

PayPal IPN Integration

iDevAffiliate offers a complete and full integration with PayPal Buy Now, Shopping Cart and Subscription buttons.

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Chapter 1

Subscription Payments & Recurring Commissions

When using PayPal Subscription buttons, everything is managed for you! The IPN file provided with iDevAffiliate (`paypal_ipn_recurring.php`) will generate a commission when the subscription is created and each time a payment is made on the subscription. When the subscription is cancelled, either by you or your customer, our IPN file will again be called by PayPal and no more commissions will be generated for the affiliate.

This is all great news, why are you telling me this?

Under normal circumstances, iDevAffiliate will self-manage recurring commissions. This means for each commission you approve, you need to set it to recur at the time of approval then manually remove it from the recurring list when the customer cancels. This is not the case for PayPal Subscriptions!

Most Important PayPal Note:

When approving a recurring/subscription commission that has been generated from a PayPal subscription button, **DO NOT** set it to recur at the time of approval. As noted above, our IPN integration will handle the recurring commissions for you. Just approve it like it's a normal one-time commission.

You will not see the recurring commissions listed in the Recurring Commissions page in iDevAffiliate. That list only contains commissions that iDevAffiliate is self-managing. To see subscription information iDevAffiliate has received from PayPal, click on **Cart Integration : PayPal Recurring Commission Logs**. Once PayPal notifies iDevAffiliate of a cancellation, the subscription will come out of this list. This list is purely cosmetic. Just because a subscription is listed, doesn't mean it will automatically recur. A commission will only be generated if PayPal tells iDevAffiliate to do so.

Recurring Commission Settings

If you're only going to be accepting subscription payments from PayPal, there is no need to activate or use the Recurring Commission Settings feature. The IPN file will handle these actions for PayPal. Having it active and using it for another cart integration will not interfere with your PayPal integration.

Optional Variables

This feature is not available on the PayPal integration because we've already done it for you. Attached to each commission record will be the standard Sale Amount, Transaction ID (Order Number) and 3 optional variables: Customer Name, Customer Email Address and Type of Commission. The type of commission will either be **New Subscription** or **Subscription Payment**.

Modifying The IPN File

If you don't want to offer recurring commissions for your PayPal subscriptions, you can edit the `paypal_ipn_recurring.php` file using notepad. Instructions for modification are found in that file.

Affiliate Control Panel Stats

Each commission created by PayPal, whether it's a new subscription or a subscription payment, is treated as a new commission by iDevAffiliate. Affiliates will not see subscription payments as "recurring commissions". They will just see them as a new commission being generated for their account.

Commission Removal

iDevAffiliate will never remove a commission. Why? Because we don't know your business like you do. We don't know if you want to commission the affiliate before the subscription ends.

Example:

Customer purchases subscription, affiliate receives a commission (pending your approval). Ten minutes later the customer cancels the subscription. What do we have now? We have 1 payment and 1 commission. This commission will never again recur for this sale because PayPal has notified us that the subscription has cancelled. Now if you want to remove that commission, that option is available. If you still want to pay the commission, it's still there and available for you to do so. This sounds pretty straight forward that the affiliate would still get the commission but many iDevAffiliate users have very different terms and conditions where affiliate commissioning is concerned so we left everything open for you to make your own decisions.

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Chapter 2

Buy Now & Shopping Cart Purchases

Purchases being made through these buttons are very straight forward. The IPN file provided with iDevAffiliate (paypal_ipn_buynow.php) will generate a commission if an affiliate exists for the customer. It's as simple as that.

Optional Variables

This feature is not available on the PayPal integration because we've already done it for you. Attached to each commission record will be the standard Sale Amount, Transaction ID (Order Number) and 3 optional variables: Customer Name, Customer Email Address and Type of Commission. The type of commission will be **Standard Purchase**.

Commission Removal

iDevAffiliate will never remove a commission. If a transaction is Refunded or Reversed and the commission has already been approved, the affiliate may login and see a commission missing without explanation. It's suggested you contact the affiliate before removing the commission and explain to him the situation with the sale. This way the affiliate isn't surprised when they see missing commissions from their account. We also don't remove commissions because you as the admin would simply be missing a commission and might question what exactly happened to it. It's just gone! So we chose to have you to make the deletion yourself so you always know exactly what is going on where commissions are concerned.

Note we will always be working towards improving the PayPal IPN integration. Future releases of iDevAffiliate will probably have even more advanced features and more flexible controls. Your feedback is welcome.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to open a support ticket at <http://www.idevsupport.com>.