

The SQL search is an obsolete search engine for pages in the content tree of websites.



We highly recommend using the index-based [smart search](#) instead.

The system continues supporting the SQL search for the following reasons:

- Backward compatibility with older versions
- Searching uncommon and legacy file types uploaded as page attachments

This search engine uses standard SQL queries to search for expressions:

- The system automatically generates search queries for the data of individual [page types](#). To override the search query for a page type, create a new query named **searchtree** in *Page types -> Edit page type -> Queries*.
- The **searchdocuments** query of the **Root** page type searches fields that are shared by all pages.
- The **searchattachments** query of the **Root** page type searches files uploaded as page attachments. To search attachments, you need to configure the system as described in [Configuring SQL search for attachment files](#).

Adding the SQL search onto your website

To integrate the SQL search into website pages, use the web parts in the **Full-text search** category (SQL search dialog, SQL search box, etc.) or the [CMSSearchDialog](#) and [CMSSearchResults](#) server controls (in your ASP.NET code).

Excluding pages from the search

To exclude pages from the SQL search, open the **Settings** application and select the **System -> Search** category:

- **Exclude page types from SQL search** - enter page type code names, for example *cms.article*.
 - You can enter multiple page types separated by semicolons (;).
- **Exclude pages from SQL search** - allows you to exclude entire website sections from the SQL search
 - To exclude a single page, enter the alias path, for example: */news/news1*
 - To exclude entire website sections, enter a [path expression](#), for example: */news/%*
 - You can enter multiple values separated by semicolons (;).

To directly exclude individual pages from the SQL search:

1. Open the **Pages** application.
2. Select the page in the content tree.
3. Open the **Properties -> Navigation** tab.
4. Check **Exclude from search**.
5. Click **Save**.

Modifying the search result format

If you wish to change the format of the SQL search results:

1. Open the **Page types** application.
2. Edit (✎) the **Root** page type.
3. Select the **Transformations** tab.
4. Adjust the **SearchResults** [transformation](#).

Developing custom search providers

If you need to integrate a custom search engine or make additional modifications to the search results returned by the SQL search engine, you can develop your own search provider. You can find more details in [Creating custom SQL search providers](#).