

Using Technical Reference Pages During Documentation Work

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Understanding What Technical Reference Pages Add to Authored Documentation

When you write or review documentation in Atloria, you usually work with two different content sources at the same time:

- **Authored documentation pages**, such as task guides, setup instructions, onboarding content, and conceptual pages
- **Technical reference pages**, which list structured details such as API operations, configuration keys, command options, schemas, response fields, and similar reference material

These two sources serve different purposes. Authored pages explain **what someone is trying to do, when to do it, and which steps matter most**. Technical reference pages provide the exact details behind those workflows, including the official names and allowed values that need to stay accurate.

A Technical Writer usually checks a technical reference page while drafting instructions that mention exact details. For example, if a guide tells readers to send a request, run a command, add a configuration value, or use a specific field name, the writer should confirm those details against the matching reference entry before publishing. This is especially useful for checking endpoint paths, command flags, request fields, response properties, and exact product terminology.

A Documentation Manager uses the same reference pages differently during review. Instead of checking one sentence at a time, they compare the reference coverage with the published guides to spot gaps. That often reveals features that exist in the reference but are not explained anywhere in the authored documentation, or naming differences between a workflow guide and the official reference entry.

The goal is not to turn every guide into a long reference page. In Atloria, the best documentation combines both: the guide explains the workflow, and the technical reference page confirms the exact details. Used together, they help you validate

terminology, close content gaps, and keep documentation complete without making task-based content harder to read.

[SCREENSHOT: An Atloria documentation page open beside a technical reference page for the same feature]

Locating the Reference Details You Need While Drafting

When you are editing a documentation page in Atloria, start by identifying the parts of the draft that need exact verification. These are usually the places where the text mentions something readers must enter, select, call, or copy exactly. Common examples include command syntax, option names, request body fields, environment variables, response fields, and labels that appear in the product.

Once you know what needs checking, open the matching technical reference page for that feature area. If you are already familiar with browsing reference sections, use the same navigation approach covered in [Browsing Technical Reference Sections and Entities](#). The key difference here is your purpose: you are not browsing to learn what exists, but to confirm a specific detail before updating a guide.

Use the navigation tools on the reference page to jump directly to the right item. Depending on the page, this may include:

- A page table of contents
- A search box
- An endpoint list
- A command list
- A schema section
- A configuration table
- An index of documented items

Match your guide text to the exact reference entry. If your draft mentions an API call, compare it with the operation heading on the reference page. If it mentions a command, check the usage section and option list. If it mentions a field, confirm the spelling and structure in the parameter table or schema area.

Before you return to the draft, capture the canonical term exactly as shown. Pay attention to capitalization, hyphenation, spacing, and whether the name is singular or plural. Small differences can create confusion, especially when a guide mixes a conversational label with a formal reference term.

[SCREENSHOT: A technical reference page showing a search box, section navigation, and a detailed entry highlighted]

Using Reference Pages to Validate Terminology and Naming

One of the most valuable uses of technical reference pages in Atloria is terminology validation. Even strong workflow content can become unreliable if it uses names that do not match the official reference pages. During writing and review, compare the terms in your guide against the names shown in reference headings, field tables, property lists, value lists, and command sections.

This matters most when a guide uses a friendly or marketing-style label, but the technical reference page presents a different official name. For example, a guide might describe a feature in broad language, while the reference page shows the exact resource name, configuration key, or command wording readers will actually see in technical documentation. When that happens, use the official reference term as your source of truth and adjust the guide so the wording stays consistent.

You should also standardize how literal names appear in prose. If a guide mentions a request field, query parameter, header, or environment variable, keep that name in a literal style instead of rewriting it into plain language. Readers need to recognize the exact item when they move from the guide to the reference page. A sentence can still be easy to read while preserving the exact field or option name.

Technical reference pages are also useful for catching outdated names. If an older authored page still mentions a removed option, a legacy endpoint, or a previous property name, compare it with the current reference entry. If the old term no longer appears there, the guide likely needs revision.

A practical review habit is to scan for these mismatch types:

- Different capitalization for the same item
- Singular wording in one place and plural wording in another
- Older labels that no longer appear in current reference pages
- Natural-language rewrites of exact field or option names
- Multiple names used for the same concept without clarification

Using the reference page as the naming standard keeps Atloria documentation easier to trust, search, and maintain.

Filling Documentation Gaps from APIs, Commands, and Configuration References

Technical reference pages are often the fastest way to find missing documentation coverage. While guides focus on workflows, reference pages show the full set of available details. In Atloria, that makes them useful for spotting items that exist in the product documentation set but are not yet explained in authored content.

As you review a reference page, look for entries that appear important to real users but are missing from task-based pages. These may include newly added request parameters, command options, response fields, webhook events, or configuration settings. The question is not whether every item deserves its own guide paragraph. Instead, ask whether a user following a workflow would need to know that the item exists, when to use it, or how to choose between available options.

A helpful way to decide what belongs where is to separate **workflow guidance** from **full reference detail**:

- Put required steps, decision points, and common choices in authored guides
- Leave exhaustive lists, complete schemas, and long option tables in the technical reference page
- Add a direct link from the guide to the exact reference section when readers may need advanced detail

For example, a guide should explain which option a user must choose during setup and why it matters. It does not need to repeat every possible option if the reference page already lists them clearly. In that case, link to the exact operation, command section, schema definition, or configuration row that expands the detail.

This approach also improves completeness without overloading the guide. If the reference page lists a setting that changes behavior in an important workflow, add a short explanation in the guide about when someone would use it. If the setting is purely advanced detail, keep the guide focused and point readers to the reference entry.

