

# Checking out orders

Having produced a shopping cart page, described on pages 174-181, you can now create a PHP script to process the user's selected items as a "checkout" order. This is the culmination of the shopping cart process and will store the cart selections in the "orders" and "order\_contents" database tables for subsequent fulfilment by the supplier.



checkout.php

- 1 Launch a plain text editor and begin a PHP script with a statement to allow access to session data
 

```
<?php
session_start() ;
```
- 2 Now, add statements to redirect the browser to the Login page if the user is not already logged in
 

```
if ( !isset( $_SESSION[ 'user_id' ] ) )
{ require ( 'login_tools.php' ) ; load() ; }
```
- 3 Next, add statements to set the page title and include a page header
 

```
$page_title = 'Checkout' ;
include ( 'includes/header.html' ) ;
```
- 4 Add statements to store the shopping cart items in the database or provide a default message
 

```
if ( isset( $_GET[ 'total' ] )
    && ( $_GET[ 'total' ] > 0 )
    && ( !empty( $_SESSION[ 'cart' ] ) ) )
{
  # Statements to be inserted here (Steps 5-10).
}
else
{ echo '<p>There are no items in your cart.</p>' ; }
```
- 5 Now, insert a statement to open the database connection
 

```
require ( './connect_db.php' ) ;
```
- 6 Next, insert statements to store the user ID, total order value, and current date/time in the "orders" database table
 

```
$q =
"INSERT INTO orders ( user_id , total , order_date ) VALUES ( "
. $_SESSION[ 'user_id' ] . " , " . $_GET[ 'total' ] . " , NOW() ) " ;
$r = mysqli_query ( $dbc , $q ) ;
```



The total value of the shopping cart is appended to the URL of this web page by the cart page's PHP script.