# Image/File Processing & Handling

## Only referenced media items are sourced

Only media items that are referenced by at least 1 other node are sourced. For example if you have image a.jpeg and b.jpeg and in the Hello World post, you add a.jpeg as a featured image (or other field) but b.jpeg is not included anywhere, only a.jpeg will be sourced by Gatsby. This means if you have 10,000 images in your WordPress instance, but only 1 of those images is used in your site, you will only need to wait for 1 image to download. It's a common scenario for admins to upload 5-10x more images than they use, and that is the reason this feature exists. Currently there is no way to pull all Media Items, but if you need this feature please open an issue (or search for an existing one and thumbs up it).

## Gatsby Image in HTML fields

Media items in html are automatically sourced and image tags are swapped with gatsby-image's

This can be turned off with the html.useGatsbyImage boolean plugin option. See plugin options for more information.

Image tag URL's in html that return 404's or 401's are logged to the terminal output with a link to which post or page the broken image is attached. This allows you to easily discover and fix broken images that were deleted from the media library. By default 404's and 401's will fail the build to prevent deploying a broken site. You can disable this with the allow404Images or allow401Images option.

#### Requirements for images in html to be converted to Gatsby images

Images in html img tags which are either relative paths or full paths to your WP instance will be recognized and sourced by Gatsby.

For example, both of the following will be sourced:

```
<img src="/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/a.jpeg" />
<img src="https://mysite.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/b.jpeg" />
```

Note that there's currently a hard requirement for both kinds of url's to include /wp-content/uploads in order to be picked up. If your media items are stored in another directory they will not become Gatsby images.

## Preventing Image/File sourcing

If you would prefer to let WordPress handle serving images for you, you can prevent Gatsby from fetching any images or files with the following plugin options:

```
{
    resolve: `gatsby-source-wordpress`,
    options: {
        url: process.env.WPGRAPHQL_URL,
        html: {
            createStaticFiles: false,
            useGatsbyImage: false,
        },
        type: {
            MediaItem: { createFileNodes: false },
        },
    },
}
```

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### Referencing static file public URL's

If you want to use image/file url's directly instead of (or in addition) to using Gatsby Image, you can query for the WpMediaItem.localFile.publicURL field in GraphQL. However, for this field to be available you'll need to first install and configure gatsby-source-filesystem and point it at at least 1 local file.

You can install it in your project with npm install gatsby-source-filesystem or yarn add gatsby-source-filesystem. Once you do that you can add it to your gatsby-config.js like this:

Now when you run gatsby develop, you should be able to query for the public URL of any local file node in WP. This is mostly useful for when you need a direct file link to a PDF or other asset that you want your users to be able to download.

```
query {
   allWpPost {
    nodes {
       featuredImage {
```