

Gist List Data Format Specification

Overview

This document describes the data format used for synchronizing listings between the phone app and the Chrome extension.

File Format

- **Format:** JSON
- **Encoding:** UTF-8
- **File Extension:** `.json`
- **MIME Type:** `application/json`

Data Structure

Root Object

```
{
  "version": "1.0",
  "exportedAt": 1703875200000,
  "exportedBy": "gist-list-mobile-app",
  "listings": [...]
}
```

Listing Object

Each listing must contain the following structure:

Required Fields

```
{
  "id": "unique_listing_identifier",
  "title": "Product Title (max 100 characters)",
  "description": "Product description (max 2000 characters)",
  "price": 99.99
}
```

Optional Fields

```
{
  "category": "electronics",
  "condition": "excellent",
  "brand": "Apple",
  "model": "iPhone 13",
  "size": "M",
  "color": "black",
  "year": 2023,
  "location": "San Francisco, CA",
  "shippingCost": 5.99,
  "images": ["url1", "url2", "..."],
  "createdAt": 1703875200000,
  "updatedAt": 1703875200000
}
```

Field Specifications

Required Fields

Field	Type	Max Length	Description
id	string	50	Unique identifier for the listing
title	string	100	Product title/name
description	string	2000	Detailed product description
price	number	-	Price in USD (positive number)

Optional Fields

Field	Type	Max Length	Description	Valid Values
category	string	50	Product category	Any string
condition	string	20	Item condition	new , like new , excellent , good , fair , poor , used
brand	string	50	Brand name	Any string
model	string	50	Model name/ number	Any string
size	string	20	Size (clothing, shoes, etc.)	Any string
color	string	30	Primary color	Any string
year	number	-	Year manufac- tured	1900 - current year + 1
location	string	100	Geographic loca- tion	Any string
shippingCost	number	-	Shipping cost in USD	Non-negative number
images	array	-	Array of image URLs	Max 20 URLs
createdAt	number	-	Creation timestamp	Unix timestamp (milliseconds)
updatedAt	number	-	Last update timestamp	Unix timestamp (milliseconds)

Image Requirements

- **Supported formats:** JPG, JPEG, PNG, WebP
- **Maximum images per listing:** 20
- **URL format:** Must be valid HTTP/HTTPS URLs
- **Recommended resolution:** 800x600 minimum, 1920x1920 maximum

Category Mappings

The extension maps categories to platform-specific categories. Common categories include:

- electronics
- clothing
- furniture
- automotive
- books
- music
- sports
- toys
- home
- beauty
- jewelry
- art
- collectibles
- general

Sample Data

Complete Example

```
{
  "version": "1.0",
  "exportedAt": 1703875200000,
  "exportedBy": "gist-list-mobile-app",
  "listings": [
    {
      "id": "listing_001",
      "title": "Vintage Leather Jacket",
      "description": "Genuine leather jacket in excellent condition. Size Medium. Perfect for fall and winter weather. No tears or scratches.",
      "price": 89.99,
      "category": "clothing",
      "condition": "excellent",
      "brand": "Wilson Leather",
      "size": "M",
      "color": "brown",
      "location": "San Francisco, CA",
      "shippingCost": 12.99,
      "images": [
        "https://pimg.bucklecontent.com/images/products/104001100W389/BR/f/930ef-b1b437159666f51d058b0b6b74fv3?quality=0.8&width=845",
        "https://images.pexels.com/photos/11861125/pexels-photo-11861125.jpeg?auto=compress&cs=tinysrgb&dpr=1&w=500",
        "https://media.istockphoto.com/id/468491140/photo/close-up-of-black-leather-jacket-details.jpg?s=612x612&w=0&k=20&c=QXxiMm4jNRKjF7fz0nWoJTkruU23r0DVC5txCPL6zAE8="
      ],
      "createdAt": 1703875200000,
      "updatedAt": 1703875200000
    },
    {
      "id": "listing_002",
      "title": "iPhone 13 Pro Max 128GB",
      "description": "Unlocked iPhone 13 Pro Max in Space Gray. 128GB storage. Includes original box, charger, and unused EarPods. Battery health 98%.",
      "price": 799.00,
      "category": "electronics",
      "condition": "like new",
      "brand": "Apple",
      "model": "iPhone 13 Pro Max",
      "color": "space gray",
      "year": 2021,
      "location": "Los Angeles, CA",
      "images": [
        "https://i.ytimg.com/vi/1f8DjYyi9Lg/sddefault.jpg",
        "https://i.ytimg.com/vi/4o0mRxtTws/maxresdefault.jpg"
      ],
      "createdAt": 1703875100000,
      "updatedAt": 1703875200000
    }
  ]
}
```

Minimal Example

```
{
  "version": "1.0",
  "listings": [
    {
      "id": "simple_001",
      "title": "Coffee Mug",
      "description": "Nice ceramic coffee mug, barely used.",
      "price": 5.99
    }
  ]
}
```

Synchronization Methods

1. File Import

- Export JSON file from phone app
- Import file through extension interface
- Most reliable method

2. QR Code (Future)

- Generate QR code containing listing data
- Scan QR code with extension
- Good for small datasets

3. Cloud Storage (Future)

- Google Drive integration
- Dropbox integration
- Automatic synchronization

4. Share URL (Future)

- Generate temporary shareable URLs
- Access through extension
- Good for one-time transfers

Error Handling

Common Validation Errors

- **Missing required fields:** Title, description, or price is empty
- **Invalid price:** Negative numbers or non-numeric values
- **Invalid images:** Malformed URLs or unsupported formats
- **Data too large:** Exceeds maximum limits

Error Response Format

```
{
  "success": false,
  "error": "Validation failed",
  "details": [
    {
      "listingId": "listing_001",
      "field": "price",
      "message": "Price must be a positive number"
    }
  ]
}
```

Platform-Specific Considerations

Craigslist

- No login required
- Category mapping important
- Location fields useful
- Image limits vary by area

eBay

- Requires eBay account
- Complex category hierarchy
- Brand and model fields important
- Condition field required

Facebook Marketplace

- Requires Facebook account
- Location-based selling
- Category selection required
- Image quality important

Poshmark (Fashion)

- Brand field critical
- Size and color required for clothing
- Condition field important
- Multiple images recommended

Reverb (Music Gear)

- Brand and model critical
- Year field useful
- Condition affects pricing
- Technical descriptions valued

Mercari

- Brand field useful
- Condition affects visibility

- Competitive pricing important
- Clear images essential

Nextdoor

- Location-based community selling
- Pickup preferred over shipping
- Local categories
- Community trust important

Best Practices

For Phone App Developers

1. Always include required fields
2. Validate data before export
3. Optimize images for web
4. Use consistent category names
5. Include creation timestamps

For Users

1. Review listings before importing
2. Ensure image URLs are accessible
3. Keep descriptions concise but detailed
4. Use appropriate categories
5. Set competitive prices

Version History

- **v1.0:** Initial format specification
- Future versions will maintain backward compatibility

Support

For questions about the data format or integration issues, please refer to the extension documentation or contact support.