

MH Free Gifts for WooCommerce

Store Owner User Manual

Create free-gift promotions with confidence

For version 1.1.6 and later

This guide explains how to create, test, and manage free-gift offers in your WooCommerce store.

It is written for store owners. You do not need to edit code.

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Before you start

You need:

- WordPress and WooCommerce installed and active.
- At least one WooCommerce product that can be given away as the gift.
- Products and/or product categories ready if your offer depends on specific items.

The plugin uses normal WooCommerce products as gifts. The gift is added at a price of \$0.00. Free gifts do not count toward the cart quantity or subtotal used to qualify for another gift.

Quick start: create your first rule

Example: "Spend \$50 and choose one free gift."

- 1 In WordPress admin, go to **Free Gifts > Add Rule**.
- 2 Give the rule a clear internal name, such as `Spend $50 - choose a gift`.
- 3 Under **Select Gifts**, choose one or more products that the customer may receive.
- 4 Leave **Auto-add Gift** unticked. This lets the customer choose.
- 5 Set **Display Gifts On** to `Cart` or `Cart & Checkout`.
- 6 Set **Number of Gifts Allowed** to `1`.
- 7 Under **Cart Subtotal**, choose `Is Greater Than or Equal To` and enter `50`.
- 8 Leave other restrictions blank unless you need them.
- 9 Click **Save Rule**.
- 10 Add products worth at least \$50 to a test cart and confirm the gift selector appears.

Tip: Use a meaningful rule name. Customers do not see it, but it makes future changes much easier.

How a rule works

Every active rule asks two questions:

- 1 Does this cart qualify?
- 2 If it qualifies, what gift or gifts can the customer receive?

A rule can qualify from one condition or several combined conditions. For example:

- Cart subtotal is at least \$50.
- Cart contains a specific product.
- Cart contains an item from a chosen category.
- The customer has bought at least 3 qualifying items.
- The customer is logged in.
- The offer is inside its start and end dates.

If a rule has more than one condition, **all configured conditions must be true**.

Rule settings explained

General Settings

Setting	What it does	Simple advice
Status	Turns the rule on or off.	Set to Disabled while building or testing an offer.
Rule Name	Internal name for store staff.	Describe the offer and its trigger.
Description	Internal notes for store staff.	Record campaign details or exclusions.
Select Gifts	Products a customer may receive.	Choose one or more products for a choice-based offer.
Auto-add Gift	Adds the gift automatically when the rule qualifies.	Select exactly one gift product before enabling this.

Display Settings

Setting	What it does
Display Gifts On	Shows the manual gift selector on Cart, or on Cart and Checkout.
Items Per Row (Cart)	Controls the number of gift cards per row on the cart page, from 1 to 6. If several rules qualify, the highest applicable value is used.

Auto-added gifts do not appear in the manual gift selector. They are added and removed automatically as the cart qualifies or stops qualifying.

Usage Restrictions

Setting	What it does
Product Dependency	Requires at least one selected product in the cart.
Product Category Dependency	Requires at least one product from any selected category in the cart.
Threshold Scope	Decides whether quantity and subtotal conditions use the whole purchased cart or only dependency-matching products.
User Dependency	Restricts the offer to specific WordPress users.
Registered Users Only	Hides the offer from guest shoppers.
Number of Gifts Allowed	Number of gifts a customer can claim from this rule.
Disable if Coupon Applied	Makes the rule unavailable when any coupon is applied.
Cart Subtotal	Adds a spend condition using less than, greater than, less than or equal to, greater than or equal to, or equal to.
Cart Quantity	Adds an item-count condition using the same operators.
Repeat Gifts For Quantity Multiples	Repeats the allowed gift count as qualifying quantity grows.
Valid From / Valid To	Starts or ends an offer automatically on the selected dates and times.
Usage Limit per Rule	Caps the total number of orders that may use the rule.
Usage Limit per User	Caps how many times each logged-in customer may use the rule.

Threshold Scope: the important choice

Threshold Scope appears when you choose a Product Dependency or Product Category Dependency.

Whole Purchased Cart is the default. The dependency only confirms that the qualifying product/category is present; the quantity or subtotal can come from any purchased products.

