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 The extension is extremely helpful, when you need to change your “store window” and delete outdated products.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

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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!

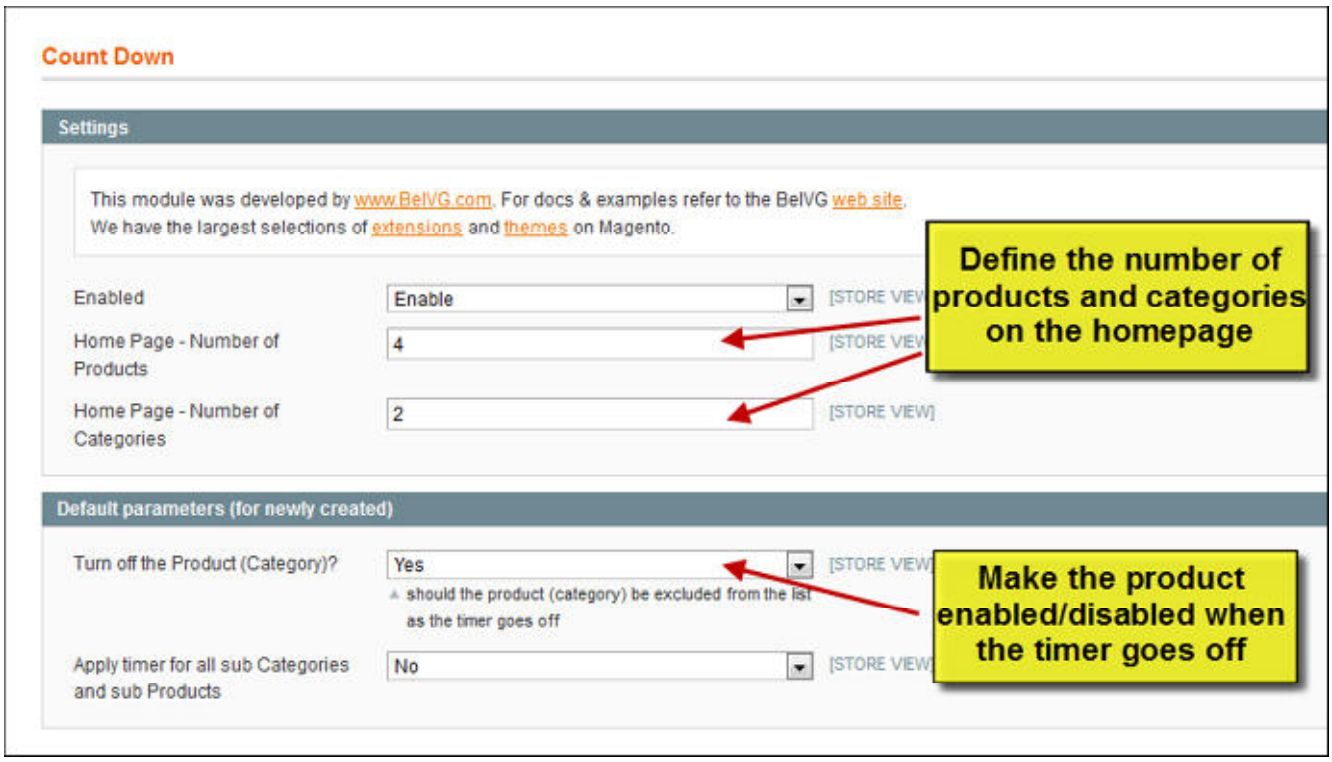
It is highly recommended to backup your server files and database before installing this module. No responsibility can be taken for any adverse effects installation or advice may cause.

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.



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.

