


WORDPRESS & WEB DEVELOPMENT

Create A Webshop Without Databases With SimpleCart(js)

By **Simon Slangen** / October 12, 2010 12-10-2010 / 4 minutes

 **Simon Slangen**
461 articles

I'm a writer and computer sciences student from Belgium. You can always do me a favor with a good article idea, book recommendation, or recipe idea. You'll also find me on Facebook, Twitter and Google+.

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Shopping systems are often slow, bulky systems that can be quite demanding. The exceptions are



blog (i.e. WordPress) plug-ins, but even these require advanced control over your webserver and database installs.

In short, a lot of work, files and really tough to use with free (limited) webspace.

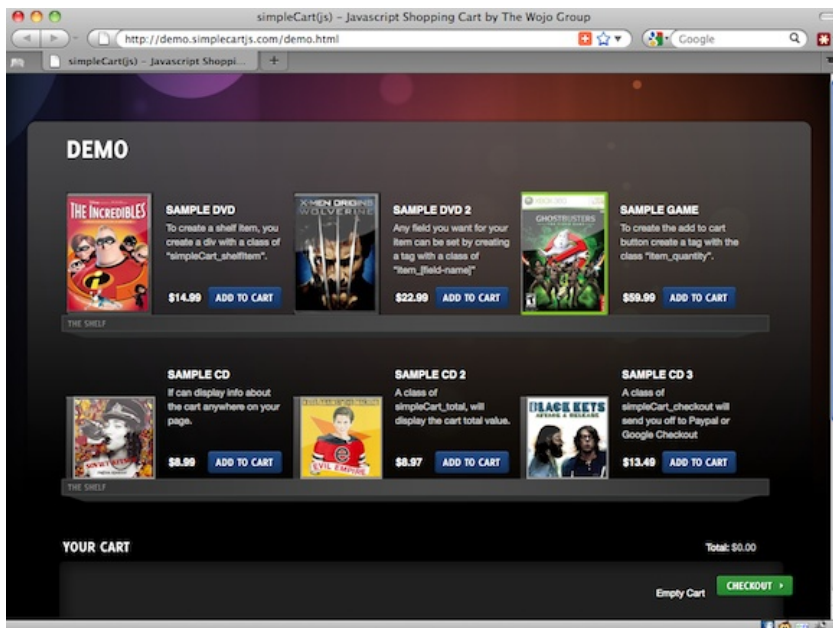
Today, we'll discuss an alternative. It's free, super lightweight, and just needs a little different approach. That's to say, there's no graphical user interface for adding shop items with this

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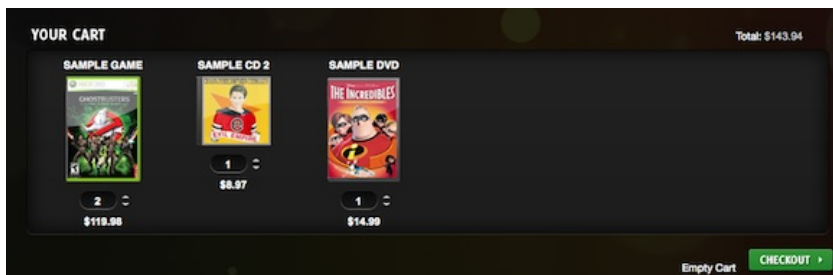
web site shopping cart. Instead, you need to insert simple tags in your HTML code. Don't worry, we'll tell you how.

simpleCart(js)

The end-user interface is slick, simple and direct. Products are aligned in this web site shopping cart in a grid, with relatively large icons, product explanation and price. The webmaster can optionally add different options for a product, i.e. small, medium and large T-shirts. Because of the build-up, simpleCart is best used for displaying a smaller and relatively static product arrangement, perfectly suited for amateur sellers.



The cart is usually shown at the bottom of the page, but you can pretty much put it wherever you want. Here the buyer can review the products already selected, change the quantity, or empty the card.



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When satisfied, pressing the Checkout button will take the buyer to Paypal or Google Checkout, starting a money transfer to your account. You'll receive a notification when you get the money, where after you can ship the products. As simple as that.

