

SFC Featured Categories, Magento Extension Documentation

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Developer: StoreFront Consulting, Inc.

Platform: Magento

Magento Version Compatibility: 1.3.x, 1.4.x Community, 1.6.x, 1.7.x Enterprise

Extension Name: SFC_FeaturedCategories

Extension Version: 1.0.3

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1. Featured Categories Extension Overview

StoreFront Consulting has developed the Featured Categories extension to give merchants the ability to feature selected categories on their store home page or other pages. The extension allows a “Featured Categories” block to be placed on the home page or in any CMS page or static block. The “Featured Categories” block displays selected categories, along with thumbnail versions of their respective categories images and selected sub-categories for each.

The extension also provides functionality in the Magento Admin interface. Individual store categories can be selected as featured categories or sub-categories, allowing merchants to tailor to contents of the “Featured Categories” block to suite their individual needs.

This document covers the installation and use of the extension.

2. Featured Categories Extension Installation

Follow the below instructions to install the Featured Categories extension on your Magento installation.

1. Unzip the extension source files.
2. Copy the ‘app’ folder from the extension source files to the app folder in your Magento base installation folder. Files should be installed in the following locations under your Magento base folder:

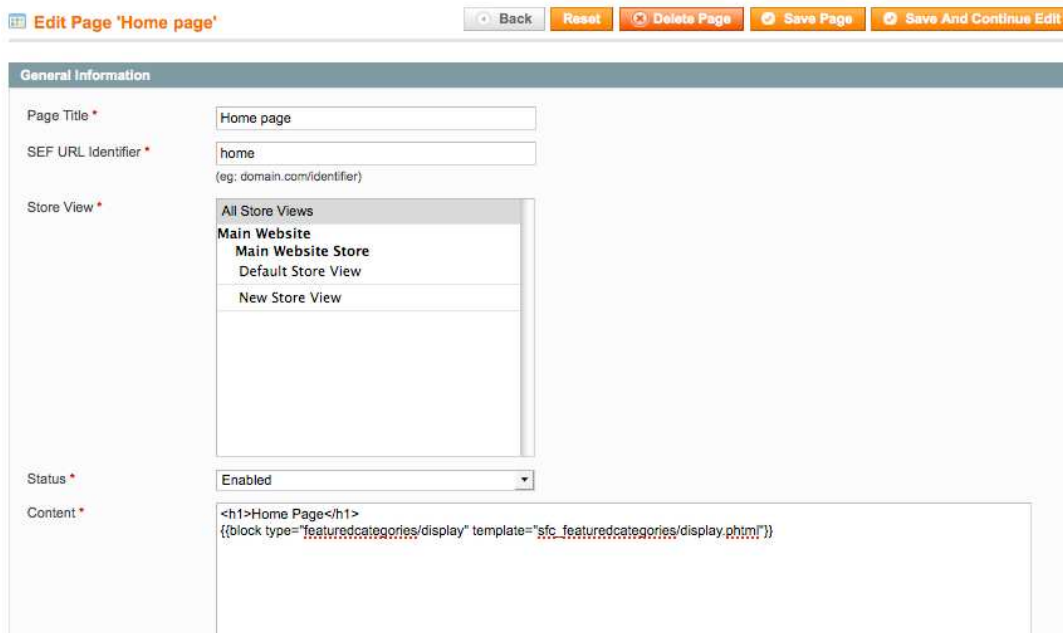
app/code/local/SFC/FeaturedCategories
app/design/frontend/default/default/layout
app/design/frontend/default/default/template/sfc_featuredcategories
app/etc/modules

3. If you are using a custom theme / template, you may also need to install the extension template files into your custom template folder. For example, if your custom theme is named ‘customtemplate1’, you should place files from the ‘app/design/frontend/default/default’ folder in the extension installation package into you ‘app/design/frontend/default/customtemplate1’ folder.
4. Ensure that file permissions and ownership are set consistently with the rest of your Magento installation. We recommend 644 permissions for all files and 755 permissions for folders.
5. In the Magento store administrative interface, navigate to the System > Configuration > Advanced page. Verify that the SFC_FeaturedCategories module is installed and enabled.
6. The extension is now installed and ready to use.

3. Using the Featured Categories Extension

There are just a few steps to configure the extension. Follow these steps to place the Featured Categories block on your Magento store home page.

1. Add the Featured Categories Block to your site on the desired page. For this Example we will add the block to the home page.



The screenshot shows the 'Edit Page' interface for the 'Home page'. At the top, there are buttons for 'Back', 'Reset', 'Delete Page', 'Save Page', and 'Save And Continue Edit'. Below these is the 'General Information' tab. The 'Page Title' field contains 'Home page'. The 'SEF URL Identifier' field contains 'home' with a note '(eg: domain.com/identifier)'. The 'Store View' dropdown menu is open, showing 'All Store Views', 'Main Website', 'Main Website Store', 'Default Store View', and 'New Store View'. The 'Status' dropdown menu is set to 'Enabled'. The 'Content' field contains the code: <h1>Home Page</h1>{{block type='featuredcategories/display' template='sfc_featuredcategories/display.phtml'}}.

Figure 1 Adding "Featured Categories" Block to Home Page

In the Magento Admin interface, navigate to CMS > Manage Pages and select the home page for your store. Add the code below to the content section in the location where you would like the Featured Categories block to display. Click "Save Page" to save the page and return to Manage Pages page.

```
{{block type="featuredcategories/display"
    template="sfc_featuredcategories/display.phtml" }}
```

Figure 2 "Featured Categories" CMS Code

2. Add Featured Categories & Sub Categories

Now that you have installed the Featured Categories Extension you will see two additional fields in the Manage Category page, "Featured Category?" and "Featured Sub-Category?" These fields control which categories will be displayed in the Featured Categories block.

