KNOWLEDGE BASE ARTICLE

Tile-Based Navigation in SharePoint with Smart Tiles

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Table Of Contents

Introduction 4

Adding Smart Tiles 4

Web Part Configuration 5

- **Appearance Settings** 6
- **Tiles** 7
- **Additional Settings** 8

Adding a Full-Width Section (Optional) 9

- **Adding the Web Part to the Section** 9

Summary 10

Terms 11

Introduction

Good navigation is essential for keeping a SharePoint Online site useful and engaging. The Smart Tiles web part provides tile-based navigation, so you can build clear, visually appealing layouts that make important content easy to reach.

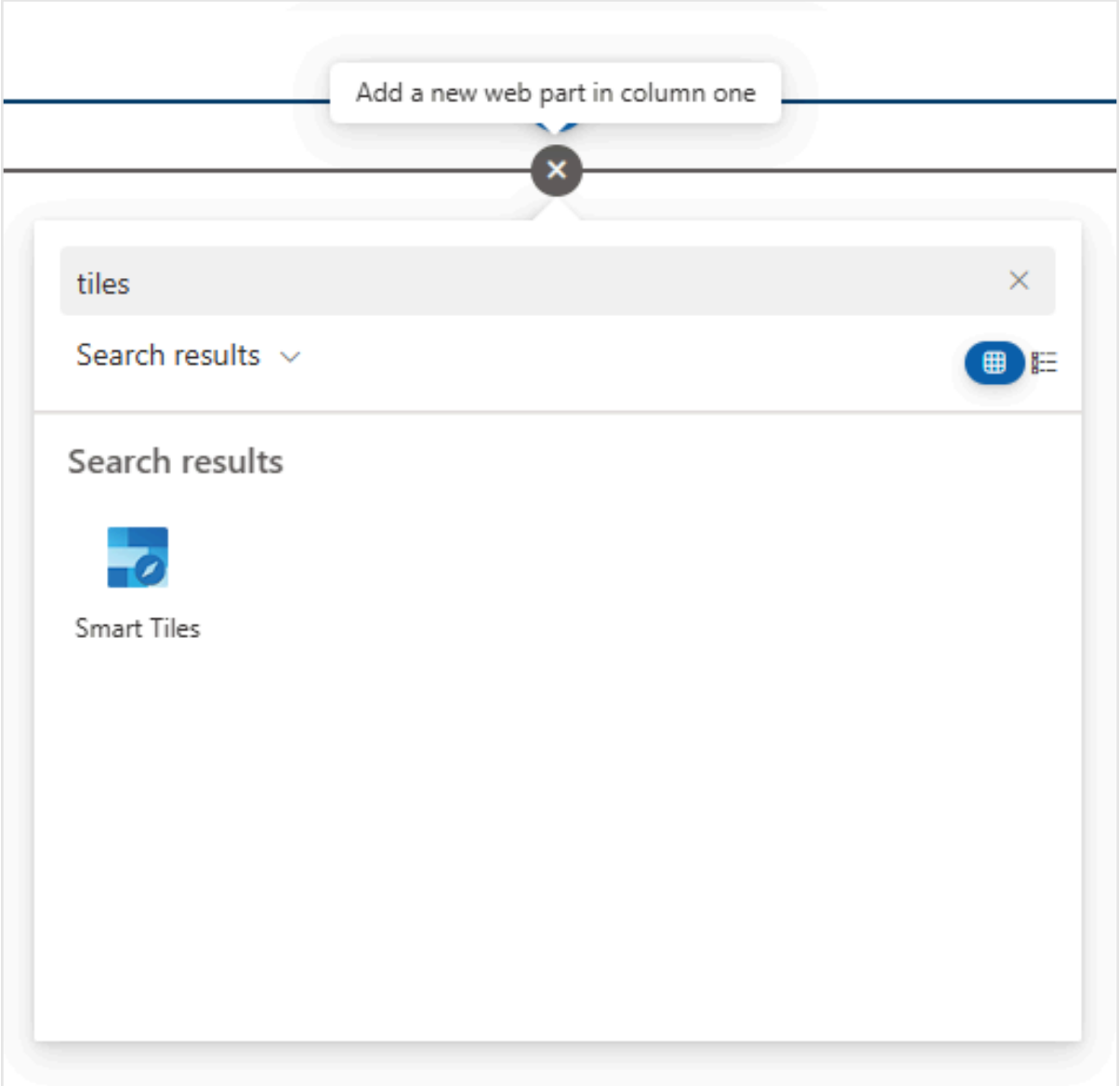
This article covers the main features of Smart Tiles and how to add and configure the web part on your pages.

