

Requirements for MTG terms

- Each concept is a primary object, represented in the English language, and at least one other language
- Each preferred term represents a concept in a given language.
- Each preferred term may be linked to one or more definitions.
- Each preferred term must be described by at least one facet.
- Each preferred term may have one or more synonyms.
- Each preferred term may have one or more relationships to one or more preferred terms. In the MTG there are various types of relationships possible, like “made of” or “part of”. Each must be a subtype of BT, RT or LT relation.
- Hierarchical relations should allow more than one parent.
- Each preferred term may have one or more symmetric relationships to other equivalent terms.
- Each term may have one or more scope notes.
- Each preferred term may have one or more comments
- Each preferred term may be provided with the source language of the first time where the term appeared in the dictionary.
- Each preferred term has a language assigned.
- A preferred term may have a reference(s) or hyperlink to an external definition in a given language.
- A preferred term must have a Status flag
- A preferred term may change in time to an abandoned term by updating a status flag. Then a replacement term, a “lapsed term” is necessary.
- A preferred term may become a lapsed term by updating its status flag. Then a replacement term, a “use instead” is necessary.
- A preferred term must have a flag with the formal/informal/unknown status
- Each term may have one or more abbreviations.
- Each term may have one or more quantitative parameter. A quantitative parameter must have a name and a value, and could have an unit of measure or dimension
- Each term can have references to literature, sources, standards etc.
- Each term can have a period of validity between two dates
- All homonyms must have a distinguishing qualifier in order to be allowed as a preferred term.
- It is recommended to include the possibility for storing various grammatical forms of entries (including singular and plural) and derivatives of them.
- Preferred terms, which are written in English, should follow the ANSI/NISO Z39.19-2003/2005 standard for singular/plural forms. Other languages should each have a consistent rule set with a consequent choice for singular/plural.
- A preferred term may be a compound term. The number of compound terms should be kept as small as possible. Only allowed, if required for translating a term from another language it can be motivated or, if required to present a different concept from existing concepts.
- Repetitive descriptive qualifiers should be stored as separate terms (preferred terms or new entry) to minimize the number of compound terms.