

The Kentico E-commerce Solution allows you to customize how the system retrieves [product](#) prices. For example, you can:

- Adjust the system to load price values from a custom database column
- Integrate an external system that fully provides prices for products and their various configurations

To customize the retrieval of prices:

1. Open your Kentico project in Visual Studio.
2. Create new classes that implement one or more of the [pricing customization interfaces](#) (described below).



Class location

For production sites, we recommend creating a new assembly (Class library project) in your Kentico solution and including the classes there. Then, add the appropriate references to both the assembly and the main Kentico web project. For more information, see [Best practices for customization](#).

3. Implement all methods required by the given interfaces.
4. Register your implementations of the interfaces using the **RegisterImplementation** assembly attribute (or use a *Factory* class to serve instances dynamically in certain cases).

When you reload the website, the system uses the custom implementations that you registered instead of the default pricing functionality.

Pricing customization interfaces



All mentioned interfaces can be found in the **CMS.Ecommerce** namespace.

Product price source

The price source implementation determines how the system gets product prices on the most basic level. The default Kentico price source loads product prices from the *SKUPrice* (standard price) or *SKURetailPrice* (list price) columns of the *COM_SKU* database table.

This type of customization allows you to change the source of the product price (for example a database column) while keeping all other parts of the default Kentico price processing.

- **ISKUPriceSource** – implementations must contain the *GetPrice* method, which returns a price value (decimal) for a specified product and currency.
- **ISKUPriceSourceFactory** – serves a separate instance of a class implementing *ISKUPriceSource* for each site. Must be implemented to use custom *ISKUPriceSource* implementations. Requires the following methods:
 - **GetSKUPriceSource** – returns an *ISKUPriceSource* instance for loading standard product prices.
 - **GetSKUListPriceSource** – returns an *ISKUPriceSource* instance for loading product list prices.



When writing the *GetSKUPriceSource* and *GetSKUListPriceSource* methods, you can either return instances of different *ISKUPriceSource* implementations or use a single implementation with constructor parameters for switching between the standard price and list price.

See: [Example - Loading product prices from custom columns](#)

Product pricing service

The system uses a pricing service to calculate the prices of products within a specific context, including adjustments from [product options](#) (of the *Attribute* and *Text* type) and product unit [discounts](#) (catalog discounts and volume discounts). The default Kentico pricing service uses the *ISKUPriceSource* and *ISKUPriceSourceFactory* implementations to get the basic price, adds adjustments for any assigned product options, and then applies all valid product discounts.

Creating a custom implementation of the **IProductPricingService** interface allows you to fully replace the default Kentico price processing, for example using an external pricing service.

Implementations of *IProductPricingService* must contain the **GetPrices** method. The method provides the following parameters:

- The product (*SKUInfo*) – can be a standard product, [product variant](#), or [product option](#) of the *Products* type.
- Applied product options of the *Attribute* or *Text* type (*IEnumerable<SKUInfo>*).
- A **PriceParameters** object holding additional data related to the price context, with the following properties:
 - **Currency** – the currency (*CurrencyInfo*) in which the price is requested.
 - **Quantity** – the number of product units within the pricing context (can be used to calculate custom volume discounts).
 - **SiteID** – an identifier of the site on which the price is calculated.
 - **User** – the user object (*UserInfo*) for which the prices are calculated. Is *null* for anonymous customers who are not registered as website users.
 - **Customer** – the [customer](#) object (*CustomerInfo*) for which the prices are calculated. Is *null* when calculating prices for anonymous visitors before they enter customer details in the checkout process.
 - **CalculationDate** – a *DateTime* value storing the time for which the price is calculated (can be used to check the validity of product discounts). For most price calculations, the value is equal to the current time. When calculating prices for existing orders, the value is equal to the date and time when the order was created.

The *GetPrices* method must return a **ProductPrices** object, which holds the following properties:

- **StandardPrice** – the calculated price before any discounts are applied.
- **Price** – the calculated final price including discounts.
- **AppliedDiscounts** – a summary of any applied discounts (represented by a *ValuesSummary* object containing discount name and value pairs).

See: [Example - Using an external pricing service](#)

Catalog price calculation

The system uses an additional API layer to calculate the prices displayed in product catalogs on the live website. The default Kentico catalog price calculation uses the *IProductPricingService* implementation to get product prices, adds adjustments for any selected product accessories ([product options](#) of the *Products* type), and then uses the *ICatalogTaxCalculator* implementation to get information about tax values (see [Customizing tax calculation](#)).