Note

Smart Tiles does not support classic pages. Use it only with the new **Modern UI**.

Adding Smart Tiles

Open the page where you want to add tile navigation in edit mode. Hover above or below an existing section until a line with a plus sign appears, then click it to open the **web part gallery**. Find the "Smart Tiles" web part by browsing or using the search bar, and click it to add it to the page.



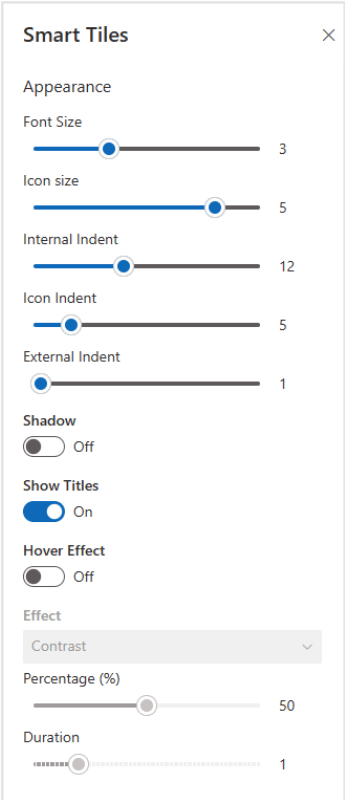
Web Part Gallery

Tip

Smart Tiles can fill the full width of the screen, making the most of the available space on wide displays.

Web Part Configuration

After adding the Smart Tiles web part, click the **Edit web part** button to open a configuration panel on the right, where you can customize the settings.

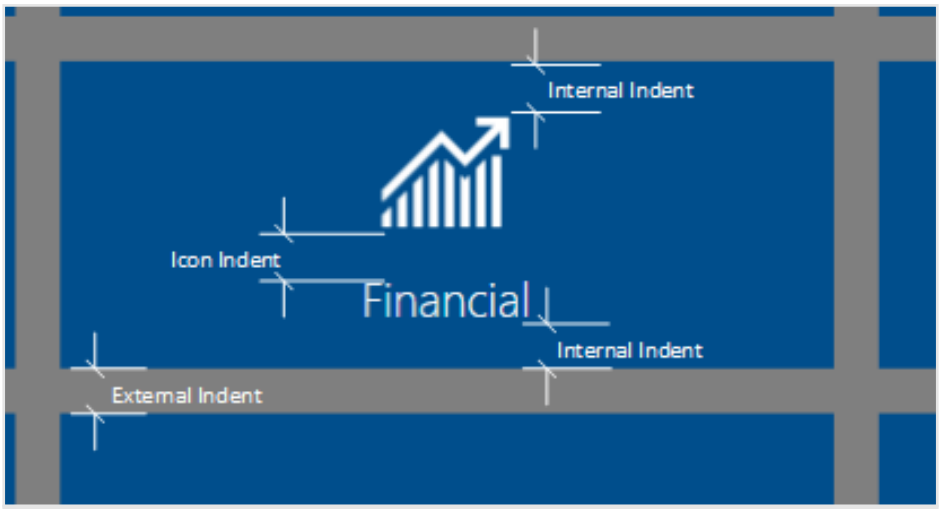


Web Part Settings

Appearance Settings

The Smart Tiles web part offers a range of options for customizing the appearance of the tiles, so you can match your navigation to your organization's branding and preferences.

