



USER GUIDE

MAGENTO PRODUCT COUNTDOWN



BelVG
Magento™

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1. Introduction to Product Countdown

Think more about your customers and care less about virtual lifetime of your products. Release time with **Magento Product Countdown**. The extension is extremely helpful, when you need to change your “store window” and delete outdated products. You set the timer for one product or the whole category, and it gets disabled automatically when the time goes off.

Magento Countdown Features:

- Enable the timer for any products or categories in your store
- Set the timer for disabled categories in advance to turn them on later
- Categories and products get disabled automatically after the countdown ends

Magento Product Countdown extension gives you the opportunity to set the timer for every product in your store.

Version & compatibility:

Version: 1.0. stable
Magento CE 1.4+, 1.5+,
1.6+

The ticking timer is a useful feature to terminate your product sales, and it is also a perfect motivator. Customers see the remaining time of the product and take their decisions faster. When **Magento timer** stops, the product is automatically set to disabled state.

You can also set the timer for the whole categories, and it will work the same as for single products. Consider using the timer for temporarily disabled categories to sell products later. When New Year’s coming, you may prepare gifts and set the timer for a certain period of time in advance.

1.5.1 main features:

- Optimization of enabling/disabling a huge number of store products
- Put products expiring soon on your home page
- Set the separate timer for every product in category
- Leave the product enable even though the timer goes off
- Multilingual timer is provided

2. How to Install

Step 1. Check Permissions.

Make sure the "app", "js" and "skin" directories of your Magento and all directories inside them have full written permissions or set permissions on each directory equal to 777 or 0777.

Important! Change all permissions back after installation.

Read more about permissions [here](#).

Step 2. Disable Cache.

Log into Magento **Admin Panel** and go to **System** → **Cache Management** and disable cache.

Read more about Cache Management [here](#).

Step 3. Disable Compilation.

Log into Magento **Admin Panel** and go to **System** → **Tools** → **Compilation** and disable the compilation.

Step 4. Upload files

Upload all files and folders from folder "Install" to the installation directory of your Magento software using an FTP client.

Step 5. Re-login.

Log out and back into Magento **Admin Panel**.

Disclaimer!

It is highly recommended to backup your server files and database before installing this module. No responsibility can be taken for any adverse effects installation or advice may cause.

Recommended you install on a test server initially to carry out your own testing.

3. How to Configure

Log in to the admin panel, and we will show you how to configure the extension step by step.

First enable the extension by moving to **System** → **Configuration** → **Count Down** on your Dashboard.

Count Down

Settings

This module was developed by www.BelVG.com. For docs & examples refer to the BelVG [web site](#).
We have the largest selections of [extensions](#) and [themes](#) on Magento.

Enabled: [STORE VIEW]

Home Page - Number of Products: [STORE VIEW]

Home Page - Number of Categories: [STORE VIEW]

Default parameters (for newly created)

Turn off the Product (Category)?: [STORE VIEW]
▲ should the product (category) be excluded from the list as the timer goes off

Apply timer for all sub Categories and sub Products: [STORE VIEW]

Define the number of products and categories on the homepage

Make the product enabled/disabled when the timer goes off

3.1. How to set the timer for a product

Go to **Catalog** → **Manage Products** and click on the product you want to set the timer for. There is a new *Count Down* tab in the Product information block.

Define the starting and ending date for your sales and special offers. If you tick the Product Status Control box, the system will enable/disable the product automatically.

HTC Touch Diamond (Cell Phones) [Back] [Reset] [Delete]

Count Down Settings

Current time: 19 April 2012 02:22:22

Available from: Date: [] Time: []

Available to: Date: [] Time: []

Set starting and ending dates to the product timer

☒ Product Status Control (automatic enable/disable)

3.2. How to set the timer for a category

Go to **Catalog -> Manage Categories** and click on the category you want to set the timer for. Define its starting and ending date.

Furniture (ID: 10) Reset Delete

General Information | Display Settings | Custom Design | Category Products | Count Down

Count Down Settings

Current time: 19 April 2012 02:23:38

Available from: Date: Time:

Available to: Date: Time:

☐ Category Status Control (automatic active/inactive)

☐ Apply settings for all sub Categories and sub Products(starts after you have pushed save)

Define starting and ending dates for the category timer

If you set an individual timer for every product in a category, untick this box

If you tick the Category Status Control box, the system will activate/deactivate the category automatically.