In the Magento Admin interface, navigate to Catalog > Manage Categories and select a category that you would like to feature. Select Yes for "Featured Category?" If you do not already have an image for the category, select and upload an image. Finally, click "Save Category" to apply the changes. Repeat this process for as many featured categories and sub-categories you would like.

The screenshot displays the Magento Admin interface for managing categories. On the left, the 'Categories' sidebar shows a tree structure with 'Tees' selected under 'Clothing'. The main content area is titled 'Tees (ID: 5)' and includes buttons for 'Reset', 'Delete Category', and 'Save Category'. The 'General Information' tab is active, showing fields for Name, Is Active, URL key, Description, Image, Page Title, Meta Keywords, Meta Description, Featured Category?, and Featured Sub-Category?.

Field	Value	Scope
Name *	Tees	[STORE VIEW]
Is Active	Yes	[STORE VIEW]
URL key	tees	[GLOBAL]
Description		[STORE VIEW]
Image		[STORE VIEW]
Page Title		[STORE VIEW]
Meta Keywords		[STORE VIEW]
Meta Description		[STORE VIEW]
Featured Category?	Yes	[GLOBAL]
Featured Sub-Category?	No	[GLOBAL]

Figure 3 Configuring Featured Categories and Sub-Categories

- Now the “Featured Categories” block should appear on your store’s home page. Verify that the block is displaying and the desired categories are visible.

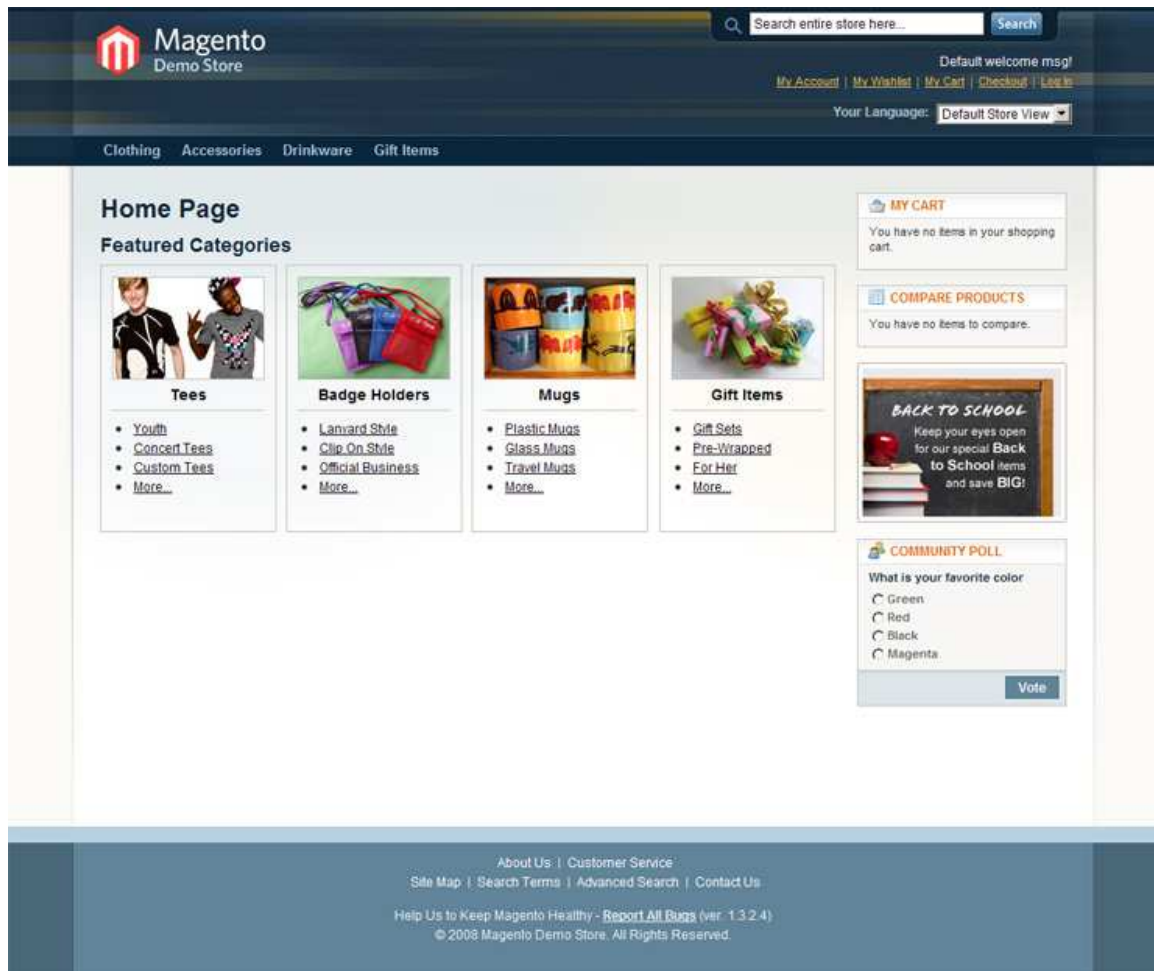


Figure 4 Example of the "Featured Categories" Block on Home Page