



## What is Category Tiles?

Category Tiles is a module that makes it easy to display your catalog categories in a grid. When used on a non-category CMS page, the grid will display the top-level categories for your store. When used as part of the CMS block for a category page, the grid will display the child categories of the currently viewed category.

Category Tiles allows you to configure many options, including the width and height of the tile, image width and visibility, and column and row spacing. There is also a simple stylesheet included that you may easily customize to suit your needs.

## Features

- Increase conversion by making your site easier to navigate
- Pre-installed block makes it easy to display a category grid at the top of all of your category pages
- Customize the look and feel of the category grid through administrative settings and stylesheets
- Optimized for performance - block output is cached after the first page view
- Quick and easy install - just upload and refresh your cache
- Works with Magento versions 1.2.x, 1.3.x, and 1.4.x
- 30 day money back guarantee
- 30 days of free support

## Installation

As with all Magento modules, we recommend applying the module to a non-production site before applying it to your production site.

1. Backup your Magento directory
2. Backup your Magento database
3. Unzip the downloaded file
4. Using an FTP client, upload the “app” directory into your Magento directory
5. If you are using a package or theme other than the default package and theme, we recommend copying everything in `app/design/frontend/default/default/` and `skin/frontend/default/default/` to their respective locations in `app/design/frontend/[package]/[theme]/` and `skin/frontend/[package]/[theme]/`
6. Refresh your cache
  - a. Log in to your Magento admin area
  - b. Go to System->Cache Management
  - c. Select “Refresh” from the “All Cache” drop down
  - d. Click “Save cache settings”
7. After refreshing, you may need to log out and log back in to the admin area to gain access to the configuration options for Category Tiles

## Configuration

### Setting System-Wide Defaults

System-wide defaults are used when settings are not specified at the category level. In many situations, you will only need to set system-wide defaults and not worry about the category settings.

To manage your settings, go to System->Configuration->Category Tiles.

*Default Tile Width:* Width of the tile.

*Default Tile Height:* Height of the tile.

*Display Ellipses in Description?:* If this is set to “Yes”, the description (or Short Description, if applicable) will be followed by “(More...)” as link to the tile’s category page. This works best when using Short Descriptions to provide the user with a quick description of your category.

*Display Image in Tile?:* If this is set to “Yes”, the Image (or Image Thumbnail, if applicable) will be displayed in the tile. If not, no image will be displayed.

*Default Image Width:* Width of the displayed image. This only applies if “Display Image in Tile?” is set to “Yes”.

*Default Column Spacing:* Space (in pixels) between tile columns. The number of columns displayed will depend on the Tile Width and the Column Spacing.

*Default Row Spacing:* Space (in pixels) between tile rows.

*Grid Start Position (From Left):* Number of pixels between the left side of the tile’s container element and the start of the tile grid. Use this to adjust the position of the entire grid. This is useful for centering the grid (if desired).

## **Category Settings**

Category Tiles adds a few properties to Magento categories. Unless specified, attributes apply to the category’s grid - in other words, the way that the grid of child categories on the category page will be displayed. If these properties are set, they will override the system-wide settings.

To access these attributes, go to Catalog->Manage Categories. Pick any category and the following new properties will be available:

*Short Description:* A shortened description of the category (not its grid). Use this along with the Display Ellipses option to provide your customer’s with a shortened description that makes them want to explore further. If this is not set, Description will be used in its place.

*Tile Widths:* Width of the grid tiles.

*Tile Heights:* Height of the grid tiles.

*Display Ellipses in Tiles?:* Set to “Yes” to add a link that says “(More...)” following the Description (or Short Description, if applicable) of the grid tiles.

*Display Image in Tiles?:* Set to “Yes” to display the Image (or Image Thumbnail, if applicable) in the grid tiles.

*Image Widths:* If Display Images is “Yes”, this is the width in pixels of the displayed image in the grid tiles.

*Space Between Columns:* Space (in pixels) between tile columns. The number of columns displayed will depend on the Tile Width and the Column Spacing.

