

M-FILES CORPORATION

CONFIGURING M-FILES LINKS

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VERSION 1.8

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1. Introduction

This document is about the M-Files link that is available for the M-Files December '22 version and later. To configure M-Files hyperlinks that start with `m-files://`, refer to [M-Files URL Properties](#).

To create links in the user interface, you can select the [Copy Link](#) option in the classic M-Files Desktop, the **Share Link** option in M-Files Mobile, or the **Copy link to clipboard** icon (🔗) in M-Files Web or in M-Files Desktop. When the receiver clicks the link, the link opens in the receiver's default browser and the link loading page is shown. On Windows PCs, the receiver can select to open the link in M-Files Web or in M-Files Desktop. On mobile devices, the receiver can select to open the link in M-Files Web or in M-Files Mobile. On other environments, for example Linux, the link opens in M-Files Web.

The document tells you the basic structure of an M-Files link and how to create M-Files links that show M-Files objects, files, or views for other M-Files users.

Later in this document, M-Files links are called links.

1.1 Glossary and Acronyms

This table explains terminology and acronyms used in this document.

TERM	DEFINITION
M-Files Link	With M-Files links, it is possible to share links to M-Files objects and views. The users that have access to a vault can share these links to other M-Files users that have access to the same vault. The receiver can open the link in M-Files Web, M-Files Desktop, or M-Files Mobile.
Link	See the definition for M-Files link.

1.2 Prerequisites

Before you continue, make sure that your environment meets these requirements.

1.2.1 M-Files Software Requirements

M-FILES PRODUCT	VERSION
M-Files Desktop	M-Files Online Dec'22 Update or later. This version is necessary if you want to create links in the user interface.
M-Files Server	M-Files Online Dec'22 Update or later
M-Files Mobile for iOS	5.0.0 or later
M-Files Mobile for Android	5.0.0 or later

1.2.2 Other Requirements

M-Files Web must be set up and configured in the vault. If you use the classic M-Files Web, refer to [Creating URLs for the Classic M-Files Web](#).

1.3 Redirections from the Classic M-Files Web to M-Files Web

You can use [Advanced Vault Settings](#) to disable the classic M-Files Web and set classic M-Files Web links to be automatically redirected to M-Files Web. The setting is **Configuration > Client > Web > Disable Classic M-Files Web and Redirect Links to M-Files Web**.

Remarks:

- The setting does not apply to reset password links and URLs created with the Share Public Link feature.
- The setting is used for multi-tenant M-Files Cloud environments only. In on-premises environments, [configure mappings](#) between incoming connections and vaults.

2. M-Files Link Structure

This section is about the basic link structure. The necessary parameters are shown with angle brackets (<>), and optional parameters with square brackets ([]). Make a note that the actual link does not include these brackets.

URL	HTTPS://<DOMAIN>/LINK/<VAULTGUID>/<COMMAND>?<PARAMETERS>
domain	The M-Files Web base URL of the target vault. This includes the domain and an optional sub-path. The vault GUID (<code>vaultguid</code>) must refer to a vault in this domain.
vaultguid	The GUID of the vault to which the link refers to. The <code>vaultguid</code> does not include the curly brackets ({}). The GUID value can be written either with lower- or upper-case characters.
command	The command that specifies what the link does.
parameters	Parameters for the command. The chosen command specifies the necessary parameters.

Here is an example of a link:

```
https://xyz.cloudvault.m-files.com/link/3ecf2265-7bg4-428b-bd39-de443e6134ec/show?object=06717b8a-8d7a-4f40-b01h-037ebcf376ba
```

3. Showing Objects and Files

To show objects or files when a link is clicked, use this syntax:

URL	HTTPS://<DOMAIN>/LINK/<VAULTGUID>/SHOW?[OBJECT=<GUID>]&[OBJID=<TYPE>-<ID>]&[VERSION=<VERSION>]&[FILE=<GUID>]&[FILEID=<ID>]
domain	The M-Files Web base URL of the target vault. This includes the domain and an optional sub-path.
vaultguid	The GUID of the vault to which the link refers to. The <code>vaultguid</code> does not include the curly brackets (<code>{}</code>).
object=guid	The <code>object</code> parameter specifies the GUID of the target object. If specified, the GUID will be used instead of the other ID information.
objid=type-id	<p>The <code>objid</code> parameter specifies the object ID of the target object. <code>Type</code> is the object type's numerical ID, for example, 0 for document, and <code>id</code> is the numerical internal ID of the object.</p> <p>With external object types, use single hyphens to enclose the external ID. For example, <code>objid=123-'companyX'</code> specifies that the external object type ID of the object is 123 and the external object ID is <code>companyX</code>.</p>
version=version	The <code>version</code> parameter specifies the object's version number. If not specified or the version is <code>latest</code> , the link refers to the latest version of the object. Please make a note that you cannot use <code>-1</code> as a value.
file=guid	The <code>file</code> parameter specifies the GUID of the target file. This parameter is used when the link refers to a file in a multi-file document (MFD).
fileid=id	The <code>fileid</code> parameter specifies the ID of the target file. This parameter is used when the link refers to a file in a multi-file document (MFD).
showpreview=true	<p>The <code>showpreview</code> parameter set to <code>true</code> causes the document to be opened in M-Files Web in a full-screen preview.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The <code>showpreview</code> parameter is supported only in M-Files Web. This means that it cannot be used to view the full screen preview of the document in M-Files Desktop. This parameter is optional and must be manually added to the URL.

Note: A link to a file in a multi-file document (MFD) must contain `object=guid`, `file=guid`, and `fileid=id`.

COMMAND	ACTION
show	Displays the object in M-Files. This is the default action when you copy a link.
open	Shows the check-out dialog and opens the document in the default application.
view	Opens the document in the default application in read-only mode.
edit	Checks out the object and opens it for editing in the default application.

Objects open based on the priority below.

- Web Companion
- Office for Web (WOPI)
- Download

3.1 Examples

Please make a note that the actual URLs **must not have any line breaks**.

In these examples, the M-Files Web address of the vault is <https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext>.

A link to the latest version of a document with object GUID [2f833a31-88dc-43fb-a8f1-867435b018c2](#) and ID [414](#):

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/show
?object=2f833a31-88dc-43fb-a8f1-867435b018c2&objid=0-414
```

A link to the latest version of a document with object GUID [2f833a31-88dc-43fb-a8f1-867435b018c2](#), ID [414](#) and [showpreview](#):

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/show
?object=2f833a31-88dc-43fb-a8f1-867435b018c2&objid=0-414&showpreview=true
```

A link that includes the object and file GUIDs, the file ID is [448](#), and the file is part of a multi-file document with ID [415](#):

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/show
?object=4809cd56-93bb-45d1-a65f-3267e0d25a2d&objid=0-415
&file=108703b1-5fec-4923-9344-b982e5196f19&fileid=448
```

A link to the version [3](#) of the document with ID [414](#):

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/show
?object=2f833a31-88dc-43fb-a8f1-867435b018c2&objid=0-414&version=3
```

A link to the latest version of the document with ID [555](#), using only the object ID:

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/show?objid=0-555
```

A link to the latest version of the external object type object with an external ID of [00AEYY3](#), using only the object ID:

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/show?
objid=201-'00AEYY3'&version=latest
```

A link to the latest version of a document with object GUID [2f833a31-88dc-43fb-a8f1-867435b018c2](#) and ID [414](#) with the command open:

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/open
?object=2f833a31-88dc-43fb-a8f1-867435b018c2&objid=0-414
```

4. Showing Views

To show a view when a link is clicked, use this syntax:

URL	HTTPS://<DOMAIN>/LINK/<VAULTGUID>/SHOW?VIEW=<VIEWIDENTITY>
domain	The M-Files Web base URL of the target vault. This includes the domain and an optional sub-path.
vaultguid	The GUID of the vault to which the link refers to. The <code>vaultguid</code> does not include the curly brackets (<code>{}</code>).
view=viewidentity	The <code>view</code> parameter specifies the necessary view and virtual folder IDs. For more information, see section 4.1.

Here is an example of a link to a view:

```
https://xyz.cloudvault.m-files.com/link/3ecf2265-7bg4-428b-bd39-de443e6134ec/show?view=V133/V134/L88
```

Here is an example of a link to a view with external object as a grouping level:

```
https://xyz.cloudvault.m-files.com/link/3ecf2265-7bg4-428b-bd39-de443e6134ec/show?view=V133/L88-'abc'
```

4.1 Specifying the View Parameter

In the view parameter, the `viewidentity` value includes the path of the necessary view and virtual or traditional folder IDs. Please make a note that with virtual folders, you can create links only to virtual folders that use a value list.

The ID consists of the type character and an ID number, for example, `V133`, `L88`, or `Y20`. Differences between the three possible types, view (`v`), virtual folder (`L`), and traditional folder (`Y`), are explained in this table:

TYPE	CHARACTER	DESCRIPTION
View	V	<p>If your link refers to a view, use the character <code>v</code> before the ID number. For example, if you refer to a view with the ID 133, the ID is <code>v133</code>.</p> <p>If there are many levels in the view, it is recommended that you include all necessary levels.</p> <p>For example, when the path to the view Recently Scanned is Documents > Recently Scanned, you must include the view IDs of the Documents view (<code>v133</code>) and the Recently Scanned view (<code>v134</code>) to the link. The correct values for the <code>show</code> command are then <code>show?view=v133/v134</code>.</p>
Virtual folder that uses a value list	L	<p>If your link refers to a virtual folder, use the character <code>l</code> before the ID number. For example, if you refer to a virtual folder with the ID 88, the ID is <code>l88</code>.</p> <p>To refer to a virtual folder, you must also specify the views that include the virtual folder.</p> <p>For example, when the path to the virtual folder Drawing is Documents > Recently Scanned > Drawing, you must include the IDs of the Documents view (<code>v133</code>), the Recently Scanned view (<code>v134</code>), and the Drawings virtual folder (<code>l88</code>) to the link. The correct values for the <code>show</code> command are then <code>show?view=v133/v134/l88</code>.</p> <p>With external object types, use single hyphens to enclose the external ID (<code>L<External Object Type ID>-<External Object ID></code>). For example, <code>L123- 'companyX'</code> specifies that the external object type ID of the object is 123 and the external object ID is companyX.</p>
Traditional folder	Y	<p>If your link refers to a traditional folder, use the character <code>y</code> before the ID number. For example, if you refer to a traditional folder with the ID 20, the ID is <code>y20</code>. You can check the ID of the traditional folder in M-Files Admin: It is the ID of the folder in the built-in value list Traditional folders (ID: 4).</p> <p>If there are many levels in the traditional folder, it is recommended that you include all necessary levels.</p> <p>For example, when the path to the traditional folder Project Documents is Documents > Project Documents, you must include the view IDs of the Documents view (<code>v133</code>) and the Project Documents traditional folder (<code>y20</code>) to the link. The correct values for the <code>show</code> command are then <code>show?view=v133/y20</code>.</p> <p>Please make a note that currently, you can open a link to a traditional folder only in M-Files Web.</p>

5. Searching for Objects

An M-Files link can be used to do a search and display search results, or to do an action on an object in the search results. The basic syntax for the link is described in the table given here.

Search command syntax:

URL	HTTPS://<DOMAIN>/LINK/<VAULTGUID>/SEARCH?NAME1=VALUE1&NAME2=VALUE2&...
domain	The M-Files Web base URL of the target vault. This includes the domain and an optional sub-path.
vaultguid	The GUID of the vault to which the link refers to. The <code>vaultguid</code> does not include the curly brackets ({}).
name1=value1&name2=value2 &...	Query string with one or more parameters.

Available query parameters for the search command:

PARAMETER	DESCRIPTION
<p>pv=<propdefID>/<value></p> <p>pv=<propdefID>/- <encodedvalue></p>	<p>Property value condition. The parameter propdefID is the numerical ID of the property definition. The value can take one of the two available forms:</p> <p>1. <value>: A simple value that requires no encoding, such as a lookup ID or a simple text string with no special characters. For more complex values you should use the encodedvalue syntax. Supported values for the simple syntax are:</p> <p>Lookup value: The value can be an internal object ID, value list ID, an external object ID, or null. The internal ID is just a single number, e.g., 1234. An external ID is in the format <objectTypeID>-'<externalID>'. For example: 106-'XYZ2232'</p> <p>To specify multiple lookup values, separate them with commas. For example: 1234,5543,765. The same applies to external IDs, e.g., 106-'XYZ2232',106-'XYZ6655'.</p> <p>Text value: A simple text string, preceded by an uppercase T. For example: Tmystring.</p> <p>Multi-line text value: A simple text string, preceded by an uppercase M. For example: Mmystring%0D%0Asecond%20line. Encode spaces as %20 and newlines as %0D%0A. For more complex values, you can also use the encodedvalue syntax.</p> <p>Integer value: An integer, preceded by an uppercase I. For example: I987</p> <p>Boolean value: A Boolean value (true or false), preceded by an uppercase B. For example: Btrue or Bfalse</p> <p>In the simple syntax described above, the data type prefix followed by an empty string denotes a null (empty) value. For example, B stands for a null Boolean value, and T stands for a null text value.</p> <p>2. <encodedvalue>: Any typed value can be encoded by serializing the value and converting them to Base64 encoded string. Note the additional '-' segment between the</p>

