

Elasticsearch Search & Faceted Navigation **User Guide**

PrestaShop module · Compatible with PrestaShop 1.7, 8 and 9

Instant, typo-tolerant search **with a modern modal filter panel**

This module replaces PrestaShop's slow SQL search with a real search engine — **Elasticsearch**, **OpenSearch** or **Meilisearch** — and adds a modern, fully configurable faceted navigation. Customers get instant autocomplete with thumbnails and prices, forgiving typo-tolerant results, and a clean “Filters” experience in a modern modal filter panel. Prices are always the exact, native prices for each customer group and currency. You can install it and use it right away with PrestaShop's native search, then connect a search engine whenever you are ready.

1. Installation

1. In the back office go to **Modules → Module Manager → Upload a module** and select the module ZIP.
2. Once installed, click **Configure** to open the module dashboard.
3. The module installs in **“None”** engine mode by default, so search keeps working on PrestaShop's native engine from the very first minute — nothing to configure to go live.

Updates are automatic. They are tied to your domain — no licence key to enter. Development domains (`.local` , `.test` , `localhost`) are always allowed. When a new version is available it is shown right inside the module.

2. Choosing a search engine

Open the **Connections** tab and pick your **Engine**. Everything else in the module talks to the engine through one abstraction, so the storefront behaves the same whichever backend you choose.

Engine options

- **None (native)** — no external engine. The module uses PrestaShop's built-in search. Use this to install now and connect an engine later; the store is never left without a working search.
- **Elasticsearch** — the default. Supports major versions **6, 7, 8 and 9** with automatic version detection.
- **OpenSearch** — auto-detected and handled like a modern typeless cluster regardless of its 1.x/2.x/3.x version.
- **Meilisearch** — a lightweight, easy-to-host alternative; your searchable fields, facets, synonyms, stop-words and typo tolerance are mapped to Meilisearch automatically.

Connection settings

- **Host** — the full URL of your engine (it may include a path prefix, e.g. `https://cluster.provider.com/my-space`).
- **Base path** — an optional path prefix prepended to every request, for rented search space on shared instances.
- **Index prefix** — a namespace that isolates your indexes, so several stores can safely share one engine.
- **Authentication** — for Elasticsearch/OpenSearch: HTTP Basic or API key; for Meilisearch: a Bearer master or scoped key.
- **Test connection** — verifies the engine is reachable and reports its detected version.

Search engine

Engine

Elasticsearch

Choose "None" to keep using PrestaShop's native search until you connect an engine. Elasticsearch (default), OpenSearch, or self-hosted Meilisearch. Changing the engine requires a full reindex.

Elasticsearch / OpenSearch servers

Add one or more servers and pick the active one. Supports ES 6.x–9.x and OpenSearch 1.x–3.x. For shared/hosted clusters you can put a full URL WITH a path (e.g. `https://cluster.host/my-space`) in the Host field, or use the Base path field.

Active	Name	Scheme	Host	Port	
☒	default	http	psdemo-es9	9200	<button>Test</button>
Basic auth user		Basic auth password		API key (base64, optional)	
				<button>Remove</button>	
Base path (shared-hosting namespace, optional)					
/my-space					
Prepended to every request path. Leave empty for a dedicated cluster.					

+ Add server

Index prefix (namespace)

psdemo

Namespaces every index for all engines (also the Meilisearch index uids). On a shared instance this is what isolates your data.

Connections — pick the engine (including "None"), add one or more servers, test the connection and set an index prefix

Reindex after switching engine (or after changing analyzer settings). The back office reminds you when a reindex is required. Until the new engine is indexed, the automatic fallback keeps results coming.

3. Search behaviour

Taking over site search

Turn on **Take over site search** so every search and category listing is served by the engine through PrestaShop's native product provider — no theme edits. If the engine ever becomes unreachable, the module **automatically falls back to native search** so the store never shows an error. If `ps_facetedsearch` is still active, the back office warns you, since you normally want only one faceted module running.

Relevance & tuning

The search-settings panel lets you shape relevance without touching code:

- **Field weights** — how much the name, reference, description, etc. count toward the score.
- **Match type & operator** — the multi_match strategy and whether words are combined with AND or OR.
- **Fuzziness & minimum-should-match** — how forgiving typo tolerance is and how many words must match.
- **Minimum word length** and the searchable-fields scope per document type.
- **Language analysis** — synonyms, stop-words, per-language stemmer (with exclusions), elision, lowercase and infix (n-gram) matching for partial words.

⚠ Changing analyzer filters (elision / lowercase / synonym / stop word / stemmer / infix) changes the index analyzers — run a full reindex to apply.