Customize the catalog price calculation if you need to adjust how prices are displayed in the live site catalog, without affecting the price calculations during the checkout process.

- **ICatalogPriceCalculator**
- **ICatalogPriceCalculatorFactory** – serves a separate instance of a class implementing *ICatalogPriceCalculator* for each site. Must be implemented to use custom *ICatalogPriceCalculator* implementations.

Implementations of *ICatalogPriceCalculator* must contain two methods:

- **GetPrices** – calculates the prices displayed on the live site in product catalogs.
- **GetAdjustment** – calculates the price adjustment value for selectors of product options. Returns a *decimal* price adjustment value, and provides parameters representing the given product option (*SKUInfo*), parent product or product variant (*SKUInfo*), and the current shopping cart (*ShoppingCartInfo*).

The **GetPrices** method provides the following parameters:

- The product or [product variant](#) (*SKUInfo*).
- Applied product options (*IEnumerable<SKUInfo>*) of all types.
- The current shopping cart (*ShoppingCartInfo*) of the user browsing the catalog, which provides any required context data, such as the user object or selected currency.

The *GetPrices* method must return a **ProductCatalogPrices** object, which holds the following properties:

- **StandardPrice** – the calculated price before any discounts are applied.
- **Price** – the calculated price including discounts.
- **Tax** – the tax value calculated for the *Price* (depending on the site's *Prices include tax* [setting](#), the value either represents the tax that will be added to the price in the checkout process, or the tax component extracted from the price).
- **Discounts** – a summary of any applied discounts (represented by a *ValuesSummary* object containing discount name and value pairs).

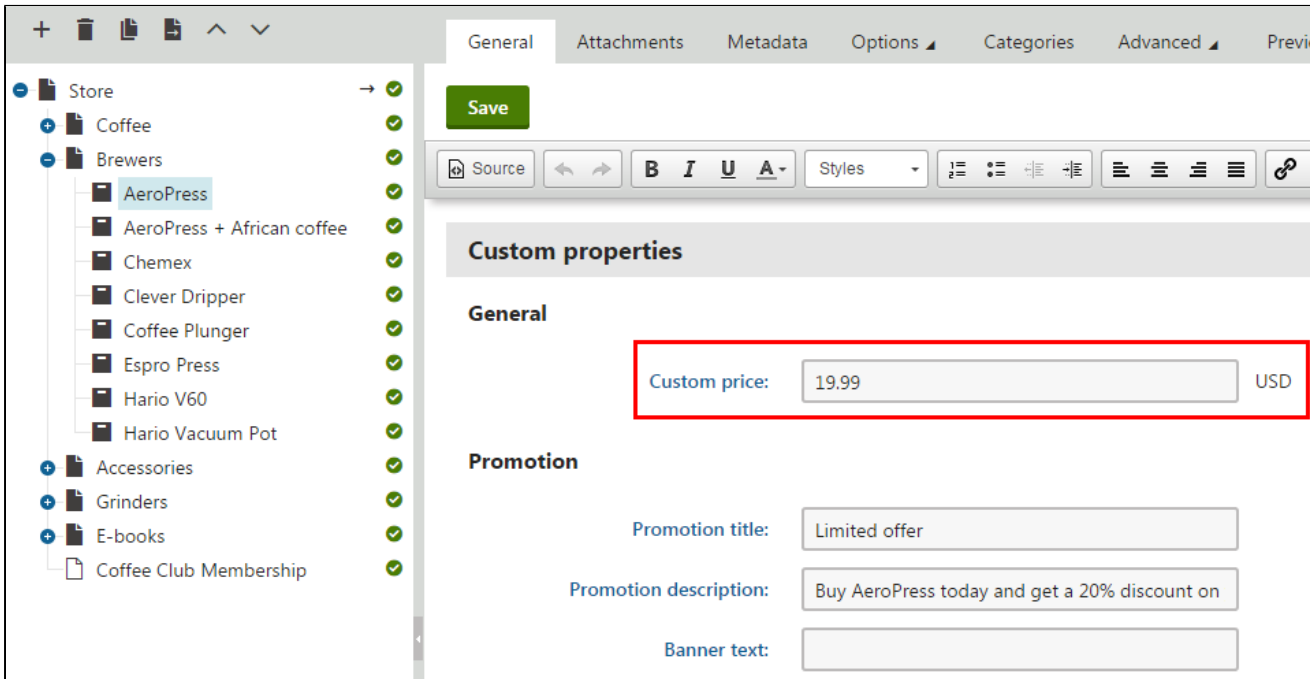
Example – Loading product prices from custom columns

The following example demonstrates how to customize the system to load product prices from a different database column than the default *SKUPrice*. The example loads prices from a custom *SKUCustomPrice* column for products that have their [internal status](#) set to *Special offer*.

