



The Best Ecommerce Platform for Developers

Find out why 35,000 developers trust X-Cart to power ecommerce websites

Why SaaS Ecommerce Platforms Frustrate Developers

With the growing number of SaaS eCommerce website platforms today, the entry in eCommerce business is easier than ever before.

Low cost and risk-free cloud-hosted SaaS solutions, requiring no setup and installation is a gem for I-do-not-know-what-MYSQL-is type of businessmen. Thanks to “renting” a ready-made eCommerce store, they can invest both their money and time into growing and scaling their business. So, a SaaS solution seems to be the best eCommerce platform for a start up eCommerce business.

Yet, a SaaS is not the right fit for everyone.

Large international enterprises with complex omnichannel feature requirements or retailers with specific business processes require extremely complex customizations to their shopping cart platform. If your business can't fit in the box of a SaaS platform, on-premise software can give you unlimited customizations.

Most of the best ecommerce sites are not SaaS based. This is where the self-hosted software shines, and php developers can get their hands into code and create amazing eCommerce websites. This is where CIOs and founders start the open source ecommerce software comparison. So the question rises — what is the best eCommerce platform for developers and development?

Top Ecommerce Platform Comparison Chart

Let's take a look at the ecommerce platforms comparison from the point of view of cost, number of extensions, availability of support directly by vendor, type of license. We will review the best free ecommerce platforms available, like Magento Community, OsCommerce, Prestashop and Opencart, as well as proprietary software X-Cart and Magento Enterprise (and by "Magento" we mean Magento v.2)

	 X-CART	 WOO COMMERCE	 PrestaShop	 opencart	 Magento Commerce	 Magento Enterprise	 Magento Community
Cost	from free to \$5,995 (one-time fee)	free	free	free	\$40,000.00 – \$190,000 per year*	\$22,000.00 – \$125,000 per year*	free
Extensions	1,459	7,700+	3,000+	13,000+	114	114	749
Hosting	hosted or self-hosted	hosted or self-hosted	self-hosted	self-hosted	hosted	self-hosted	self-hosted
Support by vendor	24/7 premium support. Paid, included in the top plan.	not available	paid support	paid support	included into price	included into price	not available
License	proprietary software	MIT, GNU GPL v2, BSD (3 Clause)	Open Software License version 3.0	GNU General Public License v3	proprietary software	proprietary software	Open Software License v.3.0

This quick ecommerce platform comparison shows that X-Cart stands out against the competitors for several reasons:

- it offers Enterprise features at an affordable price
- it provides premium support 24/7 directly from the vendor
- it's has both a hosted and a self-hosted solution with equally high degree of customizability

So it's very likely that your search for the best ecommerce software ends here – you have just found your treasure.mean Magento v.2)

Why X-Cart Is The Ecommerce Platform Development Tool Of Choice

Being a proprietary software, X-Cart beats both the best free ecommerce platforms and expensive enterprise eCommerce platforms. Thanks to its modular architecture with forwarding decorators, as seen on sitepoint.com, X-Cart is meant to allow for a high amount of extensibility, preserving amazing upgradability even in heavily modified ecommerce stores. This modular architecture makes us the best ecommerce website builder for developers.

In January 2013, X-Cart team was the first to roll out a product that combines both. Magento 2 is probably the only alternative solution done to be customisable and upgradable at the same time. But Magento 2 appeared only 3 years after, and the fact that X-Cart 5 is 3 years ahead does make a difference.

3 years means that X-Cart 5 has been 732 business days, or 5,856 working hours, or 58,560 man hours ahead in the pursuit for creating the best ecommerce software for developers and selling online.

Customisable like self-hosted, X-Cart upgrades like SAAS

In X-Cart 5, major upgrades, i.e. the ones between branches, are installed by 62% users. Minor ones – within the branch, to get latest bug-fixes and security updates – by 80% of all X-Cart 5 based stores. In any other self-hosted platform with equal amount of customisations this figure does not exceed 10%.

