

# expressCart

## Installation

1. Create a folder to hold your installation: `mkdir expressCart`
2. FTP/Copy the contents of the zip to your newly created folder
3. Enter folder: `cd expressCart`
4. Install dependencies: `npm install`
5. Start application: `npm start --production`
6. Visit <http://127.0.0.1:1111> in your browser

Keeping expressCart running after closing the terminal can be done in a few ways but we recommend using the `PM2` package. To set this up:

1. Install PM2: `npm install pm2 -g`
2. Add expressCart to PM2: `NODE_ENV=production pm2 start app.js --name "expressCart"`
3. Check PM2 has our app: `pm2 list`
4. Save the PM2 config: `pm2 save`
5. To start/stop: `pm2 start expressCart / pm2 stop expressCart`

## Admin

Visit: <http://127.0.0.1:1111/admin>

A new user form will be shown where a user can be created.

## Styling

Adding your own custom style is done by accessing the `Admin` panel then selecting `General settings`.

### CSS

You can add your own custom CSS into the `Custom CSS` box. This will be minified and added to each page.

### Footer

You can add your own custom HTML footer which may have contact details, social media links etc into the `Footer HTML` box. This will be added to bottom of each page.

## Products

Adding of new products is done via `/admin/product/new`.

### Product price

Set this value to a full 2 decimal value with no commas or currency symbols.

## Permalink

A permalink is a nice link to your product which is normally shown in search engine rankings. By default, if you Permalink value is set when adding a product, one will be generated using the Product title with spaces replaced by dashes.

## Options

You may want to set product options such as 'Size', 'Color' etc.

Below is an explanation of the fields and what they do

`Name` = Something easy to recognize to administer `Label` = This will be shown to the customer (eg: 'Select size') `Type` = You can set the option to a 'Select' (drop down menu), 'Radio' (An optional button) or a 'Checkbox' for an on/off or true/false option `Options` = Available options are added using a comma separated list. For size options you may set: 'Small,Medium,Large' or 'S,M,Link

Note: An `Options` value is not required when `Type` is set to 'Checkbox'.

## Product tag words

Tags are used when indexing the products for search. It's advised to set tags (keywords) so that customers can easily find the products they are searching for.

# Database

By default `expressCart` uses an embedded database for easy setup and backup. `expressCart` also supports a MongoDB connection and it's recommended if you expect high traffic to your website.

Setting of the database is done through the `/config/settings.json` file. There are two properties relating to the database connection:

Example embedded DB configuration:

```
{
  "databaseType": "embedded"
}
```

Example MongoDB configuration:

```
{
  "databaseType": "mongodb",
  "databaseConnectionString": "mongodb://localhost:27017/expresscart"
}
```

Note: The `databaseConnectionString` property requires a full connection string. You may need to add authentication parameters to your connection string.

For a good and reasonably priced MongoDB Host, we recommend [mLab](#).

## Configuration

All settings are managed from the admin panel (<http://127.0.0.1:1111/admin>) except the Payment gateway and database settings.

### Cart name and Cart description

These values are used for search engine optimization (SEO) purposes. They will be used as the title and description when your website is listed in Google and other search engines.

The `Cart name` is also used if there is no logo set.

### Cart image/logo

Generally you would place your logo into the `/uploads` folder. You would then add the value `/uploads/mylogo.png` to the `Cart image/logo` setting value.

### Cart URL

This value is vital for your cart to work. Set this value to your domain name/URL which customers will access your website. This value is used in returning from Paypal payments and the sitemap for search engine indexing.

### Cart Email

This email is used for any email receipts which are sent by your website.

### Free shipping threshold

expressCart allows for the addition of a free shipping threshold. The cart will remove the shipping costs once the order has exceeded the `Free shipping threshold` value. If the value of the cart is beneath the `Free shipping threshold`, the cart will add the `Flat shipping rate` to the total amount.

### Payment Gateway

This determines which payment gateway to use. You will also need to configure your payment gateway configuration file here: `/config/<gateway_name>.json`

### Currency symbol

Set this value to your chosen currency symbol. Eg: \$, £, €.

### Themes

Themes are a set of handlebars views and a stylesheet file. See `cloth` theme as example.

Themes are loaded from `/public/themes/`.

