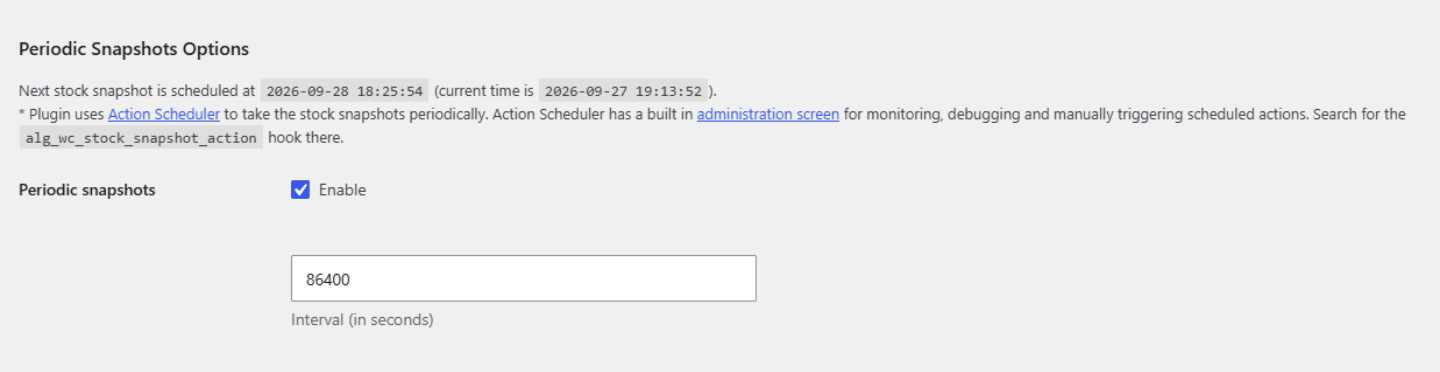
How to Schedule Automatic WooCommerce Stock Snapshots

How to · https://wpfactory.com/docs/stock-history-schedule-snapshots/

To schedule automatic WooCommerce stock snapshots, go to **WPFactory > Stock Snapshot** in Stock History & Reports Manager for WooCommerce, tick **Periodic snapshots** under **Periodic Snapshots Options**, set the **Interval (in seconds)**, for example `86400` for once a day, and click **Save changes**.



How snapshots are taken

Stock History records stock in four ways. All of them are free:

- **Product update snapshots** (on by default): a snapshot of one product each time it is saved, including stock changes from orders and refunds.
- **Periodic snapshots** (on by default): a snapshot of every product at a fixed interval.
- **Manual snapshot**: a snapshot of every product when you run the **Take snapshot** tool.
- **URL snapshot** (off by default): a snapshot of every product when a special address is visited, useful with a server cron job.

Set the periodic interval

1. Go to **WPFactory > Stock Snapshot** (also reachable at **WooCommerce > Settings > Stock Snapshot**). You land on the **General** section.
2. Under **Periodic Snapshots Options**, tick **Periodic snapshots**.
3. Enter the **Interval (in seconds)**. The default is `86400` (24 hours) and the minimum is `60`. Examples: `3600` hourly, `43200` twice a day, `604800` weekly.
4. Click **Save changes**. The section heading shows when the next snapshot is scheduled and the current site time.

Snapshots run through Action Scheduler. To watch or run them by hand, go to **WooCommerce > Status > Scheduled Actions** and search for `alg_wc_stock_snapshot_action`. Changing the interval replaces the old schedule with a new one that starts right away.

Take a snapshot now

1. Open the **Tools** section.
2. Tick **Take snapshot** and click **Save changes**.
3. A message confirms "Snapshot taken for N product(s)".

Use a server cron job instead

If WP-Cron is unreliable on your site, you can trigger snapshots from your hosting control panel:

1. On the **General** section, tick **Allow snapshots via URL** and save. The help tip shows your address, which is your site address followed by `?alg_wc_stock_snapshot=1`.
2. In your hosting control panel, create a cron job that requests that address at the interval you want, for example with `wget -q -O /dev/null "https://example.com/?alg_wc_stock_snapshot=1"`.
3. Optional: untick **Periodic snapshots** so you do not record twice.

> **Note:** the snapshot URL does not require a login. Anyone who knows it can start a full snapshot, which is heavy on large stores. Leave **Allow snapshots via URL** off unless you use it.

Choosing a sensible interval

- Each periodic snapshot records every stock-managed product, even if nothing changed, and keeps the record forever unless you delete it.
- Because product updates are already recorded as they happen, a daily interval is enough for most stores. Very short intervals grow your database quickly and add server load.
- With Pro snapshot emails enabled, every periodic, manual or URL snapshot sends an email, so match the interval to how often you want the email.

Frequently asked questions

The settings page says "Crons are disabled on your site!" What does that mean?

Your `wp-config.php` sets `DISABLE_WP_CRON` to `true`, so scheduled snapshots will not run on their own. Set it to `false`, or keep it and add a server cron job that runs WP-Cron or the snapshot URL.

Do periodic snapshots include variations?

Yes, when **Include variations** is on (the default). Each variation is recorded as a separate product.

Does deactivating the plugin stop the schedule?

Yes. Deactivation removes the scheduled snapshot action. It is created again when you reactivate the plugin.

Does a periodic snapshot record products that do not manage stock?

It runs over all products, but products without **Manage stock?** have no quantity, so nothing useful appears for them in the reports.



STOCK HISTORY

Scheduled snapshots are free. Stock History & Reports Manager for WooCommerce Pro can email you a stock summary after each one.

See what Pro unlocks →

Need a hand? Our team answers every ticket on the Stock History support forum.

Related articles

- Stock History Troubleshooting: Missing Snapshots, Slow Reports and Emails
- How to Email WooCommerce Stock Reports Automatically
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- How to See WooCommerce Stock History for a Product