

Black Friday Checkout Readiness Checklist

Check your WooCommerce checkout before the rush, not during it.

2026: Black Friday, 27 November · Cyber Monday, 30 November

4 weeks before FREEZE AND PREPARE

- ☐ Set a change-freeze date (about one week before)
- ☐ Update plugins, theme and WooCommerce on staging, then test checkout
- ☐ Take a full backup and check you can restore it
- ☐ Write down plugin and theme versions
- ☐ Ask your payment provider about limits and expected volume

The week before FINAL CHECKS

- ☐ Change freeze starts
- ☐ Run a free health check (cron, shipping, SSL, PHP memory, updates)
- ☐ Check checkout speed on a phone
- ☐ Confirm order and customer emails arrive
- ☐ Confirm live payment keys and that webhooks are received
- ☐ Confirm your host's traffic and resource limits

After Cyber Monday REVIEW

- ☐ Review failed orders, checkout speed and customer complaints
- ☐ Write down what to change next year, then lift your change freeze

2 weeks before TEST EVERYTHING

- ☐ Test purchase on every payment method: guest, logged in, mobile
- ☐ Check coupons: limits, expiry dates, restrictions
- ☐ Check scheduled sale prices, dates, times and time zone
- ☐ Check stock levels and backorder rules
- ☐ Check shipping zones, rates and cut-off messages
- ☐ Cart and checkout pages excluded from page caching

On the day WATCH THE SALE

- ☐ Compare orders each hour with a normal day
- ☐ Check Failed and Pending payment orders
- ☐ Keep your payment provider's dashboard open
- ☐ Check the checkout page console for errors
- ☐ Have host and provider contacts ready
- ☐ Know what you would undo first if something breaks

Want it watched while you work?

Commerce Health Free runs 34 read-only checks on demand. Commerce Health PRO watches payments, checkout errors, plugin changes and checkout speed in the background, and learns from your real orders. It does not see traffic or hosting limits, and it does not run load tests.