**[MS-ASDTYPE]:**

**Exchange ActiveSync: Data Types**

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**Revision Summary**

| Date | Revision History | Revision Class | Comments |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 12/3/2008 | 1.0.0 | Major | Initial Release. |
| 3/4/2009 | 1.0.1 | Editorial | Revised and edited technical content. |
| 4/10/2009 | 2.0.0 | Major | Updated technical content and applicable product releases. |
| 7/15/2009 | 3.0.0 | Major | Revised and edited for technical content. |
| 11/4/2009 | 4.0.0 | Major | Updated and revised the technical content. |
| 2/10/2010 | 5.0.0 | Major | Updated and revised the technical content. |
| 5/5/2010 | 6.0.0 | Major | Updated and revised the technical content. |
| 8/4/2010 | 7.0 | Major | Significantly changed the technical content. |
| 11/3/2010 | 7.1 | Minor | Clarified the meaning of the technical content. |
| 3/18/2011 | 7.2 | Minor | Clarified the meaning of the technical content. |
| 8/5/2011 | 8.0 | Major | Significantly changed the technical content. |
| 10/7/2011 | 9.0 | Major | Significantly changed the technical content. |
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| 2/28/2017 | 17.0 | Major | Significantly changed the technical content. |
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| 4/29/2022 | 20.0 | Major | Significantly changed the technical content. |

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# Introduction

The Exchange ActiveSync: Data Types describes the required format of each data type used by the ActiveSync [**XML schema definitions (XSDs)**](#gt_c7e91c99-e45a-44c2-a08a-c34f137a2cae).

This protocol sends and receives data in [**Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) Binary XML (WBXML)**](#gt_46afe83a-7afd-42b3-8e27-07b6ae8d3dbc) format. To ensure that both the client and the server have the same expectations about the format of the element data, the ActiveSync commands and classes use XSDs to define the data type of each element.

Sections 1.7 and 2 of this specification are normative. All other sections and examples in this specification are informative.

## Glossary

This document uses the following terms:

**Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF)**: A modified version of Backus-Naur Form (BNF), commonly used by Internet specifications. ABNF notation balances compactness and simplicity with reasonable representational power. ABNF differs from standard BNF in its definitions and uses of naming rules, repetition, alternatives, order-independence, and value ranges. For more information, see [[RFC5234]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=123096).

**base64 encoding**: A binary-to-text encoding scheme whereby an arbitrary sequence of bytes is converted to a sequence of printable ASCII characters, as described in [[RFC4648]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90487).

**Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)**: A high-precision atomic time standard that approximately tracks Universal Time (UT). It is the basis for legal, civil time all over the Earth. Time zones around the world are expressed as positive and negative offsets from UTC. In this role, it is also referred to as Zulu time (Z) and Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). In these specifications, all references to UTC refer to the time at UTC-0 (or GMT).

**Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)**: An application-level protocol for distributed, collaborative, hypermedia information systems (text, graphic images, sound, video, and other multimedia files) on the World Wide Web.

**meeting**: An event with attendees.

**Meeting object**: A Calendar object that has both an organizer and attendees.

**organizer**: The owner or creator of a [**meeting**](#gt_cbc56efc-e4f7-4b31-9e5f-9c44e3924d94) or appointment.

**Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)**: A security protocol that supports confidentiality and integrity of messages in client and server applications that communicate over open networks. SSL supports server and, optionally, client authentication using X.509 certificates [[X509]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90590) and [[RFC5280]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=131034). SSL is superseded by Transport Layer Security (TLS). TLS version 1.0 is based on SSL version 3.0 [[SSL3]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90534).

**Unicode**: A character encoding standard developed by the Unicode Consortium that represents almost all of the written languages of the world. The [**Unicode**](#gt_c305d0ab-8b94-461a-bd76-13b40cb8c4d8) standard [[UNICODE5.0.0/2007]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=154659) provides three forms (UTF-8, UTF-16, and UTF-32) and seven schemes (UTF-8, UTF-16, UTF-16 BE, UTF-16 LE, UTF-32, UTF-32 LE, and UTF-32 BE).

**Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) Binary XML (WBXML)**: A compact binary representation of [**XML**](#gt_982b7f8e-d516-4fd5-8d5e-1a836081ed85) that is designed to reduce the transmission size of XML documents over narrowband communication channels.