Furniture (ID: 10) Reset Delete

General Information | Display Settings | Custom Design | Category Products | Count Down

Count Down Settings

Current time: 19 April 2012 02:23:38

Available from: Date: Time:

Available to: Date: Time:

☐ Category Status Control (automatic active/inactive)

☐ Apply settings for all sub Categories and sub Products(starts after you have pushed save)

Reminder: Your timer is correlated with your Magento local time zone settings.

3.3. How to show products and categories expiring soon on the home page

To show products and categories expiring soon on the home page, go to **CMS → Pages → Home Page → Content**.

Insert the block code for categories:

```
{{block type='countdown/categories' name="your_categories_block_name"}}
```

Insert the block code for products:

```
{{block type='countdown/products' name="your_categories_block_name"}}
```

Recommendation 1. In case you have a lot of products in the store and you need to enable/disable them from time to time, you should activate cron job to reduce the server load.

In app\code\community\Belvg\Countdown\etc\config.xml file, replace this code

```
.....
<events>
    <controller_action_layout_load_before>
        <observers>
            <belvg_category_product_change_status>
                <type>singleton</type>
                <class>countdown/observer_changestatus</class>
                <method>changeStatus</method>
            </belvg_category_product_change_status>
        </observers>
    </controller_action_layout_load_before>
</events>
```



```

        </observers>
    </controller_action_layout_load_before>
</events>
</frontend>
<!--<crontab>
    <jobs>
        <belvg_cron_category_product_change_status>
            <schedule><cron_expr>* * * * *</cron_expr></schedule>
            <run><model>countdown/observer_changestatus::changeStatus</model></run>
        </belvg_cron_category_product_change_status>
    </jobs>
</crontab>-->
.....

```

with that one.

```

.....
<!--<events>
    <controller_action_layout_load_before>
        <observers>
            <belvg_category_product_change_status>
                <type>singleton</type>
                <class>countdown/observer_changestatus</class>
                <method>changeStatus</method>
            </belvg_category_product_change_status>
        </observers>
    </controller_action_layout_load_before>
</events>-->
</frontend>
<crontab>
    <jobs>
        <belvg_cron_category_product_change_status>
            <schedule><cron_expr>* * * * *</cron_expr></schedule>
            <run><model>countdown/observer_changestatus::changeStatus</model></run>
        </belvg_cron_category_product_change_status>
    </jobs>
</crontab>
.....

```

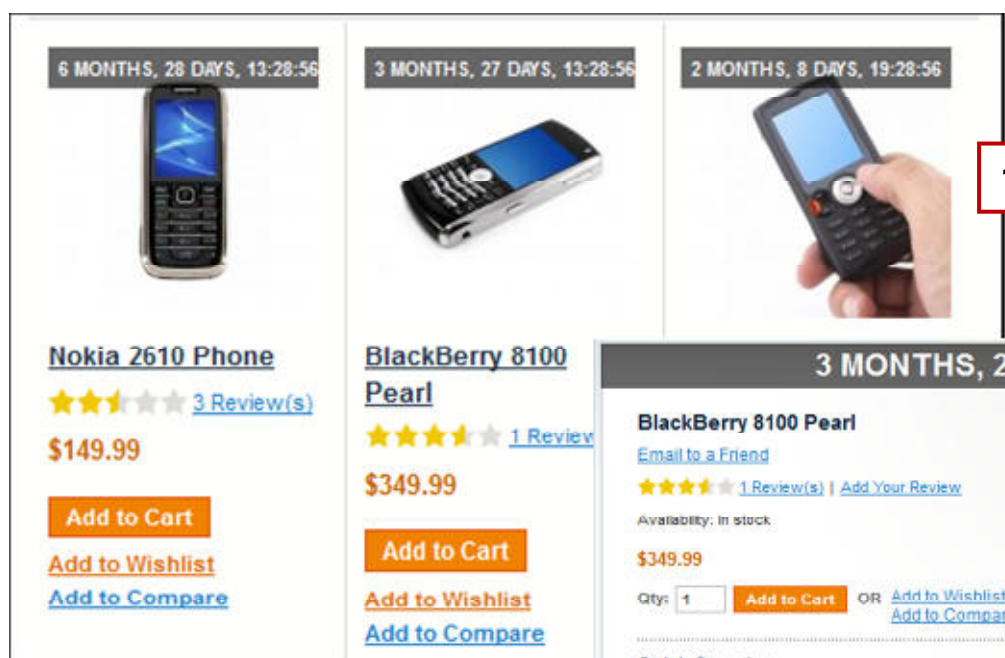
Configure also cron job (if it is not done yet) that activates cron.php once in a minute.