Setting Up SimpleCart On Your Website

First, make sure you've got a basic website capable of executing JavaScript (which most can) and some little web space for the rest of the files. You can **download simpleCart(js) from the website**. It's donation ware, so you can choose for yourself if you like it and how much you think it's worth.

Unzip the file and upload simpleCart.js to your site directory. The set-up is completed by inserting some little code into your website's HTML files. Wherever those snippets of code are inserted, that's where the specific simpleCart components will show up.

```
<script type="text/javascript" src="simpleCart.js">
```

Add this to every page, between the

```
<HEAD>
```

and

```
</HEAD>
```

tags, wherever you want to use simpleCart.

```
<script type="text/javascript">
simpleCart.checkoutTo = PayPal;
simpleCart.email = "you@yours.com";
</script>
```

Add the above to make simpleCart check out using Paypal. You also need to specify your Paypal mail address. Change the elements in green, and paste the entire snippet between the

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<HEAD>

and

</HEAD>

tags, wherever you want to use the checkout.

```
<script type="text/javascript">
simpleCart.checkoutTo = GoogleCheckout;
simpleCart.merchantId = "1111111111111111";
</script>
```



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<HEAD>

and

</HEAD>

tags, wherever you want to use the checkout. Instead of your email address, swap the green element with your Google Checkout Merchant ID.

```
<div class="simpleCart_shelfItem">
<h2 class="item_name"> Product Name </h2>
<select class="item_size">
<option value="Small"> Small </option>
<option value="Medium"> Medium </option>
<option value="Large"> Large </option>
</select>
```

```
<span class="item_price">$35.99</span>
```

```
<input value="1" type="text">
```

```
<a href="javascript:;" class="item_add"> Add to cart </a>
</div>
```



The code snippet above is used to add an item to your shelf. Change the item name and price, shown in green. The select class, shown in blue, is entirely optional. If there are no subclasses in your product, you can leave it out. Paste it between the

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<BODY>

and

</BODY>

tags, wherever you want to show it on your page.

```
<div class="simpleCart_items"></div>
```

Paste this between the



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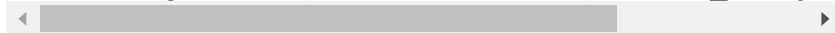
</BODY>

tags, where you want to display the entire web site shopping cart.

You have ``
 Cart total: `<div class="simpleCart_total"></div>`



``
``



The above elements will respectively display the amount of items in your cart, the cart total, a checkout link and an empty cart link. Each element can exist independently.

Take a look at [the documentation](#) for more advanced settings, including currency options, tax rates, shipping, and changing the cart formatting.

What do you think about simpleCart(js)? Have you ever sold anything online on your own site, and how did it go? Let us know in the comments!

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How to Make your WordPress Blog Mobile-Friendly With WPtouch

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By **Jeffry Thurana** / October 12, 2010 12-10-2010 / 3 minutes



**Jeffry
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367 articles

An Indonesian writer, self-proclaimed musician, and part time architect; who wants to make a world a better place one post at a time via his blog SuperSubConscious.

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Don't underestimate the power of mobile devices. Even though mobile internet access used to be lame, **recent statistics** say that there are more than 47 million people who access the internet from their mobile phones **every day** in the US alone. And that number is growing by leaps and bounds.

That data might mean nothing to most of us, especially if we are on the passive side of information. But if you are a blogger or web publisher, you should already realize that the urgency of making your site mobile friendly is also growing along with that number.

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The extra labor of re-designing the interface and re-adjusting the lines of codes to fit mobile viewing needs might make most web owners moan in frustration. Luckily, if you use self-hosted **WordPress** for your blog, the problems can be solved easily – and in style – by **WPtouch**.

Seek And Install

WPtouch is a WordPress plugin that will convert your blog



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I have covered the **old version** of this plugin back in 2008. But it has grown so much since then, and now it's already compatible with many other kinds of phones, that I think it deserves another look.

Make Your Wordpress Blog iPhone Compatible with WPtouch

[READ MORE](#)

Let's start at the very beginning: the installation. Installing WordPress plugins is not as troublesome as it used to be. All you need to do is search for the plugins that you want from within the WordPress plugin menu. No need to mess with FTP anymore.