**XML**: The Extensible Markup Language, as described in [[XML1.0]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90599).

**XML schema**: A description of a type of XML document that is typically expressed in terms of constraints on the structure and content of documents of that type, in addition to the basic syntax constraints that are imposed by [**XML**](#gt_982b7f8e-d516-4fd5-8d5e-1a836081ed85) itself. An XML schema provides a view of a document type at a relatively high level of abstraction.

**XML schema definition (XSD)**: The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) standard language that is used in defining XML schemas. Schemas are useful for enforcing structure and constraining the types of data that can be used validly within other XML documents. XML schema definition refers to the fully specified and currently recommended standard for use in authoring [**XML schemas**](#gt_bd0ce6f9-c350-4900-827e-951265294067).

**MAY, SHOULD, MUST, SHOULD NOT, MUST NOT:** These terms (in all caps) are used as defined in [[RFC2119]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90317). All statements of optional behavior use either MAY, SHOULD, or SHOULD NOT.

## References

Links to a document in the Microsoft Open Specifications library point to the correct section in the most recently published version of the referenced document. However, because individual documents in the library are not updated at the same time, the section numbers in the documents may not match. You can confirm the correct section numbering by checking the [Errata](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=850906).

### Normative References

We conduct frequent surveys of the normative references to assure their continued availability. If you have any issue with finding a normative reference, please contact dochelp@microsoft.com. We will assist you in finding the relevant information.

[ISO-8601] International Organization for Standardization, "Data Elements and Interchange Formats - Information Interchange - Representation of Dates and Times", ISO/IEC 8601:2004, December 2004, [http://www.iso.org/iso/en/CatalogueDetailPage.CatalogueDetail?CSNUMBER=40874&ICS1=1&ICS2=140&ICS3=30](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=89920)

**Note** There is a charge to download the specification.

[MS-DTYP] Microsoft Corporation, "[Windows Data Types](%5BMS-DTYP%5D.pdf#Section_cca2742956894a16b2b49325d93e4ba2)".

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997, [https://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc2119.html](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90317)

[RFC822] Crocker, D.H., "Standard for ARPA Internet Text Messages", STD 11, RFC 822, August 1982, [http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc0822.txt](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90497)

[WBXML1.2] Martin, B., and Jano, B., Eds., "WAP Binary XML Content Format", W3C Note, June 1999, [http://www.w3.org/1999/06/NOTE-wbxml-19990624](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=160492)

[XMLSCHEMA1/2] Thompson, H., Beech, D., Maloney, M., and Mendelsohn, N., Eds., "XML Schema Part 1: Structures Second Edition", W3C Recommendation, October 2004, [https://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-xmlschema-1-20041028/](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90607)

[XMLSCHEMA2/2] Biron, P., and Malhotra, A., Eds., "XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes Second Edition", W3C Recommendation, October 2004, [https://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-xmlschema-2-20041028/](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609)

### Informative References

[MS-ASAIRS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: AirSyncBase Namespace Protocol](%5BMS-ASAIRS%5D.pdf#Section_d1ba798741bf483d904596dfe11e3d1c)".

[MS-ASCAL] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Calendar Class Protocol](%5BMS-ASCAL%5D.pdf#Section_0c4486824a6a459aae662fed0712bef9)".

[MS-ASCMD] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Command Reference Protocol](%5BMS-ASCMD%5D.pdf#Section_1a3490f1afe1418aaa926f630036d65a)".

[MS-ASCNTC] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Contact Class Protocol](%5BMS-ASCNTC%5D.pdf#Section_a4593b9dd9af4d27bc5c67c4c1b98d54)".

[MS-ASCON] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Conversations Protocol](%5BMS-ASCON%5D.pdf#Section_8571bf985f7b4c2fab28c32176d20169)".

[MS-ASDOC] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Document Class Protocol](%5BMS-ASDOC%5D.pdf#Section_c503701c0e594beb9b8b038cd69a3443)".

[MS-ASEMAIL] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Email Class Protocol](%5BMS-ASEMAIL%5D.pdf#Section_f3d27369e0f54164aa5e9b1abda16f5f)".

[MS-ASMS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Short Message Service (SMS) Protocol](%5BMS-ASMS%5D.pdf#Section_3123f34aaabe4ec5aa836f6d48698a8b)".

[MS-ASNOTE] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Notes Class Protocol](%5BMS-ASNOTE%5D.pdf#Section_21801d6c000e413c859150430a8e9fd9)".

