How to Delay a URL Coupon Until a Product Is Added

How to · https://wpfactory.com/docs/woocommerce-delay-url-coupon/

Delaying a URL coupon holds the discount until the customer actually puts a product in the cart, which avoids "no items to apply the discount to" confusion when someone opens a coupon link on an empty cart. This feature is free in Coupons & Add to Cart by URL Links for WooCommerce.

Before you start

- WooCommerce, active, with at least one coupon.
- The plugin enabled at **WPFactory > Coupons by URL**.

Step-by-step setup

1. Go to **WPFactory > Coupons by URL** (also reachable at **WooCommerce > Settings > URL Coupons**).
2. On the **General** sub-tab, find **Delay Coupon Options**.
3. Tick **Delay coupon > Enable section**.
4. Choose what should happen when the cart already has items using **Delay on non-empty cart**.
5. Optionally tick **Check product** for tighter control of "Fixed product discount" coupons.
6. Edit the success and error messages if you want, then click **Save changes**.

Options reference

Label	Option ID	Default	Free/Pro
Delay coupon (Enable section)	`alg_wc_url_coupons_delay_coupon`	No	Free

Label	Option ID	Default	Free/Pro
Delay on non-empty cart	`alg_wc_url_coupons_delay_coupon_non_empty_cart`	Yes	Free
Check product	`alg_wc_url_coupons_delay_coupon_check_product`	No	Free
Success notice	`alg_wc_url_coupons_delay_coupon_notice[success]`	Coupon code applied successfully.	Free
Error notice: already applied	`alg_wc_url_coupons_delay_coupon_notice[error_applied]`	Coupon code already applied!	Free
Error notice: does not exist	`alg_wc_url_coupons_delay_coupon_notice[error_not_found]`	Coupon "%coupon_code%" does not exist!	Free

What "Delay on non-empty cart" does

This setting decides what happens when the customer opens a coupon link but their cart is not empty:

- **Yes** (default): still delay the coupon until the next product is added.
- **No**: apply the coupon straight away because there are already items to discount.
- **No, if there is correct product already in the cart**: for "Fixed product discount" coupons, apply immediately only if a product the coupon is valid for is already in the cart; otherwise keep delaying.

What "Check product" does

Check product refines the delay for "Fixed product discount" coupons. With it on, when a product is added the coupon is only applied if that product is one the coupon is valid for, which prevents a discount being applied to an unrelated item.

Notice placeholder

The success and error messages accept the placeholder `%coupon_code%`, which is replaced with the coupon code. For example, `Coupon "%coupon_code%" does not exist!` shows the code the customer used. Leave a message empty to suppress it.

Troubleshooting

- **The coupon applies immediately even on an empty cart.** Confirm **Delay coupon > Enable section** is ticked and saved.
- **The success message shows before any product is added.** With delay on, the success notice can be held back until the cart has an item. See the **Delay notice** option on the **Notices** sub-tab.
- **Guests do not keep the delayed coupon.** Keep **Session > Force session start** enabled so the queued coupon survives until the customer adds a product.



URL COUPONS

This feature is free. Coupons & Add to Cart by URL Links for WooCommerce Pro adds per-coupon redirects, custom per-coupon notices, and the ability to add a coupon's products to the cart from the link.

See what Pro unlocks →

Related articles

- How to Add Coupon Products to the Cart by URL
- How to Translate URL Coupon Text with WPML and Polylang
- How to Apply a WooCommerce Coupon with a URL
- URL Coupons: Advanced Options
- How to Apply a WooCommerce Coupon from a URL: Settings Explained