W3C Editor's Draft

OWL 2 Web Ontology Language Quick Reference Guide

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This document is also available in these non-normative formats: PDF version.

Abstract

The OWL 2 Web Ontology Language, informally OWL 2, is an ontology language for the Semantic Web with formally defined meaning. OWL 2 ontologies provide classes, properties, individuals, and data values and are stored as Semantic Web documents. OWL 2 ontologies can be used along with information written in RDF, and OWL 2 ontologies themselves are primarily exchanged as RDF documents. The OWL 2 Document Overview describes the overall state of OWL 2, and should be read before other OWL 2 documents.
This document is intended to provide a quick reference to the OWL 2 language, similar to what was provided in the Language Synopsis section of the OWL Web Ontology Language Overview. Inspiration for this effort includes work by the ebiquity Research Group at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) on earlier versions of a Reference Card for the Semantic Web.
A draft printable version is available [1], but it is obsolete with respect to the current wiki version.

Status of this Document

May Be Superseded

This section describes the status of this document at the time of its publication. Other documents may supersede this document. A list of current W3C publications and the latest revision of this technical report can be found in the [W3C technical reports index](#) at http://www.w3.org/TR/.

Summary of Changes

This Working Draft has numerous editorial changes since the previous version of 02 December 2008. In particular, the presentation has been significantly improved, and the content has been updated to reflect changes in the language specification.

Please Comment By 5 May 2009

The [OWL Working Group](#) seeks public feedback on this Working Draft. Please send your comments to [public-owl-comments@w3.org](#) ([public archive](#)). If possible, please offer specific changes to the text that would address your concern. You may also wish to check the [Wiki Version](#) of this document and see if the relevant text has already been updated.

No Endorsement

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Editor's Note: To do list:
- Complete inline hyperlinks to Primer, Syntax, Mapping to RDF Graphs and New Features and Rationale when the missing ones are ready
- Decision pending: link to Direct Semantics and RDF-Based Semantics
- Make a new pdf print version when the guide is finalized.

Editor's Note: Markup suggestions from Ivan Herman
- the gray background shading is a little bit disturbing, maybe try other typographic trick, e.g., some lighter colour.
- whether we could find a trick so that we can switch on/off highlight the OWL 1/2 differences and the '?' links that refer to the NF&R.

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1 Name Spaces

Standard Namespaces and Prefixes used in OWL 2

Prefix	URI
rdf	http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#
rdfs	http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#
owl	http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#
xsd	http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#