[MS-ASPROV] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Provisioning Protocol](%5BMS-ASPROV%5D.pdf#Section_449c453b74d74919bfe895972b27048a)".

[MS-ASRM] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Rights Management Protocol](%5BMS-ASRM%5D.pdf#Section_71e681b7e1784c1096b678df7fa77dfc)".

[MS-ASTASK] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange ActiveSync: Tasks Class Protocol](%5BMS-ASTASK%5D.pdf#Section_b8fe266450ba4d00bf6be4deab352c89)".

[MS-OXPROTO] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange Server Protocols System Overview](%5BMS-OXPROTO%5D.pdf#Section_734ab967e43e425babe1974af56c0283)".

[RFC2616] Fielding, R., Gettys, J., Mogul, J., et al., "Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.1", RFC 2616, June 1999, [https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc2616](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90372)

## Overview

This protocol describes a set of data types that are used by the ActiveSync protocols to format data that is transferred between clients and servers. This protocol uses types defined by the [**XML schema**](#gt_bd0ce6f9-c350-4900-827e-951265294067) data types definition, as described in [[XMLSCHEMA2/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609), and describes structured string types. Structured string types extend the **string** data type, as described in [XMLSCHEMA2/2], to contain more complex data.

## Relationship to Protocols and Other Structures

This protocol depends on the [**XML schema**](#gt_bd0ce6f9-c350-4900-827e-951265294067) data types definition, as described in [[XMLSCHEMA2/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609). The following protocols depend on this protocol:

* The Exchange ActiveSync: AirSyncBase Namespace Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASAIRS]](%5BMS-ASAIRS%5D.pdf#Section_d1ba798741bf483d904596dfe11e3d1c)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Calendar Class Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASCAL]](%5BMS-ASCAL%5D.pdf#Section_0c4486824a6a459aae662fed0712bef9)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Command Reference Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASCMD]](%5BMS-ASCMD%5D.pdf#Section_1a3490f1afe1418aaa926f630036d65a)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Contact Class Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASCNTC]](%5BMS-ASCNTC%5D.pdf#Section_a4593b9dd9af4d27bc5c67c4c1b98d54)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Conversations Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASCON]](%5BMS-ASCON%5D.pdf#Section_8571bf985f7b4c2fab28c32176d20169)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Document Class Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASDOC]](%5BMS-ASDOC%5D.pdf#Section_c503701c0e594beb9b8b038cd69a3443)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Email Class Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASEMAIL]](%5BMS-ASEMAIL%5D.pdf#Section_f3d27369e0f54164aa5e9b1abda16f5f)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Short Message Service (SMS) Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASMS]](%5BMS-ASMS%5D.pdf#Section_3123f34aaabe4ec5aa836f6d48698a8b)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Notes Class Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASNOTE]](%5BMS-ASNOTE%5D.pdf#Section_21801d6c000e413c859150430a8e9fd9)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Provisioning Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASPROV]](%5BMS-ASPROV%5D.pdf#Section_449c453b74d74919bfe895972b27048a)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Rights Management Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASRM]](%5BMS-ASRM%5D.pdf#Section_71e681b7e1784c1096b678df7fa77dfc)
* The Exchange ActiveSync: Tasks Class Protocol, as described in [[MS-ASTASK]](%5BMS-ASTASK%5D.pdf#Section_b8fe266450ba4d00bf6be4deab352c89)

For conceptual background information and overviews of the relationships and interactions between this and other protocols, see [[MS-OXPROTO]](%5BMS-OXPROTO%5D.pdf#Section_734ab967e43e425babe1974af56c0283).

## Applicability Statement

The data types specified in this document are applicable to all ActiveSync schemas.

## Versioning and Localization

None.

## Vendor-Extensible Fields

None.

# Structures

The following sections describe data types used by the ActiveSync protocols. All data sent by the ActiveSync protocol is text, but some of the text values adhere to the following text style data types, as specified by the schemas.

## boolean Data Type

A **boolean** is an [**XML schema**](#gt_bd0ce6f9-c350-4900-827e-951265294067) primitive data type, as specified in [[XMLSCHEMA2/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609) section 3.2.2. It is declared as an **element** with a **type** attribute of "boolean".

