

How inherited reader groups work

Last Modified on 04/09/2026 4:36 pm EDT

When you set a reader group restriction on a category, all of the subcategories and articles within that category automatically inherit those same reader groups. We call these **Inherited Reader Groups**. You can think of these as "automatic" reader groups: you set the reader groups once at the category level and then you can kind of forget about those groups in subcategories or articles within the category.

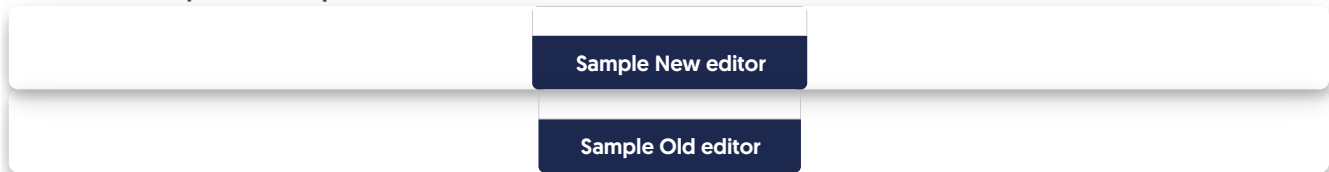
Once a category has reader groups assigned to it, all subcategories or articles within that category **must** use at least one of those reader groups. But you can refine the subcategories or articles so that they only use a subset of the groups.

The information below varies based on whether you're using our 2026 new editor or old editor.

To figure out which instructions to follow:

1. Open any article for editing.
2. If the lefthand navigation is collapsed and there's a link near the top of the page to **Switch to old editor**, follow the **New editor** documentation.
3. If the lefthand navigation is expanded and the top of the editor and the righthand column have a heavier grey background, follow the **Old editor** documentation.

Here are side-by-side examples of the new editor and the old editor:



Try out the new editor

We'd love your feedback on the new editor. To switch to the new editor, open any article for editing and select the **Switch to new editor** link at the top of the editor.

New editor

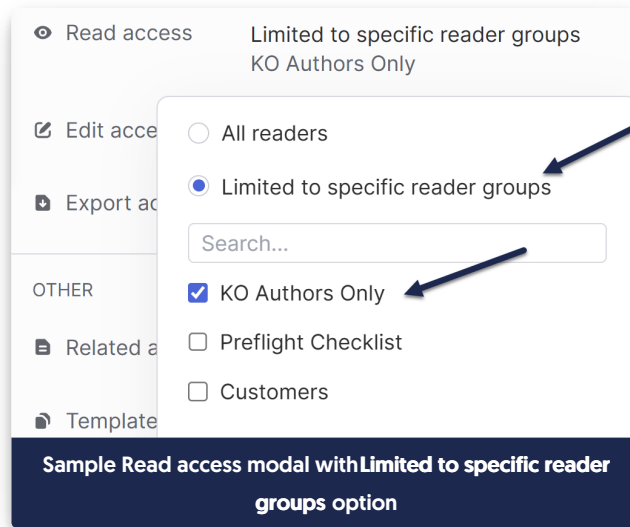
Old editor

Inherited groups in new article editor

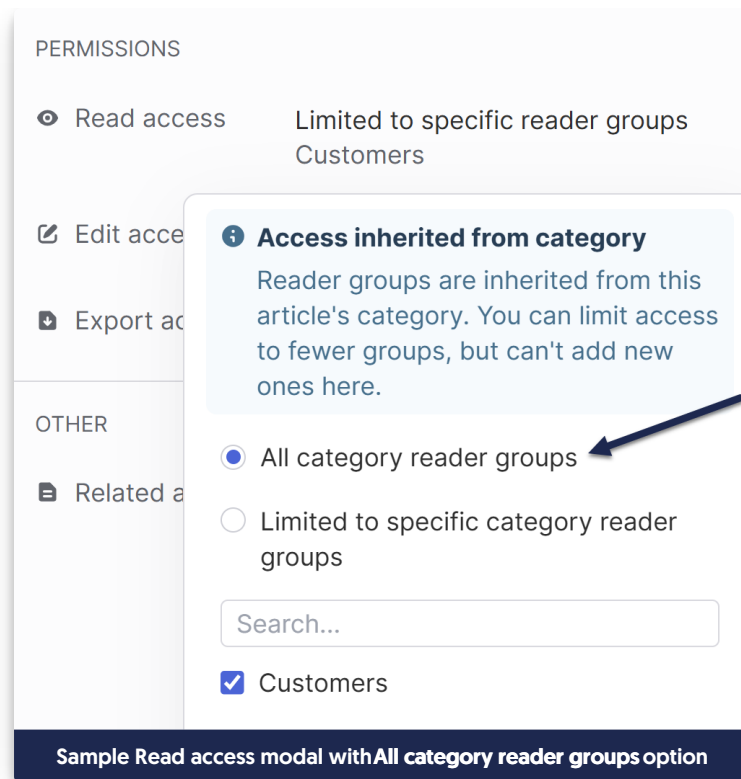
All reader groups an article's restricted to show up in the **Read access** section of the new article editor:

To determine if these are inherited reader groups:

1. Select any of the text next to **Read access** to open the Read access modal.
2. If the **Read access** section originally read **Limited to specific reader groups** and the Read access modal options include **All readers**, these aren't inherited restrictions.



3. If the **Read access** section originally read **Limited to specific reader groups** and the Read access modal options include **All category reader groups**, this article is inheriting reader group restrictions from its category:



- a. If **All category reader groups** is selected, the article is using all of the reader group restrictions it's inheriting from the category.
- b. If **Limited to specific category reader groups** is selected, the article is restricted to a subset of its inherited reader groups.