

Condition match modes

Note: This feature is currently in beta and is available only to early adopters.

All Compliance Condition types support three match modes:

- **Loose**
- **Sequential**
- **Strict**

Match mode determines how the order of the Condition input lines affects evaluation of the Condition against the selected Source.

Mode	Order required	Content allowed between matches
Loose	No	Yes
Sequential	Yes	Yes
Strict	Yes	No

Example Source:

```
hostname R1

interface Ethernet1
  description Uplink
  ip address 10.0.0.1/24

interface Ethernet2
  description LAN
  ip address 192.168.1.1/24

router ospf
  network 10.0.0.0/24 area 0
```

Suppose the Condition type is "Source contains" and the Condition input is:

```
interface Ethernet1
  ip address 10.0.0.1/24
```

The table below shows the Condition evaluation status for each match mode using the example source and Condition input:

Match mode	Condition Status	Explanation
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Loose	Successful	Both lines exist in the source.
Sequential	Successful	The lines appear in the correct order.
Strict	Failed	The "description Uplink" line appears between them.

Loose Mode

Loose mode verifies that all input lines exist somewhere in the source. The order is ignored. Additional content between matching lines is irrelevant.

Example Input 1:

```
description LAN  
hostname R1
```

Result: Condition successful

Although the order of the input lines differs from the source, both lines are present.

Example Input 2:

```
hostname R1  
description WAN
```

Result: Condition failed

The line description WAN does not exist in the source.

Sequential Mode

Sequential mode requires all input lines to appear in the source in the same order as entered. Other lines may appear between them.

Example Input 1:

```
interface Ethernet1  
ip address 10.0.0.1/24
```

Result: Condition successful

The two input lines appear in the source in the correct order. The "description Uplink" line between them is ignored.

Example Input 2:

```
ip address 10.0.0.1/24  
interface Ethernet1
```

Result: Condition failed

The input lines appear in the source in reverse order.

Strict Mode

Strict mode requires the input lines to appear consecutively. No additional text may exist between the matching lines in the source.

Example Input 1:

```
interface Ethernet1
description Uplink
ip address 10.0.0.1/24
```

Result: Condition successful

These three lines appear consecutively.

Example Input 2:

```
interface Ethernet1
ip address 10.0.0.1/24
```

Result: Condition failed

The source contains the line "description Uplink" between the two input lines. Strict mode therefore fails.

Choosing the Right Match Mode

Use case	Recommended mode
Verify several independent configuration lines exist	Loose
Verify the order of configuration commands	Sequential
Verify an exact configuration block	Strict