

Categories and subcategories

Phoca Download organises files in categories nested to any depth. Phoca Download Source mirrors that structure in the builder — for document lists as well as for category overviews.

Subcategories in document lists

If the option *include subcategories* is active for the source type *Documents* (mode "automatic"), the plugin searches up to four levels:

- main category (level 1)
- → subcategory (level 2)
- → → sub-subcategory (level 3)
- → → → fourth level

All documents from all levels flow into the result list and are sorted and limited together. If you disable the option, only the category selected directly counts.

Category overviews

With the source type *Categories* you build overview pages: in automatic mode you choose a parent category and the element shows its direct subcategories — each with title, description, image, file count and a link to the category page. Without a parent category, all published categories are output.

The field *file count* counts the published and approved documents of the category **including its subcategories**. Categories without files are hidden by default — the option *show empty categories* changes that.

Example: a download centre

A proven layout for a download centre combines both types:

1. At the top a *grid* with the source type *Categories* — one tile per area (for example "Manuals", "Software", "Forms") with image and file count.
2. Below it a *list* with the source type *Documents*, sorting "newest first", count 5 — the most recent downloads across all areas.

Applies to version 1.7.3.

[Deutsche Fassung](#)

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