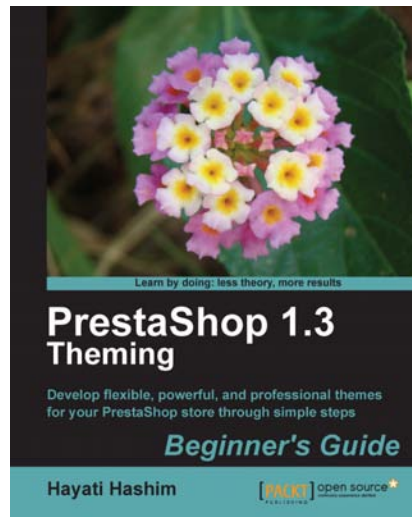


PrestaShop 1.3 Theming

Beginner's Guide

Haya Hashim



Chapter No.2

"Customizing PrestaShop Theme Part I"

In this package, you will find:

A Biography of the author of the book

A preview chapter from the book, Chapter NO.2 "Customizing PrestaShop Theme Part I"

A synopsis of the book's content

Information on where to buy this book

About the Author

Haya Hashim, graduated from the Queensland University, Australia and later pursued her Masters Degree in Multimedia majoring in e-Learning technologies from Multimedia University, Malaysia. Her latest field of interest is related to mobile learning and applications. She currently manages a multimedia company, Pixel Bytes Sdn Bhd, which offers video, web and multimedia services. She works mostly on open source platforms and has trained students in multimedia, web design, development, e-learning, and e-commerce projects. She loves science fiction movies, reading, painting, photography, travelling, and especially enjoys playing online games, although she hardly gets her hands on them, as this is the way she finds inspiration. This is her first book.

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Throughout the progress of writing this book, I have also learned and been assisted by many individuals who deserved special acknowledgements. It is an impossible effort without the tremendous support of the Packt editorial team. There are times when I got swamped with other commitments, work, and family matters, but all of you have certainly kept me motivated to complete it.

I would also like to thank the reviewers (Adrian and Bart) for their constructive feedback throughout the review process. This book would never have been the same if it wasn't for your invaluable feedback and comments.

Special thanks to my beloved husband and son, who supported me all the way and continuously inspired me in my pursuit. This is also to my beloved mother and in the memory of my late father.

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PrestaShop 1.3 Theming

Beginner's Guide

The fitting elements of digital design can make or break websites. In an e-commerce site, creating a convincing theme to support your online store makes valuable impact to your business. Customers or site visitors are the centre to the design of any e-commerce site. He/she may not know much about your company and the products or services it sells, yet he's/she's faced with the information presented on the website to make a buying decision. The personality of the web pages must be perceived as the "face" of the company or the store which gives the visitor anticipation, enticing him/her to further explore the web store. Whether you are a web developer hired to design a PrestaShop store or the owner of the store, this book will guide you on how to create new themes or modify the outlook of your PrestaShop store according to your needs.

PrestaShop is a professional e-commerce shopping cart software, which is free and easily downloadable online. It has been released under the Open Source License v3.0 (<http://www.opensource.org/licenses/osl-3.0.php>).

According to the official PrestaShop website, "it was built to take advantage of essential Web 2.0 innovations such as dynamic AJAX-powered features and next-generation ergonomics."

PrestaShop considers the usability aspect where users are guided in a manner they can navigate through the e-commerce site and browse a catalog "intelligently and effortlessly", resulting into higher conversion rates from site visitors to paying customers.

The PrestaShop developer prided the software as "lightweight and speedy", which is an advantage to customers with low connection speeds. This is an important feature as Internet connectivity can still be an issue and affect a customer's experience in an online store.

PrestaShop is also user friendly both to the merchant (having a friendly back office administration) and the site visitors/prospective customers, as you will see later. Although PrestaShop is currently designed as single shop software, where it isn't possible to feature multiple shops on one site, one of its greatest advantages is multi-user administration, where a shop owner may have a few levels of administrators to assist him with managing the online store. This feature is useful in the situation where an online store owner wants someone to assist him with updating information on his product lines featuring new sales or uploading images of new stock.

With the many winning features for functionality and ease of use, PrestaShop is also easier to style than most e-commerce software. The PrestaShop theme is a packaged file that controls the look and feel of the PrestaShop store. It enables site owners or

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developers to build a visually appealing site that matches the concept of the product or service the store sells.

Through a good choice of themes, site developers may create a more convincing e-commerce site for their customers, allowing them to be their present or showcase their products or catalogs.

As with any other similar platform where design and the information are separated, the theme is the utmost important package that can be considered as the backbone that makes up a PrestaShop store.

An effective website will have to consider a few key elements, which include being visually attractive, presenting meaningful information and providing ease of navigation.

This book is dedicated to those who want to change and modify their PrestaShop's default theme to suit their needs and also to build a new theme using the simplest methods.

As theming is also affected by the use of modules and certain effects such as animated images this book will also guide you with tips to make your site unique by employing some of the available techniques.

What This Book Covers

Chapter 1, Customizing PrestaShop gives a brief introduction to PrestaShop; it will explain the relationship between the PrestaShop front page look and its back office administration, and it will brief you on the basic structure diagram of a PrestaShop theme. It will then give an overview of the back office tabs for modifying the PrestaShop's theme.

Chapter 2, Customizing PrestaShop Theme Part I covers the ways to modify the general layout of the PrestaShop's theme. Here, you will be guided on editing the theme and playing around with the modules. You will get to know terms such as hooks, transplanting, and positioning.

Chapter 3, Customizing PrestaShop Theme Part 2 helps you in setting up your key elements such as the title, header, footer, logos and so on, which complete the look of the store you are designing

Chapter 4, Adjusting Style Sheets helps you understand and review your themes CSS files— modifying the elements of your PrestaShop web pages in terms of the colors, fonts, and layout by making simple changes to the relevant code.

Chapter 5, Applying Images elaborates about getting and using images to complete the look of the theme for the online store.

Chapter 6, Steps for Creating Themes covers the process of creating a theme step-by-step. It is divided into sub-topics, which are visualizing your theme, color scheming,

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developing raw materials, getting the layout you want, deciding on what modules you want to use, positioning the modules, customizing categories, adjusting the style sheets, and packaging the theme.

Chapter 7, *Tips and Tricks to Make PrestaShop Theming Easier* explores tips and tricks on how to make it easier to develop themes. It also explains ways to use third party modules for PrestaShop theming.

Chapter 8, Deploying Your New Themes explains how to deploy the themes on a production site and how to validate the code and test it on various browsers.

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2

Customizing PrestaShop Theme Part I

Now that we have explored the PrestaShop theming control panel, it's time to move on to the next step. The most basic level is using the back office panel to customize the layout. Using this knowledge, we can make some quick and easy changes without having any technical knowledge.

If you need more advanced changes than what can be achieved here, you will need to edit the theme and the CSS files, which will be explained in the chapters on customizing the theme files later.