Install Plugins

Search | **Search Results** | Upload | Featured | Popular | Newest | Recently Updated

Term: Search Plugins

Name	Version	Rating	Description
WPtouch Details Install Now	1.9.19.1	★★★★☆	WPtouch automatically transforms your WordPress effects, when viewed from an iPhone, iPod touch. The admin panel allows you to customize many : Mugford & Duane Storey (BraveNewCode Inc.) .

After the results appear, click “*Install Now*“, wait for the process to finish, and activate the plugin.

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 **Installing Plugin: WPtouch 1.9.19.1**

Downloading install package from <http://downloads.wordpress.org/plugin/wptouch.1.9.19.1>


Unpacking the package...

Installing the plugin...


Successfully installed the plugin **WPtouch 1.9.19.1**.


Actions: [Activate Plugin](#) | [Return to Plugin Installer](#)


WPtouch comes with a bunch of adjustable settings, but let’s see how it looks on a mobile screen before the tweak.



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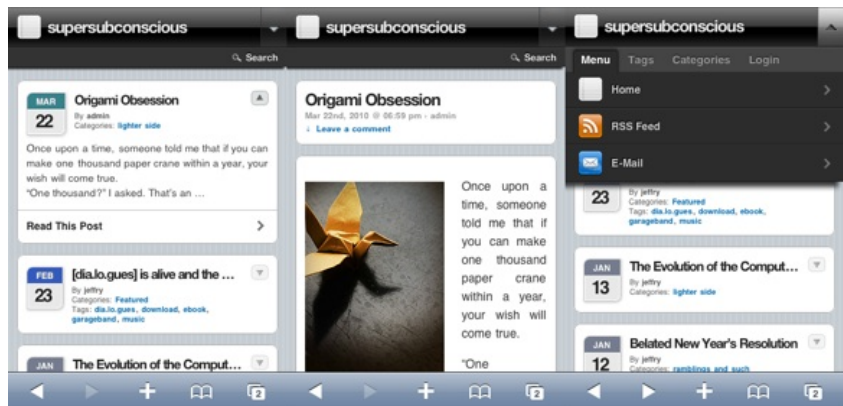
 Download on the App Store

 GET IT ON Google Play



The following example was done on the iPhone. I don’t have access to other devices to experiment on, so if you can try it on other types of mobile phones, please share your experiences in the comments below.

The front page consists of boxes of available articles with dates, titles and some information about those articles. You can tap on the small arrow at the top right hand corner of one of the boxes to reveal a short opening passage from the article and the option to read more.



Each post is formatted with a readable-size font, scaled-down images, and screen-wide borders. At the top right of the screen, there’s a drop down menu with the RSS feed, email button, tags, categories, and login.

Visitors can turn off the mobile theme by going to the bottom of the page and sliding the switch off. A confirmation pop-up window will appear, making sure that the request is not

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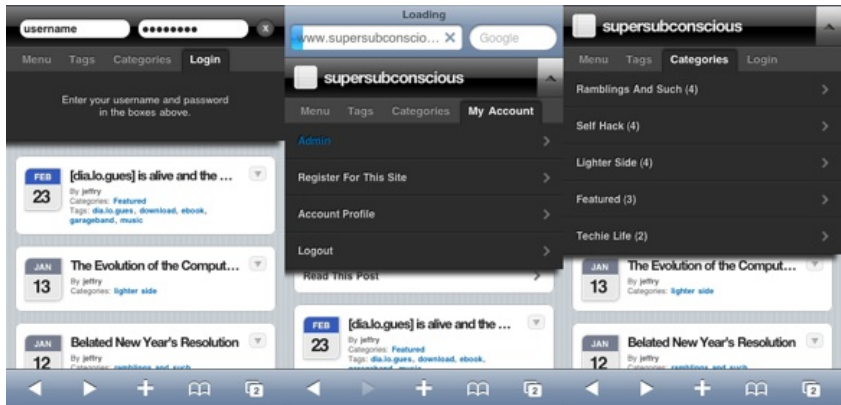
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accidental. To turn the view back to mobile mode, go to the bottom of the regular view screen and slide the switch on.



...tion will reveal the username and password fields. You can log in and access all the menus that will only normally appear from within the WordPress admin area.



