The Cross Syntax Cheat Sheet: DokuWiki versus AsciiDoc Markups

Introduction

At time of writing, this wiki uses a DokuWiki engine to convert the wiki pages (plain text including markup) to xhtml text.

Converting the DokuWiki markup to AsciiDoc markup can ease the work of translators of DokuWiki pages, as the application po4a, that allows to produce PO files ready for translation, can handle the AsciiDoc markup but not the DokuWiki markup.

This conversion should be "bi-directional":

DokuWiki source page ⇒ AsciiDoc source page ⇒ PO file ⇒ Translated PO file ⇒ AsciiDoc translated page ⇒ Dokuwiki translated page.

The `convtags` converter written by Didier Spaier is available here. This converter takes the form of a set of UTF-8 encoded sed scripts. For instance to convert a page from this wiki to AsciiDoc, display the result in Firefox, translate it then convert it back to DokuWiki:

- create a new (empty) text file
- click "edit this page" or "show pagesource" in the page you want to convert and translate
- select the whole source text with Ctrl+Shift+A
- copy and paste it in the text file
- save the text file as e.g. `genuine.txt` then run:

```
convtags da genuine.txt genuine.asc # convert to AsciiDoc
convtags aw genuine.asc genuine.html # if you want to make a static web
page (to run this command you need AsciiDoc)
firefox genuine.html # if you want to check the rendering of the static
web page
po4a-gettextize -f asciidoc -m genuine.asc -M UTF8 -p genuine.po # to
make a PO file containing only the text to translate
lokalize genuine.po # to translate. You could also use emacs or vim in
PO mode, or poedit available @ slackbuilds.org
po4a-translate -f asciidoc -m genuine.asc -p genuine.po -l
translated.asc # to make an asciidoc file from your translation
convtags ad translated.asc translated.txt # convert back your
translation to DokuWiki
```

You can then copy/paste the text of translated.txt as the source of the translated page.

Asciidoc and Firefox are included in a full Slackware installation.
In addition, you will need to make and install a package source-highlight. To do that in Slint just type:

```
spi -i source-highlight
```

There are some limitations to the conversion from DokuWiki to AsciiDoc, see the README.

In addition to easing the translation, the converter could be used e.g. to convert a static website build from AsciiDoc source pages to a Wiki powered by DokuWiki or reverse.

The table below summarizes the rules set up for the conversion.

This table can **not** be used as an AsciiDoc Cheat Sheet because it includes only the markup needed for bi-directional conversion: the AsciiDoc syntax is far richer. This also implies that only this subset of the Asciidoc markup can be automatically converted to DokuWiki.

A few DokuWiki markups are not included in the table because they have no direct counterpart in AsciiDoc.

Setting this conversion table was not straightforward as AsciiDoc lacks a "real" formal definition of its syntax in the AsciiDoc User Guide and even worse the DokuWiki formatting Syntax just provides examples.

In the "Notes" column, D: stands for DokuWiki and A: for AsciiDoc.

Conversion Table and Cheat Sheet			
Item	Dokuwiki	Asciidoc	Notes
Emphasized	//	_	D: rendered as *italic*. Does not span across paragraphs.[1] Several text decorations (emphasized, strong, monospaced, underlined, strike through) can be nested in both syntax. Quoting cannot be overlapped.
Strong	**	**	D: rendered as **bold**. Does not span across paragraphs.
Monospaced	''	++	A: other syntax ` but only on word boundaries, implies no further expansion. Does not span across paragraphs.
Underlined	__	[underline]#text#	A: # can be replaced by markup for strong, monospaced and/or underlined. Does not span across paragraphs.
Strike through	~~text~~	[line-through]#text#	A: # can be replaced by a markup for strong, monospaced and/or underlined. Does not span across paragraphs.
Superscript	^{text}	^text^	Does not span across paragraphs.
Subscript	_{text}	~text~	Does not span across paragraphs.
Forced new line	\\␣ or \\↵	␣+↵	↵[2] represents a <newline> and ␣[3] a space
Ruler	---- (at least 4 dashes)	↵''' (at least 3 single quotes)	draws an horizontal line
Footnote	((text))	footnote:[<text>]	A: also with reference ID

