

## Adobe CQ Help /

# What is the difference between c:import, sling:include, and cq:include?

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### Question

What is the difference between

1. `<c:import url="layout-link.jsp" />`
2. `<sling:include path="layout-link.jsp" />`
3. `<cq:include script="layout-link.jsp" />`

What is the advantage of each tag? When should each be used?

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### Answer, Resolution

#### 1. `<c:import url="layout-link.jsp" />`

I assume this is the import tag of the Standard Tag Library. This tag is documented at <http://java.sun.com/products/jsp/jstl/1.1/docs/tlddocs/c/import.html> and does not know about Sling directly.

But -- assuming -- this tag is using a `RequestDispatcher` to dispatch the request, this tag will also pass Sling and the Sling resource resolver.

#### 2. `<sling:include path="layout-link.jsp" />`

This is the include tag of the Sling JSP Tag library. This tag knows about Sling and also supports `RequestDispatcherOptions`.

#### 3. `<cq:include script="layout-link.jsp" />`

This tag is Communiq  specific extension of the Sling JSP Tag library include tag. IIRC it supports callings scripts in addition to just including renderings of resources.


#### What is the advantage of each tag? When should each be used?

In a Communiq  application, I would suggest to generally use the Communiq  or Sling include tag since this provides you more Sling support.

You may use the JSTL import tag if you don't have specific requirements for Sling extended features, plan to use the JSP (fragment) outside of Communiq  or if you want to further process the generated (imported) content with a reader or a variable.

In the future, it is conceivable that the Sling and/or Communiq  tag library will also provide an import tag similar to the JSTL import tag to be able to further process the imported result.

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