It must be noted that all design changes that you can do in this back office can also be achieved through customization on the theme files (which involves editing of the file's markup) too. Although knowledge of this theme editing approach encased that of the back office setting, it is useful to know that there are reasons to choose the latter option with no "hacking" of scripts even if you are an advanced user as there could be some issues when you have to update to the next PrestaShop version. You will have to update some of these modified files as these changes may not be automatically included in the newer version.

Let's now start with our next step.

We have to decide what kind of layout we would want, just like the interior design space of a building that you are erecting, you need to visualize the spaces and how users will navigate your retail outlet.

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You will also need to know what kind of resources can help the successful function of your store, customers in real brick-and-mortar stores do not have to ask a lot of questions as they are prone to browsing the items while having the advantage of feeling, smelling, holding, or trying the items at the same time. While this is true for a real store/shop, the online store does not have this advantage. So, consider features/functions that can be a "replacement" to this disadvantage, such as a 30 day return policy.

In a real shop, customers may ask questions at the customer service desks. The same thing can be done with your online store; you can add a lot of information that your customers may need while balancing it with a good design, navigation, and browsing experience. This will ensure that the customer finds the information and this reduces the need to repetitively answer the same queries. This is one of the main reasons why an online store exists, which means that information can be obtained easily 24x7.

Therefore, in an online shop, you will have to decide on what kind of features you want to introduce, for example, one block for product information, another for customer service information where they can get information on return policy, how to make payment, and so on.

This is just a background that is needed to decide the functions of your store. We will not be discussing about what makes a good navigation or whether one way can be more effective than another. We will learn about how you can use the knowledge about theming for PrestaShop-based stores to build your online store or if you are a web designer, your clients' online stores suitable with the stores' concepts. You will also learn how to go about in applying the necessary modules to complement your theme setup.

Before we start this chapter, you should get acquainted with the back office panel. This will help you understand what we are exploring here.

In this chapter, we will be sticking with the default PrestaShop theme and learn how to:

- ◆ Install, uninstall, enable, and disable module blocks in the center, left, and right columns.
- ◆ Transplant and position modules by moving them to columns and within the columns.

The default layout

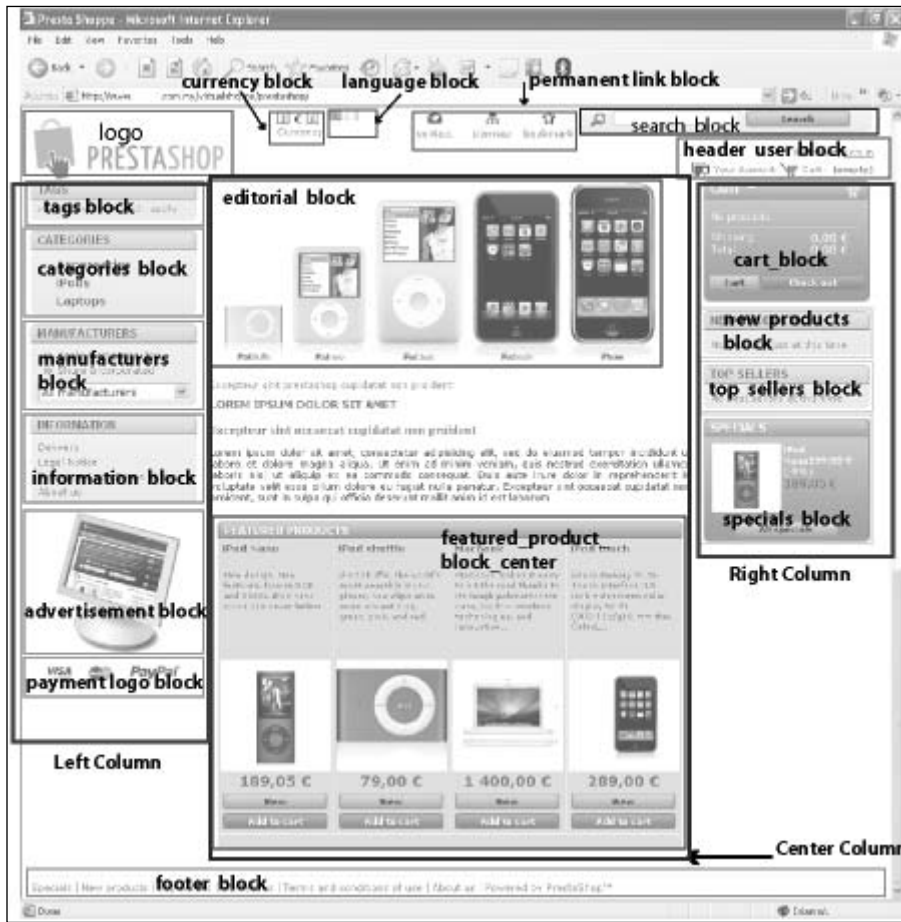
Let's have a look again at your current storefront and how the theme is governed by the back office control panel.

The screenshot displays the Prestashop storefront layout. At the top, there is a navigation bar with currency options (€), contact, sitemap, and bookmark links, along with a search bar. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Left Sidebar:** Contains navigation menus for TAGS (apple, ipod, superdrive, nano, iPod touch, shuffle), CATEGORIES (Accessories, iPods, Laptops), MANUFACTURERS (Apple Computer, Inc, Shure Incorporated), and INFORMATION (Delivery, Legal Notice, Terms and conditions of use, About us).
- Main Content Area:** Features a grid of product images for iPod shuffle, iPod nano, iPod classic, iPod touch, and iPhone. Below the images is a block of placeholder text: "Excepteur sint prestashop cupidatat non proident. LOREM IPSUM DOLOR SIT AMET. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum."
- Right Sidebar:** Includes a CART section showing "No products" and a "Check out" button. Below it is a NEW PRODUCTS section featuring "Shure SE210 Sound-Isolating Earphones for iPod and iPhone" and "Housse portefeuille en cuir Bellin pour iPod nano - Noir/Chocolat".
- Featured Products Section:** A grid of four featured products: iPod Nano (158,07 €), iPod shuffle (66,05 €), MacBook (1 170,57 €), and iPod touch (241,64 €). Each product has a "View" and "Add to cart" button.
- Bottom Right:** Includes a TOP SELLERS section (No best sellers at this time) and a SPECIALS section featuring an iPod Nano with a 5% discount (158,07 €).

By looking at the screenshot, you can tell which back office items you need to modify, replace, or set according to your needs.

The basic layout outline can be seen in the following screenshot:



Besides the back office control over appearance, as shown in the previous chapter, our theme is also affected by the modules that control the functionality of your store. At this stage, we will be working on the existing modules in PrestaShop. This is where you decide whether your site visitor will see the product categories, the top selling products, your product listing, the specials, your featured products, and so on. If you run an e-commerce store with a payment option that links automatically to a payment gateway, you may want to study a bit more about each of these modules as well.

You will also notice that the default theme uses a three column layout with a header in the top block and a footer at the bottom. Through the back office panel, all the default blocks on the left and right columns can be moved or transplanted interchangeably.

