

After you export a site or objects using the [Export site wizard](#) or [Export objects wizard](#), you can import the content using the **Import wizard**. Before you start the wizard, you need to copy your export packages into the application's **~/CMSiteUtils/Import** folder.

Importing a site

1. Open the **Sites** application.
2. Click **Import site or objects**. The Import wizard starts.
3. Select the package that you want to import.
 - The list contains all packages stored in the **~/CMSiteUtils/Import** folder.
 - You can upload additional packages to the folder by clicking **Upload package**.
4. Choose one of the following options once you select a package:

Option	Description
Preselect all items	Preselects all objects in the package.
Preselect only new items	Preselects only objects that do not already exist in the system.

5. Click **Next**.
6. When importing a site package, select one of the following options. The wizard skips this step if you are importing a package containing only global objects.

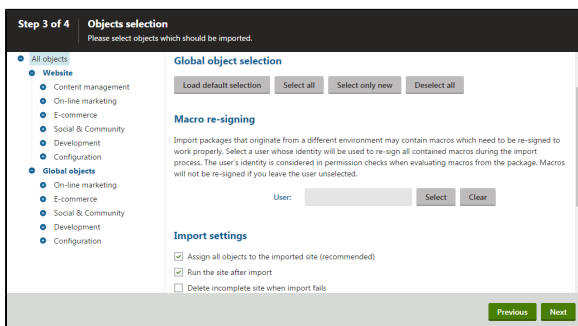
Option	Description
Import a new site	A new site will be created based on the contents of the package. You need to enter the site's display name, code name and domain name.
Import objects into an existing site	The wizard imports the content of the package into the selected site.

7. Click **Next**.
8. Select which objects from the package you want to import and configure re-signing of contained [macro expressions](#). To choose objects, switch between the categories displayed in the tree on the left side of the wizard.



See the [Import - Object selection settings](#) section for details about the available options.

Objects that already exist in the target system are marked with an asterisk (*). If you import an existing object, the new version overwrites the current one.



9. Click **Next** to execute the import process. An import log appears, showing the progress of the import (you can abort the import process at any time by clicking **Cancel**).
10. Click **Finish**.

The system returns you to the **Sites** application.

✓ When importing to instances installed in the web application format, you may need to perform additional steps to complete the import. See [Importing to web application projects](#).

i If the site does not have any system modules assigned in the data of the import package, the import process automatically assigns all available modules to the new site.

Importing packages from different Kentico versions

You cannot import packages from newer Kentico versions to older versions (including minor hotfix versions).

The system allows you to import packages from older versions to newer ones, but the support only extends back to the **previous major version**. For example, only packages from Kentico 10 or newer can be imported to Kentico 11. We recommend using the same version for all of your instances whenever possible.

Packages from different versions of Kentico have a different data structure. When importing packages from an older version of Kentico to a newer one, the system attempts to automatically convert the package to the newer format, but certain issues may remain.

i Importing from Kentico 10 to 11 – Limitations

Product coupons created in Kentico 10 cannot be imported to version 11. If an import package contains such objects, they are skipped during the import.

- Importing sites from an older version is not a valid way to perform an upgrade. See [Upgrading to Kentico 11](#) to learn how to properly upgrade your site.
- When importing **Page templates**, never overwrite any of the UI templates used by the Kentico interface (you can find a list in the **Page templates** application under the **UI templates** category).
- Avoid importing **Form control** and **Web part** objects from older packages. This may cause incompatibility problems and errors.
- When importing sites from older versions, you may need to assign the system's modules to the site after the import:
 1. Open the **Sites** application.
 2. Edit the imported site.
 3. Add all required modules on the **Assigned objects -> Modules** tab.

Conflicts of running sites

If the imported site uses the same domain name or alias as one of the websites already running in your system, the import displays a warning at the end and the imported site does not start.

In such cases, you need to:

1. Open the **Sites** application.
2. Edit (✎) the imported site and change the conflicting site's **Site domain name** or **Domain alias**.
3. Return to the list of sites and click **Start site** (▶) next to the imported site.