Adjusting The Settings

The options are located under the “Settings – WPtouch” menu. The first one is “General Settings” which deals with everything from “Regionalization” to “Footer Message”.

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General Settings

Regionalization Settings
Select the language you would like WPTouch to appear in. Custom language .mo files should be placed in wp-content/wptouch/lang.

Home Page Re-Direction
WPTouch by default follows your [WordPress » Reading Options](#). You can also set a different one for WPTouch.

Site Title
You can shorten your site title here so it won't be truncated by WPTouch.

Excluded Categories
Choose categories you want excluded from the main post listings in WPTouch.

WPTouch Language
Automatically detected

WPTouch Home Page
WordPress Settings

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Advanced Options

Choose to enable/disable advanced features & options available for WPTouch.

* WPTouch Restricted Mode attempts to fix issues where other plugins load scripts which interfere with WPTouch CSS and JavaScript.

Custom User-Agents
Enter a comma-separated list of user-agents to enable WPTouch for a device that isn't currently officially supported.

The currently enabled user-agents are:
Android, CUPCAKE, bada, blackberry9500, blackberry9520, blackberry9530, blackberry9550, blackberry9800, dream, iPhone, iPod, incognito, ...

- ☒ Enable Categories tab in the header
- ☒ Enable Tags tab in the header ?
- ☒ Enable Search link in the header ?
- ☐ Enable Login/My Account tab in the header
- ☐ Display Upcoming Dates link in the header
- ☐ Display Twitter link in the header (re)
- ☒ Enable gravatars in comments
- ☐ Enable comments on pages ?
- ☐ 1st visit mobile users will see desktop
- ☐ Enable WPTouch Restricted Mode ?

WPTouch has the ability to send push notifications to your iDevices and Growl-enabled Mac or PC with the help of Prowl, but you are required to generate a Prowl API before the feature can be activated. We'll discuss more about Prowl in a future article.

Push Notification Options

Here you can configure WPTouch to push selected notifications through your [Prowl](#) account to your iPhone, iPod touch and Growl-enabled Mac or PC.

Make sure you generate a Prowl API key to use here otherwise no notifications will be pushed to you.

- ☐ Notify me of new comments & pingbacks
- ☐ Notify me of new account registrations
- ☐ Allow users to send me direct messages

“Style & Color” Options deals with font styles and colors of WPTouch elements. You can also choose one of the available background styles from here.

Style & Color Options

Here you can customize some of the more visible features of WPTouch.

The default WPTouch theme emulates a n

Classic Background

Helvetica Neue Post Title H2 F

eeeeeee Title text color

000000 Header background color

333333 Sub-header background co

006bb3 Site-wide links color



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you can delete any of the available icons on the list, but you can add your own icons to the pool.

Default & Custom Icon Pool

Adding Icons
To add icons to the pool, simply upload a .png, .jpeg or .gif image from your computer.

Default icons generously provided by Marcelo Marfil.

Logo/Bookmark Icons
If you're adding a logo icon, the best dimensions for it are 59x60px (png) when used as a bookmark icon.

Need help? You can use [this easy online icon generator](#) to make one.

These files will be stored in this folder we create:
/home/www/liapakuan.com/wp-content/uploads/wptouch/custom-icons

If an upload fails (usually it's a permission problem)

Calendar	Contacts	Saf
ToDo	Digg	Fin
Apps	Facebook	ITu

And if you are an AdSense publisher, you can add your Google AdSense ID so that advertisements can be displayed via the mobile interface.

AdSense, Stats & Custom Code

AdSense
Enter your Google AdSense ID if you'd like to support mobile advertising in WPTouch posts.
Make sure to include the 'pub-' part of your ID string.

Stats & Custom Code
If you'd like to capture traffic statistics (Google Analytics, MINT, etc.)
Enter the code snippet(s) for your statistics tracking. You can also enter custom CSS & other HTML code. [?](#)

Googl

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So, it doesn't matter whether your WordPress blogs are at an amateur or professional level, WPTouch can help you to easily

transfer the interface to be more mobile friendly to cater to those mobile visitors.

Have you tried WPtouch for your blogs? How was the result in your mobile devices? Share your experiences in the comments below.


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