



# PHP Shopping Cart Tutorial

Learn how to create an online store with PHP and MySQL

**Download:**[Shop-Script FREE](#)[Shop-Script FREE User Guide](#) (PDF; 0 Kb)[View online store demo](#)

## Introduction

## Basic concepts

## Technologies

## File structure

## Database structure

## Back end

Password protection  
 Products catalog: structure  
 Product catalog: viewing  
 Managing categories  
 Managing products  
 Special offers  
 Managing orders

## Front end

Viewing products catalog  
 Product search  
**Shopping cart**  
 Checkout  
 PayPal integration

## Security

## Live Demo

## Author

## Terms Of Use



from the makers of  
**Shop-Script**  
 shopping cart software

## Shopping cart

### How it works

To implement virtual shopping cart function we use sessions.

For each visitor new session is initiated. We can use a simple array to store product, which customer has added to his shopping cart.

If visitor clicks "Add to cart" button, following PHP code is executed (*includes/shopping\_cart.php*):

```
<?php

if (isset($_GET["add2cart"]) && (int)$_GET["add2cart"]>0) //add product to cart with productID=$add2cart
{
    $q = db_query("select in_stock from ".PRODUCTS_TABLE." where productID='".(int)$_GET["add2cart"]."' or die (db_error());
    $is = db_fetch_row($q); $is = $is[0];

    //$_SESSION['gids'] contains product IDs
    //$_SESSION['counts'] contains item quantities ($_SESSION['counts'][$i] corresponds to $_SESSION['gids'][$i])
    //$_SESSION['gids'][$i] == 0 means $i-element is 'empty' (does not refer to any product)
    if (!isset($_SESSION["gids"]))
    {
        $_SESSION["gids"] = array();
        $_SESSION["counts"] = array();
    }
    //check for current product in visitor's shopping cart content
    $i=0;
    while ($i<count($_SESSION["gids"]) && $_SESSION["gids"][$i] != $_GET["add2cart"]) $i++;
    if ($i < count($_SESSION["gids"])) //increase current product's item quantity
    {
        $_SESSION["counts"][$i]++;
    }
    else //no such product in the cart - add it
    {
        $_SESSION["gids"][$i] = $_GET["add2cart"];
        $_SESSION["counts"][$i] = 1;
    }
}

?>
```

Here we use two array to store products in the shopping cart:

\$\_SESSION["gids"] contains productID values of the products which are currently in the customer's shopping cart.  
 \$\_SESSION["counts"] contains item quantities information - how many items of a certain product are there in customer's cart.

Such method allows easily add products to cart and remove them. Here is how you can remove a product from cart:

```
<?php

if (isset($_GET["remove"]) && (int)$_GET["remove"] > 0) //remove product with productID == $remove
{
    $i=0;
    while ($i<count($_SESSION["gids"]) && $_SESSION["gids"][$i] != (int)$_GET["remove"])
        $i++;
    if ($i<count($_SESSION["gids"]))
        $_SESSION["gids"][$i] = 0;
}

?>
```

And if you would like to clear cart content (remove all products from cart), simple execute this code:

```
<?php
unset($_SESSION["gids"]);
unset($_SESSION["counts"]);
?>
```

It's that easy.

### Displaying shopping cart content

To display shopping cart content to customer, we only load cart content from session to Smarty variable, and then it can be presented to customer using this Smarty template (*shopping\_cart.tpl.html*):

My shopping cart:

✖ clear

Product name	Quantity	Cost,	
007 - Gold Finger	<input type="text" value="1"/>	US \$15.99	✖
IBM ThinkPad T30 2366-89G	<input type="text" value="2"/>	US \$6340.00	✖
Mineral water	<input type="text" value="10"/>	US \$1.20	✖
Nokia 8310	<input type="text" value="1"/>	US \$299.00	✖
Sweeter	<input type="text" value="2"/>	US \$94.00	✖
<b>Total:</b>		<b>US \$6750.19</b>	

Update

Back to shopping

Proceed to checkout

```
{section loop=$cart_content name=i}
<tr>
<td>{if $cart_content[i].product_code ne ""}[{$cart_content[i].product_code}] {/if}{$cart_content[i].name}</td>
<td><input type="text" name="count_{$cart_content[i].id}" size="5" value="{$cart_content[i].quantity}"></td>
<td>{$cart_content[i].cost}</td>
<td>
<a href="index.php?shopping_cart=yes&remove={$cart_content[i].id}"></a>
</td>
</tr>
{/section}
```

## Checkout

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Shopping cart content is stored in session till the moment visitor closes browser window (in this case session is terminated) or places an order (we clear shopping cart content stored in session). Learn more about [accepting orders from customers](#) and saving them to the database.

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