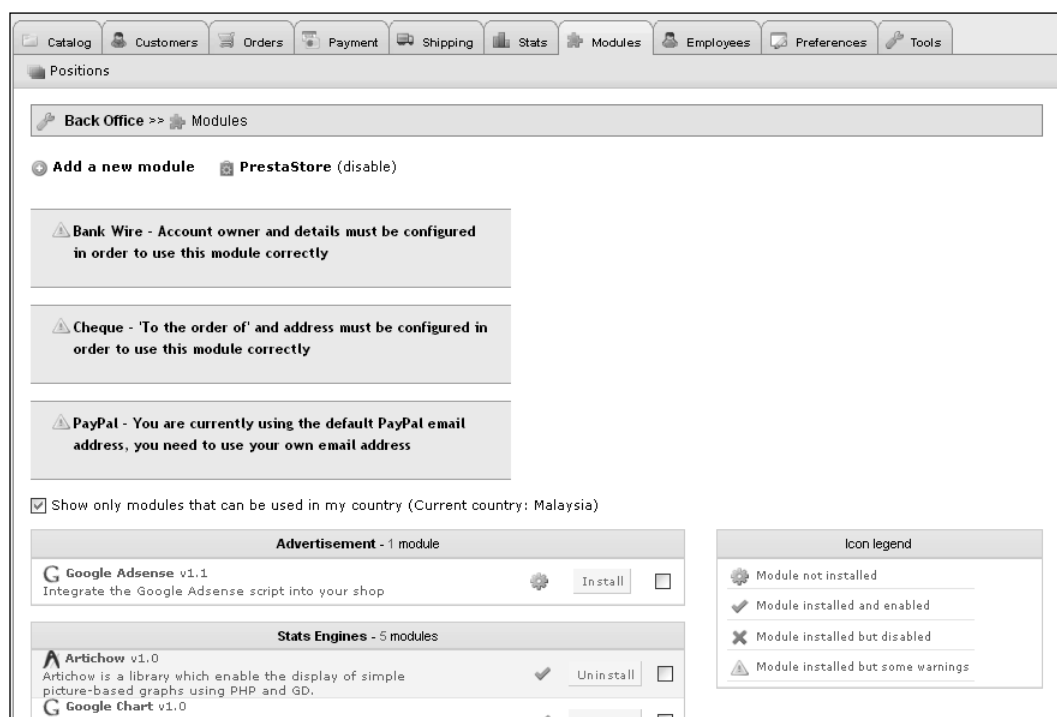
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Some of the blocks in the header (top blocks) can be moved into the left column or right column. The **featured product block** and the **editorial block**, which are at the center column, are pretty much stuck in this position.

Modules

The **Modules** tab allows you to control the modules you want to use in the store. You will be able to transplant the modules and move them around according to the site navigation you want, considering some limitations at this stage. You can move them up or down in the columns. You may also position them in the left or the right column or you may disable them. You also have the option of adding a new module or choosing ones that are available from the PrestaStore. PrestaShop has some already installed modules, and the number of newly developed ones is growing every day.

Now let's move on to **Back Office | Modules**, as shown in the following screenshot:

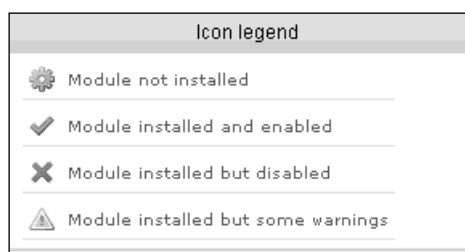


We will go into the listing and get some ideas on each one. However, we will focus in greater detail on the modules that affect theming directly.

Among the existing modules in this version (PrestaShop 1.3.1), which are readily available for installation, some of them are:

1. Advertisement – 1 module: Google AdSense.
2. Products module – 6 modules: Cross selling, RSS products feed, Products Comments, Products Category, Product tooltips, Send to a Friend module.
3. Stats Engines – 5 modules: Artichow, Google Chart, Visifire, XML/SWF Charts, ExtJS.
4. Payment – 8 modules: Bank Wire, Cash on delivery (COD), Cheque, Google Checkout, Hipay, Moneybookers, Paypal, PaypalAPI.
5. Tools – 14 modules (but only 12 modules listed): Birthday Present, Canonical URL, Home text editor, Customers follow-up, Google sitemap, Featured Products on the homepage, Customers loyalty and rewards, Mail alerts, Newsletter, Customer referral program, SMS Tm4b, and Watermark.
6. Blocks – 23 modules: Block advertising, Top seller block, Cart block, Categories block, Currency block, Info block, Language block, Link block, Manufacturers block, My Account block, New products block, Newsletter block, Block payment logo, Permanent links block, RSS feed block, Quick Search block, Specials block, Suppliers block, Tags block, User info block, Footer links block, Viewed products block, Wish list block.
7. Stats – 25 modules: Google Analytics, Pages not found, Search engine keywords, Best categories, Best customers, Best products, Best suppliers, Best vouchers, Carrier distribution, Catalog statistics v1.0, Catalog evaluation, Data mining for statistics, Geolocation, Condensed stats for the Back Office homepage, Visitors online, Newsletter, Visitors origin, Registered Customer Info, Product details, Customer accounts, Sales and orders, Shop search, Visits and Visitors, Tracking - Front office.

You should also see an **Icon legend** on the right that reads the following:

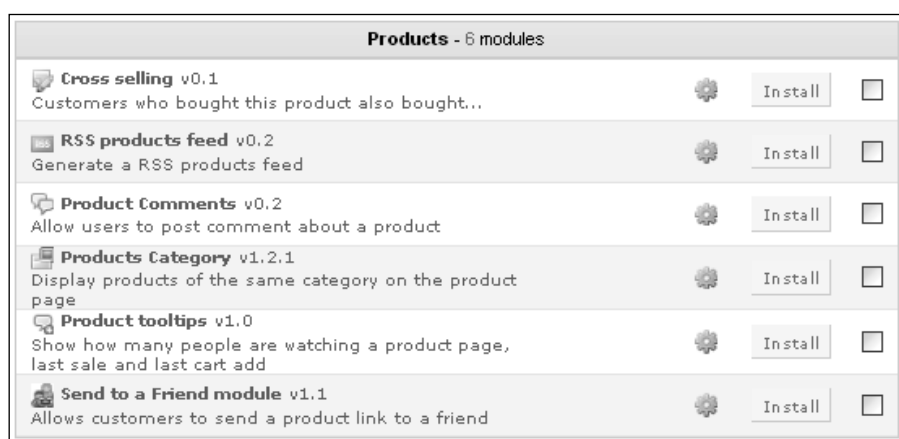


Apart from these three options of installing, enabling, and disabling, you may also add new modules using the button on the top-left corner of the module tab.

