#### noPunctuationKerning (Never Kern Punctuation Characters)

This element specifies that punctuation characters shall not be kerned in the current document when kerning is [enabled](enabled.docx) on a run using the [kern](kern.docx) element (§). Kerning refers to a process by which a hosting application shall reduce the [spacing](spacing.docx) of adjacent characters and/or punctuation to improve the visual appearance of text. Well kerned text has a similar amount of blank space [between](between.docx) each pair of characters and/or each set of a character and punctuation symbol. When kerning is [enabled](enabled.docx), Latin text shall always be kerned, and this option shall [control](control.docx) whether punctuation characters are also kerned.

If this element is omitted, then punctuation characters shall be kerned when kerning is [enabled](enabled.docx) on a given run.

[Example: Consider a WordprocessingML document that shall not [kern](kern.docx) punctuation even when kerning is [enabled](enabled.docx) on a given run. This requirement is specified using the following WordprocessingML in the document settings:

<w:noPunctuationKerning w:val="true" />

The noPunctuationKerning element's val attribute has a value of true, specifying that punctuation characters shall not be kerned in this document. end example]

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| --- |
| Parent Elements |
| settings (§) |

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| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| val (On/Off Value) | Specifies a binary value for the property defined by the parent [XML](XML.docx) element.A value of on, 1, or true specifies that the property shall be explicitly applied. This is the default value for this attribute, and is implied when the parent element is present, but this attribute is omitted. A value of off, 0, or false specifies that the property shall be explicitly turned off.[Example: For example, consider the following on/off property:<w:… w:val="off"/>The val attribute explicitly declares that the property is turned off. end example]The possible values for this attribute are defined by the [ST\_OnOff](ST_OnOff.docx) simple [type](type.docx) (§). |

The following [XML](XML.docx) Schema fragment defines the contents of this element:

<complexType [name](name.docx)="CT\_OnOff">

 <attribute [name](name.docx)="val" [type](type.docx)="[ST\_OnOff](ST_OnOff.docx)"/>

</complexType>