The value of a **boolean** element is an integer whose only valid values are 1 (TRUE) or 0 (FALSE). Elements with a **boolean** data type MUST be encoded and transmitted as [[WBXML1.2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=160492) inline strings.

## container Data Type

A **container** is an [**XML**](#gt_982b7f8e-d516-4fd5-8d5e-1a836081ed85) element that encloses other elements but has no value of its own. It is a complex type with complex content, as specified in [[XMLSCHEMA1/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90607) section 3.4.2. It is defined using a **complexType** element that specifies the allowable children for that element using the **element** tag.

## dateTime Data Type

A **dateTime** is a primitive [**XML schema**](#gt_bd0ce6f9-c350-4900-827e-951265294067) data type, as specified in [[XMLSCHEMA2/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609) section 3.2.7. It is declared as an **element** whose **type** attribute is set to "dateTime".

**dateTime** values are as specified in [[ISO-8601]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=89920).

All dates are given in [**Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)**](#gt_f2369991-a884-4843-a8fa-1505b6d5ece7) and are represented as a string in the following format.

YYYY-MM-DDTHH:MM:SS.MSSZ where

YYYY = Year (Gregorian calendar year)

MM = Month (01 - 12)

DD = Day (01 - 31)

HH = Number of complete hours since midnight (00 - 24)

MM = Number of complete minutes since start of hour (00 - 59)

SS = Number of seconds since start of minute (00 - 59)

MSS = Number of milliseconds. This portion of the string is optional.

The T serves as a separator, and the Z indicates that this time is in UTC.

For example, 8:35 A.M. on December 25, 2000 would be represented as 2000-12-25T08:35:00.000Z.

Elements with a **dateTime** data type MUST be encoded and transmitted as [[WBXML1.2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=160492) inline strings.

### Time Zones and Daylight Saving Time

Dates and times can be very simple in calendars that are not shared. All times can be in device-local time, and there is no need for time zones or Daylight Saving Time (DST). If a [**meeting**](#gt_cbc56efc-e4f7-4b31-9e5f-9c44e3924d94) is scheduled for 10:00 A.M., it is in device time and, if the user of the device travels to another time zone, he or she adjusts the device time, but the meeting time remains at 10:00 A.M. If DST begins, the device time is adjusted again, but the meeting time remains at 10:00 A.M.

Dates and times become more complex when calendar events are shared by people who are in different time zones and are not all on DST. If Sean in Seattle schedules a 10:00 A.M. conference call with Nick in New York, the meeting will appear at 1:00 P.M. on Nick’s calendar. If Jeff in Arizona is also on the call, he sees the meeting in his local time on his calendar. Because Arizona does not observe DST, the meeting is shown at 11:00 A.M. if it is the winter, but at 10:00 A.M. if it is the summer. If the meeting is recurring, then the dates and times are more complex during the transitions between DST and standard time. The following table lists the local and UTC times for a 10:00 A.M. meeting the weeks before and after the transition to DST.

| Date | Seattle | Arizona | New York | UTC |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 4/4/03 | 10:00 Pacific Time (PT) | 11:00 MST (Mountain Standard Time) | 13:00 Eastern Standard Time (EST) | 18:00 UTC |
| 4/11/03 | 10:00 Pacific Daylight Time (PDT) | 10:00 MST | 13:00 Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) | 17:00 UTC |

The Seattle time remains the same before and after the transition to DST because the meeting [**organizer**](#gt_34c00c47-5322-4cef-ae7e-bf04643b21bb) is in Seattle. If the organizer was Jeff in Arizona, then the meeting times before and after the DST transition would be different, as shown in the following table.

| Date | Seattle | Arizona | New York | UTC |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 4/4/03 | 10:00 PT | 11:00 MST | 13:00 EST | 18:00 UTC |
| 4/11/03 | 11:00 PDT | 11:00 MST | 14:00 EDT | 18:00 UTC |

The shared [**Meeting object**](#gt_b257a117-f327-4263-bac9-91309d447c1c) in the calendar application stores the following information. For a one-time meeting, the UTC time alone can be stored, and each device can translate to its local time by using its local time zone information. The time zone information includes a permanent time zone offset and, if appropriate, DST start and end dates, and time bias.

If the meeting is recurring, however, the UTC time can change depending on whether DST is in effect at the originator's location for each occurrence. The constant is the time in the originator's time zone, which is the time that is stored. In addition, the originator's time zone is stored. To display a meeting time, the time is converted to UTC by using the originator's time zone, and then it is converted to local time by using the device's local time zone.

