

Category Overview

Categories organize products into divisions that control where they appear on your site. After you build the category hierarchy, you can add individual products to categories and subcategories in the hierarchy.

For example, if your online store sells a mixture of women's wear, men's wear, and accessories you might create the following top-level categories:

- Women's
- Men's
- Accessories

Then, you might create the following subcategories for the women's and men's category:

- Separates
- Swimwear

So your final category hierarchy would look like:



You can also use product categories to apply discounts to a specific group of products.

Category Types

Kibo eCommerce allows you to create three types of product categories:

- **Static:** Allow you to manually specify the individual products that belong to them. To do this, assign the category for each individual product [in its product settings](#).
- **Dynamic precomputed:** Allow you to specify dynamic expressions that control the products that belong to them. The product membership is calculated when products are indexed in the catalog.

- [Dynamic realtime](#): Allow you to specify dynamic expressions that control the products that belong to them. The product membership is calculated in realtime and on demand when a shopper navigates to the realtime category page.

Refer to the following table for more information about the differences between the three types of categories:

Feature	Category Type Static?	Category Type Dynamic Precomputed?	Category Type Dynamic Realtime?
Can have products statically assigned	Yes	No	No
Can have child categories	Yes	No	No
Can have products assigned via a membership expression	No	Yes	Yes
Can evaluate a product's Sale Price and Sale Price Type (price after discount applied) as part of membership expression	No	No	Yes
Can evaluate catalog list prices as part of the membership expression	No	Yes	Yes
Can evaluate product properties as part of the membership expression	No	Yes	Yes
Navigating to a parent category displays products included in the child category	Yes	Yes	No
Can be used as target criteria for a discount	Yes	Yes	No
Becomes a complex search filter at runtime	No	No	Yes

Refer to [Dynamic Category Expressions](#) for more information about the two types of dynamic categories and creating expressions for them.

View Types

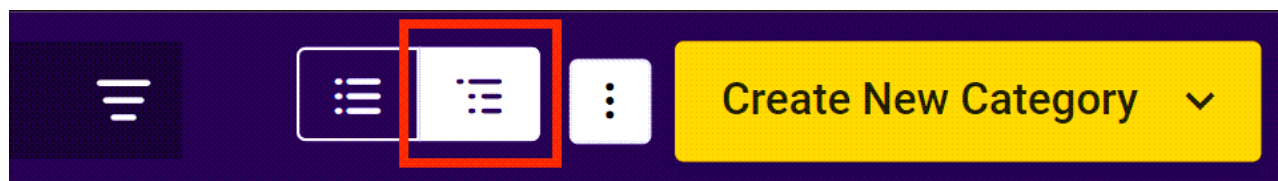
View Type	Description
Tree	<p>This view is the default view when you first navigate to the Beta Categories module. The Tree view shows your categories hierarchically organized, which is useful to quickly view the relationships between categories, such as parent-child relationships. It also loads categories incrementally as needed, instead of at the same time, resulting in faster loading and a smoother viewing experience even with a large amount of categories.</p> <p>Refer to Tree View for more information about this view.</p>
Grid	<p>The Grid view shows your categories in a flat list, regardless of hierarchy or relationship. This is useful to quickly view a total list of all your categories, and you can use this view to search, sort, and filter categories.</p> <p>Refer to Grid View for more information about this view.</p>

Tree View

The Tree view shows your categories hierarchically organized, as well as loads categories incrementally as needed. This is useful to quickly view the relationships between categories, such as parent-child relationships:

Name	Code	Type	Status	Hidden on Storefront
Key Caps	key-caps	Static	Active	N
Parts	parts	Static	Active	N
Switches	switches	Static	Active	N
Keyboards	keyboards	Static	Active	N
Accessories	accessories	Static	Active	N

To navigate to this view, click the Indented List icon in the top right of the page:



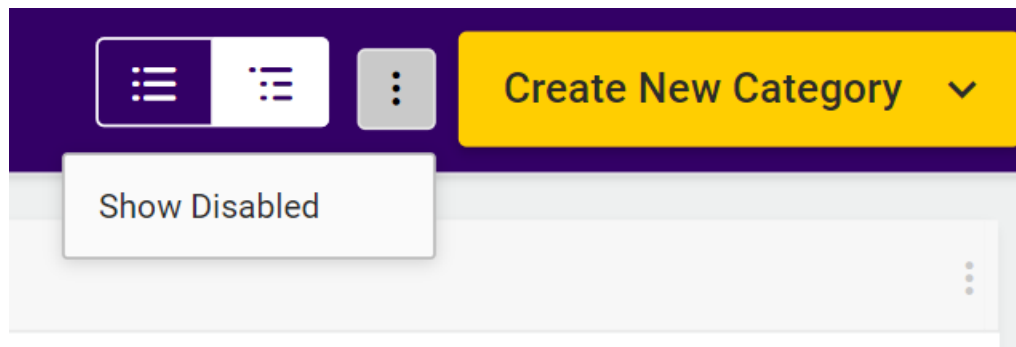
View Sub-Categories

When a category has sub-categories (children), the parent category has a caret icon next to it. You can click the caret to expand the parent category and view its sub-categories:

Name	Code	Type	Status
Key Caps	key-caps	Static	Active
▼ Parts	parts	Static	Active
Switches	switches	Static	Active
Keyboards	keyboards	Static	Active
Accessories	accessories	Static	Active

Show/Hide Disabled Categories

The Tree view automatically hides disabled categories; however, you can still show disabled categories in the Tree view by expanding the menu to the right of the tree icon and clicking **Show Disabled**:



If you want to hide disabled categories, you can click the same button and select **Hide Disabled**.

Drag and Drop

This view supports drag and drop capabilities, so you can quickly change parent child relationships in the category tree.

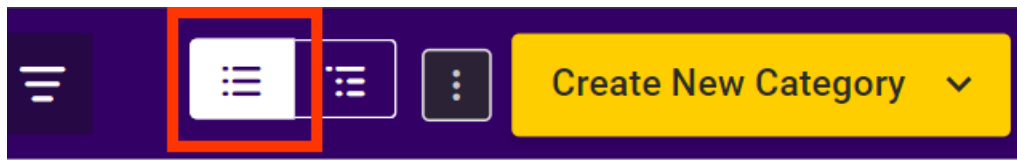
Grid View

The Grid view shows your categories in a flat list, regardless of hierarchy or relationship:

Code	Name	SEO Slug	Type	Parent Category	Status	Hidden on Storefront	Created Date	Parent
switches	Switches	switches	Static	Parts	Active	N	Mar 11 2016 6:10pm	Y
key-caps	Key Caps	key-caps	Static		Active	N	Mar 11 2016 6:10pm	Y
parts	Parts	parts	Static		Active	N	Mar 11 2016 6:10pm	N
keyboards	Keyboards	keyboards	Static		Active	N	Mar 11 2016 6:11pm	Y
accessories	Accessories	accessories	Static		Active	N	Jun 11 2021 5:13pm	Y

This is useful to quickly view a list of all your categories. You can also use this view to search, sort, and filter categories.

To navigate to this view, click the Flat List icon in the top right of the page:



The Grid view hides disabled categories; however, you can use the **Status** filter in the search bar's Advanced Filter menu to show Active, Disabled, or All categories:

A screenshot of a white 'Advanced Filter' dialog box with a purple border and a close button (X) in the top right. It features a 'Keyword Search' input field. Below it, a 'Type' dropdown is set to 'Hidden on Storefront'. The 'Status' dropdown is open, showing a list of options: 'Active', 'Disabled', 'Scheduled', and 'All'. This dropdown menu is highlighted with a red rectangular box. At the bottom, there are fields for 'Attribute Name' and 'Attribute Value', and two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Filter'.

Note that when searching for categories with the Advanced Filter, you can also filter based on any configured [category attributes](#).