



CGI Shopping Cart - Brief Documentation

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Coded by: Ing. Rafael R. Dahan (CSQE)
Please direct comments or reports to: support@datalogica.nl.

CGI Shopping Cart version: 2.0

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THE CGI SHOPPING CART

Datalogica's Shopping Cart is an e-commerce CGI Shopping Cart system that is easy to integrate into any website. However, this version has been made especially for Sandvox and RapidWeaver users.

To install this script you will need a basic understanding of HTML, and some understanding of Perl CGI scripts and how they work.

Datalogica's Shopping Cart uses text files to store data. It does not require an external database such as SQL to function. The program only requires a Unix, Apple or Windows based web server with Perl installed to run.

If you plan to use an Authorize.net compatible service or to store credit card information and run the transactions manually later you will need the ability to access the script through a secure server. PayPal and WorldPay has it's own secure server to encrypt credit card data.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW

Secure administration web login anywhere in the World
Searchable database of products for sale and management of orders
Store Coupon Code / item option Coupon Code
Tell-A-Friend, recommend a product to a friend feature
Related (items) Products
Order status tracking
Your customer can view online the status of their order(s)
Print invoices, shipping or packing slips or make and send a PDF
Create backorders
Send shipping confirmation via email and matching tracking number
Add products (even copy products), edit or completely delete them
Simply upload product photos from your own computer
Manage shipping tables and tax tables
Sales Reports Overview
Place your complete website layout in one template
Readable CGI source code (paid version)
Perfect export to HTML output, of your products, SEO friendly
Link directly to individual products or categories
Option to designate a product non-taxable
Drop down options that can add to product price and shipping weight when selected
Cookies retain cart and customer information if a customer leaves and returns
Free form options for collecting information to customize a product
Datalogica CGI shopping cart system completely free or a paid version
MySQL is not required
And much more ...

PAYMENTS

PayPal, WorldPay, Bank Wire Transfer, Money Order - Check, Authorize.net and the option to collect payment information and process it manually.

INSTALLATION HELP

Datalogica offers inexpensive, guaranteed installation service. Installation of this script requires some basic knowledge about HTML and Perl CGI Scripts.

Guaranteed installation service is available. If I cannot successfully install the script on your web server, regardless of where it is hosted, you will receive a 100% refund.
<http://www.datalogica.nl/node/installation>.

You will need a text editor that can interpret Unix newline characters or the code may display strangely and become corrupted when you save it.

Most good HTML editors read Unix newline characters properly. Windows Notepad does not. WordPad will work in a pinch.

Using Windows?

Try WordPad. Mac users can use Apple's TextEdit or download TextMate.

Recommended programs are: UltraEdit for Windows, TextMate for Apple computers.

Each setting is well documented (embedded) in cartconfig.pl itself.

DOWNLOADED ZIP - FILES AND FOLDERS

The following files and folders are included in this ZIP download:

The cgi-bin folder

```
cartdata
  dAtaL0gi3a
    customer
    order
admin.cgi
cart.cgi
review.cgi
coupon.cgi
path.cgi
cartconfig.pl
authorize.pl
template.html + index.html
```

In the free version, admin.cgi, cart.cgi and review.cgi are encrypted. If, - in the future - you want to purchase a paid version, you only need to overwrite admin.cgi, cart.cgi and review.cgi. It's that simple. No need to install the shopping cart again.

The www folder

```
html
photos
```

The root

```
readme.txt or readme.pdf (this file)
```

START

You will need to know the following things about your hosting service before you can install the shopping cart.

1) Whether the server hosting your website is Unix, Apple or Windows based.

2) If the system is Unix or Apple based you will need to know:

The path to Perl.

The path to sendmail.

The free Shopping Cart will not work on Windows servers!

3) If the server is Windows based you will need to know:

An IP address or domain name for an available SMTP server.

The scripts are in Unix text format.