**Note:**The UTC time can be stored instead of the originator's local time. But the originator's time zone is also stored. This feature allows for the DST adjustment, although the calculation is somewhat less intuitive.

If this recurring meeting has an exception, then the exception contains the date and time of the series instance that is different. As with the series itself, the UTC of the exception varies based on DST. Therefore, the originator's time zone is used to calculate the time of the exception. Because the originator's time zone is stored with the recurrence, it is not necessary to store the time zone again for each exception.

### Calculating Dates and Times

The ActiveSync protocols use the UTC time and the originator's time zone for all meetings. For single occurrences, the device converts the time to the local time zone. The originator's time zone is not important because the original conversion to UTC accounts for time zone and DST. However, for recurring meetings, there is the possibility of a transition into or out of DST during the series. The stored UTC corresponds to the first occurrence of the series, but later meetings can have different corresponding UTC times. Therefore, to display the correct time, the device performs one calculation that accounts for the originator's time zone, in addition to the device's local time zone.

The following table shows the time zone information for the earlier examples.

| Time zone information | Pacific Time | Mountain Time (Arizona) | Eastern Time |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time zone offset | UTC-8 | UTC-7 | UTC-5 |
| Daylight start | 4/6/03 02:00 | None | 4/6/03 02:00 |
| Daylight end | 10/26/03 02:00 | None | 10/26/03 02:00 |
| Daylight bias | +1 | 0 | +1 |

The calculation to display the local time of a meeting instance is as follows:

(Meeting time in UTC) + (local time zone offset) + (local daylight bias) – (original daylight bias)

**Note:**Daylight bias is a time zone's offset during DST. The local daylight bias comes from the local time zone information, and the original daylight bias comes from the originator's time zone information.

The weekly conference call repeats every Friday beginning 4/4/03. The start time of the first instance is 10:00 A.M. PT, or 18:00 UTC. Therefore, the stored time is 18:00 and the time zone is Pacific Time.

| Date | Seattle | Arizona | New York |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 4/4/03 | 1800+(-8)+(0)-(0) = 1000 | 1800+(-7)+(0)-(0) = 1100 | 1800+(-5)+(0)-(0) = 1300 |
| 4/11/03 | 1800+(-8)+(+1)-(+1) = 1000 | 1800+(-7)+(0)-(+1) = 1000 | 1800+(-5)+(+1)-(+1) = 1300 |

Notice that both the local and original DST biases are the ones in effect on the date/time of the meeting instance.

The weekly conference call repeats every Friday beginning on 4/4/03. The originator was in Arizona, so the start time of the first instance is 11:00 MST (Arizona), or 18:00 UTC. The stored time is 18:00 and the time zone is MST (Arizona).

| Date | Seattle | Arizona | New York |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 4/4/03 | 1800+(-8)+(0)-(0) = 1000 | 1800+(-7)+(0)-(0) = 1100 | 1800+(-5)+(0)-(0) = 1300 |
| 4/11/03 | 1800+(-8)+(+1)-(0) = 1100 | 1800+(-7)+(0)-(0) = 1100 | 1800+(-5)+(+1)-(0) = 1400 |

## double Data Type

A **double** is a floating point value. It is an [**XML schema**](#gt_bd0ce6f9-c350-4900-827e-951265294067) primitive data type, as specified in [[XMLSCHEMA2/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609) section 3.2.5. Elements with a **double** data type MUST be encoded and transmitted as [**WBXML**](#gt_46afe83a-7afd-42b3-8e27-07b6ae8d3dbc) inline strings, as specified in [[WBXML1.2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=160492).

## enumeration Data Type

An **enumeration** specifies a fixed set of values for an element or attribute. In accordance with [[XMLSCHEMA2/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609) section 4.3.5, it is specified using the **restriction** element to declare the enumeration, and the **enumeration** element to define one or more allowed values.

## integer Data Type

An **integer** is a whole-number value. It is an [**XML schema**](#gt_bd0ce6f9-c350-4900-827e-951265294067) derived data type, as specified in [[XMLSCHEMA2/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609) section 3.3.13. Elements with an **integer** data type MUST be encoded and transmitted as [**WBXML**](#gt_46afe83a-7afd-42b3-8e27-07b6ae8d3dbc) inline strings, as specified in [[WBXML1.2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=160492).

