

TARGA

CALCULATORS

TargaCalc Implementation Guides:

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Adding a Quote Calculator to a Website

Introduction

Before you read any further, if you intend to add a TargaCalc calculator to a WordPress website, there is a separate WordPress implementation guide to help you at: www.targaweb.com/guides

Most pricing calculators (also known as quote calculators, cost estimators, or quote generators) which have been produced by TargaWeb work within an [iFrame](#).

An assumption could be made that you're familiar with iFrames, how they work and what they can do. But it's not essential that you're completely familiar with iFrames, because all you really need to be aware of is how to apply the implementation tag which is described below.

We have written this TargaCalc implementation guide to make the process as smooth as possible, without the need for a lot of technical knowledge or development experience, but we welcome any questions which you might still have after reading this implementation guide.

TargaCalc Implementation Tag

Let's begin with what we call the **implementation tag**. To some of you, the following piece of code will make no sense at all, but the good news is that you don't need to understand it, and you won't need to change a thing.

That's because you will receive a unique TargaCalc implementation tag which is ready to go, and will have already been set up by us at TargaWeb to access your very own pricing calculator.

```
<style>
    iframe {
        width: 100%;
        display: block;
        border: none;
        transition: height 0.3s ease-in-out;
        margin: 0 auto}
    @media (max-width:575px) {iframe {width: 100%}} << mobile width control
</style>
<iframe
    id="child-frame"
    src="https://www.targacalc.com/calcs/your-unique-calculator.php">
</iframe>
<script>
    const iframe = document.getElementById('child-frame');
    window.addEventListener('message', (event) => {
        if (event.origin !== "https://www.targacalc.com") return;
        const { height, scrollToIframe } = event.data;
        const iFrameHeight = height + 28;
        if (height) {
            iframe.style.height = `${iFrameHeight}px`;
        }
        if (scrollToIframe) {
            const iframeTop = iframe.getBoundingClientRect().top + window.scrollY;
            window.scrollTo({
                top: iframeTop - 150,
                behavior: 'smooth'
            });
        }
    });
</script>
```

But in case you're curious, the three main sections of the implementation tag are as follows:

Styling (orange):

- This simply controls the initial display of the iFrame in which your calculator will appear.

iFrame tag (green):

- This is the HTML tag for your iFrame, which includes the unique location of your calculator (red).

JavaScript (purple):

- Because each section of your calculator will vary in height, this piece of JavaScript allows each section to adjust the height of the iFrame as you or your potential customers use the calculator.

Embedding the TargaCalc iFrame into your website

In most cases, adding the TargaCalc iFrame to your website should be as straightforward as copying and pasting the implementation tag in the location you want the calculator to display.

Exactly where you display it is up to you, but here are some tips to help you.

Adjusting the width of the iFrame

Within the orange styling section of the implementation tag, the width is set to 100% by default. This means that if you place the implementation tag inside a container block (`<div>` `<section>` or whatever you are using), it should fill the entire width of your container block.

If you do not intend to add the implementation tag inside a container block, it will expand to fit the width available to it.

You can control the width by changing `'width: 100%;'` to a value which meets your needs. Just be sure not to remove the semi-colon `';` from the end of the line.

The iFrame should then resize to the width you have chosen, and also remain central within the space available.

Mobile display width

The calculator should display correctly on mobile devices, but if you decide to reduce the width of the iFrame as described above, you might still find it better to leave the width for mobile at 100%

```
@media (max-width:575px) {iframe {width: 100%;}}
```

Viewing the calculator in your development environment

Please be aware that your calculator will have been configured to work on the specific domain name of your website.

For reasons explained in more detail the section about “**Trust & Cross-Domain Security**” the height of the iFrame displaying the calculator is controlled by JavaScript which will have been configured to work on your live website. Therefore, by default, when you view the calculator in your development environment, the height of the iFrame will not change.

However, if you can **advise us of the domain of your development environment**, such as ‘<http://localhost/>’ we should be able to extend the access so the calculator height control works in both your development area and on your live website.

Automatic Resizing

For the iFrame to automatically resize depending on height (or length) of the calculator’s step/page, it will use the JavaScript which will be supplied as part of your unique implementation tag, as shown above:

```
<script>
const iframe = document.getElementById('child-frame');
window.addEventListener('message', (event) => {
  if (event.origin !== "https://www.targacalc.com") return;
  const { height, scrollToIframe } = event.data;
  const iFrameHeight = height + 28;
  if (height) {
    iframe.style.height = `${iFrameHeight}px`;
  }
  if (scrollToIframe) {
    const iframeTop = iframe.getBoundingClientRect().top + window.scrollY;
    window.scrollTo({
      top: iframeTop - 150,
      behavior: 'smooth'
    });
  }
});
</script>
```

This code will work in conjunction with the JavaScript which be embedded into your very own calculator, which will be hosted and managed on our side.

It will not only allow automatic resizing of the iFrame, but it will also allow your webpage to automatically scroll to the top of the calculator display, each time the user moves between the selection and results parts of the calculator.

Trust & Cross-Domain Security

Besides the resizing and scrolling, there is another very important thing which the JavaScript takes care of...

TRUST

Because the calculator will be hosted on **targacalc.com** but displayed within an iFrame on your website, two pieces of JavaScript will have been coded to **allow cross-domain communication**

This simply means that the JavaScript which will have been applied to your website as part of the implementation tag shown above, will need to “trust” any request for the calculator to adjust the size of the iFrame on your website.

That is the purpose of the line highlighted in red, below.

```
<script>
const iframe = document.getElementById('child-frame');
window.addEventListener('message', (event) => {
  if (event.origin !== "https://www.targacalc.com") return;
  const { height, scrollToIframe } = event.data;
  const iFrameHeight = height + 28;
  . . . .
});
</script>
```

But remember, you won't need to touch this, because it will already have been set up for you.

The other part of the “cross-domain” process is that the JavaScript which will have been embedded on your unique calculator will contain a reference to your specific domain (website's address)

Without that “cross-domain” communication, there would be no way for your pricing calculator to work correctly on your website. But that's a good thing, because it provides security against unwanted control from other sources which do not have explicit permission to interact with your website.

This also means that although you will be able to apply the calculator implementation tag to more than one page on your website, you won't be able to apply the calculator implementation tag to another website and expect it to work.

Notes

At time of writing, it is understood that the only place “trust” issues can arise is if the platform **strips out iFrames or scripts**.

- Self-hosted WordPress.org sites (the majority) have **no issue**.
- There could be an issue on **WordPress.com free/standard plans**, which block custom scripts.
- WordPress.com (**hosted version**) is stricter and may block third-party scripts, but in most cases implementing a TargaCalc calculator onto a WordPress website doesn't encounter this problem.
 - **Theme interference** :Some WordPress themes (especially heavy page builders) apply extra CSS like to control iFrames, but in most cases this can be overcome with the CSS (styling code) which comes as part of the TargaCalc implementation tag.

Any Doubts or Concerns?

If you have any doubts or concerns, or you simply want to confirm that a TargaCalc calculator will work on your website, please get in touch and we will configure a demo calculator for you to try.

This will be completely **free of charge!**

Of course a demo calculator will not have been configured for your specific business and pricing model, but at least you'll know whether it would work, and would also give us the opportunity to iron out anything which doesn't go as smoothly as we would expect it to.

Any Questions?

If you have any questions, we'd love to hear from you:

info@targaweb.com or call **01406 373511**