

Versions, cadence, requirements

- New minor **about every 5 weeks**: freeze (day 1, release/x.y), beta 1 +1 wk, beta 2 +1 wk, RC 1 +1 wk, final +1 day. X.Y.Z is not semver; Z > 0 = patch.
- Recent: 11.0.0 2026-08-04, 11.1.0 2026-09-03, 11.2.0 2026-10-07, 11.2.1 2026-10-09; 11.3 planned week of 2026-11-09.
- L-1 policy**: latest + previous WordPress and WooCommerce series; latest patch only.
- Security backports** (CVSS ≥ 9): latest 21 x.y series = 9.2+ today; below CVSS 9 only the latest.

Source	WP PHP	DB
Header 11.2.1	7.0 7.4	-
readme.txt	7.0 7.4 (8.0 rec.)	MySQL 5.5.5 / MariaDB 10.1
Merchant page (10.8+)	6.9 8.3+ (7.4 legacy)	MySQL 8.0 / MariaDB 10.6

11.1.0 raised WP minimum 6.9 → 7.0. **PHP 8.1 is the minimum from 11.6 (Feb 2027)**; 11.3 adds an admin notice for PHP 7.4/8.0. The WC requires at least and WC tested up to header keys are a WooCommerce convention; WordPress ignores them.

Install and local environments

```
wp core download --version=7.1.3
wp config create --dbname=... --dbuser=...
wp core install --url=... --title=...
wp plugin install woocommerce --version=11.2.1 --activate
wp wc hpos enable --user=admin # off after WP-CLI install
```

- Docker: wordpress:7.1.3-php8.3-apache, mariadb:11.8, wordpress:cli-php8.3.
- wp-env** 12.0.0: npx @wordpress/env@12.0.0 start; .wp-env.json keys core, phpVersion, port (8888), plugins, config, testsEnvironment. Use run cli -- wp ... (the -- matters). Change versions in the JSON, then start --update.
- Playground CLI** @wp-playground/cli 3.1.61 (Node 20.18+, no Docker); wp-now is deprecated.

Extension skeleton

```
/* Plugin Name: My Extension Version: 1.0.0
 * Requires at least: 7.0 Requires PHP: 7.4
 * Requires Plugins: woocommerce
 * WC requires at least: 11.1 WC tested up to: 11.2 */
defined( 'ABSPATH' ) || exit;
add_action( 'before_woocommerce_init', static function () {
    if ( class_exists( FeaturesUtil::class ) ) {
        FeaturesUtil::declare_compatibility( 'custom_order_tables', __FILE__, true );
        FeaturesUtil::declare_compatibility( 'cart_checkout_blocks', __FILE__, true );
    }
});
add_action( 'plugins_loaded', 'x_bootstrap' );
// bootstrap: class_exists( 'WooCommerce' ) or notice
declare_compatibility() works only inside before_woocommerce_init (false elsewhere); third arg false = incompatible. Check: wp wc hpos compatibility-info.
Scaffold: npx @wordpress/create-block -t @woocommerce/create-woo-extension my-ext; add uninstall.php and languages/.
```

Hooks: classic vs blocks checkout

Data hooks fire everywhere: woocommerce_new_order, woocommerce_update_order, woocommerce_order_status_changed, woocommerce_cart_calculate_fees, woocommerce_check_cart_items. Markup hooks fire only on shortcode pages.

Classic(notifiedinblocks)	Block replacement
woocommerce_checkout_fields	woocommerce_register_additional_checkout_field()
woocommerce_after_checkout_validation	woocommerce_checkout_validate_order_before_payment, woocommerce_store_api_cart_errors
woocommerce_checkout_create_order, update_order_meta	woocommerce_store_api_checkout_update_order_from_request
markup hooks, ..._cart_item_name	Slot and Fill, inner blocks, JS registerCheckoutFilters()

A hook absent from the official hook-alternatives list is "unknown": trace it on your own store.