## string Data Type

A **string** is a chunk of [**Unicode**](#gt_c305d0ab-8b94-461a-bd76-13b40cb8c4d8) text. It is an [**XML schema**](#gt_bd0ce6f9-c350-4900-827e-951265294067) primitive data type as specified in [[XMLSCHEMA2/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609) section 3.2.1. An element of this type is declared as an **element** with a **type** attribute of "string".

Elements with a **string** data type MUST be encoded and transmitted as [[WBXML1.2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=160492) inline strings.

Some **string** values are constrained to a particular set of values, which is included in the description of the element.

ActiveSync defines several conventions for strings that adhere to commonly used formats:

* **Byte Array** (section [2.7.1](#Section_4cb4a6daf7d84099bfdb8025dfb5fe3f))
* **E-mail Address** (section [2.7.3](#Section_3b93bb589a2a40bb88e1a59298b3cafe))
* **Telephone Number** (section [2.7.5](#Section_c8569c7df3e74f4dad4efc2d34ac5dba))
* **TimeZone** (section [2.7.6](#Section_fe4760d23f8a4453908de256a6319956))
* **Compact DateTime** (section [2.7.2](#Section_7eb471eda4ab42cf942219ca488fac51))

Elements of these types are defined as **string** types in XML schemas, but commands that process such elements can return an error if the value of the element does not adhere to the expected format.

A string MUST NOT contain a null character except for termination.

### Byte Array

A **byte array** is a structure inside of an element of the **string** type (section [2.7](#Section_48f087f18724498ab80e15c1956ab3fe)). The structure is comprised of a length, which is expressed as a multi-byte integer, as specified in [[WBXML1.2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=160492), followed by that many bytes of data. Elements with a **byte array** structure MUST be encoded and transmitted as [WBXML1.2] opaque data.

### Compact DateTime

A **Compact DateTime** valueis a representation of a [**UTC**](#gt_f2369991-a884-4843-a8fa-1505b6d5ece7) date and time within an element of type **xs:string**, as specified in [[XMLSCHEMA2/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609) section 3.2.1. The format of a **Compact DateTime** valueis specified by the following [**Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF)**](#gt_24ddbbb4-b79e-4419-96ec-0fdd229c9ebf) notation.

1. date\_string = year month day "T" hour minute seconds "Z"
2. year = 4\*DIGIT
3. month = ("0" DIGIT) / "10" / "11" / "12"
4. day = ("0" DIGIT) / ("1" DIGIT) / ("2" DIGIT) / "30" / "31"
5. hour = ("0" DIGIT) / ("1" DIGIT) / "20" / "21" / "22" / "23"
6. minute = ("0" DIGIT) / ("1" DIGIT) / ("2" DIGIT) / ("3" DIGIT) / ("4" DIGIT) / ("5" DIGIT)
7. seconds = ("0" DIGIT) / ("1" DIGIT) / ("2" DIGIT) / ("3" DIGIT) / ("4" DIGIT) / ("5" DIGIT)

### E-Mail Address

An e-mail address is an unconstrained value of an element of the **string** type (section [2.7](#Section_48f087f18724498ab80e15c1956ab3fe)).

However, a valid individual e-mail address MUST have the following format: "local-part@domain". For more information about e-mail address syntax, see [[RFC822]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90497) section 6.

### GUID

The **GUID** data type is a value of an element of the **string** type (section [2.7](#Section_48f087f18724498ab80e15c1956ab3fe)) with the following regular expression format:

[a-fA-F0-9]{8}-[a-fA-F0-9]{4}-[a-fA-F0-9]{4}-[a-fA-F0-9]{4}-[a-fA-F0-9]{12}

### Telephone Number

A telephone number is an unconstrained value of elements of the **string** type (section [2.7](#Section_48f087f18724498ab80e15c1956ab3fe)) that can include an area code and a country code.

### TimeZone

The **TimeZone** structure is a structure inside of an element of the **string** type (section [2.7](#Section_48f087f18724498ab80e15c1956ab3fe)).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 20 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 30 | 1 |
| Bias |
| StandardName (64 bytes) |
| ... |
| ... |
| StandardDate (16 bytes) |
| ... |
| ... |
| StandardBias |
| DaylightName (64 bytes) |
| ... |
| ... |
| DaylightDate (16 bytes) |
| ... |
| ... |
| DaylightBias |

**Bias (4 bytes):** The value of this field is a **LONG,** as specified in [[MS-DTYP]](%5BMS-DTYP%5D.pdf#Section_cca2742956894a16b2b49325d93e4ba2) section 2.2.27. The offset from UTC, in minutes. For example, the bias for Pacific Time (UTC-8) is 480.

