

CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA

Protect your store from spam messages and spam user accounts

A product of PrestaHero

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I. WELCOME

Thank you for purchasing our product. We hope to guide you through all the aspects of the module installation and the module setup within this document. If you have any questions that are beyond the scope of this documentation, please feel free to contact us.

II. INTRODUCTION

Getting annoyed with spam messages continuously sent from your website contact form? Have a headache with spam customer accounts registered daily on your money website?

Say "Goodbye" to spam issues now! **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA** will solve all the spam issues that you're dealing with.

** "**CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA**" is compatible with PrestaShop from version 1.5.x to version 9.x*

III. INSTALLATION

1. Navigate to **"Modules / Modules & Services",** click on **"Upload a module / Select file"**.

2. Select the module file **"ets_advancedcaptcha.zip"** from your computer, then click on **"Open"** to install.

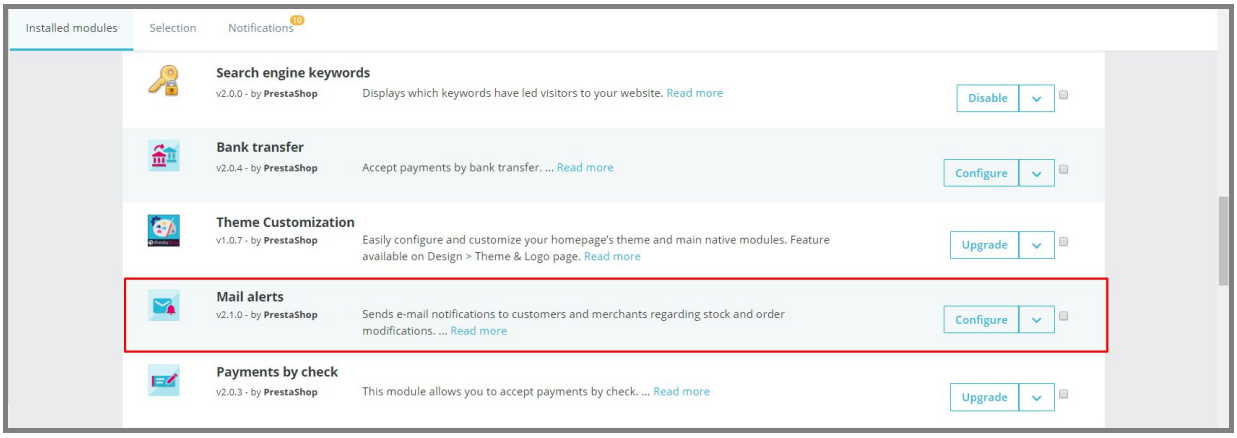
3. Click on **"Configure"** button of the module you just installed to open the module's configuration page.

IV. CONFIGURATION

From your installed module list (Located at **"Modules/Modules & services/Installed modules"),** find "**CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA**" and then click on the **"Configure"** button to open its configuration page.

Note:

a) To enable "**Out of product alert form**", you must install the **"Mail alert"** module first.

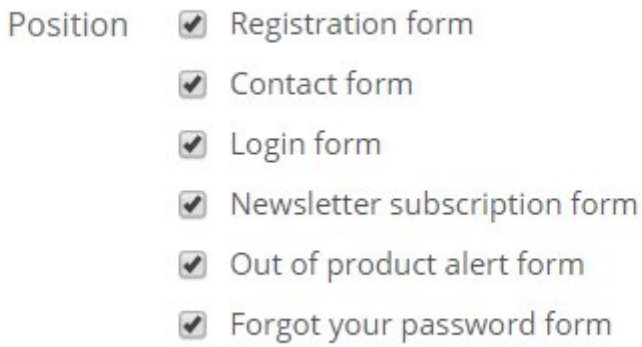


b) When using *PrestaHero's* **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA** module alongside the "**Creative Elements**" module developed by *WebshopWorks*, please be aware that the CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA functionality will not be supported for forms created by the "**Creative Elements**" module.

If you need to display CAPTCHA/reCAPTCHA on forms generated by "**Creative Elements**", please get in touch with the developer *WebshopWorks* for further assistance.

1. Position

You can select the form where captcha box will be displayed. **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA** supports display captcha box on 6 different types of form:



Note:

***CAPTCHA** does not support captcha feature for "**Newsletter subscription form**" on PrestaShop 1.5.x*

For online shop owners who are using **PrestaShop 1.7.x**, after choosing positions to show the captcha box, there is an option to enable/disable captcha when a customer logs in.



