

# getStaticPaths

If a page has [Dynamic Routes](#) and uses `getStaticProps`, it needs to define a list of paths to be statically generated.

When you export a function called `getStaticPaths` (Static Site Generation) from a page that uses dynamic routes, Next.js will statically pre-render all the paths specified by `getStaticPaths`.

```
export async function getStaticPaths() {
  return {
    paths: [
      { params: { ... } }
    ],
    fallback: true // false or 'blocking'
  };
}
```

`getStaticPaths` **must** be used with `getStaticProps`. You **cannot** use it with [getServerSideProps](#).

The [getStaticPaths API reference](#) covers all parameters and props that can be used with `getStaticPaths`.

## When should I use getStaticPaths?

You should use `getStaticPaths` if you're statically pre-rendering pages that use dynamic routes and:

- The data comes from a headless CMS
- The data comes from a database
- The data comes from the filesystem
- The data can be publicly cached (not user-specific)
- The page must be pre-rendered (for SEO) and be very fast — `getStaticProps` generates `HTML` and `JSON` files, both of which can be cached by a CDN for performance

## When does getStaticPaths run

`getStaticPaths` will only run during build in production, it will not be called during runtime. You can validate code written inside `getStaticPaths` is removed from the client-side bundle [with this tool](#).

- `getStaticProps` runs during `next build` for any `paths` returned during build
- `getStaticProps` runs in the background when using `fallback: true`
- `getStaticProps` is called before initial render when using `fallback: blocking`

## Where can I use getStaticPaths

`getStaticPaths` can only be exported from a [dynamic route](#) that also uses `getStaticProps`. You **cannot** export it from non-page files e.g. from your `components` folder.

Note that you must use export `getStaticPaths` as a standalone function — it will **not** work if you add `getStaticPaths` as a property of the page component.

## Runs on every request in development

In development ( `next dev` ), `getStaticPaths` will be called on every request.

## Related

For more information on what to do next, we recommend the following sections:

[getStaticPaths API Reference](#) [Read the API Reference for getStaticPaths](#)