

Platform - Checkout

Overview

Using Printfection Platform Checkout, applications can bypass the entire Printfection website and drop users into a simple, hosted two-step checkout. Applications have complete control over the shopping cart and users remain within the application until the final steps of checkout. Applications can create Printfection shopping carts, add products to the cart, remove products from the cart, and get information about the cart (including shipping methods and production/transit times) without ever visiting or sending the application user to Printfection's website. Printfection Platform Checkout allows the application to leverage Printfection's investment in the most complex and expensive elements of a successful e-commerce system— credit card processing, PCI/security compliance, and order fulfillment— while keeping the user within the application until the final stages of checkout.

Carts Overview

Using the cart methods outlined in the *Method* document and the PFQL tables outlined in the *PFQL* document applications can completely control shopping carts. There are two types of carts, PF carts and API carts. All API methods will use the API carts while the general Printfection website uses PF carts. When a user is sent to checkout API carts are converted into PF carts.

Lifespan

API carts exist for 90 days from the last time an application accesses the cart.

Checkout Process

There are two supported ways to send a user to checkout.

Simple Checkout Process

The first option completely bypasses the API cart and instead directs the user to the product's detail page on Printfection. The user then selects the color and size on Printfection's website and completes the checkout through Printfection. As the PF cart is shared across all stores on Printfection's website, this option may result in products from other stores existing in the customer's cart. This option should not be signed and only requires the product ID. An example request would be:

www.printfection.com/printfection/_p_200490

Tips

- Developers will most likely want to send the user to a custom store on Printfection's website in order to ease the transition between the external site and the Printfection store.
- The product should exist in an open or hidden store. Closed stores can only be viewed by the store owner.

Advanced Checkout Process

The second option fully utilizes the cart methods and is the most advanced integration with the Printfection checkout. Applications will create an API cart and fully display and allow modification of the cart on the application's external site. The external site needs to create a relationship between the API cart and the user, most likely using a cookie. When the user goes to check out, the external site will send the user to Printfection using `www.printfection.com/app/checkout.php`. This must be a signed API call using the parameters listed below. The API cart must have at least one product which can be purchased by the customer or the customer will be directed to an error page. The user will be redirected to the shipping and billing page. The user will then complete the checkout on Printfection's site. This is the preferred way for external sites to integrate with Printfection's checkout.

Tips

- Applications must have the cart permission, granted by Printfection, to use the cart methods and to send users to checkout. See the *Permissions* document for more information.
- Even though products in closed stores can be added to an API cart these products will be removed during checkout when a customer signs in, assuming the customer does not actually own the products. It is suggested to only add products in open or hidden stores to the API cart.
- Customers will not be able to add products to an API cart from the Printfection website.
- Developers are required to send the user to a custom store on Printfection's website.
- If the customer completes the checkout the API cart used during checkout will be cleared.

Required Permission

write access to carts.

Parameters

Name	Type	Required/ Optional	Description
api_key	string	required	The API key associated with the calling application.
session_key	string	required	The session key of the account the application wants to access.
version	float	required	This should always be set to 1.0.
api_sig	string	required	The signature of the current request described in the Authentication document.
response_format	string	optional	Currently the only possible format is XML which is the default.
cart_key	string	required	The unique ID for this cart.
storeid	int	required	The store which will be used during the checkout process. This cannot be a closed store.
shippingmethodid	int	optional	The shipping method to pre-select.
landing_page	string Possible Values:	optional	The default value is 'checkout' which sends the user directly to the Billing & Shipping Information page. The 'cart'

	checkout, cart		value sends the user to the shopping cart page.
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