### vMerge (Vertically Merged Cell)

This element specifies that this cell is part of a vertically merged set of cells in a table. The val attribute on this element determines how this cell is defined with respect to the previous cell in the [table](table.docx) (i.e. does this cell continue the vertical merge or [start](start.docx) a new merged [group](group.docx) of cells).

If this element is omitted, then this cell shall not be part of any vertically merged grouping of cells, and any vertically merged [group](group.docx) of preceding cells shall be closed. If a vertically merged [group](group.docx) of cells do not span the same set of grid columns, then this vertical merge is invalid.

[Example: Consider a [table](table.docx) with three rows and two columns with the last column completely vertically merged:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

The second cell in the first row starts a vertical merge that is completed in the last cell, resulting in the following WordprocessingML:

<w:[tbl](tbl.docx)>
 …
 <w:[tr](tr.docx)>
 <w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 …
 </w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 <w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 …
 </w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 <w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 <w:[tcPr](tcPr.docx)>
 <w:vmerge w:val="restart"/>
 </w:[tcPr](tcPr.docx)>
 …
 </w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 </w:[tr](tr.docx)>

 <w:[tr](tr.docx)>
 <w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 …
 </w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 <w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 …
 </w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 <w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 <w:[tcPr](tcPr.docx)>
 <w:vmerge w:val="continue"/>
 </w:[tcPr](tcPr.docx)>
 …
 </w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 </w:[tr](tr.docx)>

 <w:[tr](tr.docx)>
 <w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 …
 </w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 <w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 …
 </w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 <w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 <w:[tcPr](tcPr.docx)>
 <w:vmerge w:val="continue"/>
 </w:[tcPr](tcPr.docx)>
 …
 </w:[tc](tc.docx)>
 </w:[tr](tr.docx)>
</w:[tbl](tbl.docx)>

The vmerge element defines the cells which are vertically merged, and how each cell is merged together. end example]

|  |
| --- |
| Parent Elements |
| [tcPr](tcPr.docx) (§); [tcPr](tcPr.docx) (§); [tcPr](tcPr.docx) (§); [tcPr](tcPr.docx) (§) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| val (Vertical Merge Type) | Specifies how the [table](table.docx) cell is part of a vertically merged region. This determines whether the cell should join onto an existing grouping of merged cells if any exist, or [start](start.docx) a new [group](group.docx) of merged cells. Refer to the simple [type](type.docx) definition for a full [description](description.docx) of each type.If this attribute is omitted, its value shall be assumed to be continue.[Example: Consider a [table](table.docx) cell where a vertical cell merge begins . This setting is represented as the following WordprocessingML: <w:[tcPr](tcPr.docx)> <w:vmerge w:val="restart"/></w:[tcPr](tcPr.docx)>The attribute value of restart specifies that this element shall [start](start.docx) a new vertically merged region in this table. end example] The possible values for this attribute are defined by the [ST\_Merge](ST_Merge.docx) simple [type](type.docx) (§). |

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

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

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

</complexType>