Recommendation 2. If you have products that are already enabled/disabled and you plan no actions with them, remove the time in category and product settings.

4. How to Use

It's time to get acquainted with **Product Countdown** features and the ways customers take benefit of them.

- 1) The timer is displayed on the category page(1) and on the product page(2)



6 MONTHS, 28 DAYS, 13:28:56

3 MONTHS, 27 DAYS, 13:28:56


2 MONTHS, 8 DAYS, 19:28:56

Nokia 2610 Phone
★★★★★ 3 Review(s)
\$149.99
[Add to Cart](#)
[Add to Wishlist](#)
[Add to Compare](#)

BlackBerry 8100 Pearl
★★★★★ 1 Review(s)
\$349.99
[Add to Cart](#)
[Add to Wishlist](#)
[Add to Compare](#)

BlackBerry 8100 Pearl
[Email to a Friend](#)
★★★★★ 1 Review(s) | [Add Your Review](#)
Availability: In stock
\$349.99
Qty: 1 [Add to Cart](#) OR [Add to Wishlist](#) [Add to Compare](#)


Quick Overview
The BlackBerry 8100 Pearl is a departure from the form factor of previous BlackBerry devices. This BlackBerry handset is far more phone-like, and RIM's engineers have managed to fit a QWERTY keyboard onto the handset's slim frame.



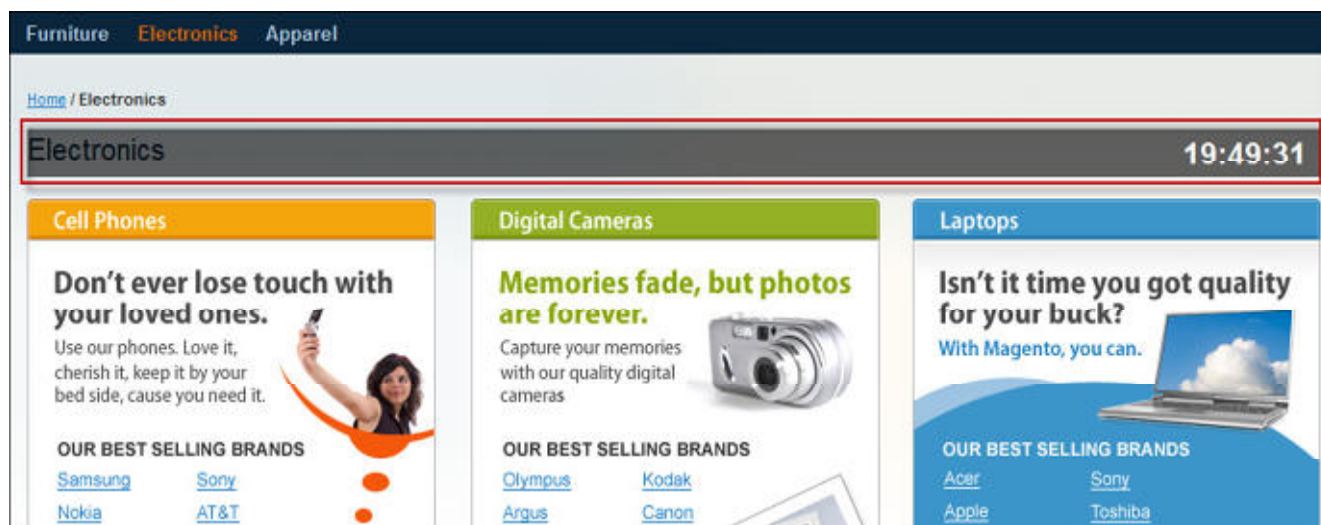
3 MONTHS, 27 DAYS, 13:26:21

BlackBerry 8100 Pearl
[Email to a Friend](#)
★★★★★ 1 Review(s) | [Add Your Review](#)
Availability: In stock
\$349.99
Qty: 1 [Add to Cart](#) OR [Add to Wishlist](#) [Add to Compare](#)