	property definition ID and the encoded value. Also note that this encoded value search is currently supported only with Desktop Clients.
tv=<ObjTypeId>/<value> tv=<ObjTypeId>/- /<encodedvalue>	Typed value condition. The parameter ObjTypeId is the numerical ID of the object type definition. It is applied only with lookup values. The value can take one of the two available forms, as specified above for property value.
ot=<value>	Object type condition. The value specifies the object type (numerical ID) to search for.
action=<actionname>	<p>The name of the action to perform on the search result. Can be one of the following:</p> <p>showall: Shows the search results. This is the default action if the action parameter is not specified.</p> <p>show: Shows the specified object. Requires that the search returns exactly one matching object. If no objects match the criteria, an error is returned. If more than one object matches the criteria, the showall action is performed instead.</p> <p>open: Opens the specified object in the appropriate application, prompting the user with the checkout option if the object is not already checked out. Requires that the search returns exactly one matching object. If no objects match the criteria, an error is returned. If more than one object matches the criteria, the showall action is performed instead.</p> <p>view: Opens the specified object in the appropriate application in read-only mode, i.e., without checking the object out. Requires that the search returns exactly one matching object. If no objects match the criteria, an error is returned. If more than one object matches the criteria, the showall action is performed instead.</p> <p>edit: Opens the specified object in the appropriate application in edit mode, i.e., automatically checks the object out. Requires that the search returns exactly one matching object. If no objects match the criteria, an error is returned. If more than one object matches the criteria, the showall action is performed instead.</p> <p>Objects open based on the priority below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web Companion • Office for Web (WOPI) • Download
ft=<value> ft64=<encodedvalue> fext=<value> fext64=<encodedvalue> fi=<indexvalue> fid=<idvalue>	<p>These parameters allow for specifying the target file in a multi-file document. For example, the view action would typically be targeted at an individual file. The first file that matches all specified file criteria is accepted.</p> <p>The parameter names with the 64 suffix use a base64-encoded version of the actual string. In addition, make a note of these remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any forward slashes in the base64-encoded data need to be replaced with the character sequence {2} to avoid breaking the overall URL structure by introducing additional forward slashes to it.

	<p>The ft (file title) parameter can be used for specifying the title part of the file name. For example, ft=signed would match both Signed.pdf and Signed.tif.</p> <p>The fext (file extension) parameter can be used for specifying the extension part of the file name, without the leading dot. For example, fext=pdf would match Agreement.pdf but not Agreement.doc.</p> <p>The fi (file index) parameter can be used for identifying the target file with a one-based index. For example, fi=1 will select the first file in the multi-file document.</p> <p>The fid (file id) parameter can be used for specifying the ID of the target file. File IDs are not in general visible in the M-Files UI but can be retrieved with M-Files API calls. For example, fid=6547 will match the file with the ID 6547 only. File criteria are applied only for the object that is found when the search is executed. That is, you cannot use file criteria without specifying some object criteria as well.</p>
<p>srch=<value> srch64=<encodedvalue> ftsfl=<flags></p>	<p>The srch (search) parameter can be used for specifying the search phrase for a full-text search condition. Use this parameter to specify the words to search for, just as they would be typed in the quick search box in the M-Files user interface.</p> <p>The srch64 (search 64) parameter is like the search parameter but it uses a base64-encoded version of the actual string. Additionally, any forward slashes in the base64-encoded data need to be replaced with the character sequence {2} to avoid breaking the overall URL structure by introducing additional forward slashes to it.</p> <p>The ftsfl (fts flags) parameter specifies the full-text search flags for the search as an MFFullTextSearchFlags enumeration. By default, the full-text search mode is "All words", "Metadata and file contents", and searching in inflected forms of the words is enabled. This corresponds to the combination of the flag values: MFFullTextSearchFlagsTypeAllWords (131072), MFFullTextSearchFlagsLookInMetaData (268435456), MFFullTextSearchFlagsLookInFileData (536870912), and MFFullTextSearchFlagsStemming (4)</p>

The conditions are shortened (such as pv for propertyvalue and so on) to reduce the URL length.

5.1 Examples

Search for documents (object type 0) that refer to an assignment object (object type 10) with ID 1234.

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/search
?ot=0&
tv=10/1234
```