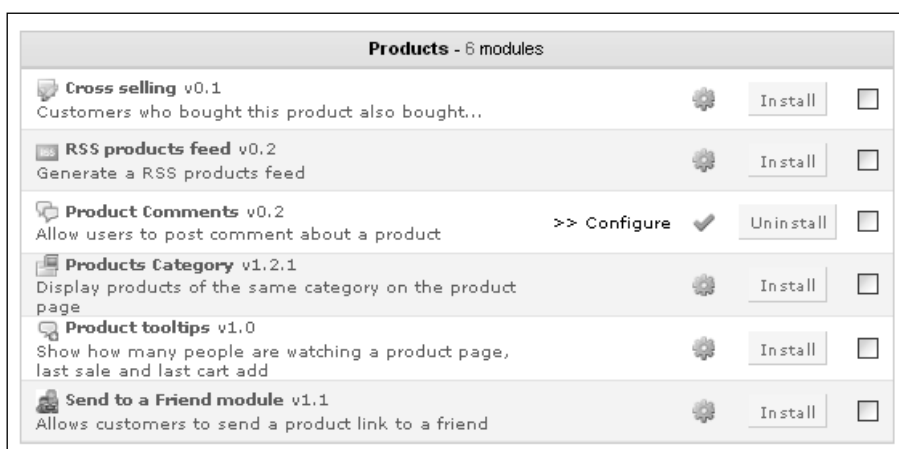
There are also plenty of third party modules that can be used to make the store more interactive and attractive. But we will discuss this in *Chapter 7, Tips and Tricks to Make PrestaShop Theming Easier* which covers the tips and tricks to make it easier to set up a different look for your theme.

Time for action—Installing and enabling modules

In order to make the modules work, you will have to check if it is installed and enabled. When you see the word **Install** on the rightmost portion of each module, it indicates the module is yet to be installed. In PrestaShop, when a module is installed, it is automatically enabled.



The following screenshot shows an example of the installed and uninstalled states.



By simply clicking on the **Install** button, we have installed and enabled the modules. Note that some modules will require further configuring, while others work fine automatically once they are installed. The green tick indicates enabled modules.

Have a go hero—Choosing the modules to install

It is best to start with a blank page. So, what we will do now is disable all the modules by clicking the green check button so it will turn into the disabled state again.

When you begin to modify your default setting in PrestaShop, you may want to know how each installation affects your store. It is best to reset the installation to the maximum by disabling modules to avoid confusing yourself.

To make things easier, you can also uninstall them all. This can be done speedily by checking all the modules, which are already installed and go to the bottom of the page of the modules to uninstall them. Click on the **Uninstall the selection** button, and they will be uninstalled.

The screenshot displays the 'Statistics' section of the PrestaShop module manager. It lists 14 modules, each with a description, a status icon (gear for 'Install' or checkmark for 'Uninstall'), and a checkbox. At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Install the selection' and 'Uninstall the selection'.

Module Name	Description	Status	Action	Checkbox
Software v1.0	Display the software used by your visitors	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Geolocation v1.0	Display your customers' origin	⚙️	Install	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condensed stats for the Back Office homepage v1.0	Display a small block of statistics on the Back Office homepage	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Visitors online v1.0	Display the list of customers and visitors currently online	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Newsletter v1.0	Display the newsletter registrations	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Visitors origin v1.0	Display the websites from where your visitors come from	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Registered Customer Info v1.0	Display characteristics such as gender and age	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Product details v1.0	Get detailed statistics for each product	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Customer accounts v1.0	Display the progress of customer registration	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sales and orders v1.0	Display the sales evolution and orders by statuses	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shop search v1.0	Display which keywords have been searched by your visitors	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Visits and Visitors v1.0	Display statistics about your visits and visitors	✓	Uninstall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tracking - Front office v1.0	Enable your affiliates to access their own statistics.	⚙️	Install	<input type="checkbox"/>

Install the selection Uninstall the selection

Don't panic when you get a blank page on your front office. You may only be seeing a blank page plus the logo, which is controlled by another **admin** tab we learned about it in the previous chapter.

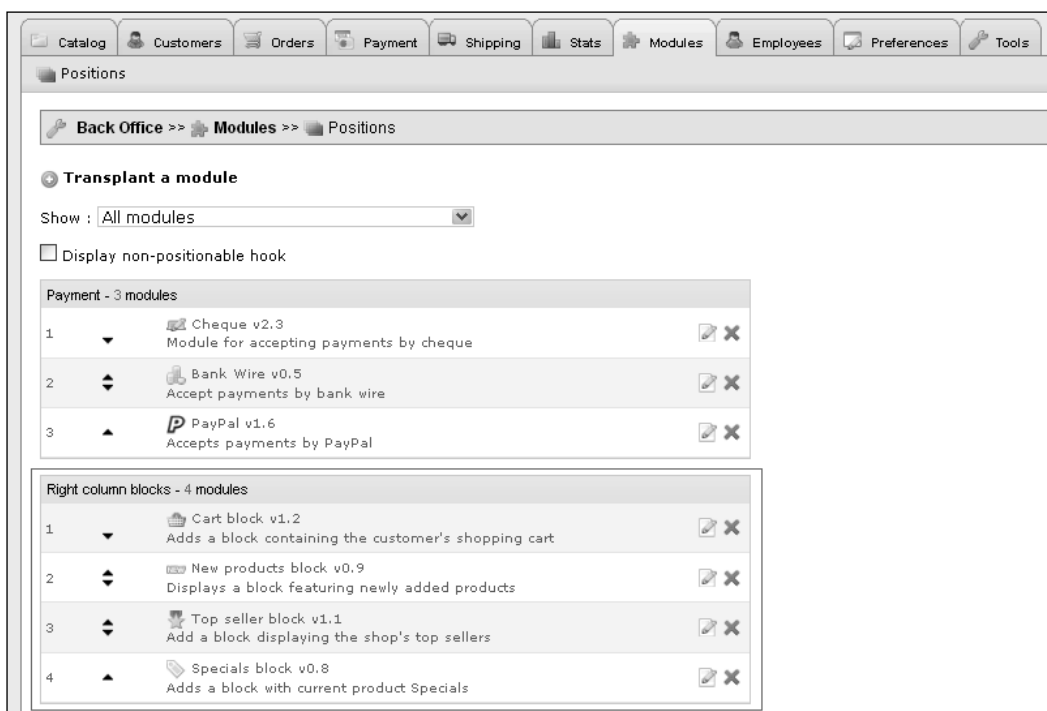
Positioning modules

Before we start installing and enabling modules, let's learn two important terms that you need to understand in PrestaShop's modules. They are as follows:

1. Hooks
2. Transplanting

Hooks

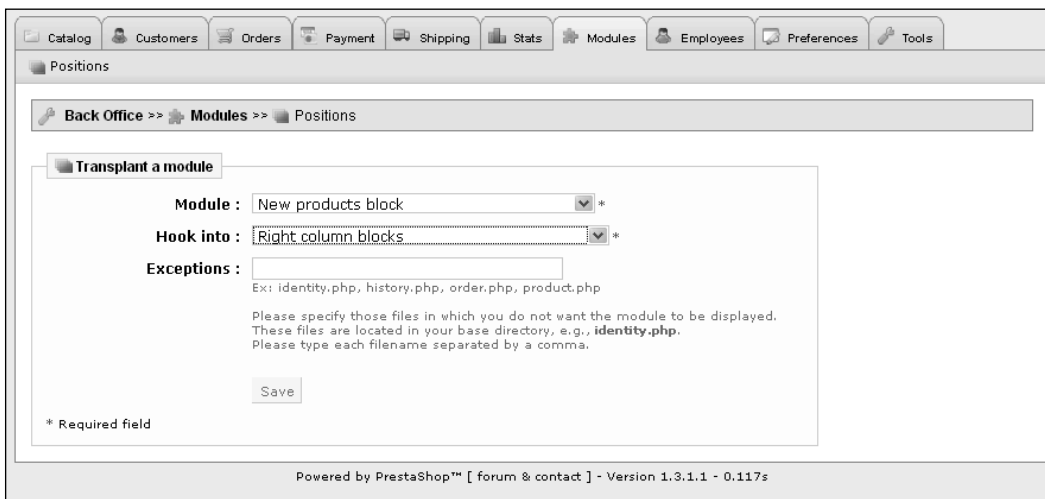
A hook is a place where the module code can be inserted. In the back office, hooks are shown in a block that comprises a few modules installed within it. As an example, the right column blocks is a hook, which is like a housing for the four modules (**Cart block**, **New products block**, **Top seller block**, and **Specials block**) as shown in the following screenshot. It is possible to change the order of these modules that have been placed within the hook.



Transplanting modules

Transplanting a module is enabling the module to be displayed in a different hook.

For example, once you have installed and enabled a **New products** module, it will be hooked to the right column, as a default position. When you transplant another **New products** module, you will have to specify where to hook it.



If you transplant another one within the same column (the right column), you will have two of the **New products** modules there. You can also transplant a **New products** module within the left and right column if you want to, but that will not look right.

You need to install a module to be able to transplant it. A disabled module can still be transplanted and moved up or down within a column. It just won't be displayed in the front office. We will go into this in greater detail after we learn more about installing the modules.

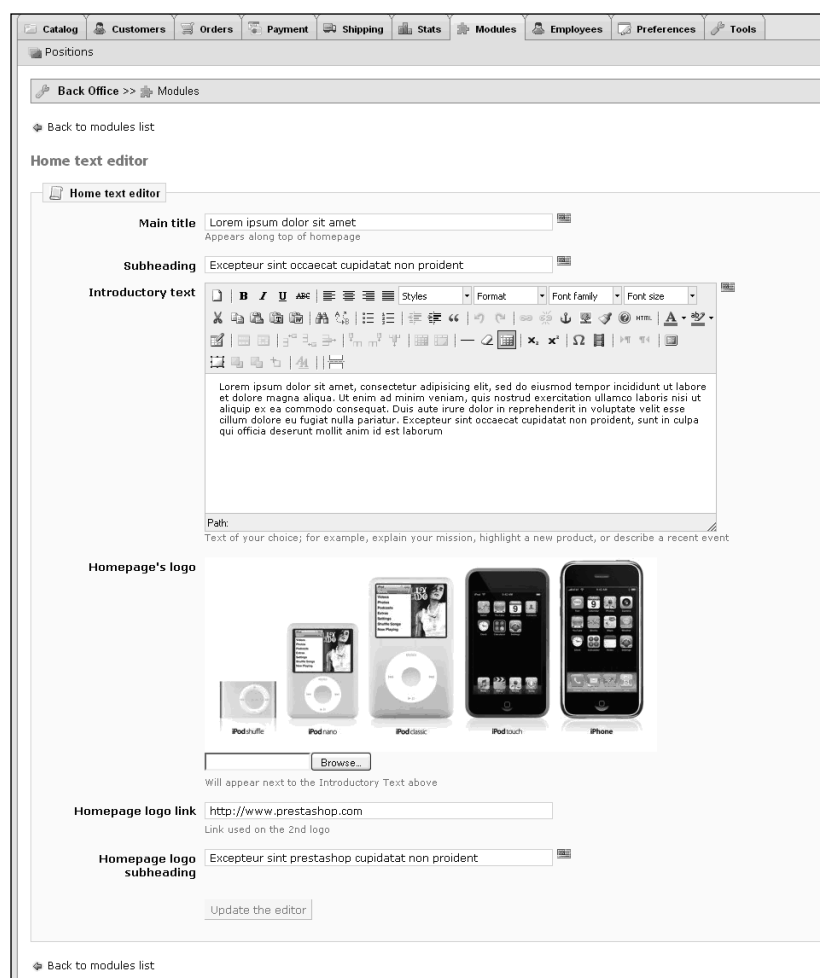
Time for action—Installing the Home text editor module

You will note that some modules are automatically set and need little configuring to be able to be used and viewed by the site user.

One of the key modules in the center column, that you will need to work on, is the **Home text editor** module, as shown previously (this was referred to as the **editorial block**). Now, let's get started with installing this module.

1. Go to **Back Office | Modules** and scroll down in the **Tools** block.
2. Look for **Home text editor v1.5**.

3. Click on the **Install** button for this module, and click on **>>Configure**. You will get the center block and the text that you may want to edit and configure accordingly. You will see the following:
 - ❑ **Main title**
 - ❑ **Subheading**
 - ❑ **Introductory text**
 - ❑ **Homepage's logo**
 - ❑ **Homepage logo link**
 - ❑ **Homepage logo subheading**
4. The next screenshot shows the default page before it was edited:

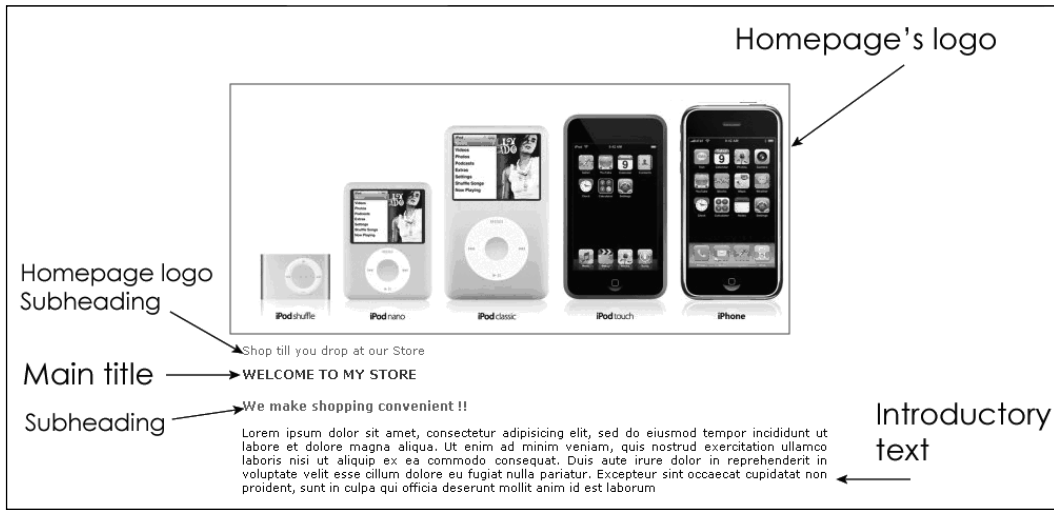


The **Main title** appears at the bottom of the home page logo. It is also set as the **Homepage logo's** alternate tag, not the title tag. It will be displayed when hovering over the image in IE6. In IE7 (and above) and other browsers, it will not be displayed on hovering.

