

PayPal Advanced Checkout Setup Guide

(Previously called PayPal Commerce)

This guide is to set up PayPal Advanced Checkout on your website, which clients can follow and do themselves. If clients prefer us to implement it or to resolve issues in their setup then a small implementation charge of £135+VAT will apply. Please note if additional features are required other than the standard payment taking this will need to be quoted for.

PCI Compliance

PCI V4 introduced in 2024-2025 requires additional scanning of the website and associated charges.
[Read more](#)

Getting Started

PayPal now use their developer site for new integrations and the API testing accounts can be used with any paypal account, but for production they appear linked to the merchant account that will be using them.

Note: If clients prefer us to perform the implementation then we will need to be provided with access.

To setup PayPal Advanced Checkout, access their Developer site:

<https://developer.paypal.com/>

Click the “Log in to Dashboard” button to the top right, or the link below and login with your PayPal account:

<https://www.paypal.com/signin?returnUri=https%3A%2F%2Fdeveloper.paypal.com%2Fdeveloper%2Fapplications>

Once logged in, you'll be on the Dashboard > “My apps & credentials” area by default. This is a list of your existing apps in sandbox or live mode (based on the toggle switch):



If you're testing with a Sandbox account first before going live, you'll want to do the following steps with the default Sandbox toggled, then repeat these steps later again for the live mode, however if you want to skip straight to Live mode you can toggle to 'Live' and continue.

If you've already created an app it'll be shown here, but for setting up PayPal Advanced

Checkout you'll want to create a new app by clicking the 'Create App' button under the app list.

Create App

On the create new app page, you'll be asked for an app name, this can just be your website name, e.g. My T-shirt Store. (Please note, you can't use the word PayPal in this name, nor does it allow some symbols).

You'll then want to leave the App Type as Merchant and click Create App like so:

Create New App

Before you create your new app, let us know what kind of solution you're looking for.

Application Details

App Name

App Type
☒ **Merchant** – Accept payments as a merchant (seller)
☐ **Platform** – Move payments to sellers as a platform (marketplace, crowdfunding, or e-commerce platform)

As a reminder, all apps created under your account should be related to your business and the type of business it conducts.

By clicking the button below, you agree to [PayPal Developer Agreement](#) (US accounts only).

Create App

If you're creating a sandbox account first, you'll also have the option to select a Sandbox Business Account here. This allows you to set which account is linked to the app.

For live accounts though this is automatically linked to the PayPal account you logged in with.

The next screen will then give your API details (we will need these if we are helping with the implementation). You can come back to this screen anytime via the Dashboard apps list.

My T-shirt Store

App display name: My T-shirt Store 

LIVE API CREDENTIALS

Note that not all features are available for live transactions. Features available for live transactions are listed in your **account eligibility**.

PayPal account:

Client ID:

Secret:
[Show](#)

Click to reveal your Secret and then copy both the Client ID and Secret across to your website:
Admin > Connect > Payment Processors > PayPal Commerce > Enter the details in either the Live or Sandbox / Test account headings.

Above the PayPal Advanced Checkout fields in your website Admin, you'll see a field for your "PayPal Email Address", please make sure to enter this as well as the same account you're using the integration with.

For example, for Live accounts, this is the PayPal account you logged in with and will be having the money sent to, while for Sandbox accounts, this is the sandbox business account email you linked your app with when creating it.

PayPal

PayPal Email Address

Important! This is the email address you registered with PayPal to receive payments.

PayPal Commerce

Generate your API access via the [PayPal Developer](#) site.

Please also enter your paypal email in the field above.

Live Account

Client ID

Secret

Sandbox / Test Account (optional - used only when in test mode)

Client ID

Secret

Webhook

Though the PayPal checkout process generally handles payment, if a payment is pending, or has any other issue, it's important to add a webhook as a backup to catch any issues. It ensures that all confirmed payments are logged and handled properly.

Steps to Set Up the PayPal Webhook:

- Log in to the PayPal Developer Dashboard:**
<https://developer.paypal.com/home/>
- Navigate to your app settings:**
 - Go to **My Apps & Credentials**
 - In the top-right corner, switch the toggle to **Live** (or *sandbox if running in test mode*)
- Select your application:**
 - Click on the relevant app (it might be named "website" or "REC")
 - Scroll down to the **Live Webhooks** section
 - Click **+ Add Webhook**
- Add the webhook URL and event types:**
 - Enter this URL:
<https://www.supastuds.com/pages/paypal-commerce/ipn-webhook.php>
 - Under **Event types**, select all **"Payment capture ..."** options under **Payments & Payouts**
- Get the Webhook ID and update your site:**
 - After saving, copy the **Webhook ID**
 - In your website admin panel, go to:
Admin > Connect > Payment Processors > PayPal Advanced Checkout > Live Account > Webhook ID
 - Paste the Webhook ID and save

With the PayPal Commerce / PayPal Advanced Checkout connected in admin & your app set up, you can now enable the payment processor on your website in Admin > Payment Processor Manager > **PayPal Commerce** (not to be confused with the other PayPal integrations we have).



