

URL Optimizers

<https://campus.barracuda.com/doc/48660625/>

Typically, web applications contain a large number of URLs in which the parts of the URL are static/same. When **Learning** is enabled for a web application on the Barracuda Web Application Firewall, URL profiles and parameter profiles are created based on the traffic processed by the Barracuda Web Application Firewall according to a set of matching criteria specified on the **WEBSITES > Adaptive Profiling** page, in the **Adaptive Profiling** section. In this scenario, the Barracuda Web Application Firewall creates a URL profile for each URL, which may result in populating a large number of profiles with the same parameters.

For example: Consider `www.foobar.com` is a web application for which **Learning** was enabled and resulted in the following URL profiles:

`www.foobar.com/abc/example1. html`

`www.foobar.com/abc/example2. html`

`www.foobar.com/abc/example3. html`

`www.foobar.com/abc/example4. html`

...

...

...

`www.foobar.com/abc/example200. html`

Managing a huge number of profiles having the same security requirement can become unnecessarily complex to handle. You can handle such issues by categorizing specific URL spaces and coalescing multiple URL profiles into one. The URL profiles mentioned in the example above can be coalesced as follows:

- **Start Token:** `/abc/example`
- **End Delimiter:** period/dot (`.`)

Where:

- **Start Token** is configured with the URL path substring that remains constant in all URLs mentioned in the example above.
- **End Delimiter** is configured with the character whose occurrence after the **Start Token** denotes the end of the variable portion of the URL.

This will coalesce all the URL profiles into one URL profile, i.e., `/abc/example*.html`. Any request sent to `/abc/example1.html` to `/abc/example200.html` will match the `/abc/example*.html` URL profile.

Using URL Optimizers

You can configure URL optimizers in any of the following two ways:

1. If you have prior knowledge of the directory structure of the web application, configure URL optimizers before enabling **Learning** for the web application.
2. Enable **Learning** for the web application and allow the Barracuda Web Application Firewall to create profiles for the web application. This may result in creating multiple URL profiles with identifiable patterns. Note the created patterns, configure the URL optimizers, and click **Merge** to coalesce multiple URL profiles into one.

Steps to Add a URL Optimizer

1. Go to the **WEBSITES > Adaptive Profiling** page.
2. In the **URL Optimizers** section, click **Add** next to the service for which you want to add a URL optimizer. The **Create URL Profile Optimizer** page appears.
3. In the **Create URL Profile Optimizer** page, specify values for **Optimizer Name**, **Start Token**, and **End Delimiter**:
4. Click **Save**.

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