

Amazon-Simple-Admin

A wordpress plugin by [Timo Reith](#)

Step-by-step guide

Wordpress Plugin Homepage: <http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/amazonsimpleadmin/>

Product Homepage: <http://www.wordpress-amazon-plugin.com/>

Support: support@wordpress-amazon-plugin.com

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Setup

Assuming your installation of Amazon-Simple-Admin (Asa) went fine, you should have the link to the plugin's options page in your Wordpress settings.

Before we can start, we have to set up Amazon-Simple-Admin with your Amazon access key and secret key. Where you can get those and what they are good for is explained by the links next to the text fields ([How do I get one?](#) [What is this?](#)).

To earn referral fees you should insert your Amazon tracking ID. For more information about that visit the link ([Where do I get one?](#)).

Now your options page should look something like this screenshot with “Status: Ready” which means the connection to the Amazon webservice could be established.

Amazon Simple Admin Search Engines Blocked

Dashboard

Posts

Media

Links

Pages

Comments

Appearance

Plugins

Users

Tools

Settings

General

Writing

Reading

Discussion

Media

Privacy

Permalinks

AmazonSimpleAdmin

AmazonSimpleAdmin

Setup Collections Usage Cache

If you like this plugin and make some money with it feel free to [support me](#) so that I can keep up the updates! :-)

(Thank you!)

Please visit the [AmazonSimpleAdmin-Homepage](#) to stay informed about the development and to give me feedback.

Setup

Status: **Ready**

Fields marked with * are mandatory:

Your Amazon Access Key ID*: [How do I get one?](#)

Your Secret Access Key*: [What is this?](#)

Your Amazon Tracking ID: [Where do I get one?](#)

Your Amazon Country Code: (Default: US)

Options

Allow parsing [asa] tags in user comments:

Enable product preview links:

Product preview layers are only supported by US, UK and DE so far. This can effect the site to be loaded a bit slower due to link p

Update Options »

So let's see what we can do with this plugin now.

Including single products into your posts

Let's start with the easiest: Including single products into your posts.

Switch over to the "Add New Post" page or open an existing post. To include a Amazon product into your post you only have to enclose the Amazon product ID (ASIN) with the Asa tags `[asa]...[/asa]`.

For example:

```
[asa]B004AKCMES[/asa]
```

You get the ASIN code from the Amazon product page in the product details section. In case of books it is the ISBN number.

Book:


Product Details

Reading level: Baby-Preschool
Board book: 26 pages
Publisher: Henry Holt and Co. (BYR) (September 15, 1996)
Language: English
ISBN-10: [0805047905](#)
ISBN-13: 978-0805047905
Product Dimensions: 6.9 x 5 x 0.6 inches

DVD:

Studio: Walt Disney Studios Home Entertainment
DVD Release Date: March 1, 2011
Run Time: 70 minutes
Average Customer Review: ★★★★★ (279 customer reviews)
ASIN: [B004AKCMES](#)

Your post should look something like this:



The screenshot shows the WordPress 'Edit Post' interface. The title is 'My new book'. The permalink is 'http://localhost/dev/wp3asa/?p=84'. The content area contains the text 'Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consetetur sadipscing elitr, sed diam nonumy eirmod tempor invidunt ut labore et dolore magna aliquyam erat, sed diam voluptua.' followed by the ASIN code '[asa]0805047905[/asa]'. The interface includes a sidebar with navigation options like 'Dashboard', 'Posts', 'Media', and 'Appearance', and a top toolbar with various editing tools.

After saving your post, the related website will show an Amazon content box with some basic information about the product like the title, a thumbnail, the price and the customer reviews.

