

Customize category and article pages in the classic editor

Classic template editor

Choose how category pages list their articles and how article pages look: the layout, the order of articles, a table of contents, sharing buttons and more. You'll also find the settings for the page readers see when a link is broken.

Who can do this: Owners and Admins · **Plans:** All plans

Your changes save to a draft automatically, and readers see them after you click **Publish**. See [Save, preview and publish in the classic editor](#).

Set up category pages

1. In the left menu, click **Template editor**, then click **Category Page**.
2. Under **Layout:**, click **Simple** or **Detailed**.
3. Optionally, turn on **List articles under subcategories**.
4. Click **Publish**.

- **Simple**, the default, shows your categories in a menu at the side and the category's articles as a list next to it.
- **Detailed** uses the full width of the page: each subcategory gets a box with its first articles, and the category's own articles show as cards.
- **List articles under subcategories** works with **Simple**: it lists each subcategory's articles under its name instead of only linking to the subcategory.
- **Components** at the top of the group adds blocks below the articles on every category page: a **Contacts Section**, a **Heading** or **Custom HTML**. Click **+ Add New**, choose one and click **Add**. They work like the blocks on your home page. See [Arrange your home page in the classic editor](#).

Choose the order of articles

1. Click **General**.
 2. Pick an option in **Order articles under category by**:
 3. Click **Publish**.
- **Last Updated** and **Create Date** come with **Desc**, newest first, or **Asc**, oldest first. Last updated, newest first, is the default.
 - **Custom** follows the order you set by dragging articles on the Articles page. See [Change the order of articles and categories](#).
 - **Alphabetically** currently lists articles from Z to A. For A to Z, pick **Custom** and arrange the articles in that order yourself.

Set up article pages

Click **Article**. The settings at the top of the group shape every article page:

Setting	What it does
Layout:	Two Columns , the default, shows your categories in a menu next to the article. Single Column centers the article on its own.
Expand FAQs	FAQ articles in lists open right under their title instead of on a page of their own.
Display metadata underneath the title	On by default: shows the author's name and picture and when the article was last updated.
Show table of contents	Never , When 3 or more top-level headings in article , or Always (regardless of number of headings) . The table of contents lists the article's headings at the top.
Display recommendations	Shows up to five similar articles after the article.

Show recently viewed articles

Shows up to five articles the reader opened before. The list stays hidden until the reader has viewed other articles.

Display share options after an article

Adds buttons to share the article on X, Facebook and LinkedIn.

Display print and export menu

Adds a **Copy page** button next to the title. Its menu lets readers view the article as Markdown, print it, or download it as a PDF or Markdown file. Some options show only on a public help center.

Every article page also shows the rating question, and comments if you turn them on. See [Turn on ratings and comments in the classic editor](#). The **SEO** settings are covered in [Set SEO and social sharing options in the classic editor](#).

Under **Components**, you can add a **Contacts Section**, a **Heading** or **Custom HTML**. They show under the rating question on every article page.

The preview in the editor shows a sample article and doesn't draw the blocks you add to category or article pages. To check them, click the eye icon (**Preview**) and open a real article or category.

Set up the 404 page

Readers see the 404 page when they open a link to a page that doesn't exist. Its settings are under **Advanced**, in **404 Page (Not Found)**:

- **Redirect to homepage on 404:** sends readers to your home page instead of showing a 404 page. It's off by default, and turning it on hides the four wording fields at the end of this list.

- **Jump to the closest matching article:** forwards readers straight to an article when the broken address looks like one of yours. It's off by default because the match is a guess: when it's off, the article appears as a suggestion instead.
- **Suggestions heading, 404 page heading, 404 page description** and **Back to homepage text** change the wording of the page. Until you type your own, the heading, description and back-to-homepage fields show sample wording, but readers see the standard 404 texts.

The new template editor lets you place any component on category and article pages. See [Move your help center to the new template editor](#).

Troubleshooting

Articles appear in the wrong order. Check **Order articles under category by:** under **General**, and publish. For your own order, pick **Custom** and arrange the articles on the Articles page.

The table of contents doesn't show. With **When 3 or more top-level headings in article**, articles with fewer headings have none. Pick **Always (regardless of number of headings)** to show it whenever the article has headings.

A block I added to category or article pages doesn't show. Publish, then check a real page with **Preview** or on your help center. A Contacts Section also needs a **Contacts Email** under **General**.

Related articles

- [Turn on ratings and comments in the classic editor](#)
- [Arrange your home page in the classic editor](#)
- [Set SEO and social sharing options in the classic editor](#)
- [Change the order of articles and categories](#)