The system stores forum layouts in **<web project>\CMS\CMSModules\Forums\Controls\Layouts**. By default, the **Layouts** folder contains the following sub-folders.
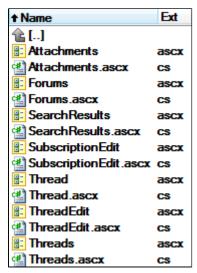
- Flat
- Tree

The **Flat** and **Tree** folders contain controls for the corresponding default layouts.

To create a custom layout:

1. Add a new folder in the *Layouts* directory and name it, for example, **Custom** (the system then uses the name of the folder as the name of the custom layout).
2. Implement all controls included in the *Flat* and *Tree* layouts within the given folder, with any required custom content or logic.

> ⚠ All of the controls must inherit from the **CMS.Forums.Web.UI.ForumViewer** class and have exactly the same names as in the *Flat* and *Tree* layout folders.

3. Open the **Form controls** application in Kentico.
4. **Edit** (🖊) the **Forum layout selector** form control.
5. Switch to the **Properties** tab and select the **Options** field.
6. Add an item matching the name of your custom layout folder into the field's **Default value**. For example:

```
flat;Flat
tree;Tree
custom;Custom
```

7. Click **Save**.

Once implemented, you can assign the custom layout to your website's forums. The layout automatically appears as an option in the **Forum layout** property of **Forum group** and **Forum (Single forum - General)** web parts.