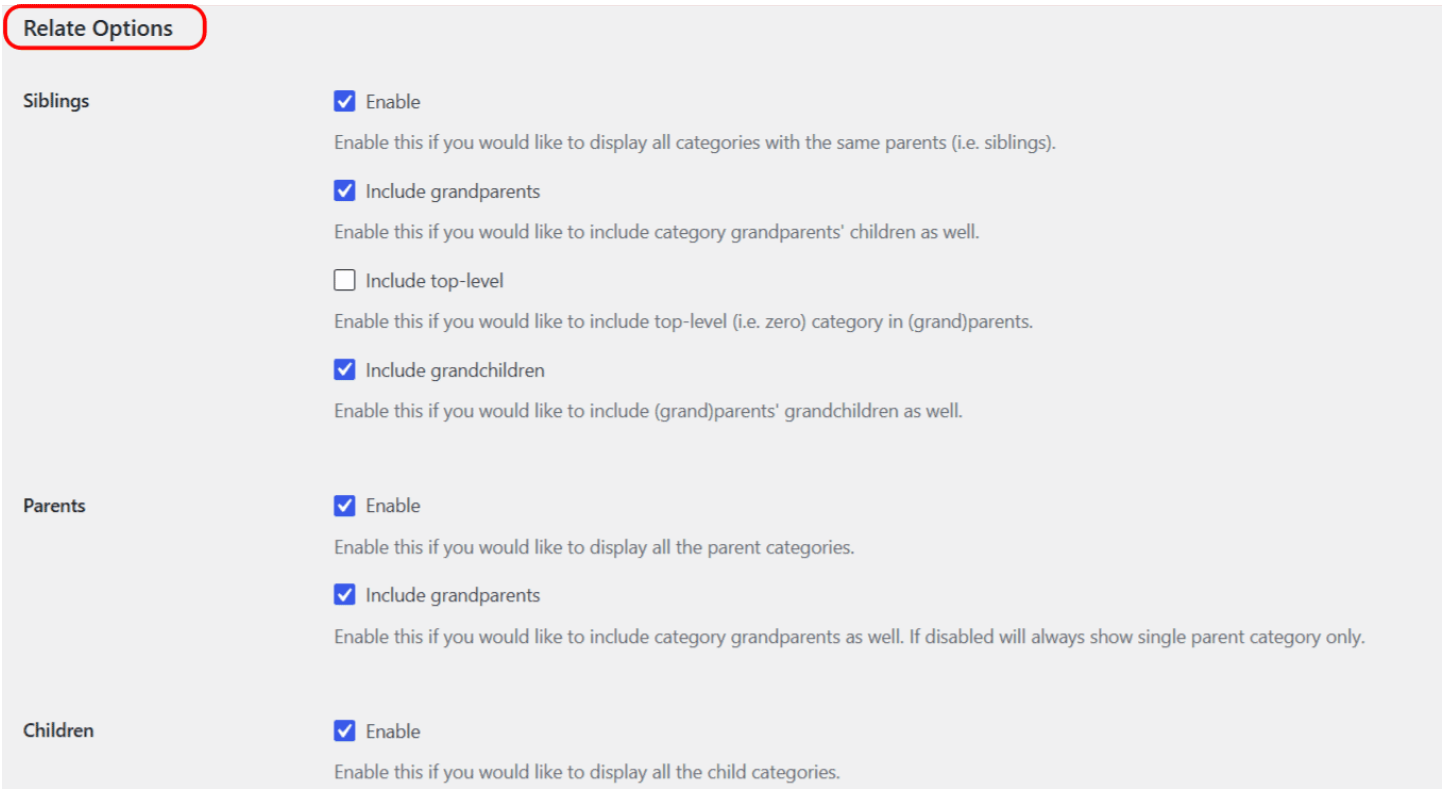
Relate Options: How Related Categories Are Chosen

How to · https://wpfactory.com/docs/woocommerce-related-categories-relate-options/

The Relate Options decide which categories count as "related" to the current product or category in Related Categories for WooCommerce. They relate categories automatically from your category tree, and they are free. You can turn on one rule or combine several.

Go to **WPFactory > Related Categories** (also reachable at **WooCommerce > Settings > Related Categories**). The Relate Options sit on both the **Single** and **Archives** sub-tabs, so you can set them separately for product pages and for shop or category pages.



The four rules

- **Siblings**: categories that share the same parent as the product's category. Enabled by default.
- **Parents**: the parent category of the product's category. Enabled by default.

- **Children**: the child categories of the product's category. Enabled by default.
- **Current**: the category or categories the product is directly assigned to. Off by default.

Out of the box, Siblings, Parents and Children are all on, so a product shows its sibling, parent and child categories.

Include sub-options

Each rule has one or more include options that widen or narrow how far it reaches through the tree:

Label	Option ID (array key)	Default
Siblings	`relate_siblings`	Yes
Siblings: Include grandparents	`relate_siblings_include_grandparents`	Yes
Siblings: Include top-level	`relate_siblings_include_top_level`	No
Siblings: Include grandchildren	`relate_siblings_include_grandchildren`	Yes
Parents	`relate_parents`	Yes
Parents: Include grandparents	`relate_parents_include_grandparents`	Yes
Children	`relate_children`	Yes
Children: Include grandchildren	`relate_children_include_grandchildren`	Yes
Current	`relate_current`	No

Notes on the include options:

- **Parents: Include grandparents**: with this off, only the single direct parent is shown.
- **Siblings: Include top-level**: includes the top-level (zero) category as a parent when gathering siblings.
- All of the option keys above are stored inside the `alg_wc_related_categories_options_single` and `alg_wc_related_categories_options_loop` option arrays, so the full key for Siblings on single pages is `alg_wc_related_categories_options_single[relate_siblings]`.

Archives-only sub-option: Always show first

On the **Archives** sub-tab, **Current** gains an extra sub-option, **Always show first** (`relate_current_always_first` , default No), which places the current category in the first position. It works with the Custom template type only.

Tuning tips

- To show only categories that sit next to the product's category, keep **Siblings** on and turn **Parents** and **Children** off.
- If the section shows more categories than you expect, disable the include options one at a time to narrow the reach.
- If nothing shows for a product in a single top-level category, there are no siblings, parents or children to relate. Enable **Current** to confirm output, then re-tune.

Relate manually instead

Tip: if you also need to hand-pick related categories rather than derive them from the tree, that is the Pro **Relate Manually** feature, see manually relating categories.



RELATED CATEGORIES FOR WOOCOMMERCE

Automatic relating is free. Related Categories for WooCommerce Pro adds hand-picked related categories per product, category, tag and custom taxonomy.

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