

Planning Audience Specific Release Views

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Defining Which Readers Need Separate Release Views

Start by listing the audience groups you already manage in Atloria and deciding which of them need their own public documentation experience. In most teams, that means separating readers such as customers, partners, and internal teams when they should not all see the same release notes, upgrade guidance, or feature pages. If you already reviewed how audience-specific pages appear in the public site, use that work as your starting point instead of rebuilding it from scratch: [Reviewing Audience Specific Pages in Public Documentation](#).

A simple planning table helps keep these decisions clear before you publish:

Audience	Public content to include	Content to keep out of that view	Main release focus
Customers	Published feature pages, release notes, upgrade guidance	Internal procedures, draft material	Current and archived versions
Partners	Shared feature pages, partner-facing release notes	Internal-only workflows	Current, upcoming, and archived versions
Internal teams	Full release context, internal process pages	Nothing intended only for external readers	Current, upcoming, and archived versions

For each audience, write down the reader goal in plain language. For example:

- Customers may need to land on the latest release notes, then open feature documentation for the version they use.
- Partners may need to compare current and upcoming releases before supporting shared accounts.
- Internal teams may need access to pre-release content and archived guidance in one place.

As you define these groups, decide which version paths matter most to each one:

- **Current version** for active readers

- **Upcoming version** for preview or preparation
- **Archived version** for older deployments

[SCREENSHOT: audience planning worksheet showing audience names, visible content, hidden content, and version priorities]

Keep the result practical. If two audiences would see the same landing page, same version selector, and same page set, they probably do not need separate release views. Create separate public views only when the reader journey, visible content, or version path is meaningfully different.

Mapping Version Paths Before You Publish

Once your audience list is settled, map the public paths readers will use to reach each release. In Atloria, this planning step matters because readers may arrive through a project's public documentation home, a version-specific page, release notes, or a shared link. Before publishing, decide which path is the default for each audience and how older releases stay available.

Document three path types for every audience-specific public view:

1. The **current version** path readers should reach by default.
2. The **older version** paths that remain available for support, migration, or compliance.
3. Any **audience-specific entry page** that acts as the front door for that reader group.

Then list the pages that must exist in every version path. At minimum, most release views need:

1. A landing page for that audience
2. Release notes
3. Upgrade or migration guidance
4. Core feature documentation

If one of those pages is missing in an archived version, note that before publishing so the team can either add the page or remove links that would send readers to an empty path.

You should also decide how readers move between versions:

1. Stay inside the same audience view and switch versions with a version selector

2. Move from one audience landing page to another when the audience changes
3. Follow direct links from release notes into version-matched feature pages

[SCREENSHOT: version path map showing current, archived, and audience-specific public entry pages]

Finally, record redirect decisions for pages that were renamed, moved, or retired. If a release note links to an older page title, that link should still guide the reader to the right public page instead of dropping them into the wrong version or a missing page. This is especially important when shared pages appear in multiple audience views but point to different release paths. Your plan should show where each old link now leads so publishing does not break existing bookmarks or support references.

Designing Reader Journeys Across Audience and Version Boundaries

After mapping paths, walk through how real readers will move across them. In Atloria, audience-specific release planning works best when you trace the journey from entry point to destination page instead of thinking only about page lists. A customer may arrive from search on a direct release note link, while a partner may start from an audience landing page and then switch to an archived version. Those journeys need different signposts.

Focus on the most common entry routes:

1. A reader opens a search result that points directly to a versioned page.
2. A reader uses a bookmarked URL for a specific release.
3. A reader starts on an audience-specific landing page and browses from there.
4. A reader opens release notes first, then follows links into feature documentation.

For each route, note the decision points where the reader must choose:

1. Which audience view they belong in
2. Which version they need
3. Whether they want the latest release or an archived release

Plan the navigation elements that keep those choices visible:

- A clear version selector
- Audience labels on landing pages or page headers
- Links back to the correct audience landing page
- Release notes links that stay inside the same version path

[SCREENSHOT: public documentation page with version selector, audience label, and link back to the audience landing page]

Also check where readers could accidentally cross into the wrong path. Common trouble spots include shared links, search results, and release notes that point to a page in another audience view. When you find one of these risks, write down how the public view should prevent confusion. For example:

- Keep audience labels visible on entry pages
- Make version labels easy to spot
- Avoid linking from one audience's release notes into another audience's landing page unless that jump is intentional

This planning stage should leave you with a simple answer for every major journey: where the reader enters, what they choose next, and how Atloria keeps them in the right release view.

Setting Rules for What Appears in Each Public View

With the journeys mapped, define the visibility rules for each audience-specific public view. In Atloria, this means deciding exactly which sections, pages, and release note entries appear for each audience before anything is published. Clear rules prevent last-minute confusion when writers prepare release content across multiple versions.

Start with inclusion rules. For each audience, list the content that should always appear in its public view:

- Audience landing page
- Version-specific feature pages
- Release notes entries intended for that audience
- Upgrade or migration guidance for supported versions
- Shared documentation pages that are safe for that audience

Then define exclusion rules just as clearly. Mark content that must stay out of a public audience view, such as:

- Internal-only procedures
- Draft or pre-release material not intended for that audience
- Support workflows meant only for internal teams
- Pages that belong to a different audience journey

A shared-page plan is especially important. Sometimes the same topic appears in more than one audience view, but each audience should reach a different version path or a differently framed landing page. In that case, document:

- Which audience sees the page
- Which version path the page belongs to
- Whether the title stays the same across audiences
- Which release notes should link to it

Use consistent naming so readers can tell where they are. Your plan should define how you will label:

- Audience names
- Version labels such as current or archived
- Landing page titles
- Shared page titles that appear in more than one public view

Item to label	Keep consistent by deciding	Example planning question
Audience badge	Exact audience name	Will you use “Customers” everywhere?
Version label	Same wording across pages	Will archived pages always say “Archived”?
Landing page title	Standard title pattern	Will every audience page start with the same product name?
Shared page title	Reuse or audience-specific variation	Does the same topic need different wording for partners?

