

Integrating PayPal Website Payments Pro With OpenCart

I thought I would write this little guide so you can test your PayPal integration with your OpenCart installation before going live. To do this, you'll need to use PayPal's sandbox to 1) create a test personal account and 2) create a test business account. This isn't a straightforward process, and using the PayPal sandbox will drive you to the brink of insanity if you don't know what you're doing.

PayPal's sandbox is a completely separate entity from the live PayPal. It is an exact replica of PayPal, with the only exception being that transactions don't count. In order to use the sandbox to test payment processing, you'll need to create two separate accounts. A personal account that you'll use to make purchases on your site and a business account where those payments will go. Just think of it as creating a fake customer and a fake replication of your real life PayPal business account.

Go to <https://developer.paypal.com/>. This is the entry point to the sandbox. You'll need to login with your real PayPal credentials to get started. Get ready to have about 600 browser windows open...

Once you login, you'll be presented with this screen:

Sandbox

[Home](#)

[Test Accounts](#)

[Test Email](#)

[API Credentials](#)

[Test Tools](#)

Additional resources

[Documentation](#)

[PayPal Developer Network](#)

[Customer Support](#)



Use the Sandbox to test your applications as if they were on the live PayPal.com web site. The only difference is the funds in the Sandbox are play money.

Test Accounts

- › [Create a preconfigured account](#)
- › [Create an account manually](#)

Test Email

[Access your test accounts' email.](#)

API Credentials

[Manage your test accounts' API Credentials.](#)

Test Instant Payment Notification

[Simulate Instant Payment Notification.](#)

Under “Test Accounts” click ‘preconfigured account’. This will take you to the account creation page, where you’re going to create a ‘buyer’ account:

- Sandbox
- Home
- Test Accounts
- Test Email
- API Credentials
- Test Tools

- Additional resources
- Documentation
- PayPal Developer Network
- Customer Support



Create a Sandbox Test Account

After creating the account, you can delete the account or you can provide additional information in the Sandbox Test Site. [How to automatically create verified accounts.](#)

Country

Account Type

- Buyer (Use to represent your customer's experience)
- Seller (Use to represent yourself as the merchant)
- Website Payments Pro (Use to represent yourself as a merchant using Pro)

Login Email
@yahoo.com
This email address is only used inside the Sandbox.

Password

Your password must be at least 8 characters.

Add Credit Card

Add Bank Account
 Yes
 No

Account Balance
\$.00 USD

Notes

Fill in all the info. For the 'Login Email', use something other than your real email. And this is one of the maddening aspects of the sandbox. PayPal will create a login email for you, regardless of what you put here. I have no idea why they even ask, because they're going to create an email that looks like 'mytes_128368612i37rqiwhuebf8_personal@...' It doesn't matter though, cause all you'll need from this personal test account is the credit card info.

Click 'Create Account' and you're done. You'll be taken back to the "Test Accounts" screen where you can look at the details of your newly created personal account:

The screenshot shows the 'TEST ACCOUNTS' page. On the left is a sidebar with 'Test Email', 'API Credentials', and 'Test Tools' tabs, and an 'Additional resources' section with links to 'Documentation', 'PayPal Developer Network', and 'Customer Support'. The main content area features a green success message with a checkmark icon: 'You have successfully created a test account. You can view email for this account on the Test Email tab.' Below this are two bullet points: 'To test a merchant transaction, you must use a test Business Account.' and 'To test a buyer transaction, you must use a test Personal Account.' A text prompt says 'To simulate a transaction on PayPal.com, choose a test account.' followed by 'New test account: [Preconfigured](#) | [Create Manually](#)'. A table lists the account details:

Log-in Email	Payment Review	Negative Test Mode	Reset
mytest_1310235320_per@yahoo.com Personal Verified	Disabled	N/A	Reset

Below the table is a 'Hide Details' checkbox (checked) and a list of account attributes:

- Country: United States
- Business Name: None
- Credit Card: Visa 4071862691866478
Exp Date: 7/2016
- Bank Account: Checking (Confirmed)
Routing Number: 325272063
Bank Account Number: 831615777559921
- Balance: 1000.00 USD
- Email: Confirmed
- Notes:
- Date Created: Jul. 9, 2011 11:16:13 PDT

Now we need to create a business account. Click the 'Preconfigured' link next to 'New test account:'. Follow the same process as before, but select 'website payments pro' as the account type:

Test Email	Create a Sandbox Test Account
API Credentials	
Test Tools	
Additional resources	After creating the account, you can delete the account or you can provide additional information in the Sandbox Test Site. How to automatically create verified accounts.
Documentation	Country
PayPal Developer Network	<input type="text" value="United States"/>
Customer Support	Account Type
	<input type="radio"/> Buyer (Use to represent your customer's experience)
	<input type="radio"/> Seller (Use to represent yourself as the merchant)
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Website Payments Pro (Use to represent yourself as a merchant using Pro)
	Login Email
	<input type="text" value="mytest"/> @yahoo.com
	This email address is only used inside the Sandbox.
	Password
	<input type="text" value="helloworld"/>
	Your password must be at least 8 characters.
	Add Credit Card
	<input type="text" value="Visa"/>
	Add Bank Account
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
	<input type="radio"/> No
	Account Balance
	\$ <input type="text" value="600"/> .00 USD
	Notes
	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="button" value="Create Account"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>