Start by adding a custom column (field) for product objects:

1. Open the **Modules** application.
2. Edit the **E-commerce** module.
3. Switch to the **Classes** tab.
4. Edit the **SKU** class.
5. Switch to the **Fields** tab.
6. [Create a new field](#) based on your needs.
 - The example uses *SKUCustomPrice* as the **Field name**.
 - We strongly recommend using **Decimal number** as the **Data type** of fields storing price values.
 - You can use the default **Price selector** as the field's **Form control** if you wish to show the field in editing forms in the product administration interface.
7. Click **Save**.

The custom price column is ready for use. By default, store administrators can edit the value in the **Products** application when viewing products on the **General** tab, under the **Custom properties** section.



The screenshot shows the Kentico administration interface for a product named 'AeroPress'. The left sidebar shows a tree view of the product hierarchy: Store > Coffee > Brewers > AeroPress. The main content area has tabs for 'General', 'Attachments', 'Metadata', 'Options', 'Categories', 'Advanced', and 'Preview'. The 'General' tab is active, and a 'Save' button is at the top. Below the tabs is a rich text editor. The 'Custom properties' section is expanded, showing a 'General' sub-section. A red rectangle highlights the 'Custom price' field, which has a text input containing '19.99' and a dropdown menu set to 'USD'. Below this is the 'Promotion' section, which includes fields for 'Promotion title' (containing 'Limited offer'), 'Promotion description' (containing 'Buy AeroPress today and get a 20% discount on'), and 'Banner text'.

Prepare a separate project for custom classes in your Kentico solution:

1. Open your Kentico solution in Visual Studio.
2. Create a new *Class Library* project in the Kentico solution (or reuse an existing custom project).
3. Add references to the required Kentico libraries (DLLs) for the new project:
 - a. Right-click the project and select **Add -> Reference**.

- b. Select the **Browse** tab of the **Reference manager** dialog, click **Browse** and navigate to the **Lib** folder of your Kentico web project.
- c. Add references to the following libraries (and any others that you may need in your custom code):

- **CMS.Base.dll**
- **CMS.Core.dll**
- **CMS.DataEngine.dll**
- **CMS.Ecommerce.dll**
- **CMS.Globalization.dll**
- **CMS.Helpers.dll**
- **CMS.Membership.dll**

4. Reference the custom project from the Kentico web project (*CMSApp* or *CMS*).
5. Edit the custom project's **AssemblyInfo.cs** file (in the *Properties* folder).
6. Add the **AssemblyDiscoverable** assembly attribute:

```
using CMS;  
  
[assembly:AssemblyDiscoverable]
```

Continue by creating custom implementations of the **ISKUPPriceSource** and **ISKUPPriceSourceFactory** interfaces:

1. Add a new class under the custom project, implementing the *ISKUPPriceSource* interface.

```
using CMS.Ecommerce;  
using CMS.Helpers;  
  
public class CustomSKUPriceSource : ISKUPPriceSource  
{  
    private readonly ISiteMainCurrencySource mainCurrencySource;  
    private readonly ICurrencyConverter currencyConverter;  
    private readonly bool getListPrice;  
  
    /// <summary>  
    /// The first two constructor parameters accept instances of currency-related  
    classes from CustomSKUPriceSourceFactory.  
    /// The third parameter determines whether the price source loads the list  
    price instead of the standard price.  
    /// </summary>  
    public CustomSKUPriceSource(ISiteMainCurrencySource mainCurrencySource,  
    ICurrencyConverter currencyConverter, bool getListPrice)  
    {  
        this.mainCurrencySource = mainCurrencySource;  
        this.currencyConverter = currencyConverter;  
        this.getListPrice = getListPrice;  
    }  
  
    /// <summary>  
    /// Loads the basic price value for a specified product and currency.  
    /// The returned price is then further processed by the system.  
    /// </summary>  
    public decimal GetPrice(SKUInfo sku, CurrencyInfo currency)  
    {  
        // Gets the basic price according to custom logic  
        decimal price = GetCustomPrice(sku, currency);  
  
        // Uses the default Kentico currency API to convert the price  
        // from the site's main currency into the requested currency (if  
        necessary)  
        string siteMainCurrencyCode = mainCurrencySource.GetSiteMainCurrencyCode
```



```
(sku.SKUSiteID);
    return currencyConverter.Convert(price, siteMainCurrencyCode, currency.
CurrencyCode);
}

/// <summary>
/// Gets the basic product price. You can replace this method with any type
of custom logic.
/// </summary>
private decimal GetCustomPrice(SKUInfo sku, CurrencyInfo currency)
{
    // If the list price is requested, loads the value from the product's
default 'SKURetailPrice' column
    if (getListPrice)
    {
        return sku.SKURetailPrice;
    }

    // Gets the product's internal status
    InternalStatusInfo status = InternalStatusInfoProvider.
GetInternalStatusInfo(sku.SKUInternalStatusID);

    // Checks whether the product has the 'specialoffer' internal status
    if ((status != null) && (status.InternalStatusName.ToLowerInvariant() ==
"specialoffer"))
    {
        // Gets the product's price from a custom database column -
SKUCustomPrice
        return ValidationHelper.GetDecimal(sku.GetValue("SKUCustomPrice"), 0);
    }

    // If none of the custom conditions are fulfilled, gets the price from
the default 'SKUPrice' column
    return sku.SKUPrice;
}
}
```

