

How do I use XHTML to format text in Lاسernet?

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Lاسernet

This article will explain how to use XHTML as a method of formatting text within rearranges. Whilst version 8 of Lاسernet included a new feature called “Styles” for formatting the text within re-arranges, XHTML can still be used alongside or as an alternative option. Using [Styles](#) is recommended from Version 8 and above due to the ease of use and flexibility to apply a style globally.

HTML (HyperText Markup Language) and XHTML (Extensible HyperText Markup Language) are both languages that can be used to write web pages. XHTML follows XML standards meaning that it is stricter than normal HTML. Both can be applied in the scenarios below:

Below shows a selection of supported HTML tags and the output

```
<p>A paragraph</p>
```

```
<p> A second paragraph</p>
```

```
<strong>Strong</strong>
```

```
<em>Italic</em>
```

```
<u>Underline</u>
```

```
<span style="text-decoration:underline">CSS style  
underline</span></br>
```

```
<span style="font-size:12pt;color:red">CSS style large  
red</span></br>
```

```
<ul><li>list item one</li>
```

```
<li>list item two</li></ul>
```

```
<ul style="margin:0"><li style="padding-left:11px">list item one</li>
```

```
<li>list item two</li></ul>
```

A paragraph

A second paragraph

Strong *Italic* Underline CSS style underline
CSS style large red

- list item one
- list item two

- list item one
- list item two

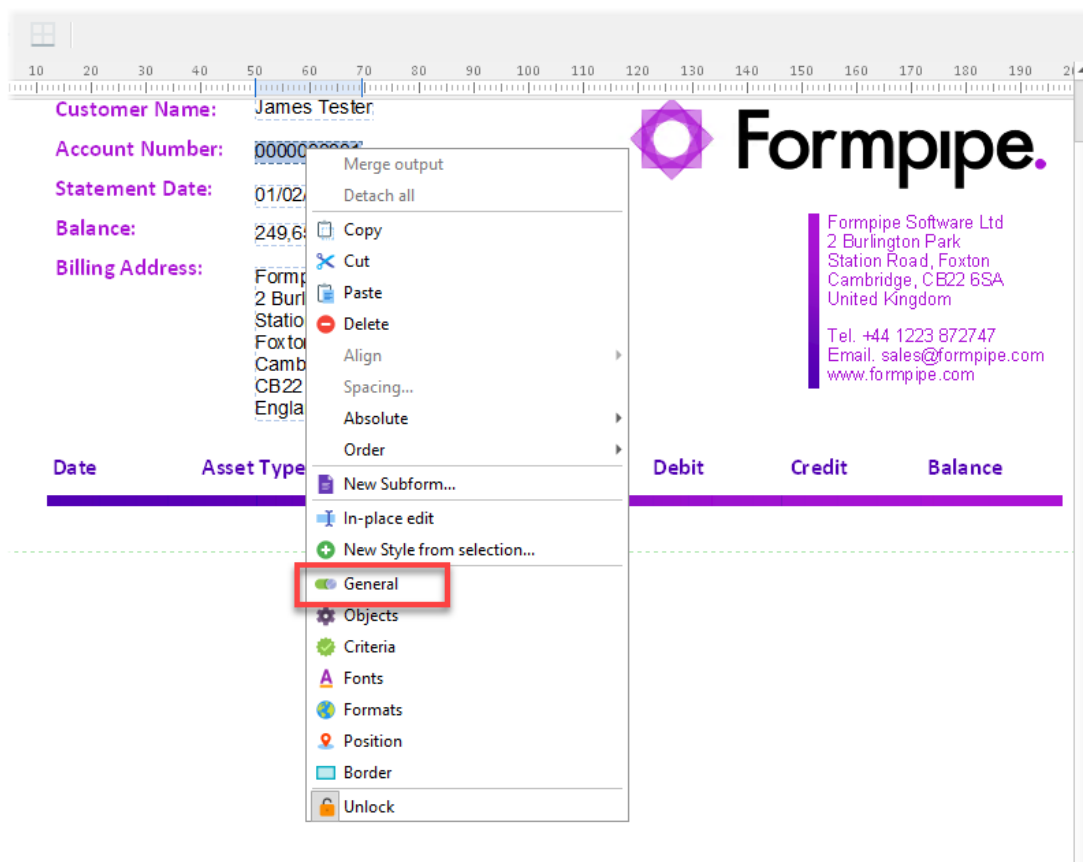
XHTML setup within Rearranges

Prerequisites:

