

# Anatomy of an XML Document

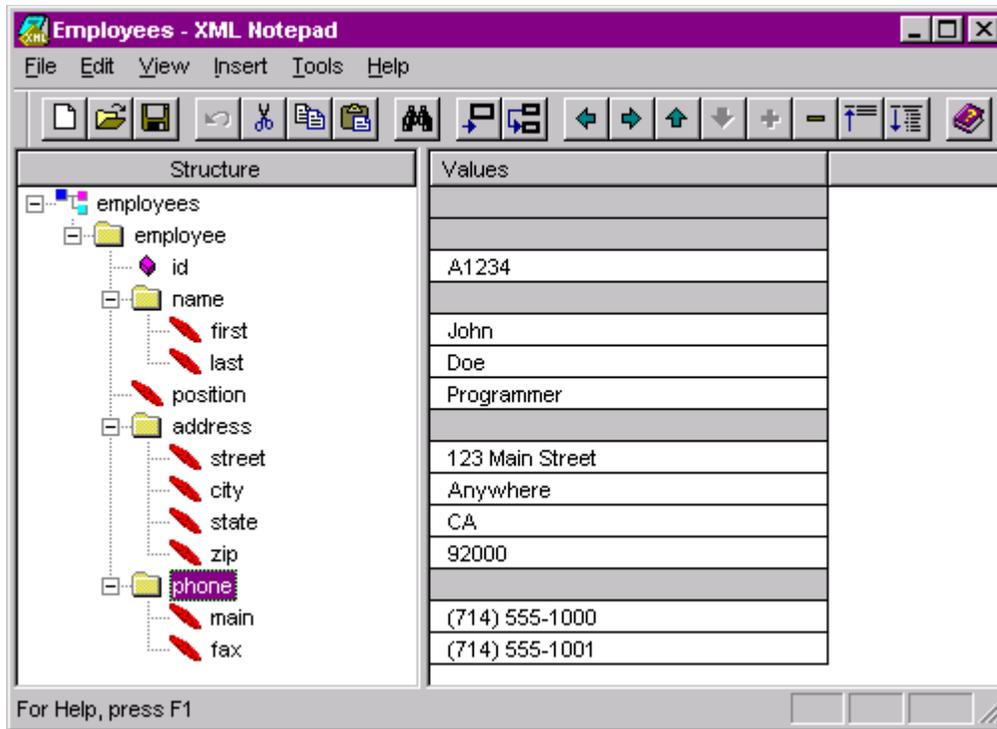
Before we go any farther, let's look at an example XML document. The following document is a sample that stores employee information.

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<employees>
  <employee id="A1234">
    <name>
      <first>John</first>
      <last>Doe</last>
    </name>
    <position>Programmer</position>
    <address>
      <street>123 Main Street</street>
      <city>Anywhere</city>
      <state>CA</state>
      <zip>92000</zip>
    </address>
    <phone>
      <main>(714) 555-1000</main>
      <fax>(714) 555-1001</fax>
    </phone>
  </employee>
</employees>
```

File: Chapter 2\Employees.xml

As you can see, XML is very easy to read and understand. If you have spent time creating documents in HTML, you can see how XML is both similar and very different. It is similar in the fact that it is a markup language and uses tags. The tags however are not HTML tags. Unlike HTML, you can create your own tags as we have done here.

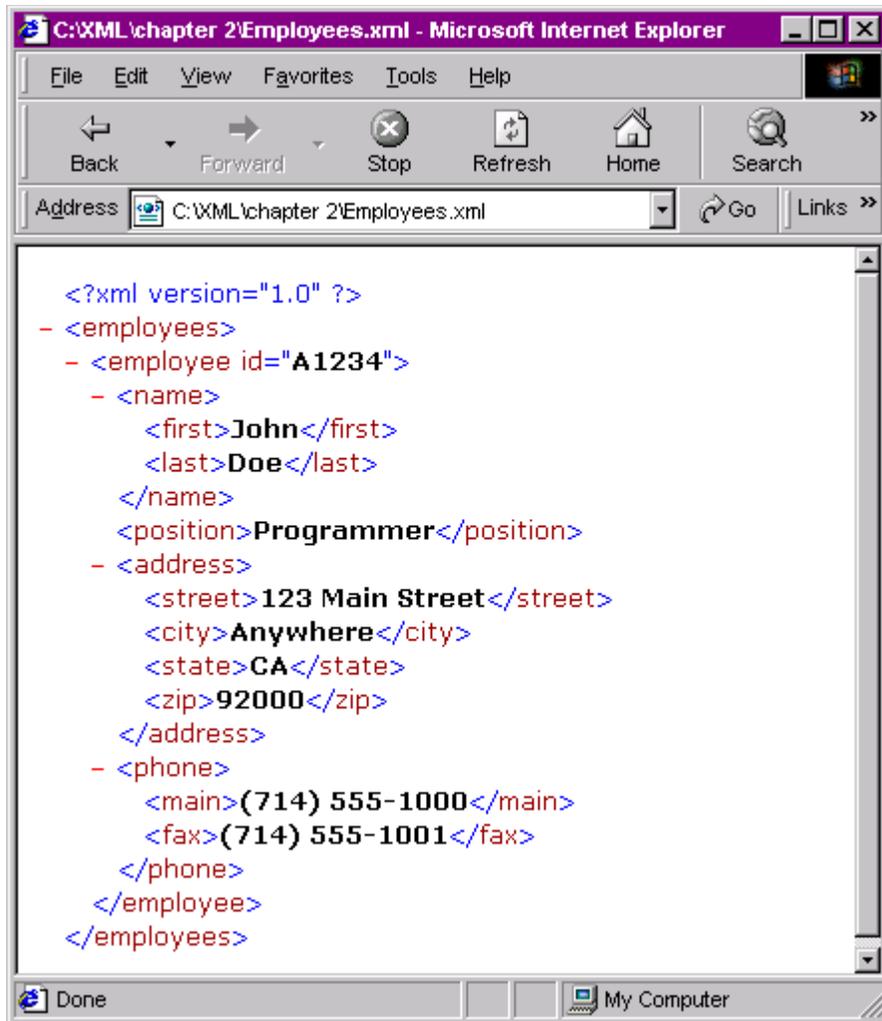
We can view this document in an XML viewer such as Microsoft's XML Notepad and see the logical structure of our XML document.



File: Chapter 2\Employees.htm in XML Notepad

The Microsoft XML Notepad is available for free from the Microsoft site at <http://msdn.microsoft.com/xml/notepad/download.asp>. It is a simple tool for creating and manipulating XML documents.

Another way to view an XML document is by using a browser that supports XML such as Internet Explorer 5.0 (IE5). When we open the same XML document using IE5, we get a view more consistent with how the document is physically formed.



File: Chapter 2\Employees.htm in IE5

IE5 is also available for free download from the Microsoft web site at <http://www.microsoft.com/ie>.