Example: The cart must contain a pizza and have a quantity of 3. One pizza plus two drinks qualifies.

Matching Dependency Items Only is more precise. The quantity or subtotal only counts products that match the selected dependency.

Example: The cart must contain 3 pizzas. One pizza plus two drinks does not qualify.

Use **Matching Dependency Items Only** for offers such as "Buy 3 pizzas" or "Spend \$100 on skincare." Use **Whole Purchased Cart** for offers such as "Spend \$100 anywhere, as long as the cart includes a skincare item."

Quantity multiples

Quantity multiples are for repeated offers.

Example: Set Cart Quantity to Is Greater Than or Equal To 2, Number of Gifts Allowed to 1, and tick **Repeat Gifts For Quantity Multiples**.

- 2 qualifying items: 1 gift
- 4 qualifying items: 2 gifts

- 6 qualifying items: 3 gifts

This works with Greater Than or Equal To and Greater Than quantity conditions. For auto-add, use exactly one gift product; the plugin adds the needed number of copies automatically.

Example promotions

1. Spend \$75 and choose a sample

Use this for a simple store-wide reward where the shopper chooses one item.

Field	Set it to
Rule Name	Spend \$75 - choose a sample
Select Gifts	Select 2 or 3 sample products
Auto-add Gift	Off
Display Gifts On	Cart & Checkout
Number of Gifts Allowed	1
Cart Subtotal	Is Greater Than or Equal To 75

Leave product/category dependencies blank. The customer sees the gift choices once the purchased cart subtotal reaches \$75.

2. Buy 3 pizzas, get the fourth pizza free automatically

Use this when the gift should be added without the shopper choosing it.

Field	Set it to
Rule Name	Buy 3 pizzas - free fourth pizza
Select Gifts	Choose the one pizza to give away
Auto-add Gift	On
Product Category Dependency	Pizza
Threshold Scope	Matching Dependency Items Only
Cart Quantity	Is Greater Than or Equal To 3
Number of Gifts Allowed	1

Important: Auto-add requires exactly one selected gift. If the customer removes a pizza and no longer qualifies, the automatic gift is removed too.

3. Buy any 2 products from a category and choose a free accessory

Use this when a customer can choose from several gifts after buying qualifying category items.

Field	Set it to
Rule Name	Buy 2 candles - choose an accessory
Select Gifts	Wick trimmer, matches, or gift bag
Auto-add Gift	Off
Product Category Dependency	Candles
Threshold Scope	Matching Dependency Items Only
Cart Quantity	Is Greater Than or Equal To 2
Number of Gifts Allowed	1

Two candles qualify. One candle plus another unrelated product does not.

4. Buy 2, get 1 - repeated at higher quantities

Use this for "Buy 2, get 1" style offers that repeat.

Field	Set it to
Rule Name	Every 2 coffees - one free biscuit
Select Gifts	One biscuit product
Auto-add Gift	On
Product Dependency or Category Dependency	Coffee products or Coffee category
Threshold Scope	Matching Dependency Items Only
Cart Quantity	Is Greater Than or Equal To 2
Number of Gifts Allowed	1
Repeat Gifts For Quantity Multiples	On

The customer receives 1 biscuit at 2 coffees, 2 biscuits at 4 coffees, and 3 biscuits at 6 coffees.

5. VIP customer-only gift

Use this for a reward limited to named customers.

Field	Set it to
Rule Name	VIP thank-you gift
Select Gifts	Choose the reward product
User Dependency	Search for and select your VIP users
Cart Subtotal	Is Greater Than or Equal To 100, if required
Number of Gifts Allowed	1

Use **Registered Users Only** when any logged-in customer may qualify. Use **User Dependency** when only selected accounts may qualify.

6. Weekend promotion with a coupon exclusion

Use this when the gift should run automatically for a limited campaign and should not stack with discounts.

Field	Set it to
Rule Name	Weekend \$100 gift
Select Gifts	Choose the campaign gift
Cart Subtotal	Is Greater Than or Equal To 100
Disable if Coupon Applied	On
Valid From	Friday campaign start date and time
Valid To	Sunday campaign end date and time
Usage Limit per Rule	Optional campaign total, such as 100
Usage Limit per User	Optional per-customer limit, such as 1

Test the date and time with a short future window before relying on it for a live campaign.