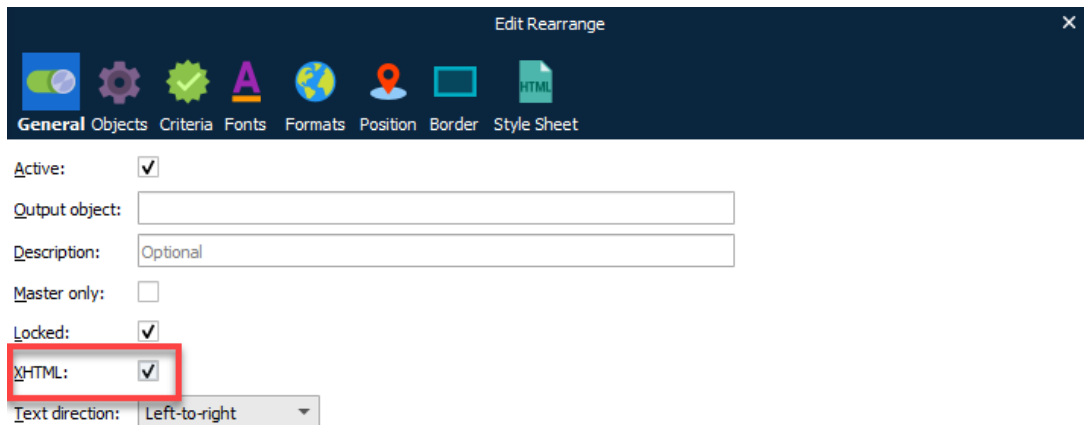
- The Form editor is set up with a text grab file.
- At least one created Rearrange.

This section will outline how to turn on XHTML and use it to format the text within Rearranges. Please follow these steps:

1. Double-click on a Rearrange to bring up its settings or right-click and select **General**.



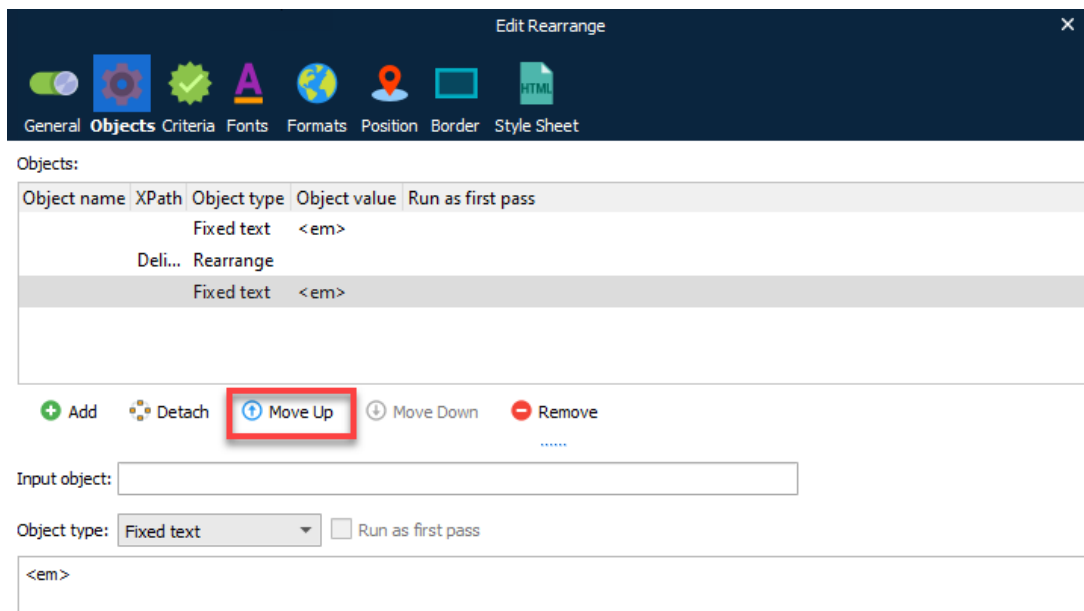
2. Select the **XHTML** checkbox.



The 'Edit Rearrange' dialog box is shown with the 'General' tab selected. The 'XHTML' checkbox is checked and highlighted with a red box. Other settings include 'Active' checked, 'Output object' empty, 'Description' set to 'Optional', 'Master only' unchecked, 'Locked' checked, and 'Text direction' set to 'Left-to-right'.

