

Watch E-commerce Website – Complete End-to-End Project Plan (0 → 100)

This document is a complete, production-grade roadmap for building a professional watch e-commerce website using Django, Postgres, Tailwind, and modern best practices. It covers every phase from scope definition to deployment, with deliverables and acceptance criteria for each stage.

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Phase 0 – Scope & Outcomes (1 day)

- Define MVP: product listing, product detail, cart, checkout (no online payment in MVP), admin management.
- Backlog 'Next' items: online payment, advanced filters, accounts, coupons, search.
- Decide on temporary brand name, simple logo, and branding direction.
- Establish design system: typography, primary colors (#0B0B0B black, #F7F7F7 white, #D4AF37 gold).
- Deliverable: 1 page scope doc + finalized palette & fonts.

Phase 1 – Project Setup (0.5 day)

- Create Django project and apps: catalog, orders, accounts, core.
- Configure STATIC/MEDIA, database (SQLite initially, Postgres later).
- Integrate Tailwind (JIT) with RTL support.
- Deliverable: Home page renders with Tailwind build.

Phase 2 – Data Modeling (1–2 days)

- Models: Brand, Category, Product, ProductImage, Cart, CartItem, Order, OrderItem.
- Optional: Variant model (sku, stock, price, band size, color).
- Indexes for slug, is_active, brand, category for performance.
- Methods: Product.get_final_price(), Product.in_stock().
- Deliverable: Migrations applied, admin shows models.

Phase 3 – Admin UX (0.5–1 day)

- Add ListDisplay and Filters for product list (brand, category, is_active).
- Inline ProductImage in admin form.
- Enable search by title and slug.
- Bulk actions: activate/deactivate, set category.
- Deliverable: Easy management of products and images.

Phase 4 – Seed Data (0.5 day)

- Prepare ~20 sample watches across brands, price ranges, and styles.
- Attach 1000px square images; generate thumbnails using Pillow.
- Deliverable: Database seeded with realistic dataset.

Phase 5 – Frontend MVP Pages (2–3 days)

- Routes: / (home), /watches/, /watches//, /cart/, /checkout/.
- Home: hero banner, featured watches, new arrivals.
- Product listing: responsive grid with cards showing image, name, price, and badges.
- Product detail: gallery with thumbnails, technical specs, add to cart button, related products.
- Cart: table of items (thumbnail, name, price, qty, subtotal).
- Checkout: short form (name, phone, city, address, postal code) + order summary.
- Deliverable: Full browsing and checkout flow without payment.

Phase 6 – Cart & Orders (1–2 days)

- Session/user■bound cart with add/update/remove functionality.
- Server■side totals with tax/discount logic.
- Convert cart to order with OrderItems.
- Email confirmation to customer (console in dev, Celery in prod).
- Deliverable: Orders created correctly; cart flow works.

Phase 7 – Filters & Sorting (1 day)

- Filters: price range, brand, color, band material, water resistance.
- Sorting options: newest, cheapest, most expensive.
- Querystring■based implementation with active state highlights.
- Deliverable: Usable, shareable filtered product listings.

Phase 8 – Search (0.5–1 day)

- Simple icontains search across product title, brand, category.
- Optional: highlight matching keywords in results.
- Deliverable: Accurate, fast search results.

Phase 9 – Online Payments (1–2 days, upgrade)

- Integrate Zarinpal/NextPay gateway (Stripe for international).
- Payment model; create payment, redirect to gateway, verify callback.
- Update order.status=paid on success.
- Prevent double charges; handle webhooks.
- Deliverable: Successful end■to■end test transaction.

Phase 10 – Accounts & Addresses (1–1.5 days)

- Implement user accounts with email/password (OTP later).

- User dashboard: order history, saved addresses, wishlist (optional).
- Deliverable: Users can log in and view their past orders.

Phase 11 – Coupons & Discounts (0.5–1 day)

- Coupon model: percent/fixed value, min spend, active dates, usage limits.
- Validation at checkout for expiry, limits, minimum spend.
- Deliverable: Discounts correctly applied in orders.

Phase 12 – Reviews & Ratings (0.5–1 day)

- Review model with rating, text, user, approval flag.
- Moderation via admin before public display.
- Show average rating and recent reviews on product detail page.
- Deliverable: Product reviews visible with anti-spam measures.

Phase 13 – SEO & Marketing (1 day)

- Add dynamic meta tags, Open Graph tags.
- Create sitemap.xml and robots.txt.
- Add breadcrumbs for navigation and SEO.
- Schema.org structured data for products and offers.
- Deliverable: Lighthouse SEO score ≥ 90 , crawlable pages.

Phase 14 – Performance & Scaling (1–2 days)

- Optimize queries with `select_related` and `prefetch_related`.
- Implement caching for product lists and fragments.
- Image optimization: thumbnails, WebP, lazy loading.
- Enable gzip/Brotli compression in Nginx.
- Deliverable: Fast TTFB and improved scalability.

Phase 15 – Security & Compliance (0.5–1 day)

- Enforce CSRF protection, HTTPS, secure cookies.
- Add HSTS, `X-Frame-Options`, Content Security Policy (no unsafe-eval).
- Validate all inputs on client and server.
- Add anti-spam protection on reviews.
- Deliverable: No security warnings in scans.

Phase 16 – Logging, Monitoring, Analytics (0.5 day)

- Integrate Sentry for error tracking.
- Healthcheck endpoint for uptime monitoring.
- Google Analytics/Matomo with user consent.
- Deliverable: Errors captured, traffic analytics dashboard live.

Phase 17 – Testing (1 day)

- Unit tests for models (pricing, stock, coupon logic).
- Integration tests for cart and checkout flows.
- E2E tests (Playwright/Cypress) for purchase flow.
- Deliverable: CI pipeline green; all critical flows tested.

Phase 18 – Deployment (1 day)

- Dockerfile with multi-stage build (Gunicorn + Nginx).
- Managed Postgres instance; run collectstatic & migrations.
- Serve static/media via S3 or local volume.
- Enable HTTPS with reverse proxy and SSL cert.
- Deliverable: Stable production deployment.

Phase 19 – Real Payments & Legal Pages (0.5–1 day)

- Switch to live payment gateway.
- Add Terms of Service and Privacy Policy pages.
- Generate PDF invoices for orders with numbering.
- Deliverable: Real purchase works; legal compliance covered.

Phase 20 – Final UX Polish (1 day)

- Add micro-interactions, skeleton loaders, and empty states.
- Create brand landing pages with hero banners.
- Basic recommendations system for related products.
- Deliverable: Smooth, mobile-first polished UX.

Extras – Folder Structure, UI Components, Services, MVP Checklist

Suggested Folder Structure:

shop/ core/, catalog/, orders/, accounts/, static/, templates/

Key UI Components (Tailwind):

- Product card: image, name, price, hover state.
- Product gallery: main image + thumbnails.
- Accordion filters with counts (Brand (12), Color (8)).
- Toast notifications for add to cart.

Service Layers:

- pricing.py: compute final price including discounts.
- checkout.py: build order from cart.
- gateways/zarinpal.py: initiate & verify transactions.

MVP Acceptance Checklist:

- Admin can create/edit product with multiple images.
- Catalog pages list and detail products, add to cart works.
- Cart and checkout work without payment.
- Email confirmation sent (console).
- Responsive layout; Lighthouse scores ≥ 90 .