

Dutch layout

The W3C Internationalization Working Group maintains a “Dutch Gap Analysis” document at <https://w3c.github.io/urlreq/gap-analysis/latn-nl-gap>. AH Formatter implements many of the layout features that the Dutch Gap Analysis notes as missing in the support of Dutch on the Web and in eBooks. This includes Dutch-specific hyphenation and correct treatment of ‘IJ’.

Hyphenation

AH Formatter incorporates hyphenation rules for Dutch.

Alle mensen worden vrij en gelijk in waardigheid en rechten geboren. Zij zijn begiftigd met verstand en geweten, en behoren zich jegens elkander in een geest van broederschap te gedragen.

The Gap Analysis notes several Dutch words that change letters when they are hyphenated: cafeetje → café-tje, autootje → auto-tje, and skiërs → ski-ers. AH Formatter hyphenates these correctly.

cafeetje, café-tje

autootje, auto-tje

skiërs, ski-ers

Any corrections for Dutch hyphenation can be added to nl.xml in the AH Formatter hyphenation directory. See “[Exception Dictionary](#)” in the Online Manual for how to fix it. nl.xml is stored in the hyphenation directory in AH Formatter V7.1 MR1 or later.

Letter-spacing

AH Formatter can handle the letter-spaces of ‘IJ’ and ‘ij’ as one character: ‘IJ S R V IJ ij s e v ij’. In AH Formatter V7.2 or later, you can specify whether to replace ‘IJ’ etc. as one character in the [text-replace-Dutch-IJ](#) setting in the Option Setting File. If ‘true’ (default value) is specified, it can be replaced with one character such as ‘IJ’ → U+0132, ‘ij’ → U+0133, and if ‘false’ is specified, the replacement with one character can be disabled.

Capitalization

AH Formatter capitalizes ‘ij’ as a single character: ‘IJsrvij’.

Drop caps

AH Formatter treats ‘IJ’ at the start of a block as the initial letter.

IJzel zorgt voor zeer gevaarlijke omstandigheden op de weg. IJzel zorgt voor zeer gevaarlijke omstandigheden op de weg.

Black ice creates very dangerous conditions on the road. Black ice creates very dangerous conditions on the road.

Vertical text

AH Formatter treats ‘IJ’ at the start of a block as a single letter in vertical text.

I
J
Z
E
L