**Custom Settings**

Custom settings are similar to custom objects. Application developers can create custom sets of data and associate custom data for an organization, profile, or specific user. All custom settings data is exposed in the application cache, which enables efficient access without the cost of repeated queries to the database. Formula fields, validation rules, flows, Apex, and SOAP API can then use this data.

# **Types of Custom settings**

## **List Custom Settings**

A type of custom setting that provides a reusable set of static data that can be accessed across your organization. If you use a particular set of data frequently within your application, putting that data in a list custom setting streamlines access to it. Data in list settings does not vary with profile or user, but is available organization-wide. Examples of list data include two-letter state abbreviations, international dialing prefixes, and catalog numbers for products. Because the data is cached, access is low-cost and efficient: you don't have to use SOQL queries that count against your governor limits.

## **Hierarchy Custom Settings**

A type of custom setting that uses a built-in hierarchical logic that lets you “personalize” settings for specific profiles or users. The hierarchy logic checks the organization, profile, and user settings for the current user and returns the most specific, or “lowest,” value. In the hierarchy, settings for an organization are overridden by profile settings, which, in turn, are overridden by user settings.

Reference: <https://youtu.be/zxQu0Ozo4G0>

https://developer.salesforce.com/docs/atlas.en-us.apexcode.meta/apexcode/apex\_customsettings.htm

Custom Settings vs Custom Objects

Custom Settings are stored in the Cache Memory whereas Custom Objects are stored in Force.com Database.

Custom Settings will have only limited Data types, but custom Objects have large variety of data types.

Custom Settings cannot have Relationships like MD or Lookup but custom objects can have.

Custom Settings cannot have its own custom tab in app but a custom object can have its custom tab in app.

No formula fields or RollUp summary in Custom Settings. But in custom Objects we have.

**Important Points:**

1. We can use SOQL queries in Custom Settings but it is not at all recommended bcoz we have dedicated methods like getAll() or getInstance() to fetch the values of custom settings.
2. Fast access of data is there in custom settings as data is stored in cache memory.
3. Hierarchical Custom settings allows different users/profiles have different data.
4. Custom Settings data **cannot** be deployed.
5. Only 300 fields are allowed in Custom Settings.
6. Tabs cannot be created for custom settings.