3. Click the **Objects** tab, and select the **Add** button to add a Fixed text element to the list.
4. Move it above the rearrange element, add another, and ensure it is *below* the rearrange.
5. The Fixed text will be used as starting and end tags to apply the HTML formatting to the rearrange. For this example, we will make the rearrange *italic*.
6. At the top Fixed text box enter the following opening tags "" and then in the bottom, Fixed text add "".

This is the formatting result after applying the 'em' tag to the text. It is now Italic.



The 'Edit Rearrange' dialog box is shown with the 'Objects' tab selected. The 'Move Up' button is highlighted with a red box. The 'Objects' table lists three items: a Fixed text object with value '', a Rearrange object, and another Fixed text object with value ''. Below the table, the 'Add' button is highlighted with a red box. The 'Input object' field is empty, the 'Object type' is set to 'Fixed text', and the 'Run as first pass' checkbox is unchecked. The text '' is entered in the bottom text field.

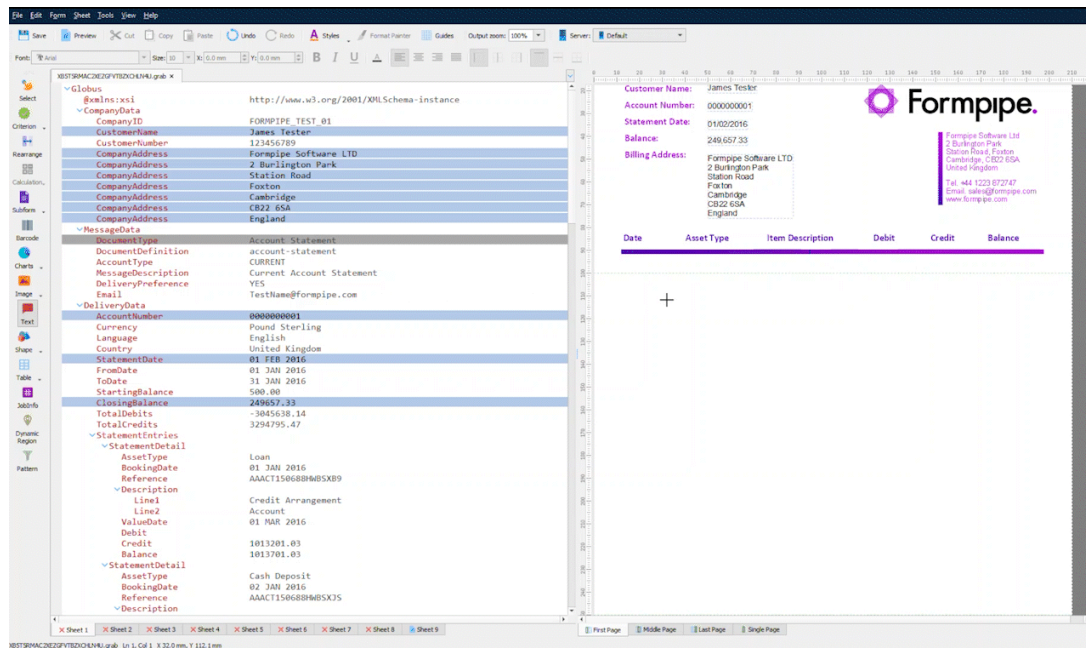
We are essentially wrapping the data with the XHTML formatting which Lasernet will process.

Fixed text formatting

XHTML can also be used on a Fixed text element, but it has the advantage of being able to format the text as well.

1. Create a Fixed text box using the **Text** tool and then go to the properties
2. In the **General** tab select the **XHTML** checkbox.

In the example below XHTML has been written in the text box that formats the text according to the tags and styles applied:



Using multiple rearranges

The XHTML option disables 'Newline' in the Input tab and removes line breaks from the captured value when active.

A break can be placed between Rearranges by inserting a Fixed text with a value of "
".

For example:

Edit Rearrange

General**Objects**CriteriaFontsFormatsPositionBorderStyle Sheet

Objects:

Object name	XPath	Object type	Object value	Run as first pass
	CompanyData/CompanyAddress	Rearrange		
		Fixed text	 	
	CompanyData/CompanyAddre...	Rearrange		

AddDetachMove UpMove DownRemove

Input object:

Object type: Fixed text☐ Run as first pass

Ensure the XHTML option is selected within the **General** tab.