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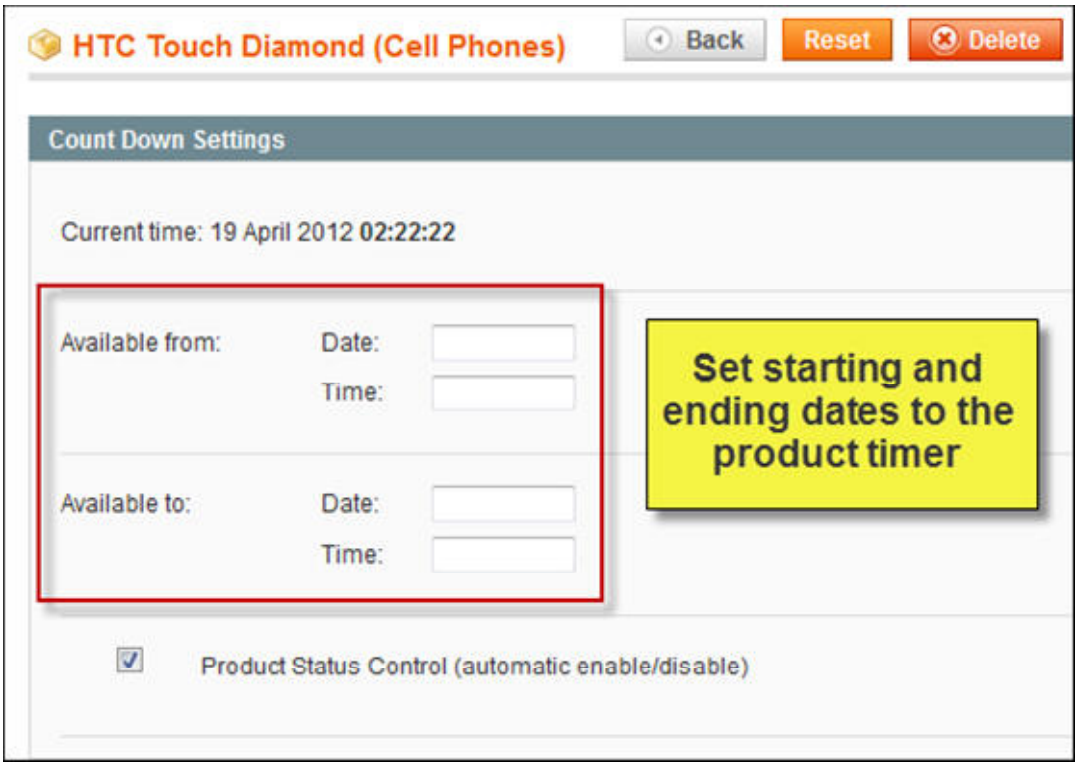
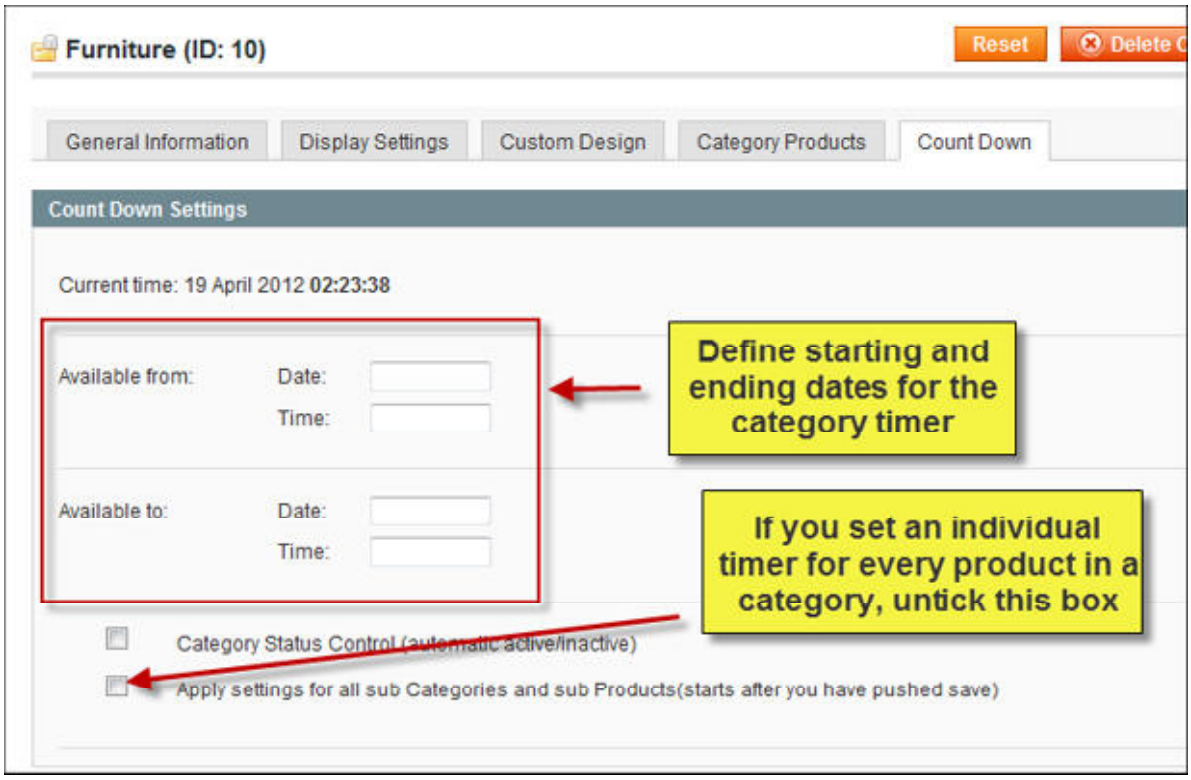
Define the starting and ending date for your sales and special offers. If you tick the Product Status Control box, the system will enable/disable the product automatically.

