

## Getting Started with the Dynamic Suite

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The Dynamic Suite includes five Dreamweaver extensions that assist you in developing your dynamic website. The tools provided are geared towards giving you the power to easily create a functional database-driven website.

This Getting Started Guide introduces one of the more common approaches for implementing all the tools included in the Dynamic Suite – creating an online store. The following functionality will be implemented using each of the tools included.

- **DataAssist** – Create a database-drive product catalog
- **SecurityAssist** – Apply security to your pages
- **Cookies Toolkit** – Create “remember me” and other cookies
- **eCart** – Add shopping cart checkout functionality
- **Universal Email** – Send confirmation email after purchasing



You may find it helpful to read through this entire guide to get a feel for what you will be able to achieve before starting.

### What Do You Need to Start?

- Dreamweaver 8, CS3, or CS4
- Dynamic Suite
  - DataAssist
  - SecurityAssist
  - Cookies Toolkit
  - Universal Email
  - eCart

## Installing your extensions



The first step to getting started with your purchase is to install your extensions. The Dynamic Suite includes a number of Dreamweaver extensions (or add-ons) that are installed through the Adobe Extension Manager.



You do not need to install all Dynamic Suite extensions at once. Installing extensions can take a long time, and it is recommended that you only install the extensions needed to accomplish a certain task.


At the beginning of each section of this guide, you will be informed of which extensions need to be installed before you proceed. You should not need to uninstall any extensions before proceeding to another section.

Follow the instructions found in the following two TechNotes for downloading and installing each of your Dreamweaver extensions.

- [Downloading extensions and files](#) 
- [Installing WebAssist extensions](#) 

## Do you have a Dreamweaver site defined?

The first step in developing websites in Dreamweaver is to define a site. This helps you easily access your files from the Dreamweaver Files panel, ensures that templates and links are correct, and makes uploading to your testing server or live site easy.

If you haven't yet defined a site in Dreamweaver, review the Dreamweaver Simulation available from the [Getting Started with Dreamweaver](#)  tutorials.

## Have you signed up for a hosting provider?

Your hosting provider will store your website for public access on the web. Typically, your hosting provider will also provide the server for storing your database. You will need to purchase an account and create a domain with a hosting provider before you can place your site online.

Follow these instructions for signing up with a recommended hosting provider, [1and1](#).

- [Signing up with a Hosting Provider](#) 

## Using DataAssist to build your dynamic product catalog


When developing an online store, your product catalog is the main area that your customers will see. With DataAssist, you can create a product catalog that contains all the products listed in your database.

**Note:** You will need to have your database setup with a products table containing the products you intend to sell.

For this section, make sure that the DataAssist extension is installed.



If do not intend to create a dynamic product catalog, and already have static product pages, you can skip this step.

Use the DataAssist wizard to create your Results, Search, Detail, Update, Insert, and Delete pages. Refer to the [DataAssist Getting Started Guide](#)  for instructions.

**Note:** Although you may not intend to use all these pages right now, it is easiest to create them all at the same time.

1. When choosing the Database table, choose the table that contains your products, or which you intend to use for your products.  
*This database table needs to contain all the necessary columns prior to using DataAssist, but content can be added later.*
2. If choosing a Dreamweaver template, the menu list displays all .dwt files that are including in the Templates folder of your defined site.  
*If you have used SiteAssist Professional to create your site's other pages, you would choose the siteassistpro\_template option.*
3. If desired, rename the pages that will be created to suit your preferred site navigation.
4. As you proceed through the DataAssist wizard, make sure to choose options that best suit your site's design and structure.
5. For each page that will be created you have the opportunity to customize the labels for each form field and delete any fields you wish not to display.
6. Once you click Finish and DataAssist creates all your pages, you can open each page individual in Dreamweaver to make further modifications to the design.



With your DataAssist insert and update pages created, you can start adding products to your database by opening the insert page in your browser.

## Add security and log-in functionality

With SecurityAssist and Cookies Toolkit both installed, you can easily add log-in functionality and apply cookies to your site.

Make sure to have both SecurityAssist and Cookies Toolkit installed before proceeding.

You will also need to have a properly structured database table for storing user registrations. At a minimum, this table will need an ID column, username, email address, and password.

Referring to the [SecurityAssist Getting Started Guide](#)  create the **registration, user update, log in, and email password** pages.

- On Step 4, you will have the opportunity to customize the log in page. The 'Remember Me' and 'Automatic Login' options will only display if Cookies Toolkit is installed.



By referring to the [User Level Authentication Solution Recipe](#), you can apply security restrictions to your DataAssist Insert and Update pages to only allow Administrators to view these pages.

## Create shopping cart functionality with eCart and Universal Email



eCart is the essential part of your online store since it creates the pages necessary for processing transactions. When installed, Universal Email will provide additional functionality for sending email confirmation receipts.

Make sure to install eCart and Universal Email before proceeding.



Before you begin, you should sign up for a supported payment gateway merchant account and, if desired, create an account with a shipping provider to provide shipping rate lookup.

Refer to the following two documents for assistance:

- [Signing Up with PayPal and Obtaining your PayPal Settings](#) 
- [Signing Up for USPS Shipping APIs](#) 

Referring to the [eCart Getting Started Guide](#)  use eCart to add shopping cart functionality to your site.

At a minimum, you need to complete the following steps with eCart in order to process transactions:

1. Create an **eCart object**.
2. Apply **Add to Cart** buttons to your DataAssist detail pages, and DataAssist Results pages.  
*You will want to create an Add to Cart in each location that a product will be displayed on your site. Making it easy for customers to purchase that item.*
3. Run through the **eCart Display Manager** wizard to create your cart display page.
4. Run through the eCart wizard to
  - a. create the various checkout pages
  - b. specify your payment gateway
  - c. specify your shipping provider  
*If you intend to include shipping rate calculations with each purchase.*

**Note:** The eCart Getting Started Guide is divided into two sections, one for static shopping carts, and another for database-driven shopping carts. If you used DataAssist to create your product catalog, you will want to create a database-driven shopping cart.

**Note:** Universal Email only sends confirmation emails when using local checkout for processing transactions.

## **Closing**

You have now used all the tools provided with the Dynamic Suite to create a database-driven online store. Using the same techniques you've just learned, you could create additional using functionality such as creating an Admin back-end for your site.