Double quotation marks	"text"	``text''	Rendering: "text"[4]. D: replacement depends on 'typography' setting in configuration file. A: only on word boundaries, no span across paragraphs.
Single quotation marks	'text'	`text'	Rendering: 'text'[5]. D: replacement depends on 'typography' setting in configuration file. A: only on word boundaries, no span across paragraphs.
No formatting (passthrough)	%%text with markup%% or: <nowiki>text with markup</nowiki>	$$text with markup$$	A: provides also a syntax for passthrough blocks of text, but useless for the conversion, as practically in Dokuwiki the markup should not span over paragraphs[6]
Replacements	(c) (tm) (r) -> <- => <= ---	(C) (TM) (R) -> <- => <= --	Rendering : © ™ ® → ← ↔ ⇒ ⇐ —
Heading	======text======	= text	Heading level 1 (title)
Heading	=====text=====	== title	Heading level 2
Heading	====text====	=== text	Heading level 3
Heading	===text===	==== text	Heading level 4
Heading	==text==	===== text	Heading level 5
External links	http://resource	http://resource	cf. RFC3986 http can be replaced by https, ftp, ftps
External links	www.resource	http://www.resource	D: converted to http://www.resource
External links	[[http://resource|text]]	https://resource[text]	http can be replaced by https, ftp, ftps
External links	[[http://resource]]	https://resource	D: not documented but works http can be replaced by https, ftp, ftps
Internal links	[[internal:link]]	internal:link	
Internal links	[[internal:link|text]]	internal:link[text]	
Email addresses	<local@domain>	local@domain or mailto:local@domain[text]	A: other syntax mailto:local@domain[text]
Multi-level quoting	> quoted text >> quoted text >>> quoted text	| quoted text || quoted text ||| quoted text	Feature not available in AsciiDoc but simulated by the converter.[7]
Unordered list	☐☐* item	* item	
Unordered list	☐☐☐☐* item	** item	
Unordered list	☐☐☐☐☐☐* item	*** item	
Unordered list	☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐* item	**** item	
Unordered list	☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐* item	***** item	
Ordered list	☐☐- item	. item	
Ordered list	☐☐☐☐- item	.. item	
Ordered list	☐☐☐☐☐☐- item	... item	
Ordered list	☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐- item	.... item	
Ordered list	☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐- item	.... item	
Tables	| text | text |	[table and column spec] |=== | text | text |===	A: [table and column spec] is optional |=== delimit the table (at least three equal signs)

Cell header	^header	h|header	A: h can be preceded by other formatting instructions. If not before the leftmost column, a space must precede the first formatting instruction
Cell horizontal alignment	|left | center | right|	<|left ^|center >|right	A: <,^ or > possibly followed by "h" or another table style
Cell horizontal span	| cell merged with the two next right |||	3+| (3 cells merged)	D: the number of consecutive | on the right of the cell states the number of cells to be merged, that is converted to n+ in AsciDoc D: same feature with consecutive ^ on the right of the cell
Cell vertical span	::: (merged with next up)	.m+| (m cells merged down)	A: possibly preceded by n (n cells merged on the right) This feature is not provided by the converter.
Admonitions	<note><text></note>	[NOTE] ==== block ====	A: or NOTE: paragraph D: with the NOTE plugin[8)
Admonitions	<note important><text></important>	[IMPORTANT] ==== block ====	A: Converted to an Admonition block D: with the NOTE plugin
Admonitions	<note tip><text></tip>	[TIP] ==== block ====	A: Converted to an Admonition block D: with the NOTE plugin
Admonitions	<note warning><text></warning>	[WARNING] ==== block ====	A: Converted to an Admonition block D: with the NOTE plugin
Code block	□□line of text □□line of text	---- block ----	A: converted to a Listing block D: Actually, the Code block will be formatted as such only if it includes a line containing at least one character belonging to the POSIX character class graph. And the first line beginning with two spaces won't begin a Code block if the previous one included a closing </code> or </file> ot </note> only followed by one or several space(s)...
Code block	<code> block </code>	---- block ----	A: converted to a Listing block D: the opening and closing tags can occur anywhere on the line, but in case of continuation of a list item

Code block	<file> block </file>	---- block ----	A: converted to a Listing block D: the opening and closing tags can occur anywhere on the line, but in case of continuation of a list item
Highlighted source code	<code language> block </code>	[source,language] ---- block ----	D: If language is "-" or ".", "txt' is assumed. A: converted to a Listing block A: needs a syntax highlighting plugin.[9]
Highlighted source code	<file language> block </file>	[source,language] ---- block ----	D: If language is "-" or ".", "txt" is assumed. A: converted to a Listing block A: needs a syntax highlighting plugin.[10]
Multiline list item	see this article	line of text + line of text	D: Code blocks can be embedded A: Listing blocks can be embedded
Images	{{ <source>[?]<linking>&<width>x<height>|<title>] }}	image::<target>[<attributes>] where <attributes> is a comma separated list	See the comments in the program convtags for the details

Sources

- Originally written by Didier Spaier

[1)
If used across paragraphs, merges them. I consider this as a bug in DokuWiki – Didier Spaier.

2)
↵ is U+21B2

3)
⎕ is U+2395

4)
" is U+201C, " is U+201D

5)
' is U+2018, ' is U+2019

6)
Because that results in a merge of these paragraphs

7)
The light vertical │ is U+2502

8)
The NOTE plugin is co-authored by Eric Hameleers & alii.

9) , 10)
The feature "downloadable attached file" is not converted. The link is discarded]