The Unix formatting is required for most Unix servers, Apple servers and Windows servers interpret the Unix characters just fine. That is why the scripts are in this format.

SANDVOX & RAPIDWEAVER USERS

Watch and learn the online video tutorials, how to implement the CGI shopping Cart into Sandvox or RapidWeaver.

Video Tutorials: <http://vimeo.com/datalogica> - <http://www.youtube.com/datalogicam>

PATH TO PERL

The very first line of the program indicates the path to Perl. `#!/usr/bin/perl`
Check your server if: `#!/usr/local/bin/perl` must be used.

PATHS

Use the file path.cgi to view the correct paths. <http://www.mysite.com/cgi-bin/path.cgi>

HOW TO START?

Open up cartconfig.pl in a text editor and modify the variable definitions at the top of the script to match your installation needs. Detailed explanations for each variable are embedded in the script. Note! Read the tips.

While filling in the values for the configuration variables you will notice the necessity of several folders.

The Photo Folder (*photos*), is where you will store uploaded JPG images of your products. This folder must be web accessible so that the photos can be displayed. Obviously, the script must be able to write to this folder as well.

The HTML Folder (*html*) is where the program will store HTML pages of your products. This folder must be web accessible so that the pages can be displayed.

Use the HTML Folder separate from your normal HTML pages. Obviously, the script must be able to write to this folder as well.

The Working Folder is where you will store all the Shopping Cart data. The data is secure by storing it in a lower level folder named with the data key you enter in the cartconfig.pl file. For this to be effective, directory browsing must be turned off on your web server. Obviously, the script must be able to read and write data to this folder as well.

The template.html is a normal HTML file and serves as a display "wrapper" for the content displayed by the cart. Wherever you want the script information to appear on your pages you must insert the following tag:

[main content]

The tag is case sensitive.

Sandvox and RapidWeaver users don't need to use the template.html file.

Use full URLs to your stylesheet: <http://www.mysite.com/css/stylesheet.css> and all links.

TEMPLATE.HTML

Note that you will need to use full URLs or URLs relative to the root directory on all of your links, images, and style sheets so that the template will work from any folder on your site. If you are going to use a secure server any images or linked stylesheets need to use full secure URLs.

The example template.html file included with the ZIP contains a simple example stylesheet embedded into it. The program only makes use of one stylesheet class for the tables that display the small images of the products. The rest are only definitions of basic HTML tags. Note that all of the tags defined in the example stylesheet are used in the program.

UPLOADING

On Unix servers you will need to set file permissions on the scripts that need to execute. Required permission settings can vary from server to server, but normally you will set the files and folders as follows.

All in cgi-bin:

admin.cgi	(CHMOD 755) file
cart.cgi	(CHMOD 755) file
review.cgi	(CHMOD 755) file
coupon.cgi	(CHMOD 755) file
path.cgi	(CHMOD 755) file to find and fill in correct paths in cartconfig.pl
cartconfig.pl	(CHMOD 644) file
authorize.pl	(CHMOD 644) file
template.html	(CHMOD 644) file
cartdata	(CHMOD 777) folder
dAtaL0gi3a	(CHMOD 777) folder
customer	(CHMOD 777) folder
order	(CHMOD 777) folder

All in www:

The following folders in httpdocs/www anyway, **NOT** in your cgi-bin!

html	(CHMOD 777) folder
photos	(CHMOD 777) folder

To help you further with your online web store, Datalogica has made a 'Handbook' which you can find here:

<http://www.datalogica.nl/node/handbook>

Read the online handbook, you'll learn a lot.

The next page is about installing the CGI Shopping Cart on a Windows server.
You can skip this part if not applicable.

WINDOWS SERVERS

On Windows servers you may need to rename the .cgi scripts so that they have an extension of .plx or .pl depending upon how Perl is configured on your server.

.plx is preferable because it normally references the ISAPI Perl dll and will run faster and more efficiently. Make sure to reflect the change in the definition variables in the cartconfig.pl script.

