Variation Swatches Developer Reference: Hooks, Meta Keys and CSS Classes

Developers · https://wpfactory.com/docs/variation-swatches-developer-reference/

Variation Swatches developer reference

Variation Swatches for WooCommerce - Color & Image Swatches is a small, focused plugin, so its programmatic surface is compact. This reference lists the filter it exposes, the WooCommerce hooks it attaches to, the term meta keys and attribute type keys it stores, the JavaScript events it fires, and the CSS classes it renders. Everything here is taken directly from the plugin source for version 1.2.2.

Plugin filter

Filter	Passed value	Purpose
`alg_wc_civs_localize`	Array passed to `wp_localize_script()` as `alg_wc_civs_opt`	Add or change the values handed to the frontend script. The core sets `only_valid_term_combinations`; the Pro Select2 module adds `use_select2`.

```
add_filter( 'alg_wc_civs_localize', function ( $data ) {
    // Force only-valid-combinations off for a specific request, for example.
    $data['only_valid_term_combinations'] = false;
    return $data;
} );
```

WooCommerce hooks the plugin uses

These are standard WooCommerce hooks. Knowing where the plugin attaches helps when you need to run before or after it, or unhook it.

Hook	Priority	What the plugin does
`product_attributes_type_selector`	10	Adds the Color, Image and Label attribute types.
`woocommerce_dropdown_variation_attribute_options_html`	999	Wraps WooCommerce's variation dropdown and appends the swatch markup after it.
`woocommerce_product_get_gallery_image_ids`	10	Pro only. Appends Image-attribute term images to a variable product's gallery when Add images on Gallery is on.

Attribute type keys

The three types register under these internal keys (the value stored in each attribute's `attribute_type`):

- `alg_wc_civs_color`
- `alg_wc_civs_image`
- `alg_wc_civs_label`

Term meta keys

Meta key	Stored value
`alg_wc_civs_term_color_color`	Hex color string for a Color term
`alg_wc_civs_term_image_image_id`	Attachment ID for an Image term (used on the frontend and the gallery)
`alg_wc_civs_term_label_label`	Text string for a Label term

```
// Read a term's swatch color.
$hex = get_term_meta( $term_id, 'alg_wc_civs_term_color_color', true );
```

```
// Set an image term's swatch programmatically.
update_term_meta( $term_id, 'alg_wc_civs_term_image_image_id', $attachment_id );
```

Helper function and instance

The main core instance is available through a global helper:

```
$civs  = color_or_image_variation_swatches_for_wc();
$admin = $civs->get_admin();          // Alg_WC_CIVS_Admin_Types
$types = $admin->wc_attribute_types;  // array of type key => label
```

Option keys

Every setting is a standard WordPress option, readable with `get_option()`:

- `alg_wc_civs_enable` (default `yes`)
- `alg_wc_civs_scripts_on_product_page` (default `yes`)
- `alg_wc_civs_possible_combinations` (Pro, default `yes`)
- `alg_wc_civs_add_images_on_gal` (Pro, default `yes`)
- `alg_wc_civs_use_select_2` (Pro, default `no`)
- `alg_wc_civs_enqueue_select_2` (Pro, default `yes`)

JavaScript events

The frontend script exposes its object and fires events you can listen for:

Event (on `body`)	**Fires when**
`alg_wc_civs`	The script has initialized. The event's `obj` property is the plugin's JS object.
`alg_wc_civs_term_click`	A swatch becomes active. The event carries `term`, `select` and `active`.

```
jQuery( 'body' ).on( 'alg_wc_civs_term_click', function ( e ) {
    if ( e.active ) {
        console.log( 'Selected term element:', e.term );
    }
```

```
} );
```

CSS classes



VARIATION SWATCHES

See every feature and the pricing on the Variation Swatches plugin page.

View plugin →

For styling, the swatch markup uses `.alg-wc-civs-attribute` (container) and `.alg-wc-civs-term` with a `.color`, `.image` or `.label` modifier, plus `.active` and `.disabled` states. The selected-swatch underline (Pro) is `.alg-wc-civs-term-pointer`. See How to change the size and shape of variation swatches for ready-to-use snippets.

Need a hand?

Our team answers every ticket on the Variation Swatches support forum.

Related articles

- Variation Swatches Settings Reference
- How to Change the Size and Shape of WooCommerce Variation Swatches
- Troubleshooting Variation Swatches for WooCommerce
- Variation Swatches General Options and Pro Settings
- Getting Started with Variation Swatches for WooCommerce