Master switches

Enable ES front-office search

Yes

Take over site search (native search off)

Yes

Fallback to native search when ES is down

Yes

Autocomplete

Yes

Header search widget

Yes

Replace native search box (single search box)

Yes

Faceted navigation

Yes

Show facets on the search results page too

No

AJAX faceted navigation (no page reload)

Yes

Faceted navigation UI

Modal popup (modal-style, recommended)

Modal: a "Filters" button above the grid opens a two-pane popup. Sidebar: the classic left-column filter list.

Search filters (analyzer)

☐ Elision filter

l,m,t,qu,n,s,j

Articles to elide, e.g. "l'avion" → "avion".

☒ Lowercase filter

☐ Stop word filter

a,an,and,the,or,is,with,for,of

Empty = Elasticsearch default stop words.

☐ Language stemmer

words,to,keep

Words to exclude from stemming. Stemmer language follows the shop language.

☐ Alias / synonym filter

tv, television, telly

One rule per line. Requires a reindex.

Query settings

Minimum word length

3

0 = no minimum

Search type

In multiple fields

Multiple field match type

best_fields

Operator

AND

Minimum should match

75%

Spell correction (fuzziness)

AUTO

Search between the word (infix)

No

Matches start/mid/last part of a word. When on, some analyzer filters may not apply.

Weight: name

6

Weight: reference

4

Weight: description

1

Per-field weights are also read from PrestaShop's core Search page (Shop Parameters > Search). Current core weights: Product name 6, Reference 10, Short description 1, Description 1, Category 3, Brand 3, Tags 4, Feature 2, Attribute 2

Search settings — master switches, analyzer filters (synonyms, stop-words, stemmer) and query tuning

4. Faceted navigation

The faceted navigation is a modern, AJAX experience — no page reloads — with a classic sidebar mode available as an alternative (**Facet UI** option: *modal* or *sidebar*).

The modern modal filter panel

- Above the product grid sit a **“Filters” button**, the live **result count** and removable **chips** for every applied value (“Clear all” removes them all).
- Clicking **Filters** opens a **two-pane modal**: filter names on the left (with a badge when a filter is in use), the selected filter’s values on the right, and a live **“Show N results”** button in the footer.
- Filters with many values are grouped **A→Z** with a **“search within this filter”** box; colours render as **swatches**; price shows min/max inputs plus a **dual-thumb slider**.
- On **mobile** the modal is full-screen: tap a filter name to drill down to its values, use the back arrow to return, and confirm with a fixed bottom “Show N results” bar.
- Everything updates by **AJAX** with shareable URLs (back/forward works), and there is a **no-JavaScript fallback** because every control is a real form control.

Configuring each facet

For every facet you control: **on/off**, **order**, **label per language**, **display type** (checkbox, radio, dropdown, colour swatch, price slider, star rating or searchable list), **AND/OR** mode, whether to show **counts**, **collapse** state, a value **limit** with “show more”, and **hide when empty**. Available sources: categories, brands, features, attributes, price, availability, new, on sale and condition. Facets can also be shown on the **search results page**, not just categories.

Enable, order, label and style each facet. Price facet respects the price options below.

Show price facet

Yes

Offer price sort

Yes

Bake tax into indexed price

No

Turn off if pricing is per-customer (ERP/contract). Price is then never taken from the index.

Uses the shop default country tax at index time. Display prices are always computed natively.

Default template — this configuration is the fallback used for every category that has no specific filter template, and for the search page.

On	Facet	Pos	Custom label	Display	Mode	Counts	Collapsed	Limit	Hide empty	Search
☒	Categories	0	Categories	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Brand	1	Brand	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Price	2	Price	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Availability	3	Availability	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	New product	4	New product	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	On sale	5	On sale	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Condition	6	Condition	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Composition	7	Composition	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Energy Class	8	Energy Class	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Material	9	Material	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Origin	10	Origin	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Property	11	Property	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Warranty	12	Warranty	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Weight Class	13	Weight Class	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Color	14	Color	swatch	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Dimension	15	Dimension	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Paper Type	16	Paper Type	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐
☒	Size	17	Size	checkbox	OR	☒	☐	0	☒	☐

Legacy facetable pickers (allowlist)

Optional: restrict which feature/attribute groups are exposed. Leave empty to allow all.

Feature groups

- ☐ Composition
- ☐ Energy Class
- ☐ Material
- ☐ Origin
- ☐ Property
- ☐ Warranty
- ☐ Weight Class

Attribute groups

- ☐ Color
- ☐ Dimension
- ☐ Paper Type
- ☐ Size

Facets — enable, order, label and style each filter (checkbox, swatch, price slider, star rating...) with AND/OR, counts and limits

Per-category filter templates Filters Pro

A **filter template** is a named, reusable facet configuration you can assign to one or more categories, so different categories can expose a different, reordered set of filters. In the **Filter templates** tab you create a template with the same facet editor as the global config, plus a category tree and an “*also apply to subcategories*” option. The global Facets configuration is the **Default template** — the fallback for any category without its own template, and for the search page.