The **Subheading** appears below the **Main title**. It is the **Homepage logo subheading** that appears below the **Homepage's logo**.

The **Introductory text** is the one that will appear at the bottom of the **Subheading**.

The following image shows the relationship between what is affected by the editorial input you keyed in on your home page editor in the back office. The text on the left and right column is annotated to a front office view of a browser to relate the link with the fields you need to fill out in the back office.



Have a go hero—Adding more blocks

Now that you have installed, enabled, and configured the **Home text editor** module within the center column, let's proceed with adding more blocks on the other parts of the site. You will need to do the following:

1. Decide which other modules we want.
2. Install and enable the modules for the left and right columns.
3. Configure the **Modules** blocks.
4. Transplant and hook the modules.
5. Learn about moving the blocks to different columns.
6. Learn about moving the blocks within columns.

We will go into greater detail about configuring each one of the modules, installed in the next chapter.

Now that you have decided on which modules to add on your website, we will work on one example, namely, the **CATEGORIES** block installation. Once you know how to go about doing this, it will be a breeze, as some of these activities can be quite repetitive and PrestaShop's administration navigation is pretty simple to understand.

Time for action—Installing, enabling, and configuring the Categories block

You will need to install the chosen blocks using the following steps:

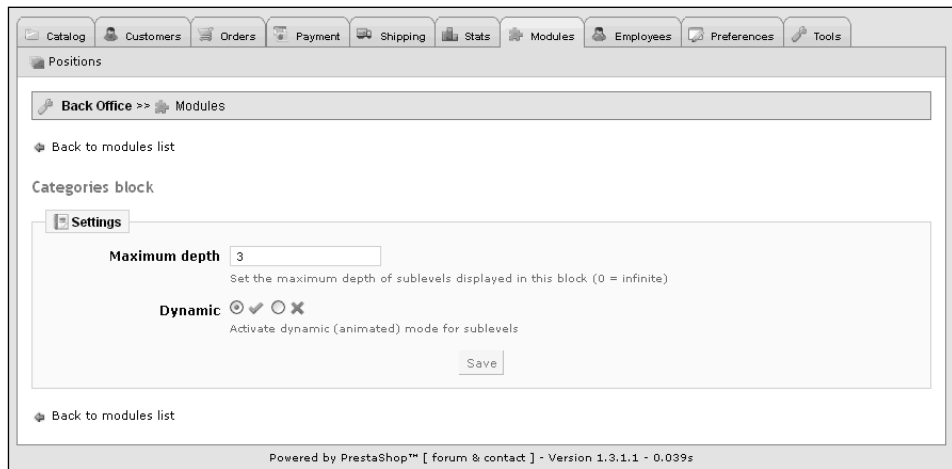
1. Go to the **Modules | Blocks** | scroll down and find the **Categories block** just like the **Home text editor** module, which we installed some time back.



2. Once you have enabled the installed **Categories block**, you will see the block appear in your front office, as shown in the following image:



3. Configure the block. In this case, we will be able to decide how many categories we want to display in our category block.
4. You will get to set the **Maximum depth** of the sublevels displayed in the block.
5. This specifies how many categories you have in your category box. By default, there are three sublevels and the module block is positioned on the top left of your web page.
6. You can also choose the **Dynamic** mode on this sublevel.



Having the **Maximum depth** of the **Categories block** of 3, you may have the following within your **Categories block**:

- ◆ a category
- ◆ a sub-category
- ◆ a sub-sub-category

This actually relates to the next tab, which is in the **Catalog** tab, and we will cover this tab in the next chapter.

The next screenshot shows what is seen in your **CATEGORIES** block in your front office:



This categorization is mostly common sense and logically connected to how you want to categorize items in your store.

The **CATEGORIES** block can show such a three parent category, as shown in the preceding screenshot, or with a child category, as shown in the following screenshot:



Next, we will install **Top sellers block**, **New products block**, **Cart block**, **Info block**, and a **Newsletter block**. We will see that all these blocks are moveable or transplantable elsewhere in the page. Using this back office function, you will still be limited to moving each of them to either the left or the right column, but not the center column.

Time for action—Moving the modules within the column

There are a few ways to position a module through the PrestaShop back office. This also depends on the expected navigation of your web page. As mentioned, modules are, by default, positioned in particular sections of the page (or hook).

1. Let's go to **Back Office | Modules**.
2. Click on the **Positions** tab.

Here you will see a list of hooks (blocks) that you have installed and the modules within them.

Let's take an example of the right column block. You can see a list of modules, which are within the hook in the following screenshot:



Here you have the **Cart block**, the **New products block**, and the **Top seller block**. In this list, click on the up and down icons to change the module's display order. More details on this will be provided in the next section.

Time for action—Moving the blocks

The default positions of the blocks when they are first installed are shown in the following screenshot. Now, let's try moving the blocks to a different location.



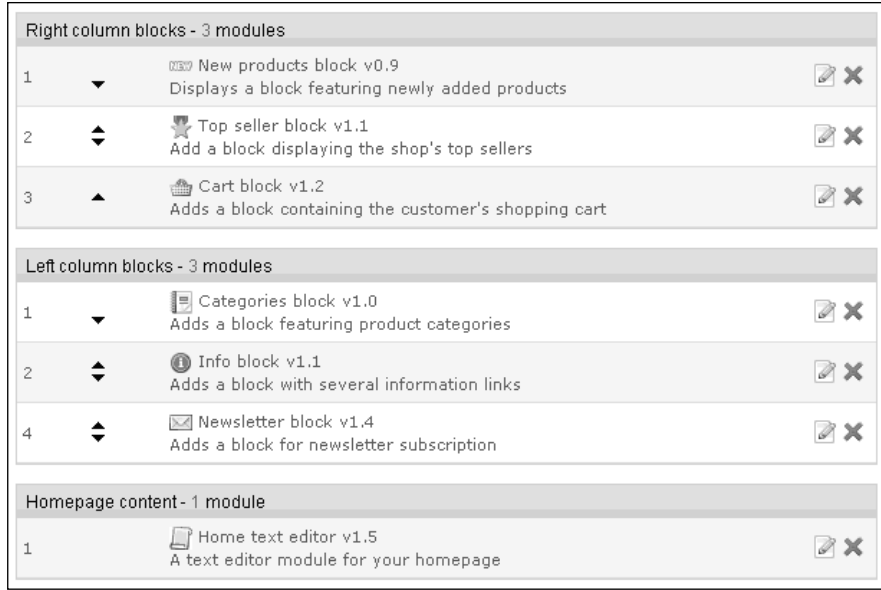
We will try to do the following:

- ◆ Add a **NEW PRODUCTS** block to the left column and delete the **NEW PRODUCTS** block on the right column.
- ◆ Shift the **CART** to the top position on the right column and move the **TOP SELLERS** to the second position on the same column.
- ◆ Move the **NEWSLETTERS** block to the right column.