**StandardName (64 bytes):** The value of this field is an array of 32 **WCHARs**, as specified in [MS-DTYP] section 2.2.60. It contains an optional description for standard time. Any unused **WCHARs** in the array MUST be set to 0x0000.

**StandardDate (16 bytes):** The value of this field is a **SYSTEMTIME** structure, as specified in [MS-DTYP] section 2.3.13. It contains the date and time when the transition from DST to standard time occurs.

**StandardBias (4 bytes):** The value of this field is a **LONG**. It contains the number of minutes to add to the value of the **Bias** field during standard time.

**DaylightName (64 bytes):** The value of this field is an array of 32 **WCHARs**. It contains an optional description for DST. Any unused **WCHARs** in the array MUST be set to 0x0000.

**DaylightDate (16 bytes):** The value of this field is a **SYSTEMTIME** structure. It contains the date and time when the transition from standard time to DST occurs.

**DaylightBias (4 bytes):** The value of this field is a **LONG**. It contains the number of minutes to add to the value of the **Bias** field during DST.

The **TimeZone** structure is encoded using [**base64 encoding**](#gt_179b9392-9019-45a3-880b-26f6890522b7) prior to being inserted in an [**XML**](#gt_982b7f8e-d516-4fd5-8d5e-1a836081ed85) element. Elements with a **TimeZone** structure MUST be encoded and transmitted as [[WBXML1.2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=160492) inline strings.

## unsignedByte Data Type

The **unsignedByte** data type is an integer value between 0 and 255, inclusive. It is an [**XML schema**](#gt_bd0ce6f9-c350-4900-827e-951265294067) primitive data type as specified in [[XMLSCHEMA2/2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90609) section 3.3.24. Elements of this type are declared with an **element** whose **type** attribute is set to "unsignedByte".

# Structure Examples

## boolean

<email:Read>0</email:Read>

## container

In the following example, **FolderCreate** is a container.

1. <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
2. <FolderCreate xmlns="FolderHierarchy:">
3. <FolderCreate>
4. <ServerId>1</ServerId>
5. <ParentId>0</ParentId>
6. <DisplayName>Calendar</DisplayName>
7. <Type>8</Type>
8. </FolderCreate>

## dateTime

The following example demonstrates the **dateTime** format as used by the Email class, as described in [[MS-ASEMAIL]](%5BMS-ASEMAIL%5D.pdf#Section_f3d27369e0f54164aa5e9b1abda16f5f).

1. <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
2. <Sync xmlns:email="Email:" xmlns:airsyncbase="AirSyncBase:" xmlns:email2="Email2:" xmlns="AirSync:">
3. <email:DateReceived>2009-11-12T00:45:06.000Z</email:DateReceived>

The following example demonstrates the **dateTime** format used by the Calendar class, as described in [[MS-ASCAL]](%5BMS-ASCAL%5D.pdf#Section_0c4486824a6a459aae662fed0712bef9).

1. <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
2. <Sync xmlns="AirSync:" xmlns:calendar="Calendar:" xmlns:airsyncbase="AirSyncBase:">
3. ...
4. <calendar:StartTime>20091212T000000Z</calendar:StartTime>
5. ...

## enumeration

The allowed **enumeration** values are defined in the schema.

1. <xs:element name="UserResponse">
2. <xs:simpleType>
3. <xs:restriction base="xs:unsignedByte">
4. <xs:enumeration value="3"/>
5. <xs:enumeration value="1"/>
6. <xs:enumeration value="2"/>
7. </xs:restriction>
8. </xs:simpleType>
9. </xs:element>

## integer

1. <airsyncbase:TruncationSize>456</airsyncbase:TruncationSize>
2. <airsync:FilterType>3</ airsync:FilterType>
3. <airsync:Status>1</airsync:Status>

## string

1. <contact:CompanyName>Adventure Works</contact:CompanyName>
2. <contact:BusinessPhoneNumber>(800) 555-0100</contact:BusinessPhoneNumber>
3. <email:MessageClass>IPM.NOTE</email:MessageClass>

### Byte Array

In this example, the continuation flag (as described in [[WBXML1.2]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=160492)) is not set, indicating that the length is only one byte long. This results in a length of 4 bytes. The following 4 bytes compromise the data.