*Space Between Rows:* Space (in pixels) between tile rows.

*Grid Start Position (From Left):* Number of pixels between the left side of the tile’s container element and the start of the tile grid. Use this to adjust the position of the entire grid. This is useful for centering the grid (if desired).

*Image Thumbnail:* The image to display in the category’s tile (not grid). If this is not set, the regular Image will be used in its place.

### **Adding Tiles to Category Pages**

Adding tiles to category pages is very simple. When Category Tiles is installed, it also installs a static block that can be used in many places, including the category pages.

To set up tiles on the category pages:

- Go to Catalog->Manage Categories
- Select a category and select the Display Settings tab
- Make sure the Display Mode is set to “Static block only” or “Static block and products”
- Select “Category Tiles” from the CMS Block dropdown
- Save the category
- Refresh your cache

### **Adding Tiles to CMS Pages**

It is possible to add the Category Tiles block to any CMS page in Magento. When added to a CMS page, Category Tiles will display a grid of categories highest in the category hierarchy.

In Magento 1.4 and later, you can easily insert a CMS block widget. For all others, do the following:

- Go to CMS->Pages
- Select a CMS Page to add the tiles to
- On the General Information tab (for versions prior to 1.4), add the following to the Content property: `{{block type="evcategorytiles/category_tile" template="evcategorytiles/category/tile.phtml"}}`
- Optionally, you can add the following to the Layout Update XML property of the Custom Design tab: `<reference name="content">`

```
<block type="evcategorytiles/category_tile" name="home.catalog.categories"
template="evcategorytiles/category/tile.phtml" after="cms_page" />
</reference>
```

You use the XML above as a starting point for adding the Category Tiles block to any layout XML file in Magento.

## Editing the Stylesheet

If there are style changes that you want to make to the category grid that are not covered by the various settings in the category page, you can edit the stylesheet located at *path/to/magento/skin/frontend/[package]/[theme]/evcategorytiles/css/tiles.css*.

## Un-installation

1. Remove the following from your Magento directory:
  - a. `app/code/local/Evolved/CategoryTiles`
  - b. `app/design/frontend/[package]/[theme]/layout/evcategorytiles.xml`
  - c. `app/design/frontend/[package]/[theme]/template/evcategorytiles`
  - d. `app/etc/Evolved_CategoryTiles.xml`
  - e. `skin/frontend/[package]/[theme]/evcategorytiles`
2. Backup your Magento database
3. Run the following SQL queries against your Magento database:
  - a. `DELETE FROM eav_attribute WHERE attribute_code = 'ev_short_description' OR attribute_code = 'ev_tile_width' OR attribute_code = 'ev_tile_height' OR attribute_code = 'ev_display_ellipses' OR attribute_code = 'ev_display_image' OR attribute_code = 'ev_image_width' OR attribute_code = 'ev_column_spacing' OR attribute_code = 'ev_row_spacing' OR attribute_code = 'ev_start_from' OR attribute_code = 'ev_category_thumbnail';`
  - b. `DELETE FROM cms_block_store WHERE block_id IN (SELECT block_id FROM cms_block WHERE identifier = 'evcategory_tiles');`
  - c. `DELETE FROM cms_block WHERE identifier = 'evcategory_tiles';`
4. Refresh your cache
  - a. Log in to your Magento admin area
  - b. Go to System->Cache Management
  - c. Select "Refresh" from the "All Cache" drop down
  - d. Click "Save cache settings"

## Change Log

### Version 1.1.0

- Added "Grid Start Position (From Left)" to enable positioning of entire grid

### Version 1.2.0

- Added Image Thumbnail to category - if Display Image in Tile is set to “Yes”, this image will be displayed if available; if it is not set, the category Image will be displayed
- Fixed bug that required the Category Tiles static block to be manually saved before it was enabled in all store views

### **Version 1.3.0**

- Corrected incompatibility with certain Magento extensions
- Misc. code optimizations