Search for all objects that refer to the object of type 106 that has the external ID XYZ.

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/search
?tv=106/106-'XYZ'
```

Search for all objects that have a NULL value in their property 1140.

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/search?pv=1140/NULL
```

Search for a single document that matches the criteria Customer = ESTT Corporation AND Proposal number = 7720. Opens the document in edit mode.

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/search?ot=0&pv=1079/141&pv=1103/17720&action=edit
```

Search for a single document that matches the criteria Project = Web Site Graphics for ESTT AND Class = Confirmation of Order or Agreement. Opens the first PDF file in the document in read-only mode.

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/search?ot=0&pv=1078/22&pv=100/25,4&fext=pdf&action=view
```

Perform a full-text search with the search phrase estt proposal in the vault.

```
https://sample.xyz.dom/vnext/link/95163ef6-eec7-4029-8776-70abbf7e6b88/search?srch=estt+proposal
```

6. Change History

The table describes the changes by document version.

VERSION	DATE	ESSENTIAL CHANGES
1.0	2022/12/16	Initial version.
1.1	2023/01/06	Added information about related placeholders in section 6.
1.2	2023/03/17	Removed notes about copying links to views. Added information about links to traditional folders to section 4.1.
1.3	2024/01/18	Changed some link names.
1.4	2024/02/15	Added information about redirections from the classic M-Files Web to M-Files Web.
1.5	2024/04/29	Added information about the showpreview parameter.

1.6	2025/05/20	Added information about searching objects.
1.7	2025/07/18	Added information about views.
1.8	2025/07/31	Updated information about views.

7. Reference Documents

If you want to use M-Files links in email notifications, you must use one of these placeholders: `NameWithHtmlLink()` or `NameAndSeparateLink()`. For more information, refer to [Placeholders for Notification Templates](#).