



MONASH
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UpScale



BigCommerce Plugin for ChessWorld SKU Management

Existing Solutions Review

Version 4.0

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Document History and Version Control

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09/04/2025	1.0	Luqmaan Yurzaa	Initial Existing Solutions Review
16/04/2025	2.0	Wen Cheng Huong	Update Existing Solutions Review: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Listed all the limitations under the 'Limitations of Existing Bundle Management Apps' section based on the client's feedback

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1. Purpose

This document evaluates two existing BigCommerce apps that support product bundling and SKU-level inventory management. The goal is to understand their features, identify limitations, and clarify opportunities for differentiation in our custom plugin designed for **Chess World**.

2. Evaluation Criteria

We've selected key evaluation points most relevant to Chess World's needs:

- SKU-level inventory synchronization
- Flexibility in bundle configuration
- Real-time stock updates
- User interface and customization
- BigCommerce integration quality
- Pricing



3. Plugin Comparison Table

Feature / Plugin	Integer Bundle Buddy	Kit Builder
SKU-level inventory sync	Real SKUs used in bundles	Real-time sync with automatic updates
Custom bundle configuration	Flexible, variant-based, optional/mandatory components	Basic configuration by selecting component SKUs
Real-time stock updates	Manual management or CSV import	Fully automated with dynamic quantity updates
UI / Customization	Custom labels/views, searchable kits	Functional but less focused on UI customization
Ease of Use	Spreadsheet-like overview	Practical but more technical
BigCommerce Integration	Standard with some limitations (no multi-storefront)	Standard with auto stock push (limited multi-storefront support)
Pricing	Custom pricing, 1-month free trial	\$20–\$50/month, 14-day free trial
Notable Extras	CSV import, SKU search, duplicate kits	Auto restock after cancellations, assembly reports

4. Key Observations

- **Integer Bundle Buddy** is more customizable in terms of UI and component-level configuration but lacks fully automated stock syncing.
- **Kit Builder** focuses on **automated inventory control**, which is critical for preventing overselling—something ChessWorld has explicitly identified as a major pain point.
- Neither app seems to provide a truly **seamless UX tailored to chess sets**, which often mix reusable SKUs (e.g., chess boards) across bundles.
- Multi-storefront compatibility is limited in both apps.

5. Implications for Our Plugin

The plugin we are developing for ChessWorld stands out by combining the **automation strengths of Kit Builder** with the **UI simplicity and configurability of Integer Bundle Buddy**, while adding features tailored for our use case:

Target Feature in Our Plugin	Description
Real-time SKU-level synchronization	Prevents overselling by updating stock across bundles and single SKUs
Spreadsheet-style UI	Simplifies bulk management of kits and individual SKUs
Mix-and-match support for bundles	Allows flexible configurations, ideal for chess set combinations
Automated updates + manual override option	Best of both worlds: automation with control
Tailored to ChessWorld’s operational workflow	Designed based on stakeholder interviews and problem analysis



6. Limitations of Existing Bundle Management Apps

Based on client's research and testing of existing bundle management solutions—particularly *Integer Bundle Buddy* and similar plugins—they identified several key limitations that make them unsuitable for their intended everyday use case.

1. Designed for Occasional Use, Not Core System Integration

- These tools are primarily built to support “**standard bundles**” used for occasional promotions or offers.
- This makes them ill-suited for our system, where SKUs are **core building blocks** used daily and expected to integrate seamlessly into our product workflow.

2. Disconnected and Complex Interface

- For example, *Integer Bundle Buddy* requires managing bundles from within its **own app interface**, outside the standard product management system.
- This creates an inconsistent and confusing user experience, especially for users who need to interact with these bundles regularly.

3. Sales Tracking Limitations

- Sales monitoring is a major pain point:
 - Currently, tracking the performance of a SKU involves **checking each product** it appears in and manually summing up the data.
 - Existing tools do not support **centralized, SKU-level sales reporting**.
 - A more effective solution would allow SKUs to exist **independently** and track their sales across all products they are part of.
 - Ideally, SKU reporting would also include breakdowns **per product**, giving deeper insights into SKU performance.

4. Past Evaluation Findings

- During past evaluations, there were also **issues with stock counting**, though the exact nature of the problem is not clearly remembered.
- Another plugin was ruled out during early research, though the reason wasn't documented—this can be revisited if necessary.