
WebMaker 3.0 Release Notes

Version 3.0

WebMaker 3.0 provides a number of new features and improvements, including a simplified user interface, HTML 3.2 compatibility, and support for Cascading Style Sheets.

We have provided two ways to print the *WebMaker 3.0 Release Notes*. You can print the Adobe Acrobat PDF file using the Adobe Acrobat Reader, which you can obtain at no cost from Adobe. Or, you can print the PostScript® file `rn3.ps` in the `doc` subdirectory of the WebMaker directory.

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Version 3.0

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WebMaker 3.0 Release Notes

These release notes contain links to sections in the *WebMaker User Guide* for more detailed information about the new features. If you click on those links, you will have to use your browser's **Back** command to get back to the release notes.

1 New user interface

Existing WebMaker users will immediately notice the new user interface (UI) in WebMaker 3.0. The user interface has been completely redesigned, with these goals:

- **Simplifying the user interface.** The new UI makes it easier to do the common tasks, such as running RapidRules, changing the mapping of tags to conversion rules, and converting the document.
- **Single window for customizing the WML file.** In the new UI, you can change mappings within a single window, rather than using two windows, as in previous releases.
- **Categories of paragraph rules:** In the new UI, when you are mapping paragraph tags, you now see them in categories (normal, list, heading) instead of in one long alphabetical list, as in previous releases.

- **Support for format overrides:** In the new UI, you can create conversion rules for characters that have formatting applied but no character tag. See Section 5, “Format override character rules”.

2 HTML 3.2 compatibility

WebMaker 3.0 produces HTML that is compatible with the HTML 3.2 specification. That specification is available at <http://www.w3.org/pub/WWW/TR/>.

New WebMaker Language (WML) functions support HTML 3.2 functionality such as centered text, superscripts, subscripts, big text, small text, and strikethrough text. See Section 16.1, “New WML functions”.

3 Cascading Style Sheets

WebMaker 3.0 supports **Cascading Style Sheets** (CSS), a major new feature of HTML that gives you greater control over the formatting of web pages. For the specification of cascading style sheets, see <http://www.w3.org/pub/WWW/TR/>. CSS is supported by Microsoft’s Internet Explorer, Netscape Communicator 4.0 (now available in a pre-release version), and W3C’s Arena and Amaya browsers.

For complete information about WebMaker’s CSS support, see “Cascading Style Sheets” in the *WebMaker User Guide*.

3.1 Browser problem with vertical margins

Microsoft’s Internet Explorer 3.0 browser does not implement vertical margins completely. In particular:

- Bottom margins are not implemented at all.
- Paragraphs have a built-in margin that is not overridden by the CSS margins.
- Vertical margins do not collapse according to the CSS specification.

The problems listed above are fixed in the 4.0 release of Internet Explorer. WebMaker 3.0 generates CSS instructions that adhere to the specification.

4 New HTML highlights

WebMaker 3.0 offers additional HTML highlights, including: **Big**, **Small**, **Strikethrough**, **Subscript**, and **Superscript**.

You can now map a character tag to **None**, to make those characters have no HTML highlight.

5 Format override character rules

You can now map characters that use format overrides to HTML highlights. Such characters have no character tag but do have formatting information associated with them. One way to apply format overrides is by using FrameMaker's **Format>Font** and **Format>Style** commands. Another way is by changing aspects of a paragraph in the Paragraph Designer or characters in the Character Designer and applying those changes to the selection, not globally.

You can create format override character rules in the WebMaker user interface or by writing WML rules directly. For more information, see "How to use format override rules" in the *WebMaker User Guide*.

6 New technique for table of contents

WebMaker 3.0 supports a new technique for tables of contents: you can use the table of contents in the FrameMaker document and map the paragraph tags in it to conversion rules. You must be sure that when the FrameMaker table of contents was created, the Generate Hypertext Links option was checked. The paragraph tags in a FrameMaker table of contents are of the form **ChapterTOC**, **1HeadingTOC**, and so on. When you map those paragraphs to the new WML rules for table of contents, WebMaker converts those paragraphs to HTML. The previous technique for creating a table of contents is still supported.

For more information, see "Table of Contents" in the *WebMaker User Guide*.

7 Lists of figures, tables, and so on

The technique for table of contents also enables you to convert similar lists, such as a list of figures, list of tables, and so on.

For more information, see “Table of Contents” in the *WebMaker User Guide*.

8 New conversion behavior for unmapped tags

If your document contains paragraph tags that are not mapped to conversion rules, those paragraphs will be converted by an implicit default rule whose behavior is like that of the explicit Default rule. In previous releases, such paragraphs were not converted and did not appear in the HTML.