### Number of Products per page

You can set the number of products per page by changing the `Products per page` value to a whole number of your choice. You may want to ensure the number of products per page matches up with the `Products per row` value. Eg: if you have the `Products per row` value set to 3, you may want to ensure the `Products per page` is a multiple of 3 for the best look.

### Number of Products per row

This is the number of products displayed per row on your website. You can select anywhere up to 4 `Products per row`.

### Menu enabled

Enables/disable the menu setup in `/admin/settings/menu`.

### Menu header

This is the text which will be displayed at the top of your menu.

### Menu position

You can set position where your menu will be displayed. Setting the value to `side` will position the menu to the left of your products, setting the value to `top` will create a 'breadcrumb' menu at the top of the page

### Paypal (Payments)

The Paypal config file is located: `/config/paypal.json`. A example Paypal settings file is provided:

```
{
  "mode": "live", // sandbox or live
  "client_id":
"AZVozrpEtNfdflfdkldfkldfpi_84bCA8XIdlfynuODpLQXF5e1fdflfdkldkfldkfldkfldkld",
  "client_secret":
"EPB0jfdfdlfdkldfkldfkldkfTe3WRRFmB_oTyCekOr_P5xNDrwfdjkfjdkfkdjfkdhboVu1l",
  "paypalCartDescription": "expressCart", // Shows as the Paypal description
  "paypalCurrency": "USD" // The Paypal currency to charge in
}
```

Note: The `client_id` and `client_secret` is obtained from your Paypal account.

### Stripe (Payments)

The Stripe config file is located: `/config/stripe.json`. A example Stripe settings file is provided:

```
{
  "secretKey": "sk_test_htJLFOHHopwWW3xA1JWUJLDH",
```

```
"publicKey": "pk_test_htJLLDHWUJpwWW3xA1HopwHJ",
"stripeCurrency": "usd", The Stripe currency to charge in
"stripeDescription": "expressCard payment", // Shows as the Stripe description
"stripeLogoURL": "http://localhost:1111/images/stripe.png" // URL to the
logo to display on Stripe form
}
```

Note: The `secretKey` and `publicKey` is obtained from your Stripe account dashboard.

## Email settings

You will need to configure your SMTP details for expressCard to send email receipts to your customers.

You will need to consult your email provider for the relevant details.

### Gmail settings

- Email SMTP Host = `smtp.gmail.com`
- Email SMTP Port = `465`
- Email SMTP secure = `True/Checked`
- Email SMTP Username = `example@gmail.com`
- Email SMTP Password = `yourpassword` (you may need to setup an application specific password for this to work)

### Zoho settings

- Email SMTP Host = `smtp.zoho.com`
- Email SMTP Port = `465`
- Email SMTP secure = `True/Checked`
- Email SMTP Username = `example@zoho.com`
- Email SMTP Password = `yourpassword`

### Outlook settings

- Email SMTP Host = `smtp-mail.outlook.com`
- Email SMTP Port = `587`
- Email SMTP secure = `False/Unchecked`
- Email SMTP Username = `example@outlook.com`
- Email SMTP Password = `yourpassword`

You can use the `Send test email` button to ensure your email settings are correct.

## Menu

Although expressCard is a search based shopping cart, you can also group your products into categories using tags. You can then setup menu Items to "filter" based on keywords (tags) to make

it easier for your customers.

Setting of menu items is done via `/admin/settings/menu`.

To add a new menu item to filter products, you will set the menu text using the `Menu` field and setting the keyword to filter is using the `link` field.

To add a new menu item to link to a static page, you will set the menu text using the `Menu` field and set the static page URL using the `link` field. Eg: An `About` page would be set. Menu = 'About Us', Link = 'about`

You can re-order menu items by clicking and dragging the arrows icon and placing the menu item in desired position.

## Static pages

You may want to create a static page to show contact details, about us, shipping information etc.

New static pages are setup via `/admin/settings/pages`.

## Upgrade from embedded DB to MongoDB

If you start using an embedded DB and decide your website is needing a dedicated MongoDB server you can simply upgrade by following these steps:

1. **IMPORTANT** Backup your `/data` folder
2. Ensure the MongoDB settings in the `/config/settings.json` file are added and are correct
3. Run `npm run dbUpgrade`
4. All done!