), a W3C recommendation for representing synchronized multimedia information in XML.

The Media Overlays feature is designed to be transparent to [EPUB Reading Systems](#) that do not support the feature. The inclusion of Media Overlays in a [Rendition](#) of an EPUB Publication has no impact on the ability of Media Overlay-unaware Reading Systems to render that Rendition as though the Media Overlays are not present.

Although future versions of this specification may incorporate support for video media (e.g., synchronized text/sign-language books), this version supports only synchronizing audio media with the EPUB Content Document.

› 2.2 Content Conformance

A [Media Overlay Document](#) **MUST** meet all of the following criteria:

Document Properties

- › It **MUST** meet the conformance constraints for XML documents defined in [XML Conformance \[Publications301\]](#) .
- › It **MUST** be valid to the Media Overlays schema as defined in [Appendix A, Media Overlays Schema](#) and conform to all content conformance constraints expressed in [Media Overlay Document Definition](#).
- › It **MUST** be authored to reflect the structure of the [EPUB Content Document](#) with which it is associated, as stated in [Structure](#) .
- › [Authors](#) **SHOULD** avoid using scripts to control audio and video embedded in the EPUB Content Document, as stated in [Embedded Audio and Video](#).
- › It **SHOULD** use semantic markup where appropriate, as described in [Semantic Inflection](#).
- › It **MUST** be packaged with the [EPUB Publication](#) as shown in [Packaging](#).

File Properties

- › The Media Overlay Document filename **SHOULD** use the file extension **.smil**.

› 2.3 Reading System Conformance

[EPUB Reading System](#) support for Media Overlays is **OPTIONAL**. A Reading System that supports Media Overlays **MUST** meet the following criteria:

- › It **MUST** process the Media Overlay Document in conformance with all Reading System conformance constraints expressed in [Media Overlay Document Definition](#).
- › It **MUST** support [XHTML Content Documents](#), and it **MAY** support [SVG Content Documents](#).
- › It **MUST** render Media Overlay elements as described in [Basic Playback](#).

- › It **MUST** allow User navigation while a Media Overlay is being played, as discussed in [Navigation](#).
- › It **MUST** adhere to rules regarding referenced audio and video embedded in the EPUB Content Document, as stated in [Embedded Audio and Video](#).
- › Text-to-Speech (TTS)-capable Reading Systems **SHOULD** conform to [Reading System Text-to-Speech Conformance Requirements \[Publications301\]](#) .
- › It **SHOULD** offer the skippability and escapability features described in [Skippability and Escapability](#).

A Reading System that does not support Media Overlays **MUST** meet the following criteria:

- › It **MUST** ignore both the **media-overlay** attribute on manifest item elements and the manifest item elements where the **media-type** attribute value equals **application/smil+xml**.

› 2.4 Media Overlay Document Definition

All elements [XML] defined in this section are in the <http://www.w3.org/ns/SMIL> namespace [XMLNS] unless otherwise specified.

› 2.4.1 The **smil** Element

The **smil** element **MUST** be the root element of all Media Overlay Documents.

Element Name

[ISO/IEC 23736-5:2020](#)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iso/bc806d34-9262-4cb5-9454-53236fb41092/iso-iec-23736-5-2020>

Usage

The **smil** element is the root element of the Media Overlay Document.

Attributes

version [required]

Specifies the version number of the [SMIL] specification to which the Media Overlay adheres.

This attribute **MUST** have the value "3.0" to indicate compliance with this version of the specification.

id [optional]

The ID [XML] of this element, which **MUST** be unique within the document scope.

epub:prefix [optional]

Declares additional metadata vocabulary prefixes.

Refer to [Semantic Inflection](#) for more information.