2. Add a new class under the custom project, implementing the *ISKUPriceSourceFactory* interface.



```
using CMS;
using CMS.Ecommerce;

// Registers the custom implementation of ISKUPPriceSourceFactory
[assembly: RegisterImplementation(typeof(ISKUPPriceSourceFactory), typeof(
CustomSKUPPriceSourceFactory))]

public class CustomSKUPPriceSourceFactory : ISKUPPriceSourceFactory
{
    private readonly ISiteMainCurrencySource mainCurrencySource;
    private readonly ICurrencyConverterFactory currencyConverterFactory;

    /// <summary>
    /// Constructor.
    /// The system automatically supplies instances of the
    ISiteMainCurrencySource and ICurrencyConverterFactory implementations.
    /// </summary>
    public CustomSKUPPriceSourceFactory(ISiteMainCurrencySource
mainCurrencySource, ICurrencyConverterFactory currencyConverterFactory)
    {
        this.mainCurrencySource = mainCurrencySource;
        this.currencyConverterFactory = currencyConverterFactory;
    }

    /// <summary>
    /// Provides a ISKUPPriceSource instance for loading standard product prices.
    /// </summary>
    public ISKUPPriceSource GetSKUPPriceSource(int siteId)
    {
        // Returns an instance of the custom price source implementation
        // The first two parameters provide instances of currency-related classes
        required by CustomSKUPPriceSource
        // The third parameter configures CustomSKUPPriceSource to load standard
        prices
        return new CustomSKUPPriceSource(mainCurrencySource,
currencyConverterFactory.GetCurrencyConverter(siteId), getListPrice: false);
    }

    /// <summary>
    /// Provides a ISKUPPriceSource instance for loading product list prices.
    /// </summary>
    public ISKUPPriceSource GetSKUListPriceSource(int siteId)
    {
        // Returns an instance of the custom price source implementation
        // The first two parameters provide instances of currency-related classes
        required by CustomSKUPPriceSource
        // The third parameter configures CustomSKUPPriceSource to load list prices
        return new CustomSKUPPriceSource(mainCurrencySource,
currencyConverterFactory.GetCurrencyConverter(siteId), getListPrice: true);
    }
}
```

3. Save all changes and **Build** the custom project.

The registered **CustomSKUPriceSourceFactory** class provides an instance of **CustomSKUPriceSource**, with a parameter that indicates whether the standard price or list price is requested. The **CustomSKUPriceSource** implementation ensures that products with the *Special offer* internal status load their basic price from the *SKUCustomPrice* column instead of the default *SKUPrice*. The basic price is then further processed by the system, and affects both price calculations during the checkout process and prices displayed in product catalogs on the live site (when using appropriate [transformation methods](#) or the default built-in web parts).

The sample code also demonstrates how to use the default implementations of currency-related interfaces to convert the returned price value for stores using multiple currencies.

Example – Using an external pricing service

The following example demonstrates how to use a custom **IProductPricingService** implementation to integrate a 3rd-party service that fully provides prices for products. In this example, the returned price values are static, but you can replace the code with calls to the API of an external pricing service. Product data can be supplied to the pricing service from the parameters of the **GetPrices** method, which is required in all implementations of the *IProductPricingService* interface.

