**Packaging Together Custom Capabilities w/ Membership**

Using one of s2Member's Payment Button and/or Form Generators, you can add Custom Capabilities in comma-delimited format. s2Member builds upon existing functionality offered by [WordPress Roles/Capabilities](http://s2member.com/r/wordpress-rolescaps/). s2Member supports Free Subscribers *(at Level #0)*, and several Primary Roles created by the s2Member plugin *(i.e., s2Member Levels 1-4, or up to the number of configured Levels)*. Each s2Member Level *(aka: s2Member Role)* provides the Capability current\_user\_can("access\_s2member\_level0"), 1, 2, 3, 4, where access\_s2member\_level[0-4] is the Capability associated with each Role; and Membership Levels provide incremental access *(i.e., Level #4 Members can also access content at Levels 0, 1, 2, and 3 beneath them)*. In short, these Level-based permissions are the default Capabilities that come with each Membership Level being sold on your site.

Now, if you'd like to package together some variations of each Membership Level that you're selling, you can! All you do is add **Custom Capabilities** whenever you create your Payment Button and/or Form Shortcode (*there is a field in the Button & Form Generators where you can enter Custom Capabilities*). You can sell Membership Packages that come with Custom Capabilities, and even with custom prices.

Custom Capabilities are an extension to a feature that already exists in WordPress. The current\_user\_can() function, can be used to test for these additional Capabilities that you allow. Whenever a Member completes the checkout process, after having purchased a Membership from you (one that included Custom Capabilities), s2Member will add those Custom Capabilities to the account for that specific Member.

Custom Capabilities are always prepended with access\_s2member\_ccap\_. You fill in the last part, with ONLY lowercase alpha-numerics and/or underscores. For example, let's say you want to sell Membership Level #1, as is. But, you also want to sell a slight variation of Membership Level #1, that includes the ability to access the Music & Video sections of your site. So, instead of selling this additional access under a whole new Membership Level, you could just sell a modified version of Membership Level #1. Add the the Custom Capabilities: music,videos. Once a Member has these Capabilities, you can test for these Capabilities using current\_user\_can("access\_s2member\_ccap\_music") and current\_user\_can("access\_s2member\_ccap\_videos").

The important thing to realize, is that Custom Capabilities, are just that. They're custom. s2Member only deals with the default Capabilities that it uses. If you start using Custom Capabilities, you MUST use Simple or Advanced Conditionals (*i.e., [current\_user\_can()](http://codex.wordpress.org/Function_Reference/current_user_can" \t "_blank) logic*) to test for them. Either in your theme files with PHP, or in Posts/Pages using [Simple Conditionals](http://www.s2member.com/kb/simple-shortcode-conditionals/) *(powered by Shortcodes)*.

**See also:** This KB article: [s2Member Roles/Capabilities (Including bbPress Support)](http://www.s2member.com/kb/roles-caps/).

**See also:** This VIDEO tutorial: [Using Custom Capabilities with s2Member](http://www.s2member.com/videos/A2C07377CF60025E/" \t "_blank) (by Lead Developer Jason Caldwell).

**New:** In the latest versions of s2Member, you can automatically require certain Custom Capabilities on a per Post/Page basis. So now, s2Member *(if you prefer)* CAN handle Custom Capabilities for you automatically! Whenever you edit a Post/Page *(i.e., there is a Meta Box for s2Member in your Post/Page editing station)*... you can tell s2Member to require certain Custom Capabilities that you type in, using comma-delimited format. In other words, you will need to type in some of the trigger words that you used whenever you created your Payment Buttons/Forms. This way paying Members will have the Custom Capabilities to view different kinds of content that you offer.

**New:** By default, a Checkout Button or Form generated by s2Member is designed to (Add) Custom Capabilities to any that may or may not already exist for a particular User/Member. However, starting with s2Member v110815+, you can tell s2Member to (Remove All) Custom Capabilities, and then (Add) only the new ones that you specify. This is accomplished on a per Form/Button basis by preceding your comma-delimited list of Custom Capabilities with `-all`. For further details on this topic, click the [[?]](http://sportevent.petit-plus.com/wp-admin/admin.php?page=ws-plugin--s2member-scripting) icon next to the Custom Capabilities field in any Button/Form Generator supplied by s2Member.

