

## Zen Cart™ Program Flow (v1.5.5)

♦ = opportunity for overrides

/includes/application\_top

- /includes/local/configure.php , /includes/configure.php
- /includes/defined\_paths.php
- ♦/includes/extra\_configures/\*.php

♦ init system loads things in the order set in the /includes/autoloaders/config.xxxx.php files,  
... which usually goes as follows:

- Connect to Database and setup caching
- /includes/ilenames.php
- /includes/database\_tables.php
- ♦/includes/extra\_datafiles/\*.php (usually to load extra db tablenames or custom defines)
- Set Configuration Keys from database (as set in Admin)
- Start GZIP compression if enabled
- Load Functions
  - o functions\_general
  - o html\_output
  - o functions\_email
  - o ♦/includes/functions/extra\_functions/\*.php
- Setup SESSIONs
  - o Check for cookie support
  - o Check to see if the customer is a spider, and act accordingly
  - o SSL and IP validation checks
- Load Shopping\_cart class
- Sanitize and validate URL parameters
- Language Selection
- ♦/includes/languages/LANGUAGE/extra\_definitions
- Template Selection
- Setup currencies
- Enable navigation history
- Load MessageStack
- Check for “Down For Maintenance” or “Customer Not Authorized yet” status
- Process Cart Contents, File Uploads
- Load Functions
  - o Who’s online (and process who’s online)
  - o Load Password, email validation and split-page-results functions
  - o Banners – activate & expire
  - o Specials – activate & expire
  - o Features – activate and expire
  - o Salemaker – activate and expire
- Calculate category/product path (cPath)
- Load category-tree class, and prepare the categories-sidebox contents
- Start the breadcrumb class and add current page components to it
- startup observer class infrastructure
- calculate and display any system error messages if relevant

/includes/modules/pages/PAGE/header\_php♦\*.php

- this usually:
  - o ♦loads /languages/LANGUAGE/TEMPLATE/PAGENAME.php
  - o updates the breadcrumb appropriate for this page
- this sometimes calls a specific tpl\_xxxx.php file

♦/templates/common/html\_header.php

- <HTML><HEAD>
- modules/meta\_tags
- display canonical metatag links based on language etc
- ♦templates/CSS/style\*.css
- load jQuery from jQuery CDN
- modules/pages/PAGE/jscript\*.js for static <SCRIPT> snippets
- modules/pages/PAGE/jscript\*.php for dynamic or conditional <SCRIPT> code
- </HEAD>

/templates/common/main\_template\_vars.php

- this prepares the content for the “center” section of the page (doesn’t display yet)
- Content is prepared from either of:
  - o Modules/pages/PAGE/main\_template\_vars.php (and files it calls)
  - o ♦Templates/tpl\_PAGE\_default.php  
(this is usually also called by main\_template\_vars.php from the line above)

♦/templates/jscript/on\_load/\*.js

- this is to load any customized code for the “onload” parameter of the <body> tag, next:

♦/templates/common/tpl\_main\_page (The following order is from template\_default, as example)

- <BODY>
- Output Banner Area 1
- ♦/templates/common/tpl\_header.php
  - o Output Header rows (logo, nav bar, search box, etc)
  - o Output Banner Area 2
- Output Left sideboxes (/modules/column\_left)
- Output “body content” from “main\_template\_vars” or “tpl\_page\_default” above
  - o Output Breadcrumbs and Banner Area 3, and any MessageStack messages
- Output Banner Area 4
- Output Right sideboxes (/modules/column\_right)
- ♦/templates/common/tpl\_footer.php
  - o Footer Navigation bar (including ez-pages tagged for footer)
  - o Display IP Address
  - o Output Banner Area 5
  - o ♦Display footer text (from language file)
- Display Parse Times
- Output Banner Area 6
- </HTML>

/includes/application\_bottom

- close SESSION, end GZIP compression and dump buffered data to the screen, if applicable.