

# ESET Tech Center

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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 3<sup>rd</sup> party websites about file/folder exclusions from scanning for 3<sup>rd</sup> party applications may not be accurate.

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

### Related Content

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