

Member Plugin Usage Guide.

The membership plugin uses 'Shortcodes' to mark sections of a blog post as members only, etc. A shortcode is simply a word in square brackets. Because we want to mark areas of text we use a start and an end shortcode to mark special sections.

If you watch the installation videos you will see a demonstration of the shortcodes being used.

These shortcodes can be used in posts and pages within your wordpress blog. Indeed the page you are using as your sales page should be enclosed in a set of [free_member] tags as the user must be logged in for the upgrade process to work.

Here are the available shortcodes and what they do:

[visitor] [/visitor] – Anything placed between a set of visitor tags will only be shown to people who are not logged in. This is ideal for putting in messages that encourage free registration.

[free_member] [/free_member] – Anything placed between these shortcodes will be show to free and paid members of your site. If the site is being browsed by someone who is not logged in or registered they will be shown a message that tells them “You must be logged in to view this content”, and they will be given links to both the login and the free registration form.

[paid_member] [/paid_member] – Anything placed between these codes is shown to paid members only. Free members will be told they need to upgrade to view the content and given a link to your pitch/sales page.

[free_only] [/free_only] – Anything placed beween these shortcodes will be shown to FREE MEMBERS ONLY. Paid members and visitors will not be shown this content at all. These shortcodes work silently so no message is displayed about logging in or being a free member.

[paid_only] [/paid_only] – As per the free_only codes but this is shown only to paid members and no message advising people they need to upgrade is shown.

[feed] [/feed] – This content is shown only to rss feeds.

[sales_page] – This contains the link to the sales/pitch page for upgrades.

[clickbank_saleslink] – Contains the link to the Clickbank payment gateway for upgrades.

Any text in posts or pages that is not contained between a set of shortcodes is shown to everyone. This is how you can easily show the first few paragraphs as teaser content.

NEW IN VERSION 2... Nested Shortcodes.

In the first version of this plugin you couldn't use shortcodes inside other shortcodes. So for example;

```
[free_member]
Hello free member. The sales page is at [sales_page]
[/free_member]
```

In the original version that code would have displayed ***“Hello free member. The sales page is at [sales_page]”*** which is clearly not what was wanted. The new version lets you do this though and will correctly interpret the sales page shortcode in that example.

This is also useful for keeping things looking tidy. In the installation videos I demonstrate the benefit of enclosing [paid_member] codes inside [free_member] codes so that only one message is shown at a time concerning registering or upgrading.

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