Click Edit on this payment processor and on this screen you can change the name displayed to end users as well as the mini logo and later down the page the description line shown after the name on the checkout page seen by users.

You'll need to enable PayPal Commerce / PayPal Advanced Checkout in whichever billing zones you want to allow it in, and it's safe to enable this for all regions by ticking each zone under the "Zones this payment applies to" title.

Next you'll want to change the "Status Of This Processor" to "On" and set the mode to either:

- **Test** if you're using the PayPal Sandbox account to test with.
- **Stage** for using the Live account but without showing it to the user (think of our Stage as more of a preview while PayPals Sandbox is for test accounts).
- **Live** for using the payment processor live right now and available to front end users.

We advise to use Test if you're using the paypal sandbox app and Stage if you're using a live paypal app account at this point. You can come back and switch to Live later when the process is complete and fully ready for your website customers to use.

There are other options available to set who can access PayPal Commerce / PayPal Advanced Checkout but you can ignore these for now.

You can drag and drop to sort which payment method shows first to the user on the checkout page. Go to the Admin > Payment Processor Manager screen and drag & drop the PayPal Commerce / PayPal Advanced Checkout option to the top or near the top of the list if you have multiple payment options available. The first option marked as On is auto selected at checkout, followed by and others set to On below it.

You're almost ready to start testing your PayPal Advanced Checkout integration.

The next step is to register either your live or sandbox account with *PayPal for Business*. (PayPal refer to this as the PayPal production/sandbox onboarding).

For live accounts, use this link:

<https://www.paypal.com/bizsignup/entry/product/ppcp>

While for sandbox/test accounts use this link instead:

<https://www.sandbox.paypal.com/bizsignup/entry/product/ppcp>

The process asks a couple questions such as your email (**important:** make sure this is the same one for either your live account or sandbox business account your app is linked to).

After this signup it'll show a confirmation screen, however it can take 24 hours for PayPal to fully complete the authorisation process. You'll know once it's complete in the next step as the card payment form will only show when your account has been fully approved.

Next, you will test the integration by adding an order on the front end of your site and taking it through to checkout then select your new PayPal Commerce / PayPal Advanced Checkout payment method and click to Place your order.

You'll then be shown a PayPal payment screen embedded directly into your site (see illustration below)

On desktop there should be your cart items, delivery and addresses shown to the left and paypal button and card entry fields to the right (as mentioned before, if you've only just gone through the approval with paypal then the card fields may not yet appear for you).

The screen should look like this on desktop:

Payment to My T-shirt Store

Order Total:

£2.80

Items

 1x Poldermill Chocolate Sprinkles - NUTPOLO20

Billing Address

Wildfire Internet
Unit 8 Hanbury Wharf
Droitwich
Worcestershire
UK
WR9 7DU

Delivery Address

Same as billing address

[Return to checkout to make changes.](#)

PayPal

The safer, easier way to pay

- Or pay with card -

Card Number

4111 1111 1111 1111

Expiration Date

MM/YY

CVV

123

Name on Card

Andrew Stilliard

Pay

While on mobile we simplify the layout by putting in two links to expand out the items (View Order Summary) and addresses (View Your Addresses):

Payment to My T-shirt Store

Order Total:

£2.80

► [View Order Summary](#)

► [View Your Addresses](#)

◀ [Return to checkout to make changes.](#)

PayPal

The safer, easier way to pay

- Or pay with card -

Card Number

4111 1111 1111 1111

Expiration Date

MM/YY

CVV

123

Name on Card

Andrew Stilliard

Pay

Site Settings

The title text at the top of this screen for “Payment to COMPANY NAME” is editable in your website via Admin > Page manager > paypal_commerce_screen_title. You can add additional lines of text or images in here to help the user pay if you wish, however we do advise keeping the content here short to not distract the user actually making the payment.

Testing

To test your integration please run 2 tests: the first buying through the PayPal button at the top of the screen; and a 2nd test using the card fields.

For sandbox/test accounts you can use the test card number 4111 1111 1111 1111 along with any future expiration date and 123 as the CVV.

UPDATE: the above card sometimes doesn't work, instead you may need to get a card from the test buyer account in the sandbox accounts area.

For sandbox accounts testing the paypal button, you'll need to use a sandbox customer/buyer account, these are available to you via the <https://developer.paypal.com/developer/accounts/> accounts list.

Once you've tested the integration you can either switch your payment processor from Stage mode to Live if you're using a live app, or if you used a sandbox account please repeat the process for creating a live app instead.

Decommissioning Other Paypal Payment Methods

Once you go live with PayPal Advanced Checkout you will need to turn off any earlier Paypal methods in Payment Processor Manager > Status: Off

Paypal Buttons On Product Pages & The Cart

Please note that there is not yet an equivalent button that can appear on the product page or the shopping cart in the way that Paypal Express does.

Implementation Support

To book someone to help with your implementation please contact us via:

support@reallyeasycart.co.uk.