Application restart

If you get the following error message at the end of the import process:

"Application has been restarted and the logging of the import process has been terminated. Finish the import process manually."

you need to finish the import process manually:

1. Open the import package and extract all content of the `<package>\Data\Files` folder.
2. Remove the `.export` extension from the names of all files in all extracted sub-folders.
3. Rename all folders named `##SITENAME##` to the code name of the target website and copy them to the root of the web project.
4. Copy all contents of the `cms_attachments` folder (if it is present among the extracted folders) to the location in the target project where page attachments are stored (as configured in [Settings -> System -> Files](#)). Please note that this is applicable only when the system is configured to store page attachments in the file system (not in the database).
5. Copy the content of all folders named as an object type (e.g. `cms_avatar`, `cms_documenttype`, `forums_forum`, etc.) to the root of your web project.

Import - Object selection settings


The following options are available in the **Object selection** step of the Import wizard.

Select the root of the tree (*All objects*) to access the following import settings:


Global selection	
Load default selection	Preselects all objects based on your choices in Step 1 of the import wizard.
Select all	Selects all objects in the import package.
Select only new	Selects only those objects that do not exist in the target database (existing objects are unselected).
Deselect all	Clears selection for all objects in the import package.
Macro re-signing	
User	<p>The system uses signatures to ensure the security of macro expressions. The signatures are only valid in the environment of the application where the macros were originally saved.</p> <p>To ensure that macros inside the data of imported sites or objects work correctly, you need to re-sign the macros. Select a user whose identity will be used to re-sign all contained macros during the import process. The user's identity is considered in permission checks when evaluating macros from the package.</p> <p>See Working with macro signatures for additional information.</p> <p>Macros will not be re-signed if you leave the user unselected. However, the imported objects may not work correctly due to unresolved macros. Administrators can re-sign all macros in the system at any time using the System -> Macros -> Signatures interface.</p>
Import settings	
Update site definition	Displayed only when importing to an existing site. If enabled, all settings stored as part of the site object will be updated with those contained in the package. These settings are stored in the <code>Site\cms_site.xml</code> file inside the export package.



Assign all objects to the imported site (recommended)	If enabled, all imported site-related objects will be assigned to the imported site.
Run the site after import	If checked, the system attempts to start the new site immediately after the import is finished.
Delete incomplete site when import fails	If checked, the system deletes the site if any part of the import process fails.
Do not import objects where parent object is missing	If enabled, the import process skips any child objects whose parent objects is not present in the target system.
Import tasks (recommend)	If enabled, synchronization tasks included in the package will be performed.
Log staging synchronization tasks	If enabled, the system logs staging tasks reflecting all changes made by the import. Check this option to synchronize the imported data to other servers connected through Content staging .
Log integration tasks	If enabled, the system logs outgoing integration tasks for all changes made by the import. Check this option if you want to transfer the imported data to a system connected via the System integration bus .
Import files (recommended)	Some database objects are linked with physical files stored on the file system inside the web project. If you check this option, the import process creates all files that are included in the import package.
Import code files	<p>Indicates if the import includes code files that require compilation, i.e. files with the following extensions: cs, vb, aspx, ascx</p> <p>You cannot import code files if your application is precompiled.</p>
Import custom assembly files	<p>If enabled, the import process includes custom assembly files (dlls) that store the classes of certain custom objects. Applies to notification gateways, translation services, payment options, integration connectors, scheduled tasks, advanced workflow actions, marketing automation actions and smart search analyzers.</p> <p>The system considers assemblies as custom if their name does not start with the CMS. prefix.</p> <p>You cannot import assembly files if your application is precompiled.</p>
Import global folders	<p>If checked, the import process includes global files originally exported from the following folders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ~/App_Code/Global/• ~/CMSGlobalFiles/• ~/CMSScripts/Custom/• ~/App_Code/Controllers/• ~/Controllers/Global/• ~/Views/Global/• ~/Models/Global/

