

# How to create a segment by matching part of a string

## Matching part of a string

There are 5 filters you can use for matching part of a string

- starts with
- ends with
- contains
- like
- regexp

The first three filters (starts with, ends with, contains) match strings as you enter it. The 'like' filter is for advanced users - you can specify which type you want to use with % character:

- **My string%** is the same as **starts with** filter with **My string** value.
- **%My string** is the same as **ends with** filter with **My string** value.
- **%My string%** is the same as **contains** filter with **My string** value.
- **My string** is the same as **contains** filter with **My string** value.

A few notes for text filters:

- A % character in the middle of the string has no special meaning. When using the 'contains' filter with my % string Mautic will search for a string with % in the middle. The same is true for the 'like' filter with %my % string% value. There is no need to escape this character.
- Mautic searches for % character in a value for the like filter and no modification is performed if at least 1 % is found.

You can use regular expressions in a regexp filter. Mautic recognises all common operators like | for OR (first string|second string), character sets ([0-9], [a-z0-9] etc.), repetitions (+, \*, ?) and more. You have to escape special characters with \ if you want to use them as matching characters.

For more information about Regex: [Learn more about regex here!](#)

Online URL:

<https://kb.mautic.org/article/how-to-create-a-segment-by-matching-part-of-a-string.html>