1. Recreate or reuse the custom project from the [previous example](#).
2. Create a new class under the custom project, implementing the *IProductPricingService* interface.
3. Save all changes and **Build** the custom project.

```
using System.Collections.Generic;

using CMS;
using CMS.Ecommerce;

// Registers the custom implementation of IProductPricingService
[assembly: RegisterImplementation(typeof(IProductPricingService), typeof(
CustomProductPricingService))]

public class CustomProductPricingService : IProductPricingService
{
    /// <summary>
    /// Calculates the price for a specified product and product option configuration.
    /// Additional data related to the price context is provided in the
    PriceParameters.
    /// Returns a 'ProductPrices' object containing the calculated price and
    information about any applied discounts.
    /// </summary>
    public ProductPrices GetPrices(SKUInfo sku, IEnumerable<SKUInfo> options,
    PriceParameters priceParams)
    {
        // Gets a custom price for the basic product
        decimal standardPrice = GetCustomPrice(sku, priceParams);

        // Gets a custom price total for any product options
        decimal optionsPrice = 0;
        if (options != null)
        {
            foreach (SKUInfo option in options)
            {
                optionsPrice += GetCustomPrice(option, priceParams);
            }
        }

        decimal priceWithOptions = standardPrice + optionsPrice;

        // Gets a ValuesSummary object containing information about any discounts used
```



```
by the custom pricing logic
    ValuesSummary appliedDiscounts = GetCustomDiscounts(sku, priceWithOptions,
priceParams);

    // Sums up the total discount value
    decimal discountValue = 0;
    foreach (SummaryItem discount in appliedDiscounts)
    {
        discountValue += discount.Value;
    }

    // Returns the calculated product prices. The constructor parameters are:
    // price - the final price of the product
    // standardPrice - the price before any discounts
    // discounts - a ValuesSummary object containing information about applied
discounts
    return new ProductPrices(priceWithOptions - discountValue, priceWithOptions,
appliedDiscounts);
}

/// <summary>
/// Gets a custom price for the specified product.
/// The example only provides a static number, but you can use any type of custom
logic,
/// e.g. call the API of a 3rd-party pricing service.
/// </summary>
private decimal GetCustomPrice(SKUInfo sku, PriceParameters priceParams)
{
    // Returns a price for product options (the currency is specified in the
PriceParameters)
    if (sku.IsProductOption)
    {
        return 5m;
    }

    // Returns a base price for products (the currency is specified in the
PriceParameters)
    return 50m;
}

/// <summary>
/// Collects information about discounts applied by the custom pricing logic.
/// The example only returns a basic set of discounts, but you can use any type of
custom logic,
/// e.g. based on data returned by a 3rd-party pricing service.
/// </summary>
private ValuesSummary GetCustomDiscounts(SKUInfo sku, decimal price,
PriceParameters priceParams)
{
    var appliedDiscounts = new ValuesSummary();

    // Applies a custom discount of '5' (the currency is specified in the
PriceParameters)
    var discount = new SummaryItem
    {
        Name = "Custom discount",
        Value = 5m
    };
    appliedDiscounts.Add(discount);
}
```




```
// Applies a 10% volume discount if the product quantity is more than 5
if (priceParams.Quantity > 5)
{
    var volumeDiscount = new SummaryItem
    {
        Name = "Custom volume discount",
        Value = price * 0.1m
    };
    appliedDiscounts.Add(volumeDiscount);
}

return appliedDiscounts;
}
```

The registered **CustomProductPricingService** implementation fully overrides the default Kentico pricing logic. The customization affects both prices displayed in product catalogs on the live site (when using appropriate [transformation methods](#) or the default built-in web parts) and price calculations during the checkout process.



Note: This example does not convert prices for stores using multiple currencies. See the [previous example](#) for information about implementing currency conversions in custom code.



Caching external price data

We **strongly recommend that you implement caching** for any data retrieved from external pricing services. The system may request the price data very frequently when displaying product catalogs, particularly on sites with heavy traffic.

To learn about the custom caching options provided by the Kentico API, see: [Caching in custom code](#)



Using the default pricing functionality

If you do not wish to completely replace the default Kentico pricing functionality, but only need to make minor adjustments, you can access and use the default implementations of related interfaces:

1. Add a constructor for your custom *IProductPricingService* class with **ISKUPPriceSourceFactory** and **IProductDiscountService** parameters.
2. Use the instances obtained from the parameters to get the default basic price and discounts.