1. 04 00 01 02 03

### Compact DateTime

In the following example, 9:00 A.M. [**UTC**](#gt_f2369991-a884-4843-a8fa-1505b6d5ece7) on July 22, 2013, is represented as a **Compact DateTime** value.

1. 20130722T090000Z

### E-Mail Address

1. <resolverecipients:Recipient>amy@nowhere.com</resolverecipients:Recipient>
2. <email2:Sender>j.smith@nowhere.com</email2:Sender>

### GUID

 <SearchId>7dc6ffa0-2aa5-43f6-b441-bdda13785428</SearchId>

### Telephone Number

1. <contacts:HomePhoneNumber>3605551212</contacts:HomePhoneNumber>
2. <contacts:BusinessPhoneNumber>+011(73)5551212</contacts:BusinessPhoneNumber>

### TimeZone

1. <email:TimeZone>
2. 4AEAACgARwBNAFQALQAwADgAOgAwADAAKQAgAFAAYQBjAGkAZgBpAGMAIABUAGkAbQBlACAAKABVA
3. FMAIAAmACAAQwAAAAsAAAABAAIAAAAAAAAAAAAAACgARwBNAFQALQAwADgAOgAwADAAKQAgAFAAYQ
4. BjAGkAZgBpAGMAIABUAGkAbQBlACAAKABVAFMAIAAmACAAQwAAAAMAAAACAAIAAAAAAAAAxP///w=
5. =
6. </email:TimeZone>

## unsignedByte

1. <calendar:BusyStatus>3</calendar:BusyStatus>

# Security Considerations

In most cases, all communication between the client and server happens across an [**HTTP**](#gt_d72f1494-4917-4e9e-a9fd-b8f1b2758dcd) connection secured by the [**Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)**](#gt_d7ef66a9-f154-4d88-bda9-98bdf7235352) protocol, as described in [[RFC2616]](https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90372). The SSL connection is assumed to be secure enough to transmit confidential data, such as user credentials and sensitive e-mail. The SSL certificate on the server is assumed to be trusted by the client application.

# Appendix A: Product Behavior

The information in this specification is applicable to the following Microsoft products or supplemental software. References to product versions include updates to those products.

* Microsoft Exchange Server 2007 Service Pack 1 (SP1)
* Microsoft Exchange Server 2010
* Microsoft Exchange Server 2013
* Microsoft Exchange Server 2016
* Microsoft Exchange Server 2019
* Windows 8.1
* Windows Communication Apps
* Windows 10 operating system
* Windows Server 2016 operating system
* Windows 11 operating system

Exceptions, if any, are noted in this section. If an update version, service pack or Knowledge Base (KB) number appears with a product name, the behavior changed in that update. The new behavior also applies to subsequent updates unless otherwise specified. If a product edition appears with the product version, behavior is different in that product edition.

Unless otherwise specified, any statement of optional behavior in this specification that is prescribed using the terms "SHOULD" or "SHOULD NOT" implies product behavior in accordance with the SHOULD or SHOULD NOT prescription. Unless otherwise specified, the term "MAY" implies that the product does not follow the prescription.

# Change Tracking

This section identifies changes that were made to this document since the last release. Changes are classified as Major, Minor, or None.

The revision class **Major** means that the technical content in the document was significantly revised. Major changes affect protocol interoperability or implementation. Examples of major changes are:

* A document revision that incorporates changes to interoperability requirements.
* A document revision that captures changes to protocol functionality.

The revision class **Minor** means that the meaning of the technical content was clarified. Minor changes do not affect protocol interoperability or implementation. Examples of minor changes are updates to clarify ambiguity at the sentence, paragraph, or table level.

The revision class **None** means that no new technical changes were introduced. Minor editorial and formatting changes may have been made, but the relevant technical content is identical to the last released version.

The changes made to this document are listed in the following table. For more information, please contact dochelp@microsoft.com.

| Section | Description | Revision class |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [5](#Section_55182229a56d441391729343370ed3c0) Appendix A: Product Behavior | Updated list of supported products. | Major |

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