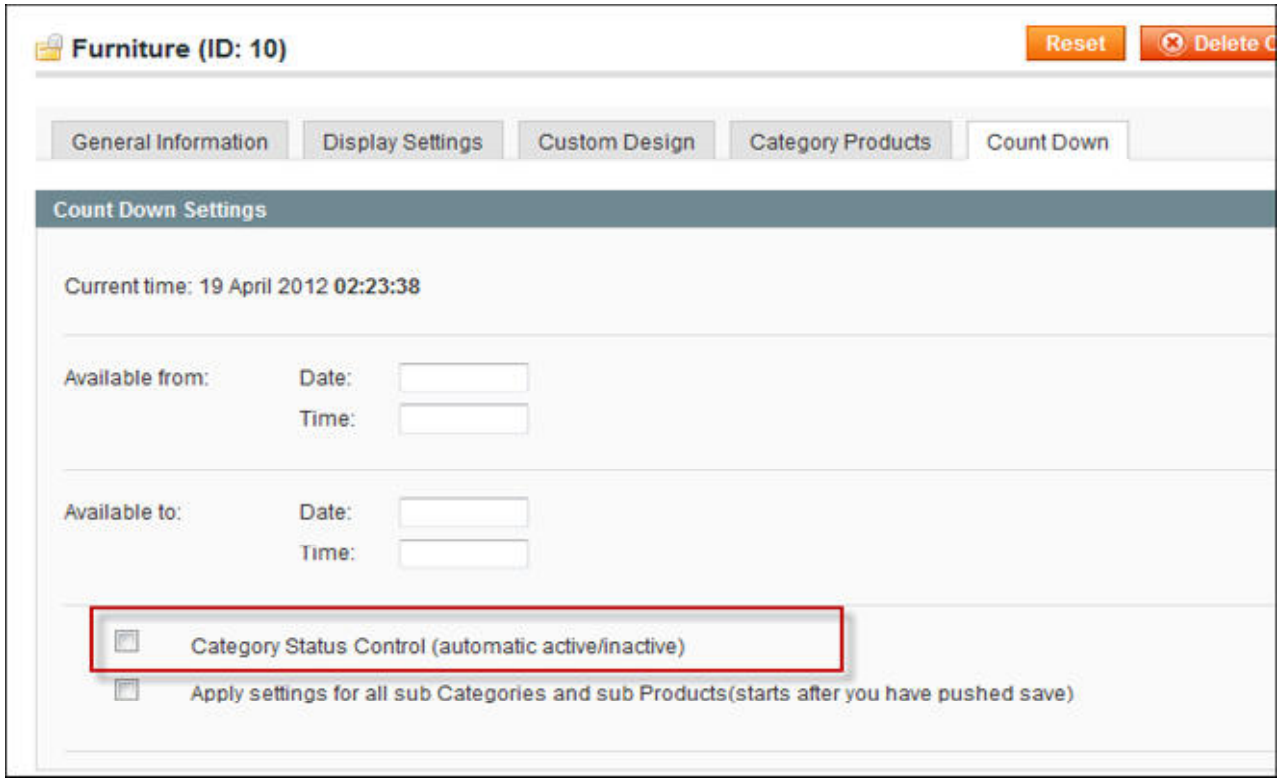


3.2. How to set the timer for a category

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



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



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>
</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>
