

EASY CAROUSELS

Installation and configuration guide

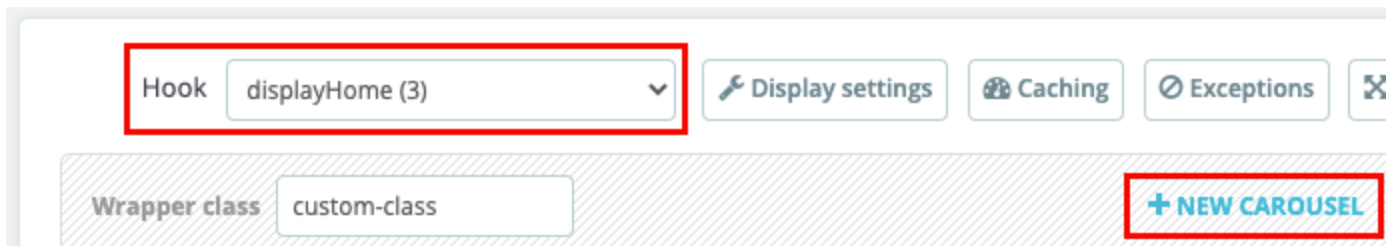
Installation

Module is installed in a regular way: go to **Module Manager** in BackOffice and upload the archive. Once the module is installed, you will have some demo carousels displayed on the main page.

Adding new carousels

First of all you should select a **hook** where the carousel will be displayed.

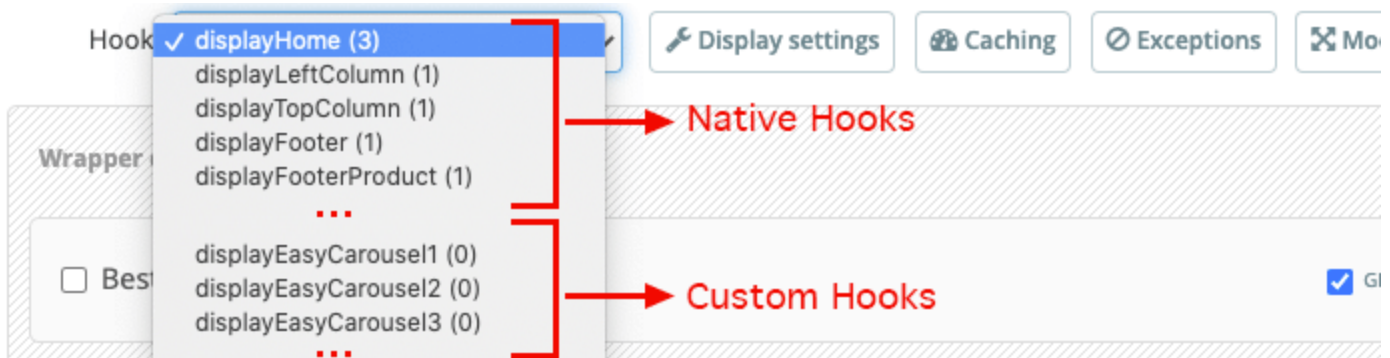
After that click **+NEW CAROUSEL**, adjust settings and click **Save**. That's it – the new carousel is ready!



Note: Carousels can be put together in wrappers. Each wrapper can have a custom class, and each carousel can have its own class too. So you can build complex and responsive layouts using these classes.

Available hooks

Carousels can be displayed in native PrestaShop hooks or custom hooks: **displayEasyCarousel1/2/3/4/5**

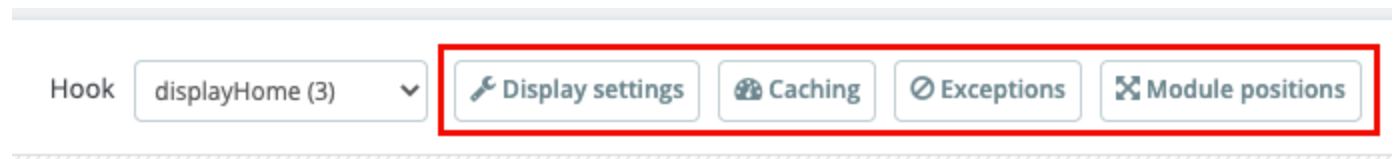


Native hooks can be found in standard positions in most themes. But if your theme doesn't have a native hook in the position where you want to place a carousel, then you can use one of Custom hooks. For example, you want to display a carousel just above product-listing on all category pages. Most themes don't have native hooks available in that position. So, here is what you should do:

- 1) Select hook **displayEasyCarousel1**
- 2) Add carousel(s) to this hook
- 3) Open the `/category.tpl`, and insert the following code just above the place where product-list is rendered: `{hook h='displayEasyCarousel1'}`

In the same way you can add other custom hooks to different positions in your theme.