[SCREENSHOT: A task guide with a link to a specific technical reference section for advanced details]

Reviewing Coverage Across the Documentation Set

Technical reference pages can also act as a coverage checklist for your documentation set. Instead of reviewing one guide at a time, compare the major

categories shown in the reference area with the guides already published in Atloria. This helps you see whether important topics are fully supported by workflow content or only listed in reference form.

Start by grouping the reference content into broad categories such as:

- API operations
- Commands and options
- Configuration keys
- Events
- Schemas and fields
- Other documented technical items shown in the reference navigation

Then compare those categories with your authored pages. You are looking for high-risk gaps, especially where a user could complete a task incorrectly because a guide leaves out a required detail that appears clearly in the reference. Typical examples include setup instructions that never mention required environment variables, task pages that skip mandatory request fields, or troubleshooting content that does not mention errors documented in the reference.

To keep this review manageable, track findings in a simple audit table.

Reference item	Current authored page	Missing explanation	Update owner
Specific operation, command, field, or setting	Guide that should mention it	What the guide is missing	Writer or reviewer responsible

This kind of audit list helps Technical Writers and Documentation Managers prioritize updates instead of relying on memory or scattered review comments.

It is also worth checking whether links work in both directions where that would help readers. A workflow guide should point to the exact reference entry for deeper detail. In some cases, the reference page may also point back to a guide that explains when to use the item in a real workflow. If you need a refresher on moving through these reference sections efficiently, see [Managing Technical Documentation Browsing Inside Projects](#) and [Using API Reference Pages in Published and Project Views](#).

Fixing Common Problems When Reference Pages and Guides Do Not Match

When a guide and a technical reference page do not agree, treat that mismatch as a review signal rather than a formatting issue. In Atloria, these differences usually point to one of three problems: the guide is outdated, the reference page is incomplete, or the content needs clearer context.

A common case is a guide that mentions a field, option, or flag that no longer appears on the current reference page. Start by checking whether the guide is older than the current reference content or whether the item belongs to a different version. If the guide is outdated, update the wording and remove the old reference. If the item should still exist but is missing from the reference page, flag that gap for follow-up rather than silently leaving the mismatch in place.

The reverse problem also happens: the reference page lists a parameter, option, or setting, but no authored documentation explains when someone would use it. In that case, decide whether the item needs workflow context. Sometimes a short note in an existing task page is enough. In other cases, the best fix is a direct link from the guide to the exact reference section so advanced readers can explore it without cluttering the main instructions.

You may also find that the product interface, command wording, and reference terminology use different names for the same concept. When that happens, choose the canonical term readers are most likely to encounter in the product or the current reference page, then add a brief clarifying phrase if an alternate name still appears elsewhere.

Signs that completeness still needs work include:

- Missing links to exact reference sections
- Guides that mention advanced options without examples
- Reference entries with no workflow context anywhere in the docs
- Tables or schema sections that are never linked from related guides
- Older pages that still use legacy names

For a broader review approach, pair this work with [Understanding Entity Detail Pages in Technical Documentation](#) and [Viewing Technical Entities and Related Reference Details](#).

Overview

Use this workflow when you are actively writing, editing, or reviewing documentation in Atloria and need to make sure narrative pages stay accurate without becoming

overloaded with raw reference detail. The core idea is simple: keep workflow pages focused on what the reader is trying to accomplish, and use technical reference pages to verify the exact details behind those instructions.

This is especially useful in these situations:

- You are drafting a task page and need to confirm exact names before publishing
- You are reviewing an older guide for outdated terminology
- You are checking whether newly documented technical items are reflected in user-facing guidance
- You are auditing a project's documentation set for missing coverage
- You are deciding whether a detail belongs in a guide or should remain in the reference page

In practice, the work usually follows a repeatable pattern:

1. Open the authored page you are writing or reviewing.
2. Mark the statements that depend on exact technical wording.
3. Open the matching technical reference page.
4. Confirm names, paths, fields, options, and values against the reference entry.
5. Update the guide with the official term and add a direct reference link where deeper detail is useful.
6. Record any uncovered gaps for follow-up if the reference page and guide still do not align.

This document focuses on how reference pages support documentation work after you already know how to browse them. If you need help navigating the reference area itself, return to [Browsing Technical Reference Sections and Entities](#). From there, you can come back to this workflow and apply that navigation knowledge during real writing and review tasks.

[SCREENSHOT: An Atloria project documentation workspace with an authored page and related technical reference page open for comparison]

Prerequisites

Before you use technical reference pages during documentation work in Atloria, make sure you already have access to the content areas you need and enough context to compare authored pages with reference material effectively.

You should have:

- Access to the relevant project workspace in Atloria
- Permission to open the authored documentation pages you are reviewing or editing
- Access to the project's technical reference section
- A specific page, workflow, or feature area you want to validate
- Basic familiarity with navigating reference sections and entity pages

It also helps if you already know which type of detail you are checking. For example, you may be validating:

- API paths and request details
- Command names and options
- Configuration settings
- Field names and response properties
- Product terminology used across guides and reference pages

If you have not yet worked through the earlier reference-reading material, review these first:

- [Reading API and Technical Reference Pages](#)
- [Exploring API Reference Sections Inside Projects](#)
- [Browsing Technical Reference Sections and Entities](#)

You may also want nearby documentation pages open while you work, especially if you are reviewing coverage across a larger set of guides. Keeping the authored page and the matching technical reference page visible at the same time makes it much easier to compare wording, spot naming mismatches, and decide where a direct cross-link would help readers most.

From here, the next useful step is usually to apply the same review method to live project updates, version reviews, or release preparation work elsewhere in your Atloria documentation process.