My new book

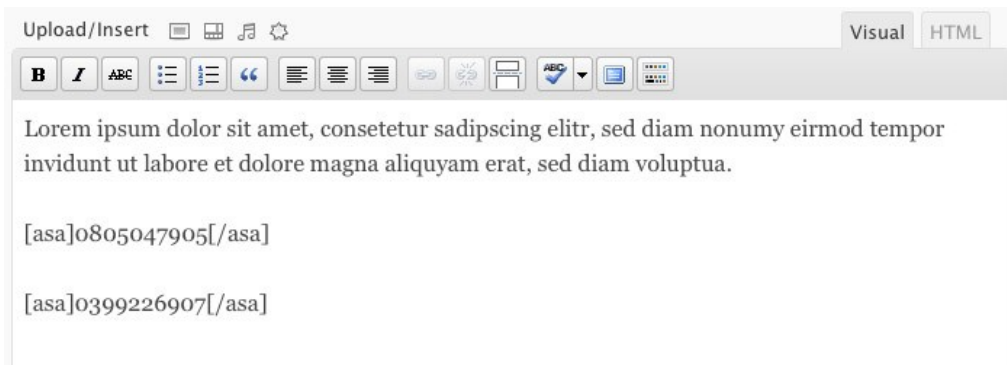
Posted on [March 13, 2011](#) by [admin](#)

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consetetur sadipscing elitr, sed diam nonumy eirmod tempor invidunt ut labore et dolore magna aliquyam erat, sed diam voluptua.



This entry was posted in [Books](#). Bookmark the [permalink](#). [Edit](#)

To show more than one product in a post, just repeat the [asa] code with another ASIN and update your post:



Results in:

My new books

Posted on [March 13, 2011](#) by [admin](#)

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consetetur sadipscing elitr, sed diam nonumy eirmod tempor invidunt ut labore et dolore magna aliquyam erat, sed diam voluptua.



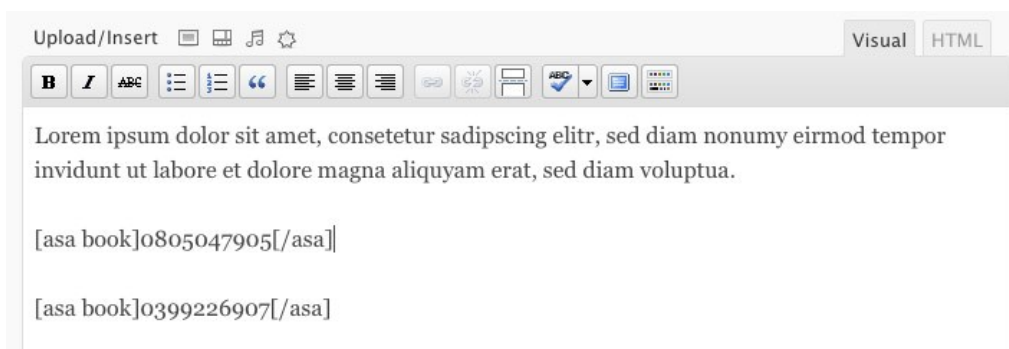
Customizing the layout of the Amazon product box

The layout of the Amazon product box depends on the template file that is used for rendering the box. Template files are text files with HTML-code which reside in the plugin's sub-directory "tpl". By default the default.htm template is used. With a little knowledge of HTML you can easily customize the appearance of the product box and save your own templates in the tpl directory.

To tell Asa to use a template other than default, just write the name of the file without the .htm extension in the opening [asa] tag:

```
[asa book]0805047905[/asa]
```

This will use the book.htm template which includes some special book values like ISBN and author.




Results in:

My new books

Posted on March 13, 2011 by admin

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consetetur sadipscing elitr, sed diam nonumy eirmod tempor invidunt ut labore et dolore magna aliquyam erat, sed diam voluptua.




[Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?](#) (Board book)
by Bill Martin Jr., Eric Carle
ISBN: 0805047905

Price: USD 7.95
419 used & new available from **USD 0.10**

★★★★★ | 4.8 | 401

amazon.com



[The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#) (Board book)
by Eric Carle
ISBN: 0399226907

Price: USD 7.91
448 used & new available from **USD 0.10**

★★★★★ | 4.7 | 450

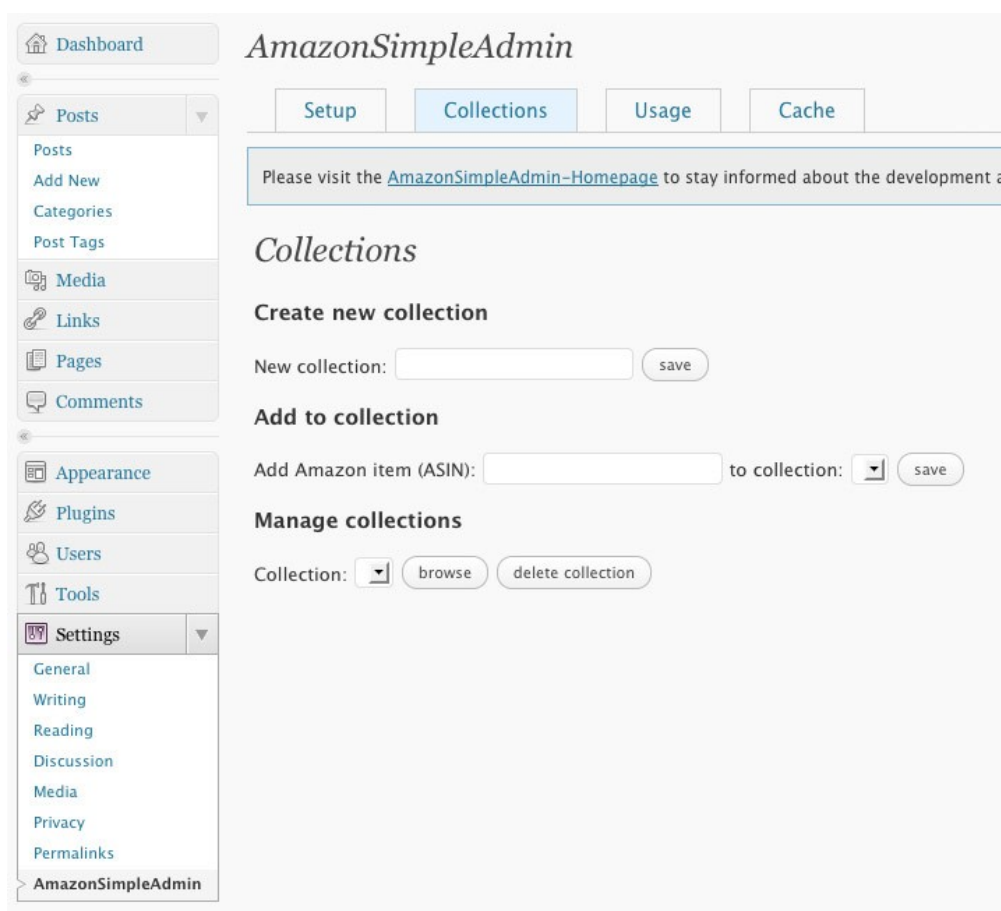
amazon.com

The advantage of collections

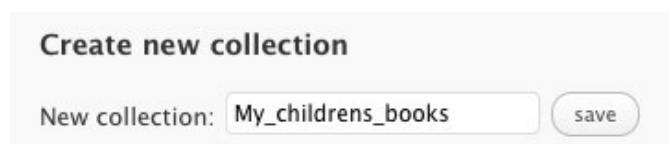
Let's say you want to include four products into your new post and also in an older post. As explained above you have to include the [asa]-code four times in every post. With copy and paste it still would be acceptable but not very convenient. That would be the right moment to think about Asa's collection feature.

If you have not used it before, you first have to enable this feature in the plugin's options. Only then the necessary database tables will be created.

