



*Click***Start**

Flare Tips and Tricks

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Tips and tricks

Styles

- Creating a character style
- Creating a non-scrolling region
- Creating a non-scrolling table header
- Auto-numbering content

Single sourcing

- Using tags to only include selected topics
- Using a variable in a TOC or as a link's target
- Creating a character-level snippet

Print documents

- Setting up odd/even headers and footers
- Adding chapter breaks

“Hidden” features

- Adding an “Open with...” application
- Specifying a “next paragraph” style
- Use the Flare help system's stylesheet
- and some surprises...*

Styles

- Character styles
- Non-scrolling regions
- Non-scrolling table headers
- Auto-numbering content

Creating a character style

To create a character style:

- 1 Select the **span** tag in the stylesheet editor.
- 2 Click **Add Class**.
- 3 Type a name and click **OK**.
- 4 Format the style as needed.

To apply a character style:

- 1 Select content in a topic.
- 2 Select the span class from the style drop-down list.

Creating a non-scrolling region

1 Open your stylesheet in the Internal Text Editor.

2 Add the following properties to the **body** style.

```
padding: 5em 0 0 0;  
background:url(nothing) fixed;
```

3 Add the following properties to the **h1** style:

```
position:fixed;  
_position:absolute;  
top:0;  
_top:expression(eval(document.body.scrollTop));  
margin-top:0;  
padding-top:0;  
left: 0;  
padding-left: 10px;  
width: 100%;  
_width:expression(eval(document.body.clientWidth));  
background:gray;
```

Adding a non-scrolling table header

```
div {  
  position: relative;  
  overflow-y: scroll; overflow-x: hidden;  
  height: 200px; width: 100%;  
  border: solid #000000; border-width: 1px;  
}  
table { border-width: 1px; width: 100%; }  
thead tr {  
  position: absolute;  
  top: expression(this.offsetParent.scrollTop);  
  background-color: #ffffcc;  
  text-align: left;  
}  
tbody { height: auto; }  
table tbody tr:first-child td { padding: 18px 4px 0px 2px; }
```

Auto-numbering content

Format

{n+}

{n=0}

GH:

CH:

✓

GH: Chapter {chapnum}

CH: {n+}

{n+}.{n+}

Result

Increments number

Resets number to 0

Global counter (throughout project)

Chapter-wide counter

A list of checkmarks (or another symbol)

Chapter 1, Chapter 2...

1, 2,3...(restarts in each chapter)

1.1, 1.2, 1.3...2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3...

Condition tags, variables, and snippets

- ❑ Only include selected topics using condition tags
- ❑ Variables in TOC books and pages
- ❑ Find-and-replace text with variables
- ❑ Creating a character-level snippet

Only including specific topics using tags

- 1 Create a tag to exclude all of your topics (ex: ExcludeAll).
- 2 Apply the tag to the Content folder.
- 3 Create a tag to include selected topics. (ex: “IncludeMe”).
- 4 Apply the tag to the topics you want to include.
- 5 Open a target.
- 6 On the **Conditional Text** tab, exclude your “ExcludeAll” tag and include your “IncludeMe” tag.

Using a variable in a TOC label or link

In a TOC:

- For the book or page label, type:
`mcvariable:variablesetname.variablename`

In a link:

- 1 Open the Insert hyperlink dialog box.
- 2 Select topic in project, external topic, website, or email.
- 3 For the link location, type:
`mcvariable:variablesetname.variablename`

Replacing text with variables

- 1 Press **Ctrl-F**.
The Find and Replace window appears.
- 2 For **Find what**, type the text you want to replace.
- 3 For **Replace with**, type the following:
`<MadCap:variable name="variablesetname.variablename" />`
- 4 For **Find in**, select **(whole project)**.
- 5 For **File types**, select **Topics**.
- 6 Select **Find in source code**.
- 7 Click **Start**.
- 8 Click **Replace All**.

Creating a character-level snippet

- 1 Highlight the content you want to turn into a snippet.
- 2 Select **Format > Create Snippet**.
- 3 Type a name for the snippet.
- 4 Click **Replace**.

Printed documentation

- Setting up odd/even headers and footers
- Adding chapter breaks

Setting up odd/even headers and footers

To set up alternating odd/even headers and footers:

- 1 Open a page layout.
- 2 Open a page.
- 3 Right-click a header or footer and select **Edit Text**.
- 4 Add your header/footer content.
- 5 Close the header/footer and click **Save**.
- 6 Click **Page** and select **Mirror Page**.

Adding chapter breaks

Chapter breaks allow you to use different page layouts for different sections in a document.

To add a chapter break:

- 1 Open your TOC.
- 2 Right-click a TOC book or page and select **Properties**.
The Properties dialog box appears.
- 3 Select the **Printed Output** tab.
- 4 Select **Start a new chapter document**.
- 5 Click **OK**.

“Hidden” features

- Adding an “Open with...” application
- Specifying a next paragraph style
- Using the Flare help system’s stylesheet

Adding an “Open with” application

- 1 Open the Registry Editor.
- 2 Select the following:
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\
CurrentVersion\Explorer\FileExts\.htm\OpenWithList
- 3 Add a new string value.

Specifying a next paragraph style

- 1 Open your stylesheet in the Internal Text editor.
- 2 Find the style you want to modify.
- 3 Add the following style property definition:
mc-next-tag: p;
- 4 Save your stylesheet.

TIP ▶ Specifying the next class:
mc-next-class: introParagraph;

Using the Flare help system's stylesheet

Download it from:

<http://www.madcapsoftware.com/support/files/documentation/Styles/styles.css>



Resources

Forums

forums.madcapsoftware.com

Knowledge base

kb.madcapsoftware.com

Getting Started guide

www.madcapsoftware.com/assets/FlarePrintedManual.pdf

WebHelp skins

www.madcapsoftware.com/downloads/utilities/flareskingallery.aspx

WebHelp examples

forums.madcapsoftware.com/viewtopic.php?t=1015

Questions?

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CSS to the Point

MadCap Flare Certified Test Review + Developer's Guide

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