

# Pattern matching

TapeTrack has powerful pattern matching functionality that can be utilized globally in TapeMaster.

## String Pattern Matching

### Asterisk (\*)

The Asterisk is used to indicate which character positions are to be filtered. [image](#) An Asterisk before a set of characters will show all items that end with those characters. An Asterisk after a set of characters will show all items that begin with those characters. If used on its own, the Asterisk will display all data in that column. Using two Asterisks, one on either side of a character or set of characters will show all items containing that character or set of characters at any character position. The Asterisk does not need to be used when entering a full Object-ID or when searching for Flags in the Volume List.

### Question Mark (?)

The Question Mark is used to indicate that any character can exist in a specific character position. [image](#)

### Square Brackets ([ ])

Square Brackets can be used to provide parameters for a specific character position that are longer than one character. There are four different configurations: Multiple Characters

When multiple characters are put in a Square Bracket, any of the characters listed will be displayed at the specified character position. [image](#)

### Vertical Bar (|)

When two or more characters are placed between Square Brackets and separated by Vertical Bars, the Vertical Bar will act as the word "OR" displaying any of the characters. [image](#)

### Hyphen (-)

When two characters are placed between Square Brackets and separated by a Hyphen, any character alphanumerically between the two characters will display. [image](#)

## Exclamation Point (!)

When the Exclamation Point is placed immediately following the left Square Bracket in a set of Square Brackets, any character except for the characters listed after the Exclamation Point will display. This functionality also works with Multiple Characters, Vertical Bars, and Hyphens. [image](#)

## Date Pattern Matching

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