

Word file representation in WordApplication

WordWriter represents a Microsoft Word document as a tree, similar to how Word itself represents a document. Most types of elements used with [WordApplication](#) correspond to entities that exist in an actual Word document, with some exceptions. Here is the recursive tree structure that WordWriter uses:

```
Document
|
|--Section
|   |
|   |--Paragraph
|       |
|       |--CharacterRun
|       |
|       |--InlineImage
|       |
|       |--Field (includes Hyperlinks and MergeFields)
|           |
|           |--Field Contents
|               |
|               |--(Recurses back to Paragraph subtree)
|
|   |--List
|       |
|       |--ListEntry
|           |
|           |--(Recurses back to Paragraph subtree)
|
|   |--Table
|       |
|       |--TableCell
|           |
|           |--(Recurses back to Section subtree)
```

The "Recurses back to ..." comments mean that the branch can continue with the same structure of elements as previously defined in the tree. For example, a [TableCell](#) can contain a [Paragraph](#), [List](#), and/or another [Table](#), followed by the children those elements support, and so on.

As mentioned previously, not all elements in WordApplication correspond to actual elements in a Word document. For example, the Word file format does not have a list structure. A list item is simply a specialized paragraph with additional formatting. The List type was added to WordApplication to make it easier to work with lists programmatically.

By default, a new Document created using [WordApplication.Create\(\)](#) contains the following elements:

```
Document
|
|--Section
|   |
|   |--Paragraph
|       |
|       |--CharacterRun
```

For more about inserting new elements into a Word document, see [Inserting elements using WordApplication](#).