Web parts are page components that provide a combination of content and functionality. They are the basic building blocks of portal engine page templates — you can use web parts to create pages directly in your browser through the **Pages -> Edit -> Design** interface.

Web parts exist on three different levels:

Code files	On the most basic level, web parts are user controls (*.ascx* files) that inherit from an appropriate base class.
System objects	Web parts must be registered as objects in the system. The purpose of the objects is to: • Specify the path to the user control source file • Define the web part's properties and store other configuration options
Page components	Web parts placed onto page templates are called *web part instances*. You can create any number of instances of a single web part. Instances must be inserted into web part zones, which are defined within the layouts of page templates.

Kentico contains a large selection of web parts by default. You can develop your own web parts or modify existing ones.