

# Chapter 1 - Creating Access to Back Office

## Creating Access to Back Office

You first need to create an access to the web service.

Go in the PrestaShop back-office, open the "Web service" page under the "Advanced Parameters", and then choose "Yes" for the "Enable PrestaShop Webservice".

In previous versions of PrestaShop, you had to create a `.htaccess` file (or edit the existing one) in order to make your web service work.

This is no longer the case in PrestaShop 1.5: the `.htaccess` will automatically be generated, while keeping your custom rules.

### Creating access

Open the "Web service" page under the "Advanced Parameters", and then click the "Add New" button to access the account configuration section. A long form appears:

- **Key.** Click the "Generate" button to generate an authentication key. You can also create your own (which must be 32 characters long), but using a generated key prevents wrong-doers from guessing your key. Using this key, you and other selected users will be able to access the web service.
- **Key description.** The description is not public, but make sure to put all the keywords pertaining to the use, so that you can find they key more quickly.
- **Status.** You can disable any key at any time.
- **Permissions.** This section is very important, as it enables you to assign rights for each resource you want to make available for this key. Indeed, you might want a user to have read and write access on some resources, but only read access on others – and no access to the more important ones. In the list of permissions, the left button allows you to define all the rights for a given resource. Select the resources you need to manipulate from your application; in our case check the first check box in the "customers" row and then press "Save".
- **Shop association.** This only appears in multistore mode.

If you define your own passkey, make sure it is very secure and that its rights are limited.