CRUD objects and HPOS rules

```
$order = wc_get_order( $id );
$order->update_meta_data( '_pc_note', $v ); $order->save();
$sids = wc_get_orders( array( 'limit' => 20, 'status' => 'processing', 'return' => 'ids' ) );
$p = new WC_Product_Simple(); $p->set_name( 'x' );
$p->set_regular_price( '9.50' ); $p->save();
wc_get_products( array( 'sku' => 'PC-MUG' ) );
```

- Never** use get_post, WP_Query, get_post_meta, update_post_meta, wp_insert_post for orders; use CRUD + meta_query/field_query/date_query in wc_get_orders().
- HPOS tables: wc_orders, wc_order_addresses, wc_order_operational_data, wc_orders_meta; with sync off posts hold only shop_order_placehold. Default for new shops since 8.2; sync-on-read off since 10.7.0.
- wp wc hpos status | enable [--with-sync] | disable | sync | verify_data | compatibility-info.
- Action Scheduler**: as_enqueue_async_action(\$hook,\$args,\$group,\$unique), as_schedule_single_action(\$ts,\$hook,...), as_schedule_recurring_action(\$ts,\$secs,...); CLI wp action-scheduler run|clean|status.

Additional Checkout Fields (Checkout block)

```
add_action( 'woocommerce_init', function () {
    woocommerce_register_additional_checkout_field(
        array(
            'id' => 'pocket-coffee/gift-message',
            'label' => __( 'Gift message', 'td' ),
            'location' => 'order', // contact|address|order
            'type' => 'text',
            'attributes' => array( 'maxLength' => 120 ),
            'sanitize_callback' => fn( $v ) => trim( $v ),
            'validate_callback' => fn( $v ) => ... ) );
});
Id is namespace/name; types text, checkbox, select (options) and date (min/max like P1D, new in 11.2.0).- Stored as order meta _wc_order/ns/name (order/contact) or _wc_billing/ns/name and _wc_shipping/... (address). Read with $order->get_meta().

```

Store API /wp-json/wc/store/v1

```
woocommerce_store_api_register_endpoint_data( array(
    'endpoint' => 'cart-item', // cart|checkout|product
    'namespace' => 'pocket-coffee',
    'data_callback' => fn( $item ) => array(...),
    'schema_callback' => fn() => array(...),
    'schema_type' => ARRAY_A );
woocommerce_store_api_register_update_callback(
    array(
        'namespace' => 'pocket-coffee', 'callback' => ... );
);
Data appears under extensions.<namespace>; write path POST cart/extensions {namespace,data} (JS extensionCartUpdate()). A throwing callback silently empties the namespace.
Sessions: Cart-Token header (from GET /cart) orNonce header; writes without either give 401 ..._missing_nonce.Flow: cart/add-item, cart/update-customer, cart/select-shipping-rate, checkout; /batch gives 207.
Rate limit is off by default (filter woocommerce_store_api_rate_limit_options: 25 requests / 10 s, POST only).
```

Block payment method

```
// PHP: X extends AbstractPaymentMethodType
protected $name = 'my_pay'; // = gateway id
initialize() is_active() get_payment_method_data()
get_payment_method_script_handles()
add_action( 'woocommerce_blocks_loaded', fn() =>
    add_action( 'woocommerce_blocks_payment_method_type_registration',
        fn( $r ) => $r->register( new X() ) ) );
// JS
registerPaymentMethod( { name: 'my_pay', label, content, edit, canMakePayment: () => true, ariaLabel, supports: { features: [ 'products' ] } } );
```

Plus the cart_checkout_blocks declaration. Gateway class: WC_Payment_Gateway with process_payment(), process_refund(), \$this->supports.

Themes

- Block theme** (has templates/index.html): theme.json (schema v3), templates/, parts/, patterns/, styles/. Woo slugs: single-product, archive-product, taxonomy-product_cat, _tag, _attribute, cart and checkout templates. Style blocks such as woocommerce/product-price in theme.json.
- Classic theme**: hooks first, overrides last. Copy plugins/woocommerce/templates/<path> to theme/woocommerce/<path>; the @version header goes stale (e.g. single-product/meta.php became 11.2.0); WooCommerce > Status lists outdated overrides.
- Defaults: Purple (block), Storefront (classic).

