**Index Management**

Reindexing vs. Caching: Overview

1. **Reindexing:** Organizes database information to speed up search and data retrieval, especially for products and categories.
2. **Caching:** Stores preloaded data (like images or page formats) to make pages load faster.

When to Reindex

* **After Data Updates:** Reindex if you make changes to products, prices, categories, etc.
* **For Large Stores:** Schedule reindexing via cron jobs (automatic jobs set for specific times) during non-busy hours to avoid any slowdowns.
* **New Installations:** Always flush the cache and reindex after installing Commerce for the first time.

Caching and Browser Cache

* **Flushing Cache:** Clears stored page data in Magento to reflect new updates but doesn’t clear your web browser’s cache.
* **Browser Cache:** You may need to clear this separately in your browser to see changes.

Special Cases: Elasticsearch & B2B

* For Adobe Commerce with **B2B and Elasticsearch**:
  + If bulk permission changes are made or permissions are set to “Scheduled,” reindex the full text index to apply updates.

How to Manage Indexers in Admin

1. **Access Index Management:** In the Admin panel, go to **System > Tools > Index Management**.
2. **Select Indexers:** Check the indexers you want to update.
3. **Set Actions:** Choose from:
   1. **Update on Save:** Reindexing happens instantly when data changes.
   2. **Update by Schedule:** Reindexing runs on a regular cron job schedule.
4. **Submit:** Apply changes by clicking **Submit**.

Index Management Key Columns

* **Indexer:** The type of indexer (e.g., product data, category data).
* **Mode:** Current update mode (either “Update on Save” or “Update by Schedule”).
* **Status:** Shows if the index is ready, paused, in process, or needs reindexing.
* **Updated:** Shows the last time an index was updated.

Command Line Reindexing

* Adobe Commerce offers reindexing commands for more control, useful for large or custom setups.

Events That Trigger Reindexing

Reindexing is automatically triggered by certain changes. For example:

1. **Product Prices:** Adding a new customer group or changing price-related settings.
2. **Catalog Data:** Adding/editing attributes, adding products, changing categories.
3. **Stock Status:** Updating inventory settings.
4. **Category Permissions:** Adding stores, updating attributes for filtering/search.

Full Reindexing Events

Some actions require a full reindex. These include:

* Creating a new store or website view.
* Making changes to search-related attributes (e.g., filterable attributes).
* Updating settings that control stock display (like “Display Out of Stock Products”).

Flat Catalog Indexing Note

* **Flat Catalog:** Adobe Commerce doesn’t recommend using it because it can slow down performance.