After you enabled the collection feature, the options page will look like this:

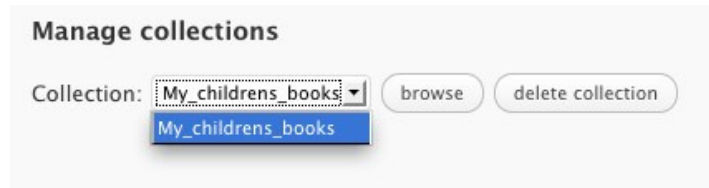


For our example of children's books, we would save a new collection called "My_childrens_books".

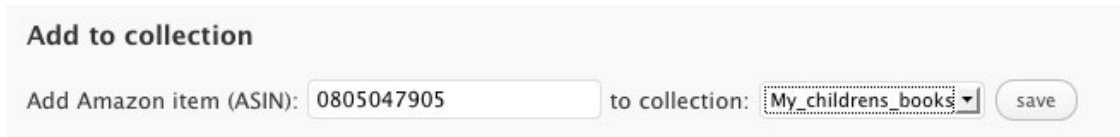


To keep things simple, you should not use special characters for collections names. Only use alphabetic characters, numbers, underscores and hyphens.

After saving, the new collection will be displayed in the collections drop-down menus.

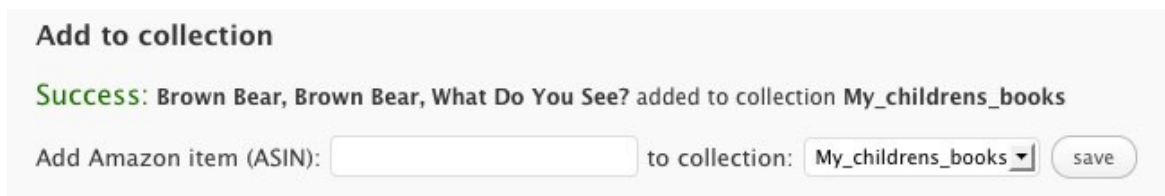


Now we can start to put our books of the above example into the collection. Again we need the ASIN codes of the products. Copy and paste them in the form field in the section “Add to collection”.