7. Spend \$100 on skincare, not on other products

Use this when only one department should count toward a spend threshold.

Field	Set it to
Rule Name	Spend \$100 on skincare - free pouch
Select Gifts	Cosmetic pouch
Product Category Dependency	Skincare
Threshold Scope	Matching Dependency Items Only
Cart Subtotal	Is Greater Than or Equal To 100
Number of Gifts Allowed	1

\$60 of skincare plus \$40 of unrelated products does not qualify. The cart needs at least \$100 of skincare products.

Plugin settings

Go to **Free Gifts > Settings** to control how rules work together and how the selector looks.

Allow Gift Accumulation

When enabled, a shopper can claim gifts from several eligible rules in the same order.

When disabled, the shopper can keep gifts from one eligible rule only. This is useful when offers should not stack. Auto-added rules prefer the highest qualifying tier.

Checkout placement and text

These settings apply to classic WooCommerce checkout. Checkout Blocks use their own compatible gift panel.

Setting	What it does
Checkout Placement	Chooses where the classic checkout Free Gift section appears.
Cart Heading Text	Changes the main gift heading on cart and Blocks panels.
Checkout Toggle Text	Changes the classic checkout accordion label.
Checkout Accordion Default State	Chooses whether the classic checkout Free Gift accordion starts open or closed.
Add Button Text / Remove Button Text	Changes the button labels.
Cart Heading Font Size / Checkout Toggle Font Size	Changes the matching text sizes.

Button styles

You can change the gift button text colour, background, border colour, border size, font size, and border radius. Start with your existing site colours, then check both cart and checkout on a phone as well as desktop.

Test a rule before publishing

Use this quick checklist for every new promotion:

- 1 Save the rule as **Disabled** while entering the settings.
- 2 Check the selected gift products are in stock and purchasable.
- 3 Activate the rule.
- 4 Test just below the threshold. The selector or auto-gift should not appear.
- 5 Test exactly at the threshold when using Greater Than or Equal To.
- 6 Test above the threshold.
- 7 If using dependencies, test unrelated products as well as qualifying products.
- 8 If using a coupon exclusion, apply a coupon and confirm the offer disappears.
- 9 If using dates or limits, test those conditions before the campaign begins.
- 10 Test Cart, classic Checkout, and WooCommerce Blocks if your store uses them.

For a manual rule, test adding and removing the gift. For an auto-add rule, test reducing the cart below the threshold and confirm the gift is removed automatically.

Common questions

Why is the free gift selector not showing?

Check that the rule is Active, a gift is selected, the cart meets every configured condition, no usage limit has been reached, the date window is active, and no coupon is applied when **Disable if Coupon Applied** is enabled.

Why does one matching product plus another item not qualify?

Check **Threshold Scope**. If the offer is "Buy 2 from this category," choose **Matching Dependency Items Only** so both items must come from that category.

Can customers choose from several gifts?

Yes. Select several products under **Select Gifts**, keep **Auto-add Gift** off, and set **Number of Gifts Allowed** to the number they may choose.

Can I use a variation as a gift?

Yes. Search for and select the variation in the gift picker. Test the rule in a real cart after saving.

Why cannot I enable Auto-add Gift?

Auto-add works only when exactly one gift product is selected. It cannot automatically choose between several possible gifts.

Do free gifts count toward thresholds or quantity multiples?

No. The plugin evaluates only purchased cart items, so free gifts cannot help a cart qualify for more free gifts.

Can I stop guests using an offer?

Yes. Tick **Registered Users Only**. For a reward limited to particular accounts, use **User Dependency** instead.

A customer has an old cart. Will changes take effect?

Yes. Save the rule, then refresh the cart or checkout. The plugin reevaluates eligibility as WooCommerce updates the cart.

Safe operating habits

- Keep one clear purpose per rule.
- Test new rules with a private/incognito browser window so your admin account does not affect customer-specific rules.
- Use date windows and usage limits for limited promotions.
- Disable a rule rather than deleting it when a campaign ends; this preserves the setup for later reuse.
- Review rules after changing product categories, prices, coupons, or shipping promotions.