

Overview

[Overview](#) / [Product overview](#) / [System objects](#) / [Step templates, steps, and step chains](#) / Positional job properties

Positional job properties

You can place steps based on the same step template in a workflow multiple times. If the job properties associated with the step template take different values for each step, they are positional properties.

For example, two different steps based on the **RunExternalProgram** step template can process jobs by running two different external programs. The **External command** job property specifies the program that each step runs to process jobs.

Other step templates share the same value for each job property across the steps in the same workflow. When you change the value of a job property for one step based on the step template, the value of the property for the other steps changes.

For example, a workflow has two branches, and each branch has a different **RetainCompletedJobs** step. The **Requested printer** job property specifies the printer requested for the job. If you change the value of the **Requested printer** property for one step from **PrinterBldg1** to **PrinterBldg2**, the value of the property for the other step changes to **PrinterBldg2**.

If you want two different branches of a workflow to print their jobs to a different printer, you must place a step based on the **AssignJobValues** step template before each **PrintJobs** step. Set the values you want for each branch of the workflow on each **AssignJobValues** step. The value of the **Requested printer** property in each **AssignJobValues** step overrides the **Requested printer** property value in the two **PrintJobs** steps.

To see the positional properties for a job in the jobs table on the Main page of the user interface, right-click the job and select **Properties**.

On each tab in the job property notebook, positional job properties are displayed under a heading that gives the names of the phase, workflow, and step.

For example, if a job in the **PDF** workflow has a **RunExternalProgram** step in the Prepare phase, the **External command** property is displayed under this heading: **Prepare - PDF - RunExternalProgram**.

 **Note:**

- You cannot set the values of positional properties using the **Manage job defaults** action in the Workflow editor.

Parent topic: [Step templates, steps, and step chains](#)