Hook settings



You can configure the following settings for each hook:

Display settings - Here you can define custom CSS class for the hook wrapper and some other parameters related to display of carousels in the selected hook

Caching settings - Here you can activate caching for carousels in the selected hook. Cached carousels are loaded a lot faster, but you should keep in mind that product updates are not instantly applied to them. So, depending on how often your products are updated you can specify cache lifetime i.e. how often it should be reset. It can be reset *every hour, every 6 hours, every 12 hours, every day or every week*.

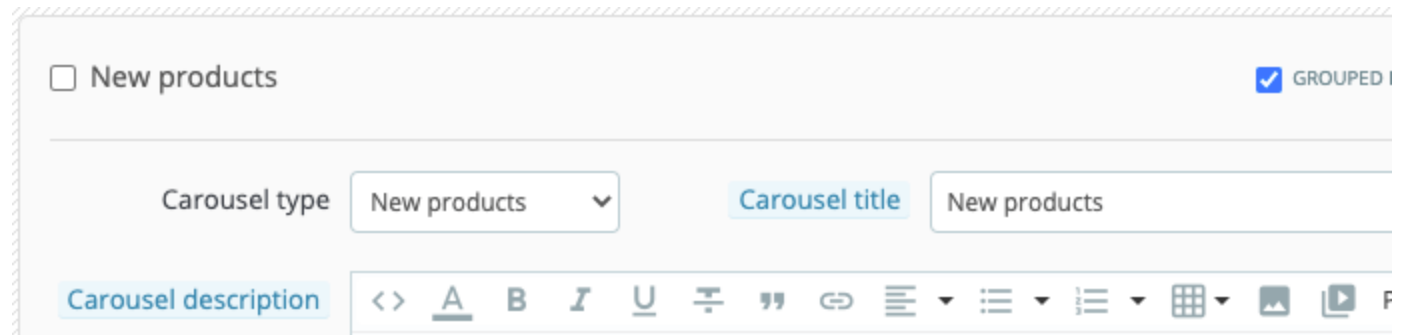
Except periodic resets cache is automatically erased in the following cases:

- a) When you add/update/delete a carousel in a cached hook
- b) When you click on **Clear cache** button in **Caching settings**

Exceptions - Here you can define pages where the carousels in selected hook should be displayed (or not displayed)

Module positions - Here you can quickly update positions of different modules within selected hook

Carousel configuration options



Most of the configuration options are self explanatory, like **Carousel Type**, **Carousel Title**, etc...

Below you will find the description for some specific options:

Visible rows - If you want to rotate more than one row in a single carousel, you can increase this value. In this case the carousel will look like a rotating grid of items.

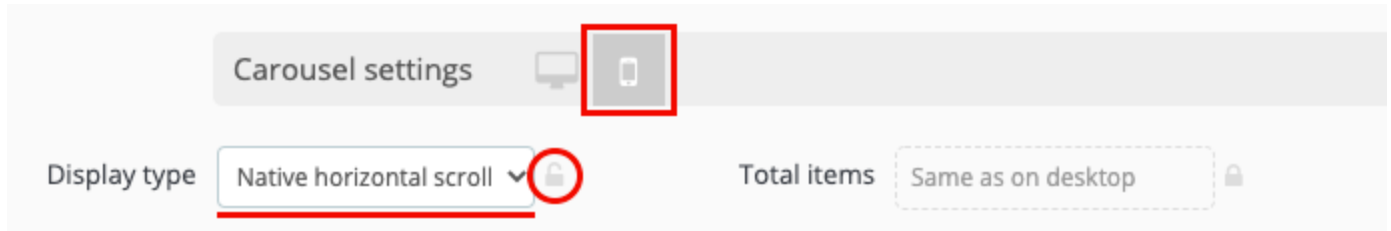
Normalize heights - This option activates an additional script that forces the same height for all elements within the carousel. This option is not always required. So you should use it only if the layout is broken by different element heights.

Min item width (px) - Carousel layout is responsively adjusted to the width of its container. Of course, you can define different numbers of visible items depending on screen width. But some carousels can be positioned in containers that are narrow even on a large screen. If the defined number of visible items for such a carousel is too high, it is hard to fit all items in container width.

For example - A carousel is configured to display 5 visible items on large screens. But that carousel is displayed in a side column that has a width of 400px on large screens. It means that each item in the carousel should be shrunk to 80px in order to fit in column width. 80px is obviously not enough for displaying all product details. So, if **Min item width** is set to 200px, the script will automatically decrease the number of visible items from 5 to 2, and each of them will have a width of 200px.