The trial by fire is successfully passed

Rolled out in 2013, X-Cart 5 has already passed the trial by fire: thousands of online business have chosen it for their production ecommerce stores, dozens of community developers have already passed the learning curve and created their extensions. The eCommerce platforms comparison shows that even the closest opensource eCommerce competitor, Magento 2, is only starting to earn the trust of users and web-developers .

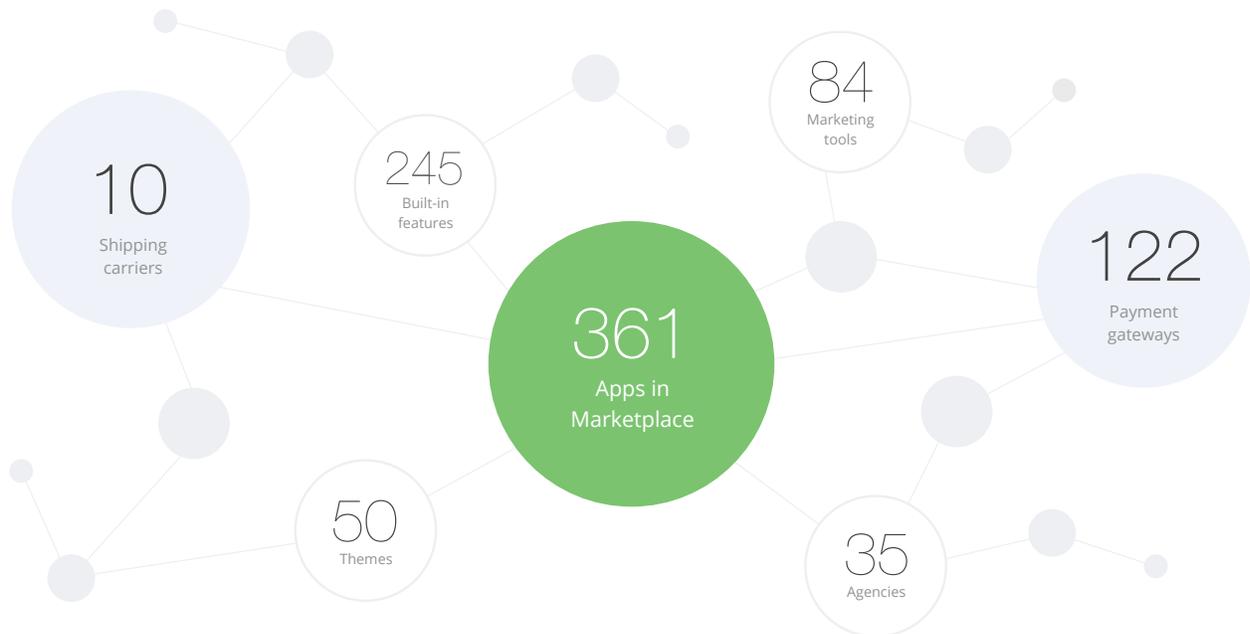
Nail your presentation to the board

24/7 premium support, 99.99% uptime hosting and daily off-site backups managed by X-Cart, 400+ marketing and industry integrations, availability of an Enterprise solution for only ¼ of Magento Enterprise cost – that's what makes X-Cart highly competitive when you're presenting it to the board of directors.

Easily Integrate 1400+ Ecommerce Apps With 1-Click

What makes X-Cart's built in marketplace so special? 1-click add-on installation right within the admin backend of the store without necessity to patch the code, connect to the store by FTP and so on makes it easier for the store owners to access hundreds of modules and themes by both X-Cart team and 3rd party vendors.

All the extensions are shown in a single list, altogether, so as long as your extension is in demand, it will be found and installed, period. With 1500+ apps on the marketplace, there are ready-made extensions to meet almost every need of your client – on one hand, and to supply you with a magic toolbox for making something unique – on the other.