Sometimes a server will require full paths to everything.

If relative paths won't work you will not only have to use full paths in the cartconfig.pl file, but you will need to change the require statements at the top of all the scripts from:

```
require "cartconfig.pl";
```

to something like ...

```
require "c:/websites/mysite/cartconfig.pl";
```

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

A FAQ for the Shopping Cart Script is available at: <http://www.datalogica.nl/node/faq>

Although I cannot guarantee responses to all questions relating to my CGI Shopping Cart script, you may also direct additional questions to support@datalogica.nl.

BACK UP

IMPORTANT! BACK UP YOUR DATABASE FILES REGULARLY!

No server is immune to hardware failure and data loss. Datalogica Shopping Cart uses text files to store data. These files are only as stable as your server file system. It is possible for files to become corrupt or broken.

Download your entire **cartdata** folder using FTP or SSH on a regular basis so that you don't lose your data.

USING THE SCRIPT

Once you have successfully installed the scripts you will need to add some products to your store.

Start by accessing the admin.cgi script at the URL where you have placed it. Once you log in you will be able to add products, configure shipping and tax information, etc.

Example: <http://www.mysite.com/cgi-bin/admin.cgi>

After you have a few products you may access the cart.cgi script which will display a form with various search options. Browsing the store will give you a better idea of how it all works.

EXPORT TO HTML

The Export to HTML was created to make easy search engine spidering of your entire database possible. When you click on "Export to HTML" it will not only create HTML pages of all your products, but will generate link pages.

The main link page created is called inventory.html. Link to this page from somewhere on your website's home page and search engines will be able to spider down into your product pages.

CONNECTING WITH AN AUTHORIZE.NET COMPATIBLE GATEWAY

In order to use an Authorize.net compatible service to process credit cards, you must have access to the script on your site through a secure server.

You must also use the full secure URL to the cart.cgi program in the cartconfig.pl file where it asks for a secure URL. Before you can connect, you must establish an account with Authorize.net or a company with a compatible gateway.

Once you are able to log into your account there are several things you must do and set up there.

Relay Response should be set to the full secure URL to the admin.cgi program. Response/Receipt URLs should also be set to the full secure URL to the admin.cgi program.

You must obtain a Transaction Key and enter it into the payment option settings in cartconfig.pl.

You may need to adjust the server time clock settings to synch up with Authorize.net servers. You can do this by adjusting the value of the Authorize.net time offset variable in cartconfig.pl

Settings for how you would like Authorize.net to approve and process cards can all be controlled from within your Authorize.net login.

REVIEW.CGI

Tip! Make a link to review.cgi at your website. This specific file is very important for your customers. They can follow (online) the status of their order.

Example: <http://www.mysite.com/cgi-bin/review.cgi>

LINKING TO DATALOGICA SHOPPING CART

A nice feature of this program is the ability to link to any product or product category externally or internally.

A sample link would look like this: <http://www.mysite.com/html/1.html>

The easiest way to link to a product is to go to the product page and copy the URL from the address bar of your browser.

Linking to a category is a little more complex.

Below is a sample of how to link to a product category:

```
<a href="cart.cgi?action=search&category=Pink+Shoes">Pink Shoes</a>
```

"action=search" tells the program that this is a search across the products in the store.
"category=Pink+Shoes" tells the program that it's search should only display products in the "Pink Shoes" category.

The product description fields will accept HTML code so you can imbed these types of links into the description of your products. For example, on the page displaying pink sneakers you might want a link to yellow sneakers or to all shoes.

This also enables a web developer to create main categories with static HTML pages (good for search engine spiders) and then link to sub categories created within Datalogica Shopping Cart.

I wish you every success in your business.

Rafael R. Dahan (CSQE)
Certified Software Quality Engineer

Datalogica - inspired eCommerce
<http://www.datalogica.nl/>