**New:** Independent Custom Capabilities. You can now sell one or more Custom Capabilities using Buy Now functionality, to "existing" Users/Members, regardless of which Membership Level they have on your site *(i.e., you could even sell Independent Custom Capabilities to Users at Membership Level #0, normally referred to as Free Subscribers, if you like)*. So this is quite flexible. For further details, please check your Dashboard, under: **s2Member → PayPal Buttons → Capability (Buy Now) Buttons**.

**TIP:** In addition to this documentation, you may also want to have a look at the [s2Member Codex](http://www.s2member.com/codex/).  
**See Also:** [s2Member Codex → API Constants](http://www.s2member.com/codex/stable/s2member/api_constants/package-summary/), and [s2Member Codex → API Functions](http://www.s2member.com/codex/stable/s2member/api_functions/package-summary/).  
**See Also:** [Plugins → Enhanced Capability Manager](http://s2member.com/r/enhanced-capability-manager/) *(may come in handy for some)*.

**Custom Capabilities:** (music,videos):

<?php if (current\_user\_can("access\_s2member\_level1")){ ?>  
      
    Some premium content for all Level 1 Members.  
  
    <?php if (current\_user\_can("access\_s2member\_ccap\_music")){ ?>  
        Display links for music as well.  
    <?php } ?>  
      
    <?php if (current\_user\_can("access\_s2member\_ccap\_videos")){ ?>  
        Display videos as well.  
    <?php } ?>  
  
<?php } else { ?>  
    Some public content.  
<?php } ?>  
  
---- s2member Shortcode Equivalents ----  
  
[s2If current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_level1)]  
  
    Some premium content for all Level 1 Members.  
  
    [\_s2If current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_ccap\_music)]  
        Display links for music as well.  
    [/\_s2If]  
  
    [\_s2If current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_ccap\_videos)]  
        Display videos as well.  
    [/\_s2If]  
  
[/s2If]  
  
[s2If !current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_level1)]  
    Some public content.  
[/s2If]

**Custom Capabilities:** (ebooks,reports,tips):

<?php if (current\_user\_can("access\_s2member\_level1")){ ?>  
  
    Some premium content for all Level 1 Members.  
  
    <?php if (current\_user\_can("access\_s2member\_ccap\_ebooks")){ ?>  
        Display links for downloading your eBooks.  
    <?php } else { ?>  
        Insert a PayPal® Modification Button that includes the Custom Capability: ebooks  
        This might read, "Upgrade Your Membership for access to my eBooks!".  
    <? } ?>  
      
    <?php if (current\_user\_can("access\_s2member\_ccap\_reports")){ ?>  
        Display links for accessing your reports.  
    <?php } else { ?>  
        Insert a PayPal® Modification Button that includes the Custom Capability: reports  
        This might read, "Upgrade Your Membership for access to my reports!".  
    <? } ?>  
  
    <?php if (current\_user\_can("access\_s2member\_ccap\_tips")){ ?>  
        Display tips.  
    <?php } else { ?>  
        Insert a PayPal® Modification Button that includes the Custom Capability: tips  
        This might read, "Upgrade Your Membership for access to my tips!".  
    <? } ?>  
  
<?php } else { ?>  
    Some public content.  
<?php } ?>  
  
---- s2member Shortcode Equivalents ----  
  
[s2If current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_level1)]  
  
    Some premium content for all Level 1 Members.  
  