9 New syntax for batch conversion

Several new options have been added to the `webmaker` command, which is used for converting documents in batch mode (without opening the WebMaker user interface). The new options enable you to do batch conversions that use RapidRules, that suppress graphics conversion, that limit the conversion to a specified number of HTML pages (for debugging purposes), and that generate CSS class attributes in the HTML. For complete documentation of the batch syntax, see the chapter “Making a Web in Batch Mode” in the *WebMaker User Guide*, or give the command:

```
webmaker -help
```

10 Hypertext markers now convert to HTML links

WebMaker 3.0 converts FrameMaker’s hypertext markers to HTML links. The following types of FrameMaker’s hypertext markers are converted: `gotolink`, `gotolinkfitwin`, `openlink`, `openlinkfitwin`, `gotoObjectId`, and `openObjectid`. Each of these hypertext markers must have a corresponding `Newlink` marker that is the target of the link.

If your document contains hypertext markers of other types, WebMaker reports to the log window any occurrences of marker type 8 that it cannot handle.

11 Special characters are converted properly

WebMaker 3.0 converts special characters to their appropriate HTML encoding. Note that there are some special characters that FrameMaker users can enter but which have no encoding in standard HTML 3.2. For example, the serif trademark symbol, TM, has no encoding in HTML 3.2. WebMaker converts these special characters to appropriate substitutions. For example, the trademark symbol is converted to the letters TM in superscript.

Note that older versions of browsers do not properly display all the special characters. If your readers see an encoding appear in the browser window instead of a special character, they should obtain a more current version of the browser.

Note also that characters in symbol fonts, such as Zapf Dingbats and Symbol, do not have HTML representations, and do not have appropriate substitutions.

12 New documentation about how to modify WML files

The *WebMaker User Guide*, contains a new chapter describing in detail the procedure for modifying WML files. This chapter will help you learn how to create new paragraph rules and to customize the header and footer of the web pages. See “Modifying Conversion Rules, Headers, and Footers”.

13 Improvements to table conversion

When tables are converted, any paragraph or character tags in the tables are converted according to the conversion rules they are mapped to. Also, cross references into tables are converted correctly.

14 Graphics conversion

You can now suppress the conversion of graphics when converting a document. This feature is available in the Make a Web dialog and as an option to the `webmaker` command line. Suppressing graphics conversion can significantly speed up the conversion and it is useful when you are debugging text conversion.

15 Changes to WML libraries

15.1 New library for mapped table of contents

WebMaker 3.0 provides a new library named `contents.wml`. That library contains rules named `TOC-Entry`, `TOC-Entry-1`, `TOC-Entry-2`, `TOC-Entry-3`, and `TOC-Entry-4`. Each of these rules is intended to be used to convert paragraphs that appear in the FrameMaker table of contents (such tags are typically named `ChapterTOC`, `1HeadingTOC`, and so on). These rules create a mapped table of contents.

15.2 Library rules now use alternate text for buttons

The rules in the WML libraries now provide alternate text for the graphics that act as navigation buttons. Thus, for example, a reader using a browser that does not support graphics will see the text “Next” instead of the graphical Next button. Without the alternate text, readers using nongraphical browsers would have no means to navigate a document that has graphical navigation buttons.

16 Changes to WML

16.1 New WML functions

In WebMaker 3.0, WML includes the following functions that create HTML markup:

- `subscript` is used to display text as a subscript.
- `superscript` is used to display text as a subscript.
- `center` is used to display text as a subscript.
- `strikethrough` is used to display text as a subscript.
- `big` is used to display text as a subscript.
- `small` is used to display text as a subscript.

- `element` is used to create HTML markup that is otherwise not supported by WML. For example, you can use `element` to create the `blink` command, a browser extension to HTML:

```
element("blink" "toto") --> "<blink>toto</blink>"
```

- `butlast` is used to remove the last word from a line of text. This function is intended for use in a table of contents where a space, rather than a tab, was used to separate the page number from the text at the beginning of the line.

16.2 WML support for Java applets

You can write WML code that inserts the HTML code that calls a Java applet. The two WML functions that support Java applets are `applet` and `appletparameter`. For more information, see the section “Java applet functions” in the *WebMaker User Guide*.

16.3 New arguments to the image WML function

The `image` WML function now accepts keyword arguments, which can be given in any order. The new keyword arguments are `align`, `width`, `height`, `alt`, `string`, `border`, `hspace`, `vspace`, `usemap`, `ismap`, and `class`. For more information, see “HTML markup functions” in the *WebMaker User Guide*.

16.4 Changes to paragraph rules in WML

Paragraph rules have a `FILENAMEKEY` argument. In previous releases, this argument could be given only for paragraph rules of type `Heading`. In *WebMaker 3.0*, this argument can be given in any paragraph rule. For an example, see the `toc-Entry` family of rules in the `contents.wml` library file. The `FILENAMEKEY` attribute assigns a name to an HTML page and enables navigation buttons to link to that HTML page.

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