

TokenRule

```
syntax TokenRule = RuleAttributes "token" Name "=" RuleExpression SimpleRuleBody;
```

`TokenRule` is the same as `SimpleRule` with the exception of the following:

- The rules declared through `TokenRule` describe a language token.
- `TokenRule` type rules are automatically marked with the `ExplicitSpaces` attribute which indicates that whitespace rules should be placed manually.

`TokenRule` is specifically treated during error recovery. Besides, the parser will point at the rule, not at its content.

A token may also be described by `RegexRule`, however the structure of such rules won't be accessible, which can compromise code highlighting and error recovery. As an example, comments and strings should be described with `TokenRule`, otherwise the parser will not be able to spot an unclosed string or comment.

For example:

```
token Identifier = !Keyword IdentifierBody
{
  regex KeywordToken = "true" | "false" | "null";
  token Keyword = KeywordToken !IdentifierPartCharacters;
}
```

See also

[RuleAttributes](#)
[Name](#)
[RuleExpression](#)
[SimpleRule](#)
[SimpleRuleBody](#)
[token vs. regex](#)