

## Getting Started with the Web Developer Suite

---

The Web Developer Suite includes an assortment of Dreamweaver extensions that assist you in developing your website. Whether you are creating an online store or an administrative back-end, the tools provided will allow you to manage your database, apply log-in and register features, and much more.

This Getting Started Guide introduces one of the many approaches to taking advantage of what this suite has to offer. Here you will be guided through building a product catalog, online store, and administrative back-end.



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
- Web Developer Suite
  - DataAssist
  - Digital File Pro
  - SecurityAssist
  - Cookies Toolkit
  - Validation Toolkit
  - Dynamic Dropdowns
  - Universal Email
  - eCart
  - iRite
  - Dynamic Web Charts

## Installing your extensions



The first step to getting started with your purchase is to install your extensions. The Web Developer 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 Web Developer 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.

### Using Digital File Pro to add image upload functionality

When inserting images to your product catalog, there is a good chance you'd like to include the ability to upload an image for your products. Using Digital File Pro, you can provide a File Upload field on your DataAssist Insert and Updates pages.

Before proceeding, make sure that Digital File Pro is installed.

Referring to the [Digital File Pro Getting Started Guide](#)  add the file upload field to your DataAssist Insert and Update pages.

## 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.

## Apply validation to your register form

With your registration page created by SecurityAssist, you may want to apply validation to the form fields to ensure that what is submitted to your database is properly formatted.

Before proceeding, make sure to install Validation Toolkit.

Referring to the [Validation Toolkit Getting Started Guide](#)  apply validation to the form fields in your registration page.

Make sure that you apply validation to the following form fields:


- Email Address
- Username (if email address is not used for username)
- Phone Number
- Password (Specify minimum strength criteria)
- Zip/Postal Code

## Create advanced search functionality with Dynamic Dropdowns

Dynamic Dropdowns allows you to connect multiple dropdown menus dynamically. This functionality is seen throughout many online stores that sell many products.

**For example:** A website selling automotive parts may want dynamic dropdowns to help find the right part for the right car. In such a situation, the first dropdown list would display manufacturer, the second would then display car model, filtered by manufacturer.

Before proceeding with these steps, make sure that Dynamic Dropdowns is installed.

Referring to the [Dynamic Dropdowns Getting Started Guide](#)  create dynamic menu list functionality to enhance your customer experience.

**Note:** If you do not have a need for dynamic menu lists at this moment, you can move onto the next step, and apply such functionality at a later date.

## Create shopping cart functionality with eCart



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.

## Create an Administrative Back-end

Now that you have your online store ready to handle transactions, you may want to create an administrative back-end. Here, you (the administrator) can track purchases, manage user registrations, and add/update/delete products from your catalog.

Some of the steps for creating an administrative back-end may already have been achieved in the DataAssist section earlier.

The following outlines the steps that are necessary for creating an administrative back-end:

- Use DataAssist to create product insert, update and delete pages  
*Already completed in previous DataAssist section.*
- Run through the DataAssist wizard to create insert, update, delete, search, and results pages for your users table.  
*Allows you to search your users, modify details, and delete accounts if necessary.*
- Use SecurityAssist to apply access page rules restricting anyone but administrators from accessing the administrative pages.
- (Optional) Use Dynamic Web Charts to create charts for tracking total revenue, user registrations, and sales by product.  
*For assistance, refer to the [Dynamic Web Charts Getting Started Guide](#) .*
- (Optional) Use iRite to add WYSIWYG functionality to your product insert and update pages.  
*For assistance, refer to the [iRite Getting Started Guide](#) .*

## **Closing**

You have now used all the tools provided with the Web Developer Suite to create a dynamic, fully-functional online store. In addition, you have created an administrative back-end that you can use to manage your site, update your product catalog, and manage your site.