Import site folders	<p>If checked, the import process includes site-related files originally exported from the following folders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ~/App_Code/<site code name>/ • ~/App_Data/<site code name>/ • ~/<site code name>/ • ~/Controllers/<site code name>/ • ~/Views/<site code name>/ • ~/Models/<site code name>/
Overwrite system queries	<p>Available only when importing from an older version of Kentico. If checked, the system imports all queries from the package and overwrites the current ones.</p> <div>  If the package contains custom queries that you added to the system, it is necessary to have this option enabled. </div>

The following object categories contain extra options that you can set:

Automation processes	
Import all site specific triggers	<p>If checked, all site-specific triggers will be imported, even if the respective processes are not selected.</p> <p>This option is only displayed when the import package contains an exported website, not only separate objects. If you are importing to an existing site, this option is deselected by default.</p>
Custom tables	
Import custom table data	<p>If checked, custom table records (the actual data stored in the tables) included in the package will be imported together with the respective custom tables. If you are importing to an existing site, this option is disabled by default.</p>
Pages	
Import new pages	<p>If enabled, pages included in the import package will be imported.</p> <div>  Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When importing into an existing site, only new pages can be imported. Existing pages will not be overwritten. • To successfully import new pages, the system must contain the <i>Page types</i> of the given pages. You may need to select the page types for import in the object tree (<i>Global objects -> Development -> Page types</i>). </div>
Import page histories	<p>If enabled, page histories (i.e. previous versions of pages) will be imported.</p>
Import page relationships	<p>If enabled, page relationships will be imported.</p>
Import page-level permissions	<p>If enabled, page security settings made in the Pages application on the Properties -> Security tab will be imported.</p>
Import blog comments	<p>If enabled, blog comments will be imported together with blog post pages.</p>
Import event attendees	<p>If checked, event attendees will be imported together with all imported events.</p>

Import all user personalization	If checked, user personalization of all users will be imported, even for users who are not selected to be imported. If you are importing to an existing site, this option is not selected by default.
Forms	
Import form data	If enabled, forms data included in the package will be imported together with the forms.
Import physical files data	If checked, physical files saved within form records (if there are some) will also be imported.
Forums	
Import forum posts	If enabled, forum posts included in the package will be imported together with the forums.
Groups	
Import media files	If enabled, media files (stored in database) included in the package will be imported together with the group media libraries.
Import physical files	If enabled, physical files (stored in the file system) included in the package will be imported together with the group media libraries.
Message boards	
Import board messages	If enabled, board messages included in the package will be imported together with the message boards.
Media libraries	
Import media files	If enabled, media files (stored in database) included in the package will be imported together with the media libraries.
Import physical files	If enabled, physical files (stored in the file system) included in the package will be imported together with the media libraries.
Page templates	
Import all site specific page template scopes	<p>If checked, site-specific page template scopes will be imported for all page templates, even if a page template itself is not selected to be imported.</p> <p>This option is only displayed with page templates in the Global section of the tree and only when the import package contains an exported website, not only separate objects. If you are importing to an existing site, this option is not selected by default.</p>
Import web part and zone variants with the selected page templates	If checked, web part and zone variants (from MVT testing or Content personalization) included in the package will be imported together with the selected page templates.
Users	
Import user dashboards	Indicates if the system imports the content of personalized widget dashboards together with imported users. If you are importing to an existing site, this option is not selected by default so that existing dashboards are not overwritten.
Import all user site specific dashboards	<p>If checked, the content of all personalized widget dashboards is imported, even for users who are not selected in the import options.</p> <p>This option appears only if the import package contains an exported site, not just separate objects. If you are importing to an existing site, this option is not selected by default so that existing dashboards are not overwritten.</p>



Workflows

Import all workflow scopes

If checked, all workflow scopes will be imported, even if the respective workflows are not selected.

This option is only displayed when the import package contains an exported website, not only separate objects. If you are importing to an existing site, this option is not selected by default.



A list of object deletion tasks may also be displayed at the bottom of the list. If you leave the boxes checked, the objects will be deleted after you import the package.