REST v3 and webhooks

```
curl -u "$CK:$CS" "$STORE/wp-json/wc/v3/product?per_page=2&fields=id,sku,price"
```

- Keys: WooCommerce > Settings > Advanced > REST API (read, write, read/write; the key never exceeds its owner's rights). **HTTPS**: Basic (key = user, secret = password). **HTTP**: OAuth 1.0a one-legged; Basic over HTTP is anonymous (401).
- Apps ask for keys at /wc-auth/v1/authorize (app_name, scope, user_id, return_url, HTTPS callback_url). Errors: 401 ..._authentication_error, 403 ..._cannot_view.
- Webhooks** topics order.created|updated|deleted|restored, product.* (product.published since 10.8.0). Delivery via Action Scheduler, group woocommerce-webhooks; POST, 60 s timeout. Verify X-WC-Webhook-Signature = base64 HMAC-SHA256 of the raw body; compare with hash_equals; de-duplicate (the delivery id is not unique).

wp wc commands

```
wp wc product create --name=Mug --type=simple \
--regular_price=9.50 --sku=PC-MUG --user=admin --porcelain
wp wc product list --sku=PC-MUG --format=csv --user=admin
wp wc product_variation create $PID --regular_price=9.90 ...
wp wc shop_order create --status=processing \
--customer_id=$CID --payment_method=bacs --user=admin
wp wc shop_order_refund create $OID --amount=5.00 \
--api_refund=false --user=admin
```

- Always pass --user** (else 401). Commands come from the REST routes: wp help wc product list. Formats: table, csv, json, yaml, ids, count.

Caching exclusions

- Never cache **Cart, Checkout, My Account**; bypass non-GET/HEAD, queries add-to-cart, wc-ajax, wc-api, paths /wp-json/ (including wc/store/v1 and wc/v3), wp-admin, wp-login, wp-cron, xmlrpc.php.
- Bypass on cookies woocommerce_items_in_cart, woocommerce_cart_hash, wp_woocommerce_session_* (2 days), logged-in cookies. Do not cache DB rows _wc_session_; a response with Set-Cookie is not stored.
- Also: persistent object cache, OPcache, system cron with DISABLE_WP_CRON.

Security checklist

- Patch WordPress, WooCommerce, plugins and themes fast; remove unused ones. July 2021: SQL injection (CVE-2021-32789, Blocks) fixed by a forced update from WordPress.org; rotate keys after incidents.
- Block XML-RPC (system.multicall); restrict user enumeration (/wp-json/wp/v2/users. ??author=1); delete readme.html; expose_php=Off.
- Permissions 755 / 644, wp-config.php 400 or 440; the web server writes only uploads; keep wp-logs private.
- define('DISALLOW_FILE_EDIT', true); define('FORCE_SSL_ADMIN', true);
- One API key per integration, least role, read unless writing; revoke unused. Shop manager role for staff; 2FA.

Testing, AI and Marketplace

- PHPCS (WooCommerce-Core/WordPress-Extra, PHPCompatibilityWP), PHPUnit 9.6 with WP_UnitTestCase, Playwright (@woocommerce/e2e-utils-playwright), QIT, CI. Marketplace: HPOS-compatible, two latest WP/WC versions.
- AI: MCP Adapter added 10.3.0; **11.3 removes the /wp-json/woocommerce/mcp endpoint** and stops bundling the adapter.

CLOUD DEPLOYMENT: MANY PODS ON AMAZON EKS (CHECKED 2026-10-29)

Database. RDS for MariaDB 11.8 or MySQL 8.4 sized from orders, not page views; HPOS on and compatibility mode off after wp wc hpos verify_data; clean woocommerce_sessions; checkout always reads the writer, never a replica.

State placement. Media on S3 behind CloudFront; object cache on Valkey; sessions in the woocommerce_sessions table; CloudFront bypasses cart, checkout, account, Store API, wc-ajax and wc-api; payment webhooks reach any pod and must be idempotent; extensions only through the image.

Cron. DISABLE_WP_CRON true plus one CronJob for WP-Cron; Action Scheduler async runner off (action_scheduler_allow_async_request_runner false) and a worker Deployment looping wp action-scheduler run, scaled by KEDA on pending actions.

Release steps. Pre-upgrade Job runs wp wc update once with a migration database user (automatic update off through woocommerce_enable_auto_update_db), rolling update, RDS snapshot before; freeze calendar for peak season.

Key commands. wp wc hpos status, wp action-scheduler status, wp wc update, wp wc webhook list, wp maintenance-mode activate, helm upgrade pocketcoffee ./pocketcoffee-woocommerce.