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8TH JUN 2011 | 2 NOTES -

DJANGO-SHOP ADVENTURES: SIMPLE CATEGORIES

In my **last post** I described how to handle shipping and payment backends in django-shop. This post was planned to deal with how to simplify the workflow so that the user does not have to chose any backends if there only exists one.

I got all the code ready and this post was saved as a draft half way when **Chris Glass** pushed a new update to **django-shop** that does exactly this. Just in a much better way than I did it:)

Great! Additionally they got rid of the client model, as it turned out that most developers just want to use the User model built into Django. Because we still need to save billing and shipping addresses at the User, Chris added an **addressmodel** which resides in its own app. This ensures easy extendability: If you need an address model with more complex fields, you can just create your own app. Just make sure that your model has two foreign keys to the User model named user_shipping and _user_billing.

Although these were some rather big changes to the shop design, all we need to do to get our django-shop-adventures code back on track is to add shop.addressmodel to our INSTALLED_APPS. I take this as a good sign that the highly modular implementation of django-shop was a good design decision.

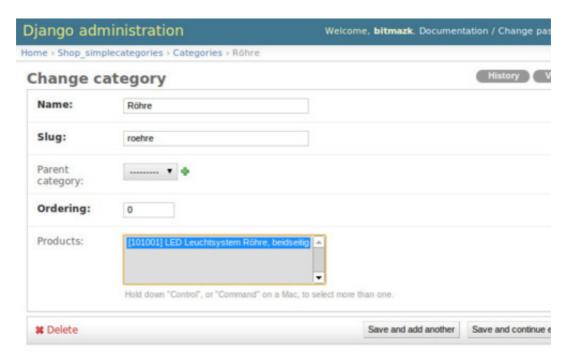
Adding django-shop-simplecategories

In my last posts I added my own implementation of categories to my product model. However Chris has done a great job on this (very common) use case: **django-shop-simplecategories**.

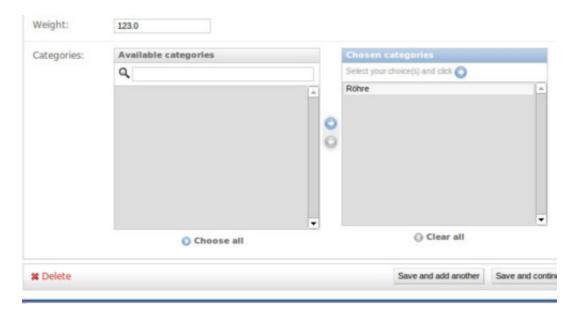
The instructions found in the Github repository leave no room for interpretation and so I was able to replace my own category system by this better one in just a couple of minutes. All we need to do is really add 'shop_simplecategories' to INSTALLED_APPS and add the 'ProductWithCategoryForm' to the product's admin. The latter is optional but I highly

recommend it as it makes categorizing of products much simpler. See it yourself in the screenshots:

As the name suggest, the shop_simplecategories app gives us a simple category model. We got a slug, we can even define relationships between categories and we can add products to a category. This of course can quickly become cumbersome as there are more and more products in your database.



For this reason **Pavel Zhukov** added a very cool form that can be used to enhance your own product's admin. Now you can add your product to categories immediately when you create the product itself. Sweet!



django-simple-categories has some minor glitches, for example the slug field does not get auto populated, but this should be fixed easily. Time for submitting a patch:)

As usual the code for this project can be found on **Github**.

UPDATE: Giving credit to Pavel Zhukov

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