



Flare Hot Tips and Cool Tricks

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Tips and tricks

- ▶ Importing Word and FrameMaker documents
- ▶ Styles
- ▶ Variables and snippets
- ▶ Printed documentation
- ▶ WebHelp
- ▶ Hacks...



Importing Word and Frame documents

To set the topic order in the TOC:

- ▶ Organize (using **Move Up / Move Down**) the imported documents on the **Source Files** tab.

To map styles:

- ▶ Select the document(s) to import.
- ▶ On the **Stylesheet** tab:
 - ▶ Don't select a stylesheet.
 - ▶ Select **Preserve MS Word Styles**.
 - ▶ Don't select **Convert Inline Formatting to CSS Styles**.
- ▶ Map your paragraph and character styles as needed.
- ▶ After you import, assign your new topics to your stylesheet.



Styles

- ▶ Creating a span class
- ▶ Creating a non-scrolling region

Creating a span class

To create a span class:

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

To apply a span class:

- ▶ Select content in a topic.
- ▶ Select the span class from the style dropdown list.

Creating a non-scrolling region

- ▶ Open your stylesheet in the Internal Text Editor.
- ▶ Add the following properties to the **body** style.
padding:5em 0 0 0;
background:url(nothing) fixed;
- ▶ 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;

Variables and snippets

- ▶ Using a variable for a TOC book or page label
- ▶ Using a variable as a link's target
- ▶ Overriding variables in a target
- ▶ Replacing text with variables

Using variables in TOC labels and links

In a TOC:

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

In a link:

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

Overriding variables in a target

- ▶ Open a target.
- ▶ Select the **Variables** tab.
- ▶ Click the variable's definition.
- ▶ Type a new definition.

Replacing text with variables

- ▶ Press **Ctrl-F**.
The Find and Replace window appears.
- ▶ For **Find what**, type the text you want to replace.
- ▶ For **Replace with**, type the following:
<MadCap:variable name="variablesSetName.variableName" />
- ▶ For **Find in**, select **(whole project)**.
- ▶ For **File types**, select **Topics**.
- ▶ Select **Find in source code**.
- ▶ Click **Start**.
- ▶ Click **Replace All**.

Printed documentation

- ▶ Creating cross references
- ▶ Setting margins
- ▶ Setting a page numbering format
- ▶ Including a TOC, index, or glossary in print documents
- ▶ Removing heading levels from the TOC

Creating cross references

- ▶ Open a topic.
- ▶ Position your cursor where you want to add the link.
- ▶ Select **Insert > Cross-Reference**.
- ▶ For **Link To**, select **Topic in Project**.
- ▶ Click **Topic** and select a topic.
- ▶ Select an xref class.
- ▶ Click **OK**.

Setting margins and a page number format

- ▶ Open or create a master page for printed documentation.
- ▶ Right-click the **topic body** proxy.
- ▶ Select **Edit Body Proxy**.
- ▶ Click **Printer Page Properties**.

Including a TOC, index, or glossary in print

- ▶ Add a new topic.
- ▶ Delete the content in the topic.
- ▶ Select **Insert > Proxy > Insert TOC Proxy**.
- ▶ Open your TOC.
- ▶ Add a page that links to your proxy topic.

Removing heading levels from the TOC

- ▶ Open your stylesheet.
- ▶ Select the **print** medium.
- ▶ Select a heading level.
- ▶ Open the **PrintSupport** group.
- ▶ Set the **mc-heading-level** to 0.

WebHelp

- ▶ Formatting help control links as buttons
- ▶ Adding search acronyms
- ▶ Adding an email button to the toolbar

Formatting help control links as buttons

- ▶ Open your stylesheet.
- ▶ Select one of the following styles:
 - ▶ conceptLink
 - ▶ keywordLink
 - ▶ relatedTopics
- ▶ Add a border. Use a thicker bottom and right border.
- ▶ Consider changing the background color and font size and/or color.

Adding search acronyms

- ▶ Select **Project > Advanced > Add Synonym File**.
- ▶ Type a name for the synonym file and click **Add**.
- ▶ Add a directional or group synonym:
 - ▶ To add a directional synonym, type the Word and Synonym.
 - ▶ To add a group synonym, type the group items separated by =.
- ▶ Select the **Stem** option to include plurals and gerund phrase versions of your terms.

Adding an email button to the toolbar

- ▶ Open a WebHelp skin and select the **Styles** tab.
- ▶ Select the **ToolbarItem** style group.
- ▶ Click **Add Class** and type a name for the style class, such as "Email."
- ▶ Open the **Basic** property group.
- ▶ Select **Icon**, **PressedIcon**, and **HoverIcon** images.
- ▶ Type a **Tooltip**, such as "Send an email."
- ▶ Open the **Type** property group.
- ▶ Set the **OnClick** value to:
`document.location='mailto:emailaddress?subject=subjectofemail&body=bodyofemail';`
- ▶ Select the **WebHelp Toolbar** tab and add your button.

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Tricks and hacks

Tricks

- ▶ Drag-and-drop index keywords
- ▶ Moving table rows and columns

Hacks

- ▶ Opening/Closing all drop-down, expanding, toggler, and glossary links
- ▶ Auto-expanding drop-down, expanding, toggler, and glossary links when printing
- ▶ Setting related topics, keyword, or concept link text in a topic (not globally)

 Hacks will be explained in detail in a session handout.

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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

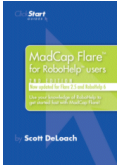
WebHelp examples

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

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Questions?

Ask now, or catch me later...



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