Now that we've got that created, we need to login to the business account to get the API credentials to use in OpenCart. Click the little radio button next to the business account and click 'Enter Sandbox Test Site'. A new window will pop open. Just enter your password (the one you created for the business account):

Test Site

[Log Out](#) | [Help](#) | [Security Center](#)



My Account | **Send Money** | **Request Money** | **Merchant Services** | **Auction Tools** | **Products and Services**

Overview | [Add Funds](#) | [Withdraw](#) | [History](#) | [Resolution Center](#) | [Reports](#) | [Profile](#)

Welcome Aaron Elliott

[Help with this page](#)

Business: Aaron Elliott's Test Store (mytest_1310235620_biz@yahoo.com) | Account status: [Verified](#) | Application status: [Approved](#)

Search transactions

PayPal balance		Options ▾
Currency		Balance
U.S. Dollar (Primary)		\$600.00 USD
PayPal Money Market Rate		1.68%
Total in USD		\$600.00 USD

- Account actions**
- [My Business Setup](#)
 - [Claim payments](#)

- Quick links**
- [Policy updates](#)
 - [Referrals](#)
 - [Refund Tutorial](#)

- View transactions**
- [All account activity](#)
 - [Payments received](#)
 - [Payments sent](#)
 - [Account withdrawals](#)

- Tools**
- [Invoicing](#)
 - [Gift certificates](#)
 - [Virtual Terminal](#)
 - [Fraud Management](#)
 - [My Saved Buttons](#)
 - [Multi-order shipping](#)
 - [Recurring Payments](#)

Once you're in, click the 'Profile' menu option...

View and edit your account settings, and check the status of your products and services.

Services	Status
Website Payments Pro	Live
Virtual Terminal	Live
Fraud Management	Live
Recurring Payments	Live
PayPal Express Checkout	Live

Account information

- › [Email](#)
- › [Street address](#)
- › [Phones and mobile payments](#)
- › [Password](#)
- › [Security key](#)
- › [Notification/information sharing](#)
- › [Language preference](#)
- › [Time zone](#)
- › [Manage Users](#)
- › [Request API credentials](#)
- › [Business information](#)
- › [Close Account](#)
- › [Identification Preference](#)

Security and risk settings

- › [Payment receiving preferences](#)

Report settings

- › [Manage Report subscriptions](#)
- › [Secure FTP server settings](#)

Selling preferences

- › [Auctions](#)
- › [Customer service message](#)
- › [PayPal shops website registration](#)
- › [Invoice templates](#)
- › [Instant Payment Notification preferences](#)
- › [Language Encoding](#)
- › [Create New Button](#)

Financial information

Then click the 'Request API Credentials'...

Important: Make sure you select the correct option. Credentials for the PayPal API do not work with Payflow Pro.

Option 1 - PayPal API

PayPal API credentials identify you to PayPal with a unique API user name and password that allows you to make API calls. You can either grant permission to your shopping cart or solution provider, or request credentials for yourself.

1. [Learn more about the PayPal API](#)
2. [Set up PayPal API credentials and permissions](#)

Option 2 - Payflow Pro

Payflow Pro uses a set of system-generated identifiers to provide API access. You can either grant permission to your shopping cart or solution provider, or request credentials for yourself.

1. [Learn more about the Payflow Pro API](#)
2. [Set up Payflow Pro API access](#)

You want Option 1 #2 - Setup PayPal API credentials and permissions...

Setting up API permissions and credentials

Choose one of the following options to integrate your PayPal payment solution with your online store or shopping cart.

Option 1 - Grant API permissions to a third party to use certain PayPal APIs on your behalf.

Choose this option if:

- You are using a pre-integrated shopping cart, hosted by a third party
- Your website is hosted and managed by a third-party service provider

[Grant API permission](#)

Option 2 - Request API credentials to create your own API username and password.

This option applies to:

- Custom websites and online stores
- Pre-integrated shopping carts running on your own server

[View API Signature](#)

Accept payments from your online store before setting up APIs

Now you want Option 2 - View API Signature...

For preconfigured shopping carts: Copy and paste the API username, password, and signature into your shopping cart configuration or administration screen.

For building custom shopping carts: Store the following credential information in a secure location with limited access.

Credential	API Signature
API Username	mytest_1310235620_biz_api1.yahoo.com
API Password	1310235674
Signature	AFcWxV21C7fd0v3bYYRCpSSRI31AvJOE.zSKi.-Lnt-wvPb7baGqHSE
Request Date	Jul 9, 2011 11:21:14 PDT

Those are the API credentials you'll plug into OpenCart. Yours will be different of course :).

Now login to your OpenCart admin and go to Extensions->Payments. If you haven't done so already, install PayPal Website Payments Pro, then click 'Edit'...



PayPal Website Payment Pro

* API Username:

* API Password:

* API Signature:

Test Mode:

Use the live or testing (sandbox) gateway server to process transactions?

Yes No

Transaction Method:

Order Status:

Geo Zone:

Status:

Sort Order:

Enter the API credentials you just created and select 'Test Mode = Yes' and set the Status to Enabled.

And that's pretty much it. Now you can test transactions on your website without spending any real money :). Just use the credit card info from the personal account you created in the sandbox.

When you're done testing, you'll need to get your real API credentials, following the same process, for your real account and turn Test Mode off.

Hopefully, this guide will save you hours of hair pulling, fist pounding, cursing, and beating your head against the wall trying to figure out PayPal's sandbox. Good luck!