

# Release Conditions

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## What are Release Conditions?

Rather than being a tool, Release Conditions are a function that can be applied to any item or tool that can be added to Content. Release Conditions allow (or prevent) access to Content or learning activities based on a student's activity on the course site (i.e. completion of certain activities, accessing specific learning materials, membership in a particular group, or earning a particular grade).

For example, a student could be prevented from accessing Assignment 1 until they have completed Quiz 1 (or posted in a Discussion forum or accessed a particular video in the Content tool). Alternatively, a Content Unit could be released only to members of a specific Group.

Release Conditions can be combined. For example, a student could be able to access Assignment 1 only if they are a member of Group 1 and have received at least 75% on Quiz 1.

## Which Tools can use Release Conditions?

The following tools can have Release Conditions applied to them:

- Any Content Items (Units, Lessons, Folders, and HTML pages)
- Announcements
- Assignments
- Discussions
- Quizzes
- Surveys
- Checklists

## Why use Release Conditions?

Release Conditions can require students to complete learning activities in a particular order. You may want students to complete a weekly test-your-knowledge quiz before accessing next week's content, or have a Remedial Unit that is only accessible to students who receive under 50% on their first assignment.

Alternatively, you might use Release Conditions to divide your class based on their selection of particular course tracks or electives. For example, you may have students who sign up to take a particular elective only see the Units (and associated Discussions, Assignments, etc.) pertaining to that elective.

As an advanced tool, many or most courses will not find a need for Release Conditions in their course sites.

## Effective Practices

- Use Release Conditions sparingly, if at all. Focus on core activities where students completing tasks in a particular order is vital, or where the course Content needs to be different for different Groups.
- Consult a Learning Designer before applying Release Conditions to your course.
- Apply Release Conditions based on active engagement (i.e. completion of a Quiz or Assignment, posting to a Discussion forum, achieving a specific Grade) rather than based on student access of particular learning materials.