    [\_s2If current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_ccap\_ebooks)]  
        Display links for downloading your eBooks.  
    [/\_s2If]  
    [\_s2If !current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_ccap\_ebooks)]  
        Insert a PayPal® Modification Button that includes the Custom Capability: ebooks  
        This might read, "Upgrade Your Membership for access to my eBooks!".  
    [/\_s2If]  
  
    [\_s2If current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_ccap\_reports)]  
        Display links for accessing your reports.  
    [/\_s2If]  
    [\_s2If !current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_ccap\_reports)]  
        Insert a PayPal® Modification Button that includes the Custom Capability: reports  
        This might read, "Upgrade Your Membership for access to my reports!".  
    [/\_s2If]  
  
    [\_s2If current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_ccap\_tips)]  
        Display tips.  
    [/\_s2If]  
    [\_s2If !current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_ccap\_tips)]  
        Insert a PayPal® Modification Button that includes the Custom Capability: tips  
        This might read, "Upgrade Your Membership for access to my tips!".  
    [/\_s2If]  
  
[/s2If]  
  
[s2If !current\_user\_can(access\_s2member\_level1)]  
    Some public content.  
[/s2If]

### Restricting Files, Based On Custom Capabilities

If you're NOT familiar with Custom Capabilities yet, please read the section above, titled: Custom Capability Packages, and also see: **s2Member → Download Options**, both as primers; BEFORE you read this section. Once you understand the basic concept of Custom Capabilities & Protected File Downloads, you'll see that (by default) s2Member does NOT handle File Download Protection with respect to Custom Capabilities. That's where Custom Capability Sub-directories come in.

You can create Custom Capability Sub-directories under: /wp-content/plugins/s2member-files. For instance, if you have a Custom Capability music, you can place protected files that should ONLY be accessible to Members with access\_s2member\_ccap\_music, inside: /s2member-files/access-s2member-ccap-music/. Some examples are provided below.

**TIP:** In addition to this documentation, you may also want to have a look at the [s2Member Codex](http://www.s2member.com/codex/).  
**See Also:** [s2Member Codex → API Constants](http://www.s2member.com/codex/stable/s2member/api_constants/package-summary/), and [s2Member Codex → API Functions](http://www.s2member.com/codex/stable/s2member/api_functions/package-summary/).

**Custom Capabilities:** (music,videos)

Sub-Directory: /s2member-files/access-s2member-ccap-music  
Sub-Directory: /s2member-files/access-s2member-ccap-videos

Protected File: /s2member-files/access-s2member-ccap-music/file.mp3  
Protected File: /s2member-files/access-s2member-ccap-videos/file.avi

Now, here are some link examples, using Custom Capability Sub-directories:

http://www.example.com/?s2member\_file\_download=access-s2member-ccap-music/file.mp3  
http://www.example.com/?s2member\_file\_download=access-s2member-ccap-videos/file.avi

These links will ONLY work for Members who are logged-in, with the proper Capabilities.

**Membership Levels:** (this also works fine)

Sub-Directory: /s2member-files/access-s2member-level0  
Sub-Directory: /s2member-files/access-s2member-level1  
Sub-Directory: /s2member-files/access-s2member-level2  
Sub-Directory: /s2member-files/access-s2member-level3  
Sub-Directory: /s2member-files/access-s2member-level4

Protected File: /s2member-files/access-s2member-level0/tiger.doc  
Protected File: /s2member-files/access-s2member-level1/zebra.pdf  
Protected File: /s2member-files/access-s2member-level2/elephant.doc  
Protected File: /s2member-files/access-s2member-level3/rhino.pdf  
Protected File: /s2member-files/access-s2member-level4/lion.doc

Now, here are some link examples, using Member Level Sub-directories:

http://www.example.com/?s2member\_file\_download=access-s2member-level0/tiger.doc  
http://www.example.com/?s2member\_file\_download=access-s2member-level1/zebra.pdf  
http://www.example.com/?s2member\_file\_download=access-s2member-level2/elephant.doc  
http://www.example.com/?s2member\_file\_download=access-s2member-level3/rhino.pdf  
http://www.example.com/?s2member\_file\_download=access-s2member-level4/lion.doc

These links will ONLY work for Members who are logged-in, with an adequate Membership Level.