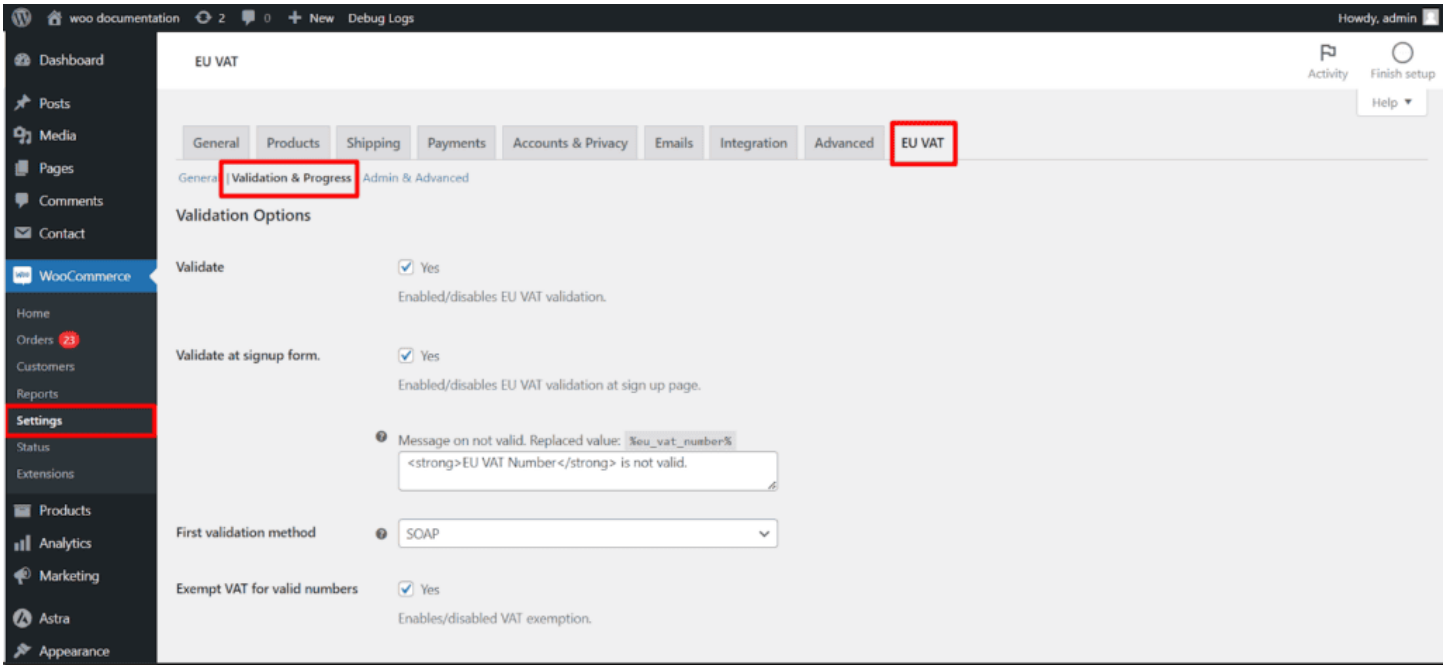
Configuring EU VAT Validation

How to · https://wpfactory.com/docs/configure-eu-vat-validation/

Real-time VAT number validation is the core job of the EU/UK VAT Manager for WooCommerce, and it is included in the free version. Configure it at **WPFactory > EU VAT** (also reachable at **WooCommerce > Settings > EU VAT**) on the **Validation** sub-tab.



Validation options

Label	Option ID	Default	Free/Pro
Validate	`alg_wc_eu_vat_validate`	Yes	Free
Validate at sign-up form	`alg_wc_eu_vat_validate_sign_up_page`	Yes	Free
Validate in "My account"	`alg_wc_eu_vat_validate_my_account`	No	Free

Message on not valid	`alg_wc_eu_vat_not_valid_message`	EU VAT Number is not valid.	Free

The "Message on not valid" field supports the `%eu_vat_number%` placeholder.

Validation method

Under the **Advanced** group of the Validation sub-tab, **First validation method** (`alg_wc_eu_vat_first_method`) picks which technique the plugin tries first when contacting VIES:

- **SOAP** (default): calls the VIES SOAP web service.
- **cURL**: contacts VIES over cURL.
- **Simple**: uses a basic PHP request (`file_get_contents`).

All three methods are available in the free version. This setting only chooses the first method to try: if it fails, the remaining methods are attempted automatically. Switching the method is the usual fix when a host has SOAP disabled.

VAT exemption

Remove VAT for validated numbers (`alg_wc_eu_vat_disable_for_valid`, default *Yes*) is what actually exempts a validated B2B customer from VAT. It is free. For the rules that keep VAT in certain situations (different shipping country, store base country, selected countries), see Keep VAT instead of exempting.

Advanced input handling

- **Allow VAT number input without country code** (`alg_wc_eu_vat_allow_without_country_code`): the country is taken from the billing field.
- **Allow VAT number input with non-alphanumeric symbols** (`alg_wc_eu_vat_allow_non_alphanumeric`): tolerates spaces, dots and hyphens.
- **Skip VAT validation for selected countries** (`alg_wc_eu_vat_advanced_skip_countries`): treats numbers from listed countries as always valid.
- **Accept the VAT number if VIES is not available** (`alg_wc_eu_vat_validate_vies_not_available`): accepts the number on specific VIES outage error codes.

Advanced checks (Pro)

Two extra checks are Pro: **Check country by IP** (`alg_wc_eu_vat_check_ip_location_country`) and **Check company name** (`alg_wc_eu_vat_check_company_name`). **Check for matching billing country code** (`alg_wc_eu_vat_check_billing_country_code`) is free.



EU/UK VAT MANAGER FOR WOOCOMMERCE

Core VIES validation is free. EU/UK VAT Manager for WooCommerce Pro adds IP-based and company-name checks against VIES.

See what Pro unlocks →

Related articles

- Customize the VAT Validation Messages
- EU VAT Validation Always Fails
- UK VAT Validation Fails
- VIES VAT Validation Blocked (IP_BLOCKED): Alternative VAT Validation in WooCommerce
- EU VAT Validation Options in WooCommerce