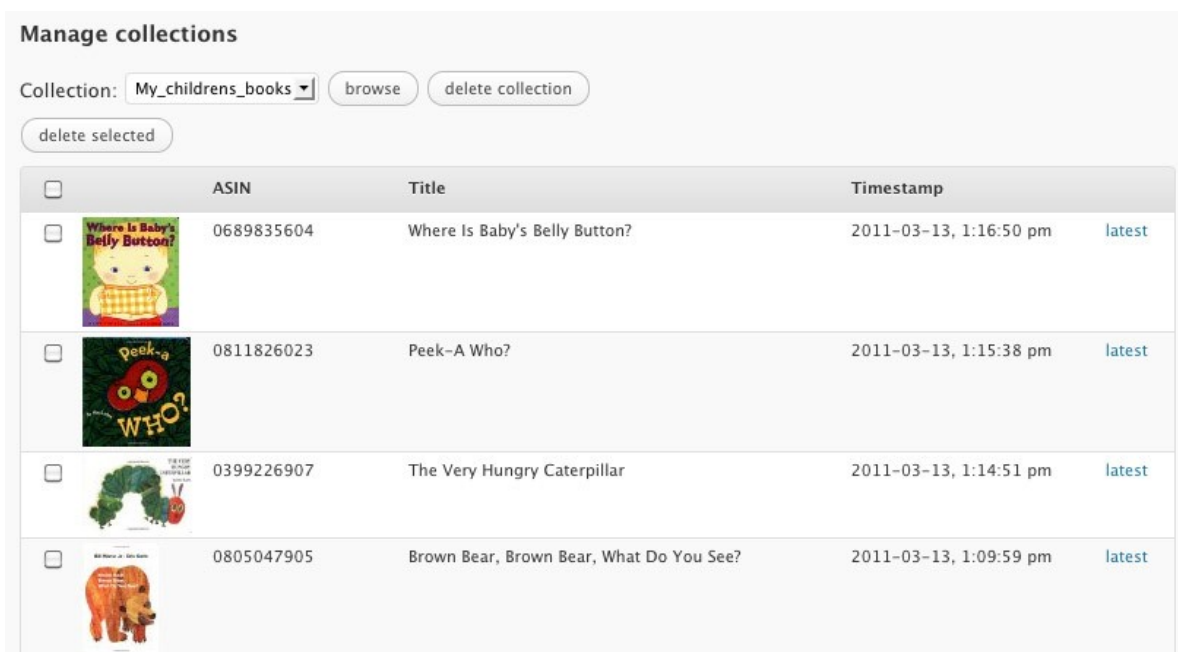


Make sure the right collection is selected as it can be more than one in the future. For now we only have “My_childrens_books”.

Then click the save button and hopefully the success message will display.

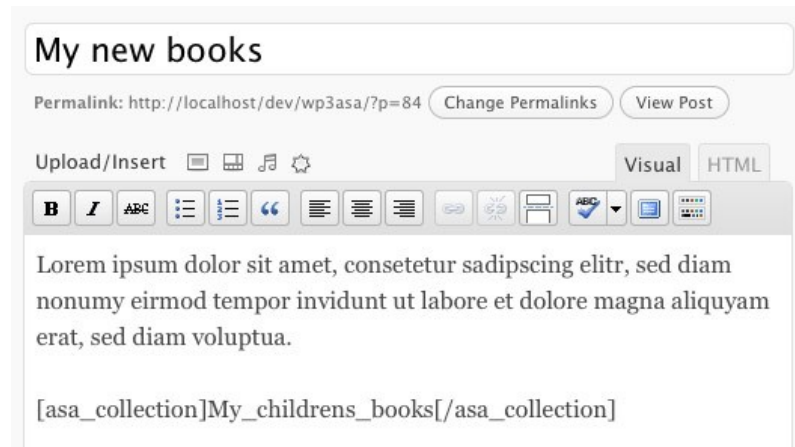


Repeat this until you have added all products of your choice. To check what products you already placed in a collection, you can click the browse button in the “Manage collections” section. You will get a list of all items.



Now that our collection is done we can switch back to our post. To include the collection in our post we have to use the **[asa_collection]** code surrounding the collection name:

```
[asa_collection]My_childrens_books[/asa_collection]
```



This will automatically show all products we have added to the collection.

My new books

Posted on [March 13, 2011](#) by [admin](#)

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consetetur sadipscing elitr, sed diam nonumy eirmod tempor invidunt ut labore et dolore magna aliquyam erat, sed diam voluptua.

 [Where Is Baby's Belly Button?](#)
Price: USD 5.99
★★★★★ (198 customer reviews)
438 used & new available from **USD 0.10**
amazon.com*

 [Peek-A Who?](#)
Price: USD 6.95
★★★★★ (201 customer reviews)
79 used & new available from **USD 1.03**
amazon.com*

 [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#)
Price: USD 7.91
★★★★★ (450 customer reviews)
448 used & new available from **USD 0.10**
amazon.com*

 [Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?](#)
Price: USD 7.95
★★★★★ (401 customer reviews)
419 used & new available from **USD 0.10**
amazon.com*

As with the [asa] code explained above, we can use templates with collections too. Just add the template name in the opening [asa_collection] code:

```
[asa_collection book]My_childrens_books[/asa_collection]
```

There are some more options you can use with collections.

With the “items” option you can define how many items of the collection should be displayed:

```
[asa_collection book, items=2]My_childrens_books[/asa_collection]
```

Now only the two latest added items will be displayed on your post page.

If you only want to show one random item of your collection, this can be achieved by the “type” option:

```
[asa_collection book, type=random]My_childrens_books[/asa_collection]
```

Both options can be combined. So it is easy to show two random products of your collection:

```
[asa_collection book, items=2, type=random]My_childrens_books[/asa_collection]
```