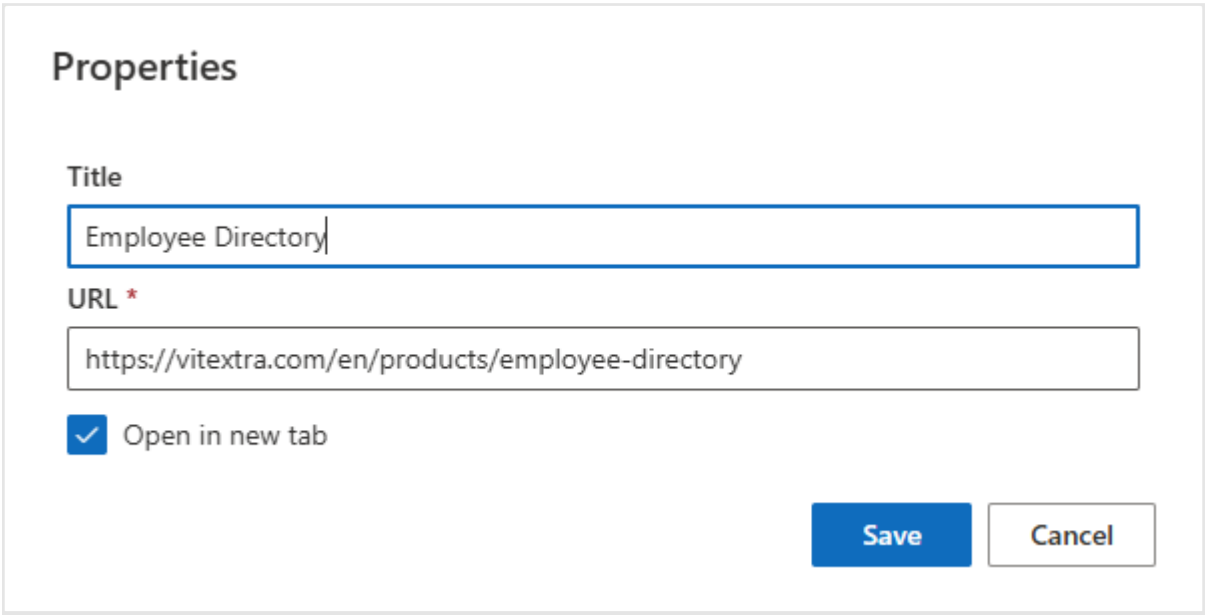
- **Font Size**: Adjust the size of the tile caption, from 13px to 42px, for readability across devices.
- **Icon Size**: Control the size of the tile icon, from 2em to 5em.
- **Internal Indent**: Set the tile padding, in pixels, for a balanced look.
- **Icon Indent**: Set the icon's bottom margin, in pixels, for visual separation.
- **External Indent**: Set the tile margin, in pixels, to control spacing between tiles.
- **Shadow**: Show or hide a drop shadow under the icon for added depth.
- **Show Titles**: Show or hide the tile titles for a cleaner look.
- **Hover Effect**: Add effects that activate when the user hovers over a tile.



Vitextra Smart Tile Indents

Tiles

To manage a tile, open its context menu.



Tile properties

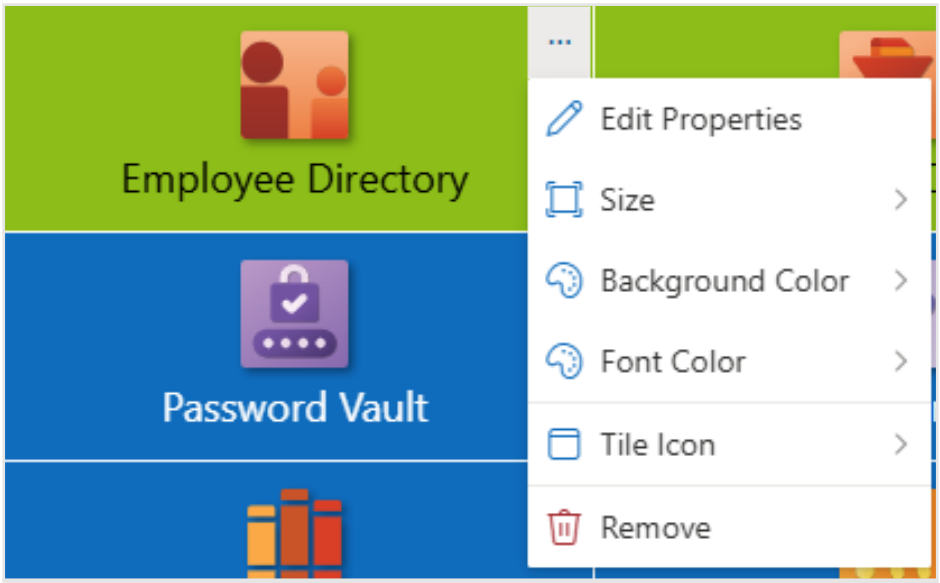
The properties of each tile are described in the following table:

Property	Description
Caption	Title of the tile, always displayed on one line for clarity.
URL	The hyperlink associated with the tile, directing users to relevant content.
Color	The tile color, set to the current theme

Property	Description
	accent color or one of the predefined colors.
Size	The vertical size of the tile.
Icon	Choose from four predefined icon sets: https://developer.microsoft.com/en-us/fluentui#/styles/web/icons, Azure Apps, Microsoft 365 Apps, and Vitextra Apps.
Open in new tab	Open the linked content in a new browser tab.

