

# 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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