

Path expressions allow you to select a set of pages from the content tree of Kentico websites. The expressions are based on the [alias path](#) values of pages. You can use two types of path values:

- Exact paths of individual pages
- Expressions containing special characters that specify multiple pages or relative paths

You need to use path expressions in the **Path** property of [web parts](#) or controls that load data from pages (page data sources, page listings with built-in data sources, [navigation components](#)).

## Using wildcard characters (% and \_)

The **% wildcard represents any number of characters**. Add the wildcard to the end of the path to select all pages under the specified section of the site.

Examples:

- `/` - only the root page
- `/%` - all pages
- `/Products` - only the *Products* page
- `/Products/%` - all child pages under the *Products* page

The **\_ wildcard represents a single character**. For example:

- `/Product_` - selects pages */ProductA*, */Product1*, *Product2* etc.



### Escaping wildcards in paths

If you need to use the wildcards as standard characters inside path expressions, enclose the character inside brackets ([ ]). For example:

- `/Special[_]Offers` - selects the *Special\_Offers* page

## Using relative paths

You can use relative paths expressions to **select child pages or parent pages**.

Examples:

- `.` - the current page's path
- `..` - the path of the current page's parent
- `./Product` - page *Product* under the current path
- `../Product` - page *Product* under the parent page of the current path
- `./%` - all pages under the current path (or selection of the current page, see *Leaving the Path value empty* below)
- `../%` - all pages under the parent page of the current path

## Leaving the Path value empty

If you leave the path value empty, the behavior depends on the type of the component and other variables.

### Navigation components

For [navigation components](#) (such as the *CSS list menu* web part), an empty value always sets the path to all pages (equivalent of `/%`).

### Standard page data sources

General web parts and controls with page data sources perform one of the following actions if you leave the Path property empty:

- **Selection of the current page** - the component loads and displays only the current page using the *Selected item transformation* (if specified).
- **Loading of child pages** - equivalent of `<current alias path>/%`. All [filtering options](#) specified for the data source still apply.

The behavior depends on the following conditions:

\* Whether the listing component's **Page types (ClassNames)** property includes the current page's [page type](#). **Note:** An empty value includes all page types.

\*\* If the current page type has the **Behaves as Page (menu item) type** flag enabled (*Page types -> Edit the page type -> General*).

Page type match (*)	Behaves as Page (menu item) type flag (**)	Empty path behavior
✓	✗	Selection of the current page
✓	✓	Loading of child pages
✗	✓	Loading of child pages
✗	✗	The data source does not load any data at all



For standard page data sources, the `./%` path expression works exactly the same way as an empty path value.

## Getting parts of the current path

You can use special expressions to **extract parts of the current page's path**.

- `{0}` - the alias of the page on the first level of the current path
- `{1}` - the page alias of the current path's second level
- ...

For example, if the page path is: `/Company/Careers/USA-Branch/Development/QA-Engineer`

- `{0}` = Company
- `{1}` = Careers
- `{3}` = Development

Path examples:

- `/ {0} / {1} / %` - all pages under the second level of the current path
- `/ {0} / {1} / Details` - page *Details* on the third level of the current path



**Note:** If you attempt to extract a level that does not exist in the current page's path:

- The expression returns an empty value.
- If there is a slash (`/`) after the expression, the system removes it when resolving the overall path.