We need to perform the following steps:

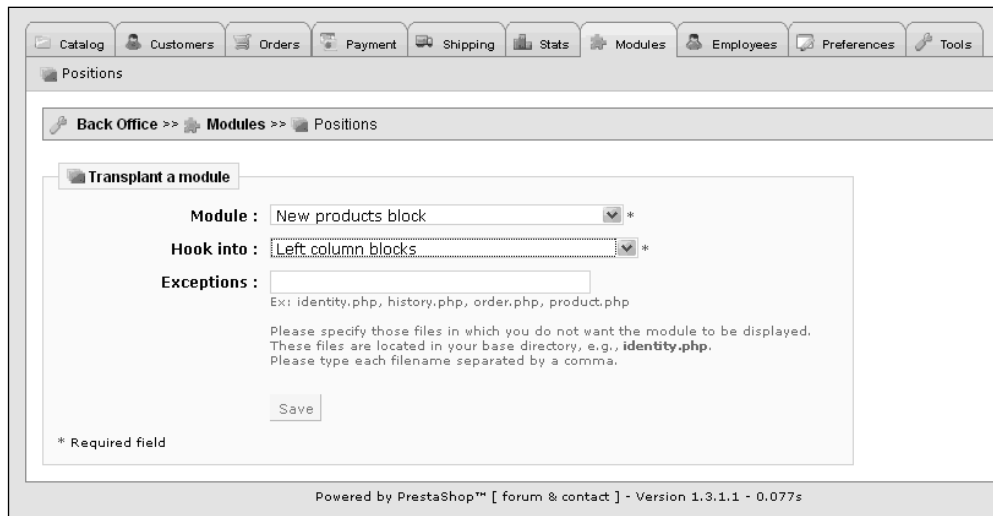
1. Click on the **Positions** button. This will direct us to the **Back Office | Modules | Positions** page.

This page will show us all the modules already installed on the left, right, and center columns. It will also allow you to see which modules can be moved or set exceptions.



Our first task is to transplant a **NEW PRODUCTS** block on the left column.

2. Click on the **Transplant a module** button, and you will get to a page where you choose the modules you want to transplant from the drop-down list.



- From the **Module** list, choose **New products block**.
- From the **Hook into** drop-down list, you may select where you want to transplant the module into. In our case, choose the **Left column blocks**.
- In the **Exceptions** field, type the name of the file(s) of the pages in which you do not want the module to appear. If, at this stage, you are not sure what to exclude, leave it blank; you may come back to review this setting later.
- Click on the **Save** button. You will get a message that says **Module transplanted successfully to hook**.



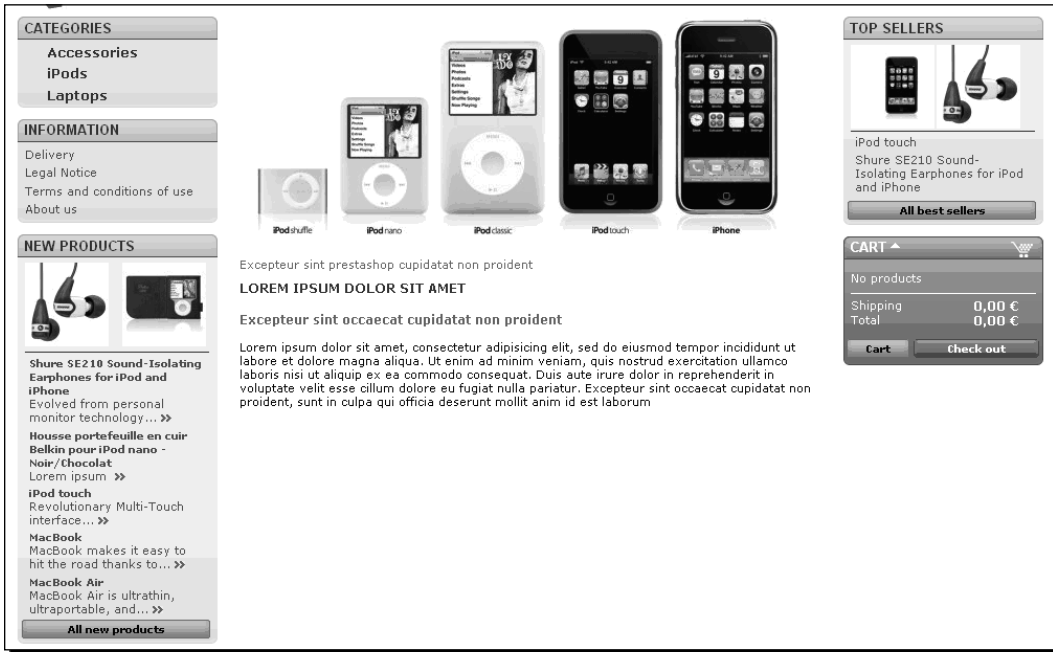
It is best to install the module, hook it into the section and enter the exceptions the first time you transplant a module. If you leave it for a later stage, the changes may not be very obvious or sometimes seem ineffective. It is better to delete the module. Go to transplant and hook it again with the exceptions keyed in.

- Preview the changes in your front office.

The screenshot displays a Prestashop front office layout. On the left, there are three vertical modules: 'CATEGORIES' (listing Accessories, iPods, Laptops), 'INFORMATION' (listing Delivery, Legal Notice, Terms and conditions of use, About us), and 'NEWSLETTER' (with an email input field, a 'Subscribe' dropdown, and an 'ok' button). Below these is a 'NEW PRODUCTS' module showing three product thumbnails with their descriptions. The main content area features a row of five iPod/iPhone models (iPod shuffle, iPod nano, iPod classic, iPod touch, iPhone) with placeholder text below them. On the right, there are three more modules: 'NEW PRODUCTS' (with two product thumbnails and descriptions), 'TOP SELLERS' (with two product thumbnails and descriptions), and 'All new products' and 'All best sellers' buttons.

The next task is to delete the **NEW PRODUCTS** block from the right.

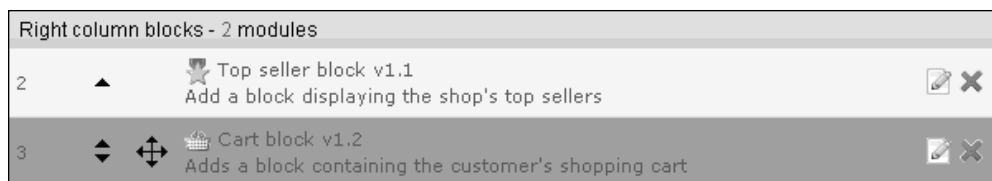
1. Go to the **Positions** tab.
2. Look up the **Right column block** list.
3. Delete the **New products block** by clicking the close icon on the right.
4. You should get the message **Module removed successfully from hook**.



Our next task is to shift the **CART** to the top position on the right column and move the **TOP SELLERS** block to the second position in the same column.