Web Developers and Web Designers like these X-Cart apps

- Powerful theme tweaker with webmaster mode
- Lightning fast predictive product search and smart product filters. It's an Enterprise level faceted search tool to ensure that every product will be found by the searcher, if only it exists in your store.
- Facebook, Amazon, eBay, Google Shopping
- Google Analytics, Kissmetrics, Mixpanel, Optimizely and more – 400+ integrations, direct or via Segment.
- A bunch of tools that will put your website to the top of the SERP: rich Google snippets, SEO friendly URLs, XML sitemap, image alt tags, titles and meta descriptions, integration with WordPress
- 122 payment gateways, including the ones supporting tokenisation for recurring payments, subscriptions and reorders. It's much more than many other eCommerce solutions can offer.
- Single Sign-On with OAuth 2
- and a full set of magic wands to develop the best online store ever!.



What's under the hood of X-Cart 5

- **Architecture:** Back-end – MVC with hierarchical widgets; Front-end – Fast and dynamic client side widgets built with MVVM in mind; Several caching layers (data cache, widget cache, query cache) ensure outstanding performance;
- **Open code**, OOP, PHP 5.4.x+; PHP 7 support
- **Database:** MySQL, PostgreSQL;
- **Front-end framework:** Twig templating engine, Bootstrap 3.1 with LESS support; Javascript frameworks and libraries: jQuery 1.11, jQuery UI 1.10, Vue.js, underscore.js;
- **Doctrine 2.5 with fixtures** in YAML format; 100% support of HHVM;

For more details, view system requirements and study developer docs. The X-Cart team will stretch out a helping hand if you need either a developer guide, or a consultation on the forum, or even a high-qualified dedicated developer to outsource your task to.



Developer Friendly Features

Upgrade without pain

With systematic releases, major and minor ones, your ecommerce website will always be secure and up-to-date. Even custom features will not be an obstacle for installing the upgrades

Customize it far and wide

The unique X-Cart architecture aimed at bringing together the upgradability and customizability makes it a dream of a platform for developers. 100% open code, for sure!

So much faster

thanks to PHP 7 support, making a huge improvement (at least 40% – even without any caching!) in comparison with other ecommerce solutions running on its predecessor PHP 5.6

Advanced security capabilities

to keep calm and eat your popcorn when another POODLE or Dirty COW is discovered. Also, X-Cart does not touch the Credit Card info, even if “storing” cards is enabled (tokenization ftw!)

Webmaster mode

Apply changes to storefront templates while browsing the store in this mode and see the results instantly – it’s as easy as via the “Firebug” or “Developer Tools”. The “Theme Tweaker” will wrap your edits into a module to preserve the amazing upgradability of X-Cart core

REST API

Works with all models — from products, orders and users to shipping rates, taxes, makes-models-years and so on – with any model that already exists or will be added by you. GET, POST, PUT or DELETE data. A secure and powerful tool for your integrations.

FREE Developer license

of a commercial X-Cart edition will be given out to you upon request to create a development copy or to start working on the project before the premium license with paid features is even purchased

Feature-rich releases, timely bug-fixes

An entire team of 10 full-time developers, QA specialists and designers is dedicated to X-Cart 5 project. We don't wait for contributions. We're just doing it. Doing it right. Doing it right now. Making X-Cart better every single minute

Mobile and SEO ready

All the themes are responsive out of the box. All the SEO features you may ever need are already there, including but not limited to xml sitemap, rich Google snippets, SEO URLs and even a bidirectional integration with WordPress

Quick migration to X-Cart

from any ecommerce shopping cart to make the transition a snap. 100% Uptime, guaranteed. Individual approach tailored to cover your unique requirements. FREE quote upon discussing the task details

Code samples

Architecture basics explained, customization examples provided, design tutorials and how-to videos and webinars created – overcome the learning curve and feel at home with X-Cart development

GitHub

X-Cart Repo gives you a quick and convenient access to the new X-Cart versions, if you're a GitHubber

3 More Ways to Earn for Web Developers and Web Agencies

- **Affiliate program** will bring you a 15% commission for not only the first order, but also for the upcoming purchases of the client you referred. Deal?
- **Reseller program** gives you the right to resell X-Cart licenses and extensions, getting them with crazy discounts – up to 50% off!
- **Marketplace of modules and services** is another way to earn some \$\$ in case you developed the module for your client that seems to be in demand. You write, we market, we sell, you earn.

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