Additional Settings

Beyond the basic tile properties, you can set the text and icon color. Text can be black or white for good contrast against the tile background. If you don't choose a color, the text color is derived from the tile color, keeping the design in harmony.



Tile menu

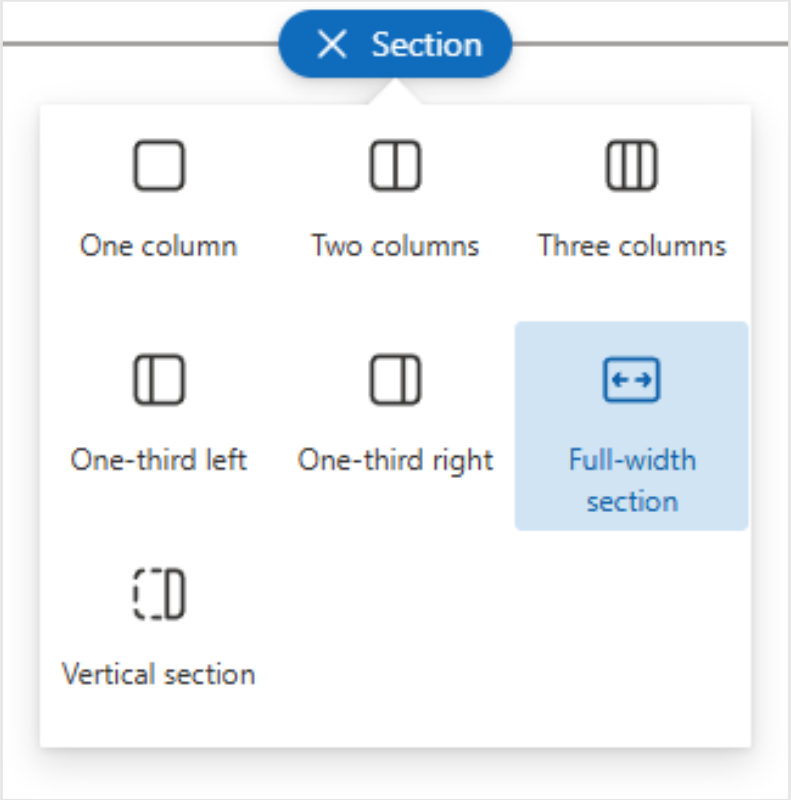
Note

The icon color option applies only to Fluent UI icons; other icon sets ignore this setting.

Adding a Full-Width Section (Optional)

To use Smart Tiles in a **full-width section**, first add a full-width section to the page. This layout maximizes the visual impact of your tiles.