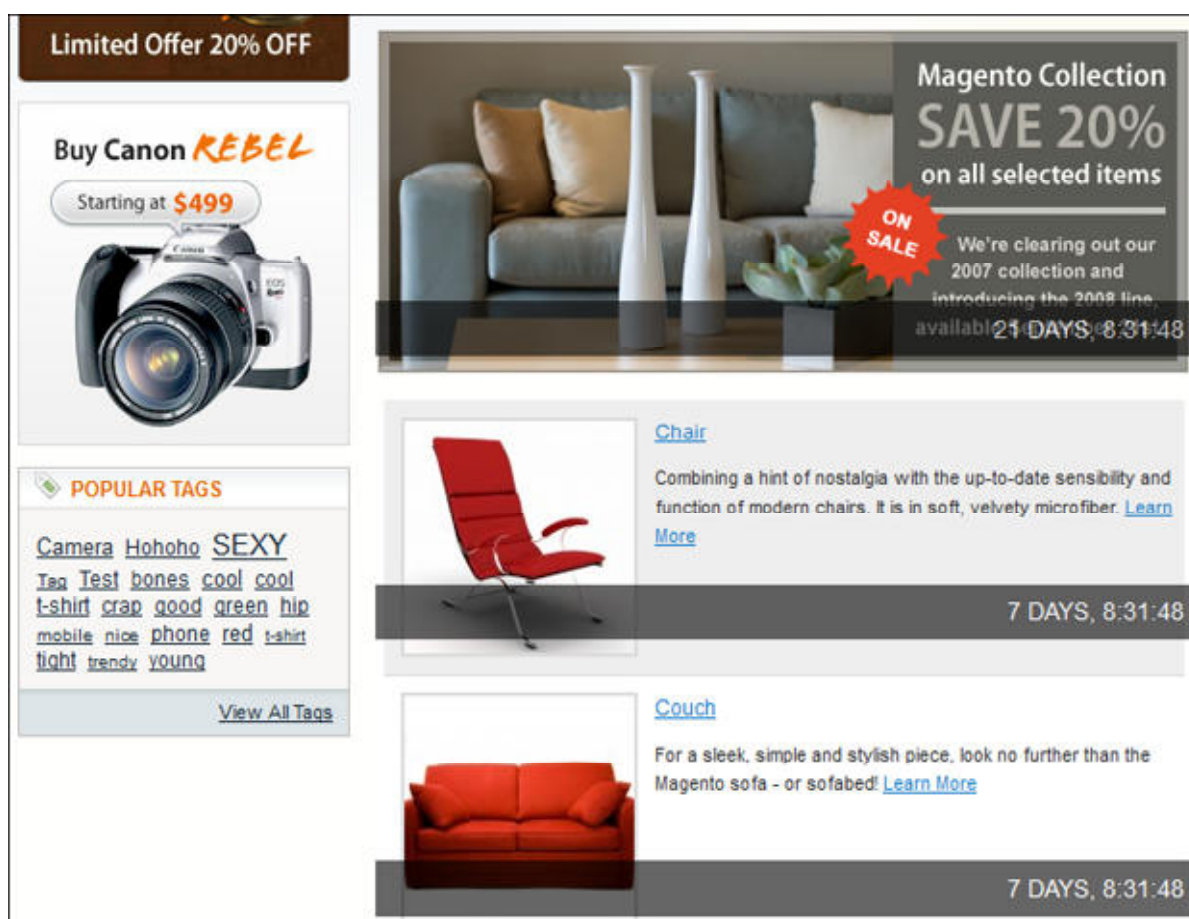
Quick Overview
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2) A category timer



Products and categories expiring soon are posted on your home page.





Thanks for your interest in BelVG Magento extensions!

If you want to buy **Product Countdown** extension, follow [This Link](#).

Please, visit our website and explore other BelVG extensions at [Our Store](#).

If you have any questions, contact us by e-mail: store@belvg.com



**Simple
installation
and usage**



**1 year of
free upgrades**



**30 days
money back**



**6 months
of support**