[SCREENSHOT: release planning sheet showing included pages, excluded pages, and naming rules by audience]

When these rules are written down before publishing, writers can build release content without guessing which pages belong in each public view.

Reviewing the Plan with Writers and Stakeholders

Before you publish, review the full plan with the people who own content, approvals, and public experience decisions. In Atloria, this usually means walking through the audience matrix, version paths, and reader journeys with technical writers, documentation managers, and anyone responsible for release communication. The

goal is not to redesign the plan during the meeting. The goal is to confirm ownership, scope, and publishing readiness.

Use the review to answer practical questions:

1. Which writer owns each audience landing page?
2. Who is responsible for release notes in each version path?
3. Which shared pages must appear in more than one audience view?
4. Which pages are intentionally excluded from public release views?

A live walkthrough works best when you use sample navigation flows instead of abstract discussion. Open the planned audience entry pages, then trace how a reader would move to:

1. The current version
2. An archived version
3. Release notes
4. Related feature documentation

[SCREENSHOT: review session checklist showing audience entry page, version path, release notes, and related content checks]

Ask stakeholders to confirm three things for every targeted audience:

- There is a clear public entry page
- The version path is visible and understandable
- The route to related release content is complete

You should also capture sign-off criteria in writing. Keep it simple and specific:

- Audience definitions are approved
- Version path structure is approved
- Visibility rules are approved
- Required pages exist for each release view
- Redirect decisions for moved or retired pages are approved

If your team also manages broader audience settings across projects, align this review with the guidance in [Managing Project Audiences for Targeted Documentation](#) and [Publishing Documentation for Specific Audiences](#). That way, your release view plan matches the audience structure already in use across Atloria.

Common Planning Mistakes and How to Fix Them

Audience-specific release views usually break down in predictable ways. If you catch these issues during planning, you can avoid confusing public readers after publishing.

One common mistake is sending readers into the wrong version path. This often happens when the default version selection points to an older release, or when a landing page links to the wrong release notes set. If you see this in your plan, check:

- Which version opens by default
- Whether landing page links point to the intended release
- Whether redirects send old links to the correct version path

Another issue is exposing the wrong content in an audience-specific public view. A page may be useful internally but should never appear for customers or partners. Fix this by reviewing your inclusion and exclusion rules side by side. If a page is shared, confirm that it belongs in that audience's public path and not only in an internal release view.

Navigation drift is another frequent problem. Across multiple releases, labels can become inconsistent. One version selector may say "Latest," another may use a version number, and a third may show an archived label differently. Compare these items before publishing:

- Version selector labels
- Audience labels
- Shared page titles
- Landing page naming patterns

Search can also send readers into the wrong journey. If public search results surface the wrong audience page or the wrong release, review which pages are meant to be publicly discoverable. Make sure versioned pages and audience-specific pages are the ones you expect readers to find first.

[SCREENSHOT: planning review notes highlighting wrong version default, inconsistent labels, and incorrect audience visibility]

When you find a mistake, update the release plan itself, not just the page draft. The plan should remain the single source for audience definitions, version paths, and visibility rules. That makes later publishing reviews much faster and gives your team one place to verify whether a release view is ready.

Overview

Use this planning process when your team is preparing public documentation that should look different for different reader groups across multiple releases. In Atloria, this is most useful when customers, partners, and internal teams need separate landing pages, different release notes visibility, or different paths into current and archived versions.

This document focuses on planning decisions you should make before publishing:

- Which audiences need separate public release views
- Which version paths each audience should use
- How readers move between landing pages, release notes, and feature pages
- What content appears or stays hidden in each public view
- How writers and stakeholders confirm the plan before release

This guide does not repeat the page-level review process covered in [Reviewing Audience Specific Pages in Public Documentation](#). Instead, it helps you step back and design the release structure around those pages so the public experience stays consistent once versioned content is live.

You will get the most value from this guide if you are responsible for one of these jobs:

- Planning public documentation releases
- Organizing audience-specific landing pages
- Coordinating release notes and version navigation
- Reviewing publishing scope with writers or documentation managers

By the end of your planning work, you should have a clear release map for each audience in Atloria, including entry pages, version paths, shared content rules, and sign-off criteria. That plan becomes the reference point for publishing and for later validation when you test public audience journeys.

Prerequisites

Before using this guide, make sure you already have the basic audience structure and public page review work in place. This planning process assumes you are not starting from a blank slate.

You should already have:

- A signed-in Atloria account with access to the relevant project workspace
- A project that already has documentation content, release content, or both
- Audience definitions that have been created or agreed on for the project

- A public documentation structure that has already been reviewed at the page level
- A list of versions you expect readers to access, such as current and archived releases

It also helps if you have already worked through these related guides:

- [Planning Audience Specific Documentation Experiences](#)
- [Reviewing Audience Specific Pages in Public Documentation](#)
- [Managing Version Visibility and Reader Access](#)

Bring these materials into your planning session if they are available:

- Your audience list
- Draft release notes structure
- Proposed landing pages for each audience
- Current and archived version names
- Notes about pages that were renamed, moved, or retired

If your team shares responsibility for public publishing, include the people who manage release notes, public navigation, and audience settings. That will make it easier to confirm path structure and visibility rules in one pass instead of revisiting the release plan later.

The next step is [Reading Audience Tailored Documentation](#), which shows how these planned release views translate into the actual reader experience.