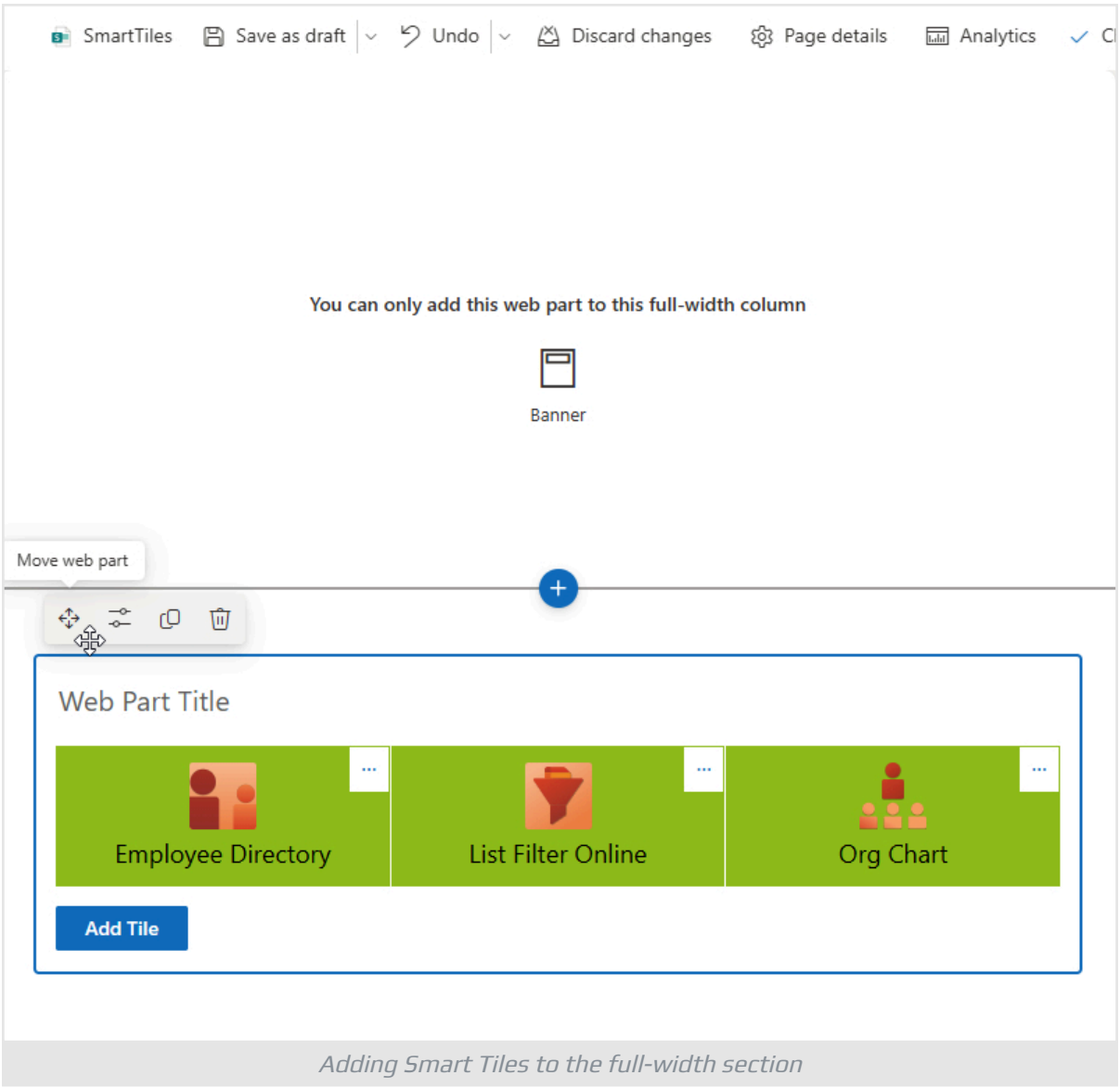
Click the **+** icon on the left side of the page to add a new section, then choose **Full-width section** from the layout options so your content can span the entire page width.



Adding a full-width section

Adding the Web Part to the Section

To place the Smart Tiles web part in the full-width section, move it from a regular section into the full-width one to take full advantage of the screen space.



Adding Smart Tiles to the full-width section

With these steps, you can create clear, attractive tile navigation in **SharePoint Online**.

Summary

Smart Tiles brings visual, tile-based navigation to SharePoint Online. This article showed how to add the web part, configure its appearance, manage individual tile properties, and use a full-width section for maximum impact.

Together, these options let you build clear, attractive navigation that makes important content easier to reach and helps your team work more effectively.

Terms

Full-width section
Full-width section in SharePoint Online is a layout option that allows content to span the entire width of the page, providing a more immersive and visually impactful presentation for elements like images and videos.

Modern SharePoint UI
Modern SharePoint UI is available in SharePoint 2019 and SharePoint Online. Modern SharePoint UI is not compatible with Classic SharePoint UI. Server-side web parts and other UI extensions such as Ribbon Elements, User Controls not supported by Modern UI.

SharePoint Online
Cloud version of SharePoint, a web-based collaborative platform within Microsoft 365 provides an extensive range of capabilities to store, share, and manage digital information, content, and knowledge of an organization.

Web Part Gallery
The SharePoint Web Part Gallery is a centralized repository within SharePoint where users can discover, access, and manage various pre-built components, known as web parts, to enhance the functionality and customization of their SharePoint sites. It offers a diverse range of tools and widgets developed by Microsoft and third-party developers, empowering users to easily extend and tailor their SharePoint experience to meet specific business needs without extensive coding or development.