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Using wildcards in the middle of paths in file and folder exclusions in ESET products

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Issue

- Exclude multiple files in multiple locations from scanning by your ESET product.
- You intend to use a wildcard in the middle of a path (for example `C:\Tools*\Data\file.dat`) in order to simplify complex exclusions.

Solution

When setting up file and folder exclusions (performance exclusions), we recommend that you do not use wildcards in the middle of paths due to the following issues:

- Scanning performance decreases with the number of exclusions
- Exclusions might not work as expected (when the first applicable rule is matched by the scanner, the second applicable rule will not be evaluated)
- There is a security risk of excluding more files from scanning than intended

Before setting up a wildcard in the middle of a path in an exclusion rule, consider using different type of exclusions first:

- [Processes exclusions](#)
- [Exclude a threat or a file hash](#)
- [Exclude file extensions](#)

Information on 3rd party websites about file/folder exclusions from scanning for 3rd party applications may not be accurate.

[ESET Technical Support](#) can assist you if your system infrastructure requires the exclusion of multiple paths from scanning.

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