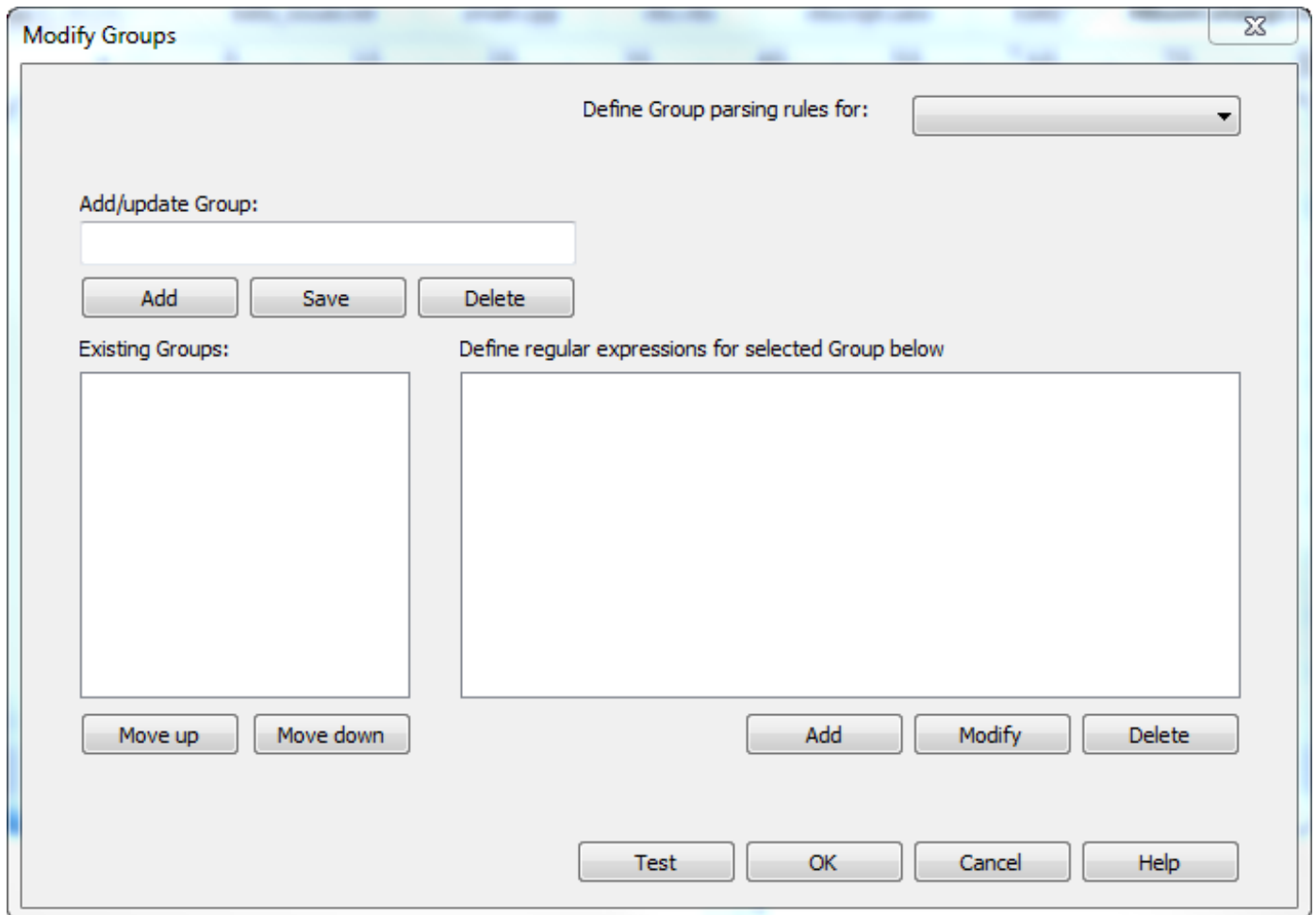


## Modify Groups

Article Number: 1707 | Last Updated: Thu, Oct 20, 2011 3:57 PM

The Modify Groups dialog is used to define parsing rules which define groups and subgroups for syntax highlighting languages used in the editor. These groups and subgroups determine how the hierarchical function list will be populated for a given language.



The screenshot shows the 'Modify Groups' dialog box. At the top, there is a title bar with the text 'Modify Groups' and a close button. Below the title bar, there is a dropdown menu labeled 'Define Group parsing rules for:'. Below this, there is a text input field labeled 'Add/update Group:'. Below the input field, there are three buttons: 'Add', 'Save', and 'Delete'. Below these buttons, there are two main sections. The left section is labeled 'Existing Groups:' and contains a large empty rectangular area. Below this area are two buttons: 'Move up' and 'Move down'. The right section is labeled 'Define regular expressions for selected Group below' and contains a large empty rectangular area. Below this area are three buttons: 'Add', 'Modify', and 'Delete'. At the bottom of the dialog, there are four buttons: 'Test', 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.

### Define Group parsing rules for

By default, this dropdown will be set to the appropriate language for the active file. If the user wishes to modify parsing rules for a different language, it may be selected.

### Group

This textfield is used to define new names for groups/subgroups that would be added to the hierarchical tree using the **Add** button. Any group/subgroup which is added will be inserted into the tree under the node currently selected in the tree displayed in the **Existing Groups** control.

If a previously defined group is selected in the **Existing Groups** control, its name may be modified and the modification can be saved using the **OK** button.

Users may delete selected nodes from the tree using the **Delete** button.

Nodes may be moved up or down in the tree using the **Move up** and **Move down** buttons.

When a group is selected in the **Existing Groups** tree, the regular expression(s) associated with that group need to be specified in the list labeled **Define regular expressions for selected Group below**.

Multiple expressions may be defined for each group/subgroup, but each added expression will affect the time required to parse documents. Groups (e.g. Functions and Classes) would not need to have a scope defined. They would be scanned for throughout the entire document.

Subgroups require regular expression(s) used for detecting matching strings as well as a scope within which the search for those strings will be executed. For example, to match parameters for a function one might define the following:

Regular Expression	Open regex	Close regex
[ ^t^p]++^([~,]+^)	(	)

This would indicate that once a function is matched, the editor will search for strings bounded by "(" and ")" and test for matches to the specified expression between these points. To match variables within the function body, one might specify:

Regular Expression	Open regex	Close regex
%[ ^t]++^([a-z0-9]+[ ^t^*]+[a-z0-9^[^_]+*;^)	{	}

It is important to note that while multiple regular expressions may be defined for groups and subgroups, subgroups must always have a matching scope.

When the **Add** button is pressed, a field in the regular expressions table will be activated for editing. Users may define a new regular expression string here. If the user wishes, he may select an existing expression and modify it. The **Modify** button would be used to active a field for changes. Finally, if a particular expression is no longer required, it may be selected and removed using the **Delete** button.

Posted - Thu, Oct 20, 2011 7:26 AM. This article has been viewed 321 times.

Online URL: <http://www.ultraedit.com/help/article/modify-groups-1707.html>