…….
```

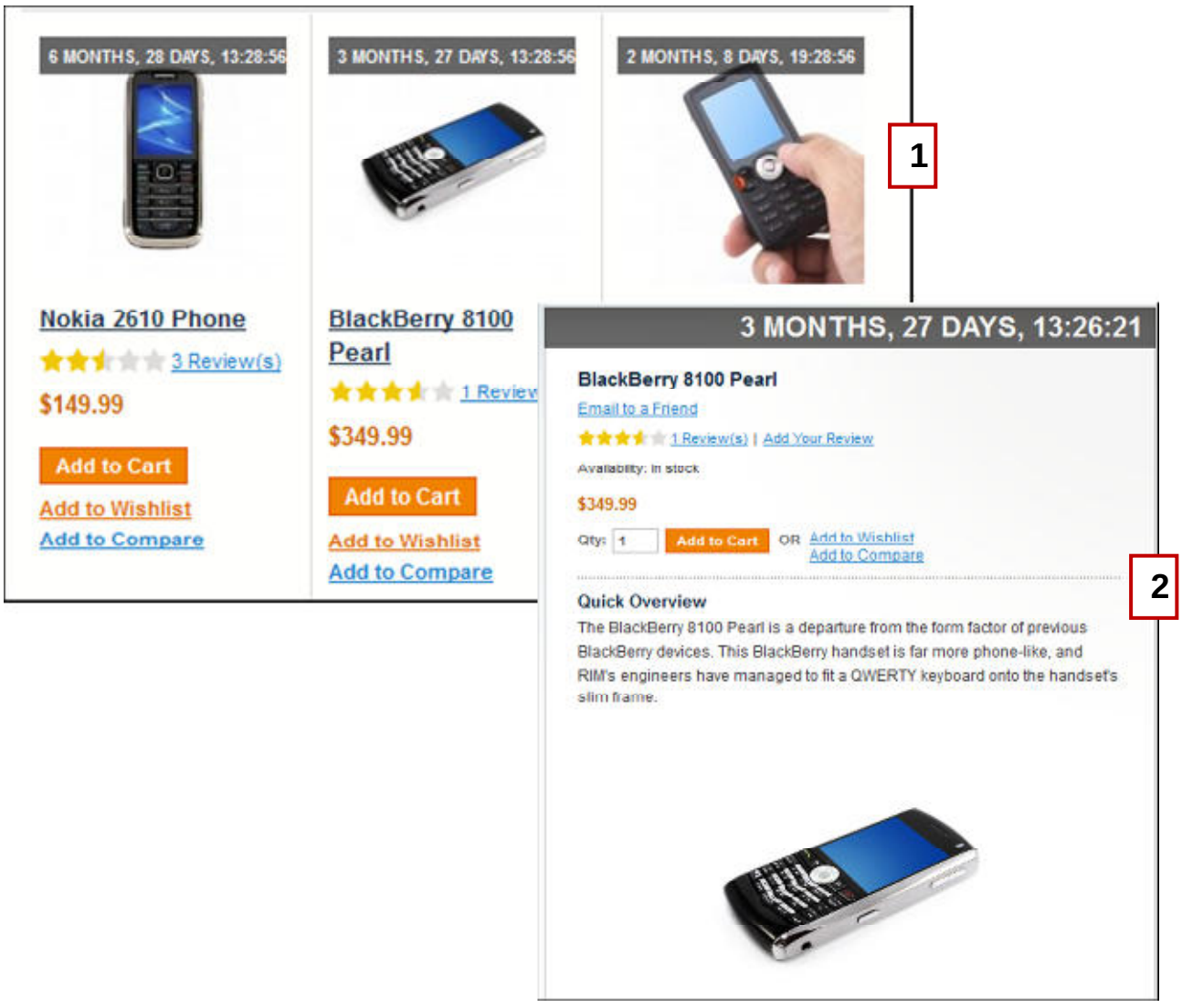
Configure also cron job (if it is not done yet) that activates cron.php once in a minute.

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.

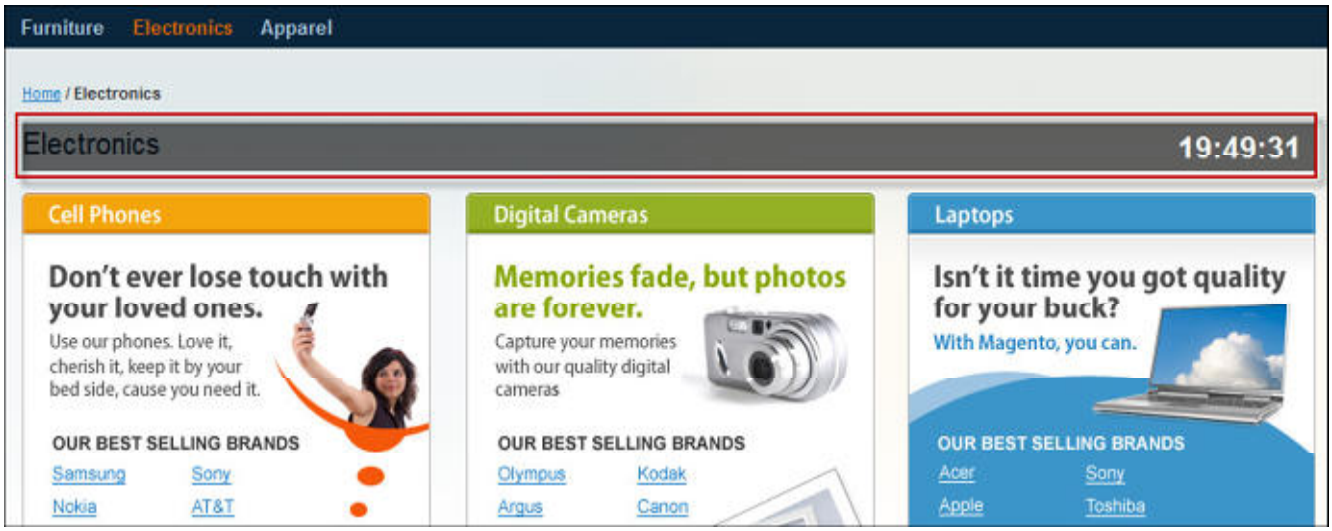
4. How to Use