1. Go to the **Positions** tab.

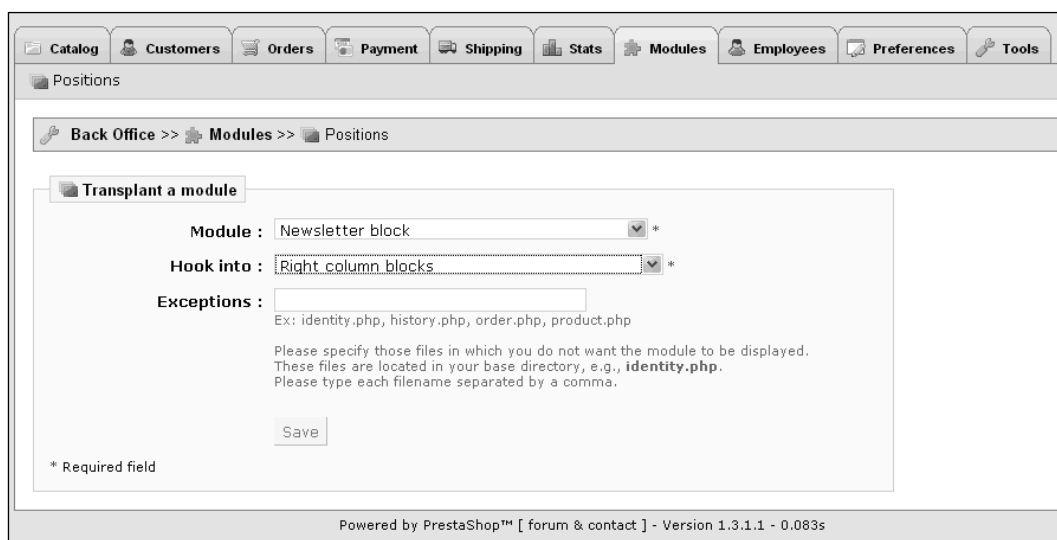
2. Move the cart by dragging the **Cart block** to the top deck of the **Right column block** list when you see a four headed arrow as you move the mouse over the module you want to re-position.



3. Once you have dragged the module to the top, it will appear above the **Top seller block** in the front office.

Our next task is to move the **NEWSLETTERS** block from the left column to the right column.

1. Go to the **Positions** tab.
2. Click on the **Transplant a module** tab.
3. Then repeat the same steps as we did when choosing the **Module** as the **Newsletter block** and **Hook into** as the **Right column blocks**



4. Click on the **Save** button.

- Again, you should get the message that says **Module transplanted successfully to hook.**
- You will see that the Newsletter block module is already listed within the right block.



- Now, delete the **Newsletter block** in the left column by clicking the delete button.
- Preview your changes in the front office.



What just happened?

You performed a few fundamental tasks in building your online store. You learned how to position your modules including moving blocks within columns and moving them from one column to another.

On top of positioning the module blocks on hooks, you also learned that we can put exceptions on where the modules should appear.

If you do not want to show any particular module, for example, the **New Product blocks** in the side columns of the **order.php** page, you may insert this on the page.

The screenshot shows the Prestashop Back Office interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for Catalog, Customers, Orders, Payment, Shipping, Stats, Modules, Employees, Preferences, and Tools. Below this, the breadcrumb trail reads 'Back Office >> Modules >> Positions'. The main content area is titled 'Transplant a module' and contains the following fields:

- Module:** A dropdown menu with 'New products block' selected.
- Hook into:** A dropdown menu with 'Right column blocks' selected.
- Exceptions:** A text input field containing 'order.php'. Below it, a note reads: 'Ex: identity.php, history.php, order.php, product.php. Please specify those files in which you do not want the module to be displayed. These files are located in your base directory, e.g., identity.php. Please type each filename separated by a comma.'

At the bottom of the form is a 'Save' button and a note: '* Required field'.

You may do this with other modules in the left and right columns. After completing this stage, you will need to look at the other page elements which will be discussed in the next chapter.

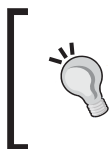
Have a go hero—Configuring the module on your page

With what we have explored in the previous section, see if you can configure and edit the editorial block in the centre column. Get an image for the centre piece that is related to your store. Replace the current image with this new image.

The screenshot shows a Prestashop storefront page. The main content area features a large image of a black keyboard. To the left of the keyboard, there is a sidebar with the following sections:

- CATEGORIES:** Accessories, iPods, Laptops.
- INFORMATION:** Delivery, Legal Notice, Terms and conditions of use, About us.
- NEW PRODUCTS:** Shure SE210 Sound-Isolating Earphones for iPod and iPhone, Housse portefeuille en cuir Belkin pour iPod nano - Noir / Chocolat, iPod touch, MacBook.

To the right of the keyboard, there is a 'CART' section showing 'No products' and a 'TOP SELLERS' section featuring 'iPod touch' and 'Shure SE210 Sound-Isolating Earphones for iPod and iPhone'. Below these is a 'NEWSLETTER' section with a text input field for 'your e-mail', a 'Subscribe' button, and an 'ok' button.



Sometimes, the editor does not show the change that has been made, even though the front page has already shown the updated image. Always refresh your browser after you update the editor to view your front page changes when you make any adjustments.

The PrestaShop default theme image on the center is sized 530x238 pixels. You will need to adjust the size of your own image accordingly. The sample image we used is 550x394 pixels. Be careful with the width of the image as it may interfere with the three-column layout.

You may also edit the link to the image on this editorial block by modifying the **Homepage logo link** in this editor

Edit the contents of the editorial block, which appear on the front page of your site. Editing the **Introductory texts** is possible using the WYSIWYG editor. You can do almost anything here for example, insert an image, embed media (Flash, Shockwave, Real Media, Windows Media, QuickTime, and so on), indent a paragraph, change the font, and so on.

Pop Quiz

1. Where do you go in the back office to transplant the module within your PrestaShop site?
 - a. **Back Office | Tools**
 - b. **Back Office | Modules | Positions**
 - c. **Back Office | Modules | Preferences**
2. What is a Hook?
 - a. A module used in PrestaShop
 - b. A block that houses the enabled modules
 - c. The left column

Summary

Specifically, using the layout settings of the PrestaShop default theme, we covered how to make the following through minor adjustments from the back office without much technical knowledge being required:

- ◆ Installing and enabling module blocks
- ◆ Adding the module blocks in the columns
- ◆ Transplanting modules and hooking modules
- ◆ Moving modules within columns
- ◆ Updating the editorial block in the center column.

In the next chapter, we will cover how to set up the key elements in your store through configuring the module blocks including setting up the editorial block, the **Featured Products** block, and the **Catalog** function from the back office. You will also work on the other key module blocks, the top, header, footer, logo, and so on. All these complete the look of the store and will be covered when working on the back office administration. Also, we will get a sneak-peek at customizing the theme files.

Where to buy this book

You can buy PrestaShop 1.3 Theming Beginner's Guide from the Packt Publishing website: <https://www.packtpub.com/prestashop-1-3-theming-beginners-guide/book>.

Free shipping to the US, UK, Europe and selected Asian countries. For more information, please read our [shipping policy](#).

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