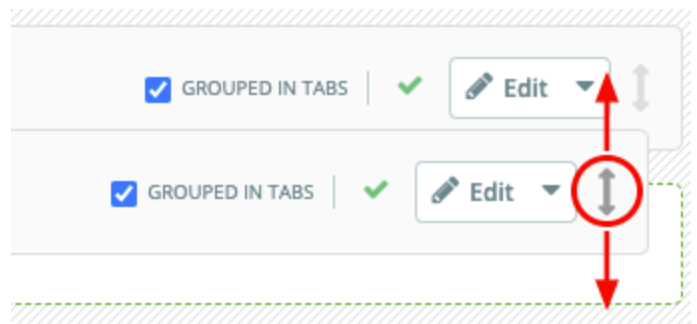
Special settings for mobile devices

You can use simplified settings on mobile devices for improved performance. For example, instead of loading the **full carousel script** you can arrange items as a **horizontal scrollable list** that behaves very smoothly on mobile devices and looks almost like a carousel. Or, you can load **small_default** images instead of **home_default**, etc...



Carousels positions within a hook

When you have more than one carousel in a hook, you might want to change their ordering. That's pretty simple. In order to do that, you just click on the draggable area on the right of a carousel block and move it among other blocks using drag-n-drop. New ordering is applied dynamically, without reloading the page.



Customizing carousel templates

You can override module files in a standard way, by placing customized versions of these files in your theme folder.

For example, if you want to override `/views/templates/hook/carousel.tpl`, you should add customized version here: `/themes/your_theme/modules/easycarousels/views/templates/hook/carousel.tpl`

Since v2.5.0 some template files have extendable structure. It means you can override only selected blocks of those files. No need to override whole files.

For example you need custom layout only for product buttons. In this case you should add the following code to `/product-item-17.tpl`, located in your theme:

```
{extends file='modules/easycarousels/views/templates/hook/product-item-17.tpl'}

{block name='product_buttons'}
    {* your custom buttons layout here *}
{/block}
```

Here is the list of extendable template files:

- `/views/templates/hook/item.tpl` (used for displaying categories/manufacturers/suppliers)
- `/views/templates/hook/product-item-16.tpl` (used to display products in PS 1.6)
- `/views/templates/hook/product-item-17.tpl` (used to display products in PS 1.7)

Keeping customized files up-to-date

Sometimes, after upgrading the module you can get this kind of notification:

Some of files, that you customized, have been updated in the new version

- `/product-item-16.tpl` Update this file and insert the following code to the last line: `{* since 2.5.0 *}` ?

It means that you have a custom version of `/product-item-16.tpl` in your theme folder, and the original file was upgraded in the new module version. Most probably some new features/variables were added to this file, so in order to benefit from those new features you should update the customized version of the file.

So, you should open the original file and copy new features/variables to your customized file. In some cases you don't need to copy anything. But in either case you should add comment `{* since x.x.x *}` to the last line of the customized file. This comment identifies that you have checked your custom file, and warning will not be displayed anymore.

Exporting/Importing carousels

In order to Export all current carousel data – go to **Import/Export** tab, click on **Export carousels** and save the file with exported data. That file contains all multilingual data including hook positions and page exceptions. Later you can use that file on the same store as a backup, or you can import it to any other store.

In order to Import – go to **Import/Export** tab, click on **Import carousels** and upload the file. When you upload it, data is processed in a smart way to synchronize with installed languages/shops.

Note: If you are using multistore, data is imported only to shops that are currently selected. It may be a single shop, a group of shops, or all shops.

Advanced settings

We tried to make carousel settings intuitive and easy to use for both beginners and experienced users. But some customers asked for advanced options that wouldn't be so easy to use for beginners.

For this reason we introduced advanced settings that make configuration more flexible, but may require specific skills. These settings are hidden by default. In order to view and configure them you should add an extra parameter to module configuration url, like this:

`module_configuration_url&advanced=1`

When this parameter is included in the URL, advanced options will be displayed among other regular options. You can distinguish them by the **green color** of labels.

Container class	<input type="text"/>	Link to all items	None
Product item template	External template file ▼	External template path	templates/catalog/_partials

Currently there are 2 advanced options available:

Product item template - Originally product items are displayed using a configurable template that comes with the module. Parameters for this template are defined in Carousel settings: here you can select Image type, show/hide selected elements like Title, Description, Price, Buttons, Stickers, etc...

In some cases module template may require extra styling in order to match current theme design. Of course you can adjust styles and add overrides if required.

But you can also change built-in template to an external template from your theme directory. External template will be used as it is, without extra configuration options, but it will have native theme layout and classes.

External template path - This option is directly related to the previous one. If you select to use an external template, you should specify its path. This should be a relative path to an existing tpl file in your theme directory. Product informations will be passed to this template in a variable called `{ $product }`

As you know, most of themes for PS 1.7 have separate template for product listing item, and it is usually located here: `templates/catalog/_partials/miniatures/product.tpl`

In themes for PS 1.6 such template is not used so often, but sometimes you can find it there too.

Note: If you use an external template, you may have to add a corresponding wrapper class (something like “product-list style-3”, depending on your theme) in order to make styles work in the same way as they do on standard listing pages .

If you have any questions or suggestions related to this module, feel free to [contact the developer](#)