Filter templates				
Assign a different filter set to specific categories. A category with no template (and no ancestor template that applies to subcategories) uses the Default template (the global Facets configuration). The search page uses the Default unless a template is flagged for search.				
Template	Categories	Subcategories	Search page	Actions
Default	all categories without a specific template	—	✓	edit in the Facets tab
Electronics: Brand+Price (slider, swapped)	1	✓	✗	Edit Delete
+ Add filter template				

Filter templates — assign a different, reordered filter set to specific categories; the Default row is the global fallback

5. Autocomplete

As the customer types, the module suggests **products, categories, brands and CMS pages** — each labelled by type, with product thumbnails and the correct native price, and typo-tolerant so small mistakes still match. Two presentations are available (**Autocomplete style** under Output):

- **Dropdown** — a suggestions panel that opens under the search bar. The classic, compact style.
- **Full-screen search overlay** — a large fixed search bar with full-screen results, for a bold, search-first experience.

Results & listing						
Products per page (comma list)	Default per page	Layout	Columns	Default sort		
12,24,48	24	Grid	3	relevance		
Sort options to offer						
☒ relevance ☒ price_asc ☒ price_desc ☒ name_asc ☒ name_desc ☒ date_desc ☒ quantity_desc						
Product card fields						
☐ image ☐ price ☐ brand ☐ shortdesc ☐ availability ☐ newflag ☐ saleflag ☐ rating						
Autocomplete						
Autocomplete style	Max suggestions	Show images	Placeholder text			
Full-screen overlay (full-screen)	8	Yes	Search our catalog			
Full-screen: clicking the search box opens a large fixed search bar with results across the whole screen.						
Suggest types						
☐ product ☐ category ☐ manufacturer ☐ cms						
Log level						
Informative						

Output — results & listing options, product-card fields and the Autocomplete style (dropdown or full-screen overlay)

6. Prices done right

Correct prices per group and currency

The price a customer sees is **always the native PrestaShop price**. Prices are indexed per **customer group × currency**, are `specific_price`-aware and account for per-country tax, and the right value is picked at query time. This means the optional **price facet** and **price sorting** are accurate for every shopper — a wholesale group and a retail group each see and sort by their own prices.

Personal prices for B2B Advanced

On the **Advanced** tab you can enable **personal prices**. For B2B customers who have an individual price list (a `specific_price` assigned to the customer), sorting and filtering by price can use their **exact personal price** rather than the group price. A configurable **cap** (fixed, or automatic based on the engine's free disk space) limits how many customers this is precomputed for, and an optional per-language notice can be shown to those shoppers.

Personal prices (per-customer specific prices)

 The price SHOWN to shoppers is always exact — PrestaShop recomputes it for the logged-in customer, including their personal prices. This setting only affects SORTING and FILTERING by price, which use the indexed price. By default those use the customer group price; a customer with an individual price list (`specific_price` on their account) may see slightly different sort/filter results. Below you decide how to handle that.

Handling of personal prices

Off — sort/filter by price use group prices

"Index personal prices" computes an exact price for each customer that has an individual price list (via `getPriceStatic`) and uses it for their price sort/filter. Requires a reindex after changing.

Advanced — enable personal (per-customer) prices for B2B sorting and filtering, with a configurable cap

7. SEO filter pages

Endless filter combinations would flood Google, so by default every filtered URL is served as `noindex, follow`. The **SEO filter pages** tab lets you do the reverse for the combinations that matter: whitelist a specific selection (for example *category + brand + colour*) as an **indexable landing page** with a custom **meta title**, **meta description**, **H1** and **intro text per language**.

- A matched page is forced to `index` and given a **self-referencing canonical** to the filtered URL, so it can actually rank.
- Your custom H1 and intro are rendered above the product listing.
- All other filtered combinations stay `noindex, follow`.
- The back-office list shows each page's live URL, ready to submit or link.

SEO filter landing pages

Whitelist specific, valuable filter combinations (e.g. a category + a brand + a colour) as INDEXABLE landing pages with custom title, meta description, H1 and intro text. Every other filtered URL stays noindex,follow. The landing URL is the working ?cll_f=... URL with a self-referencing canonical.

