

# Defining expressions

Each derived property must have one or more expressions defining the criteria for searching the result elements.



It is strongly recommended that you specify the customization target in the customization element before defining the expression for its derived property.

To open the dialog for a new expression definition

1. Select the attribute with the [stereotype «derivedPropertySpecification»](#).
2. Open the attribute's [Specification window](#).
3. In the general specification pane (opened by default), click the **Expression** property and then click the ... button. The **Expression** dialog opens, and you can then construct predefined expressions or define your custom operation for calculating derived property values.



Learn more about derived properties, see the [Custom traceability rules](#) page. For more information on expression specification, see the [Specifying criteria for querying model](#) page.

## Related pages

- [Extending Metamodel with Derived Properties](#)