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

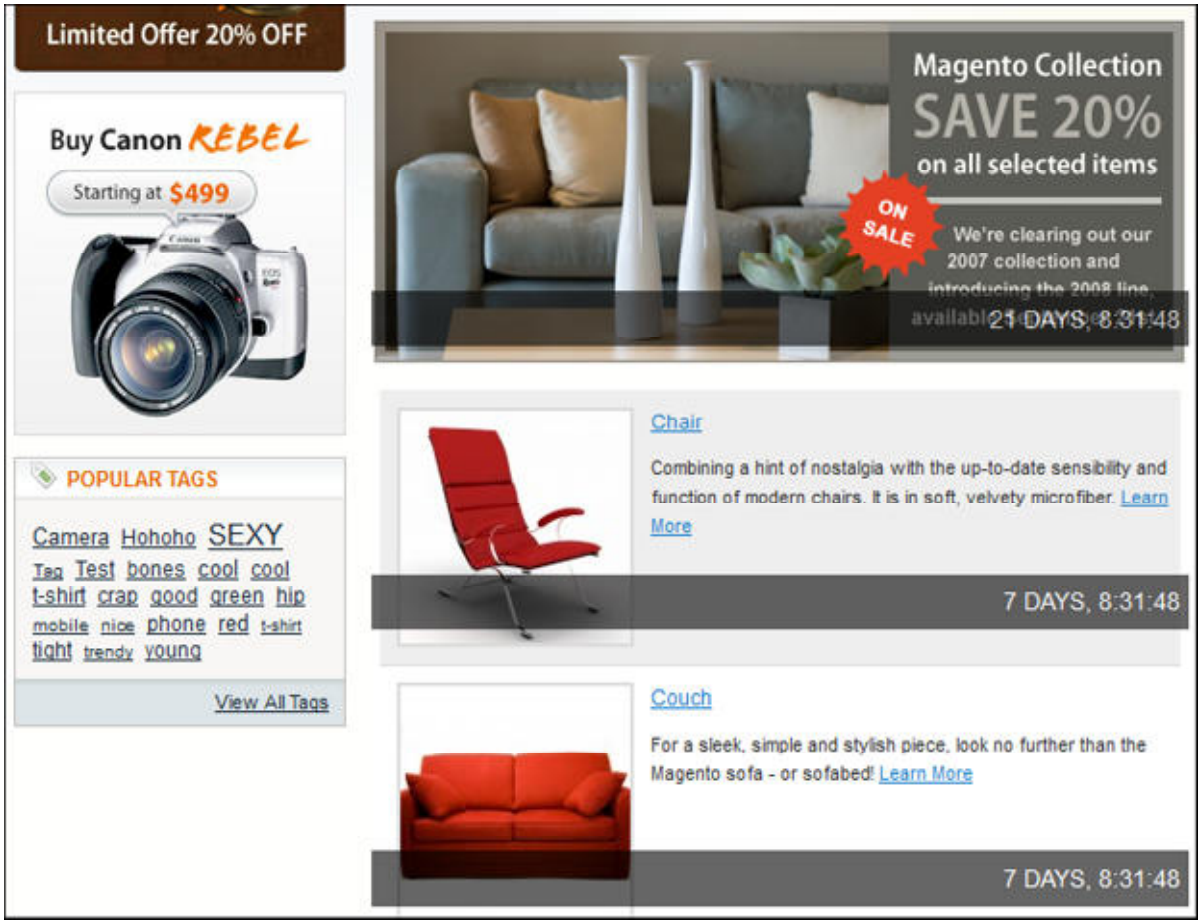
1) The timer is displayed on the category page(1) and on the product page(2)



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

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