Enable SEO landing pages

Yes

On	Target	Filters	Title	Actions
✓	Electronics	Brand: HydraPlus	HydraPlus Electronics - Official Range Demo Store	View

+ Add SEO filter page

SEO filter pages — whitelist a filter combination as an indexable landing page with custom title, description, H1 and intro

If another SEO module also emits a canonical on filtered URLs, both may appear. Disable that module’s canonical for filtered listings so only ours (the correct self URL) remains.

8. Search analytics

The **Search analytics** tab shows what customers really search for — recorded from actual results pages, never from autocomplete keystrokes, and storing only the query text (no personal data). Pick a date range (last 7 / 30 / 90 days) and see KPIs (total searches, unique queries, zero-result count and %), a **Top searches** table and, most usefully, a **Zero-result searches** table — the searches that found nothing, i.e. lost sales. Each zero-result row has a one-click **“Add synonym”** shortcut so you can fix it immediately. Logging can be turned off and old rows are pruned automatically after a configurable retention period.

Search analytics

What shoppers really search for — and, most valuable, which searches return ZERO results (lost sales). Only the query text is stored (no personal data).

Log searches

Yes

Keep data for (days)

180

0 = keep forever. Older rows are pruned automatically.

Time range

Last 7 days

Last 30 days

Last 90 days

76

Total searches

14

Unique queries

11

Zero-result searches

14%

% zero-result

Top searches

Query	Count	Avg results
g	38	1999
backpack	12	16667
blender	4	16667
mug	4	10005
tec	4	20000
phone	3	0
aerocorp	2	2000
laptop	2	0
qwzzxplop	2	0
camera	1	0
ultra	1	30000
watch	1	0
xyzzyfable	1	0
zblorptronix	1	0

Zero-result searches

These shoppers found nothing. Add a synonym (Search settings tab) or a matching product.

Query	Count	Action
phone	3	+ Add synonym
laptop	2	+ Add synonym
qwzzxplop	2	+ Add synonym
camera	1	+ Add synonym
watch	1	+ Add synonym
xyzzyfable	1	+ Add synonym
zblorptronix	1	+ Add synonym

Clear analytics

Search analytics — KPIs, Top searches and the Zero-result searches table with a one-click “Add synonym” shortcut

9. Reindexing & cron

The engine needs an index of your catalogue. The module indexes **products, categories, brands and CMS pages**, each in its own index, and keeps them up to date live as you save, add or delete products and as stock changes.

- **Reindex assistant** — a guided, batched and resumable reindex with a progress bar. Run it after the first engine connection, after switching engine, or after changing analyzer settings.
- **Cron URL** — a token-protected URL you can call from a scheduled task (or CLI) to keep the index fresh automatically; it also prunes old analytics rows.
- **Delete indexed data** — clears the engine's indexes when you want a clean rebuild.

Document types to index

Products

Categories

Brands / manufacturers

CMS pages

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Searchable fields per document type

Used when "Search type" is set to multiple fields.

Product

Category

Manufacturer

Cms

☒ name
☒ reference
☒ ean13
☒ upc
☒ mpn
☒ description_short
☒ description

☒ name
☒ description

☒ name
☒ description
☐ short_description

☒ title
☒ content
☐ meta_description

Documents — choose which document types are indexed (products, categories, brands, CMS) and the searchable fields per type

10. Multistore & shared hosting

Multistore

Connection and engine settings are **per shop**. In an “all shops” context they are saved globally; in a single-shop context they are saved for that shop, with a global fallback. This means different shops can point at different engines or clusters, while a single-shop install behaves exactly as before.

Shared hosting / rented search space

You do not need your own dedicated cluster. Point the **Host** at a shared endpoint with a **path prefix**, set the **Base path** and an **Index prefix** (namespace), and add the provider's **API key**. Every request is scoped to your prefix, so your data stays isolated on a shared instance — and it works the same across Elasticsearch, OpenSearch and Meilisearch.

11. FAQ

Do I need Elasticsearch to start?

No. The module installs in “None” mode and uses PrestaShop's native search, so you are live immediately. Connect Elasticsearch, OpenSearch or Meilisearch whenever you are ready.

What happens if my search engine goes down?

The module automatically falls back to native search, so customers can always search — the store never shows an error.

Are the prices shown to customers correct?

Yes. The displayed price is always the native PrestaShop price. The engine is only used to filter and sort, using prices indexed per customer group and currency (and, optionally, each B2B customer's personal price).

Will it clash with `ps_facetedsearch`?

You normally want only one faceted module active. The back office warns you if `ps_facetedsearch` is still on so you can disable it.

Can different categories show different filters?

Yes. Create filter templates and assign them to categories (optionally including subcategories). Categories without a template use the global default.

Which engine should I choose?

Elasticsearch is the default and most common. OpenSearch is a drop-in equivalent. Meilisearch is the lightest to host and a great fit for shared hosting or smaller catalogues.