With shop owners using **PrestaShop 1.5.x and 1.6.x**, for certain locations, you will see more options to set up. If you're using a custom theme or another custom module, you may get into some problems when installing **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA** on your website. To avoid these troubles, please follow our following guide:

- **Contact form**

Copy this code: *{hook h='displayPaCaptcha' posTo='contact'}*

Open this file: *root/YOUR-SITE/themes/YOUR-THEME/contact-form.tpl*

Paste the code you copied before into the *contact-form.tpl* just below the **file upload field** then save your changes.



- **Login form**

Copy this code: *{hook h='displayPaCaptcha' posTo='login'}*

Open this file: *root/YOUR-SITE/themes/YOUR-THEME/authentication.tpl*

Paste the code you copied before into the *authentication.tpl* just below the file upload field then save your changes.



❖ **Forgot your password form**

Copy this code: *{hook h='displayPaCaptcha' posTo='pwd_recovery'}*

Open this file: *root/YOUR-SITE/themes/YOUR-THEME/password.tpl*

Paste the code you copied before into the *password.tpl* just below the file upload field then save your changes.



2. Captcha types

CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA provides multiple CAPTCHA methods so you can choose the most suitable protection level for your store. Each captcha type serves a different purpose, from basic image challenges to advanced Google reCAPTCHA Enterprise. Below is an overview of all supported CAPTCHA types and how to configure them inside the module.

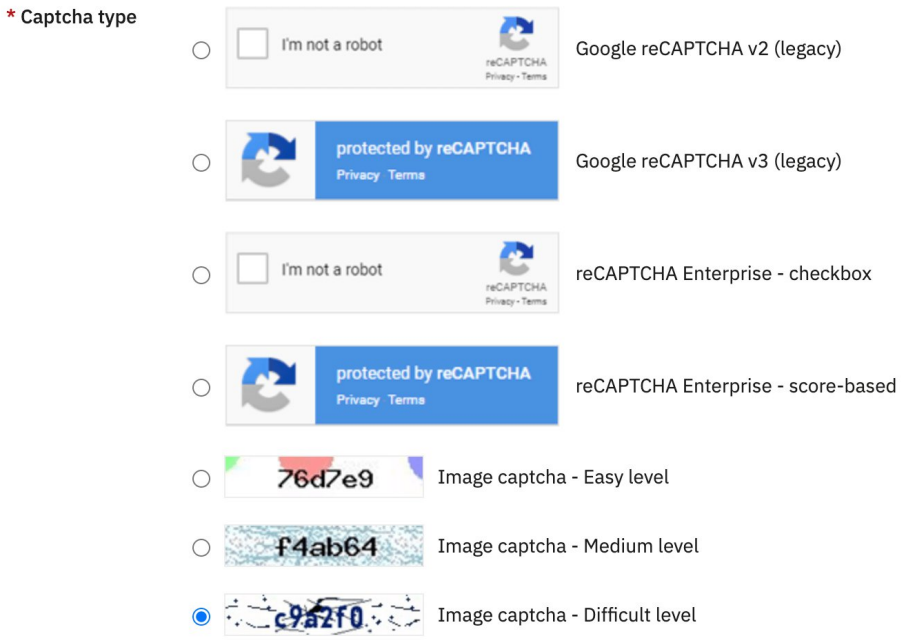
1. Image CAPTCHA (3 difficulty levels)

The module includes a built-in image CAPTCHA system with three difficulty levels:

- **Easy** – Simple characters/images, recommended for normal traffic.
- **Medium** – More distortion and complexity, suitable when your store receives moderate spam.
- **Hard** – High distortion and noise, offering strong spam protection on high-risk sites.

How to configure:

Simply select the image CAPTCHA difficulty level from the dropdown. No key or external setup is required.



2. Google reCAPTCHA v2 (Legacy)

Supports the classic Google reCAPTCHA v2:

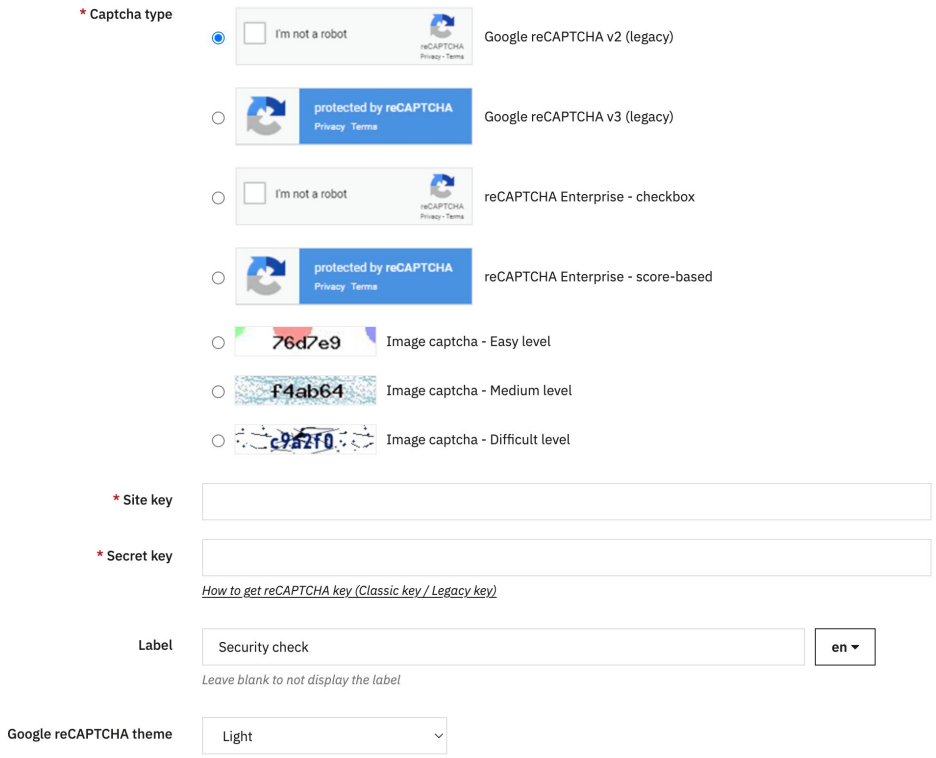
- "I'm not a robot" checkbox
- Invisible v2 (no user interaction required)

This version uses:

- **Site Key**
- **Secret Key**

⚠ **Note:** Google is deprecating Classic/Legacy reCAPTCHA, and all keys will stop working starting from 2026. Merchants must migrate to Google Cloud Console to maintain compatibility.

[See the setup guide for Legacy version here]

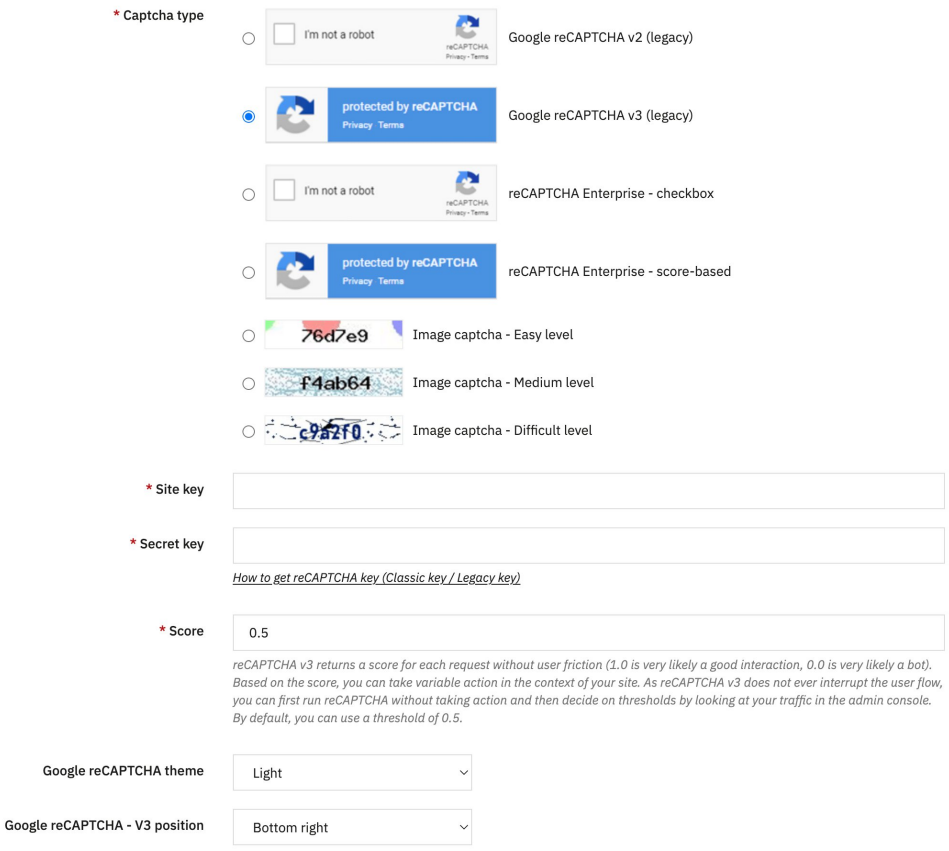


3. Google reCAPTCHA v3 (Legacy)

reCAPTCHA v3 works invisibly in the background and assigns a **score from 0.0 to 1.0** to each request. You can configure the **score threshold** in the module to decide which requests should be accepted or blocked.

This version also uses the classic **Site Key + Secret Key**.

[See the setup guide for Legacy version here]



4. reCAPTCHA Enterprise (Checkbox)

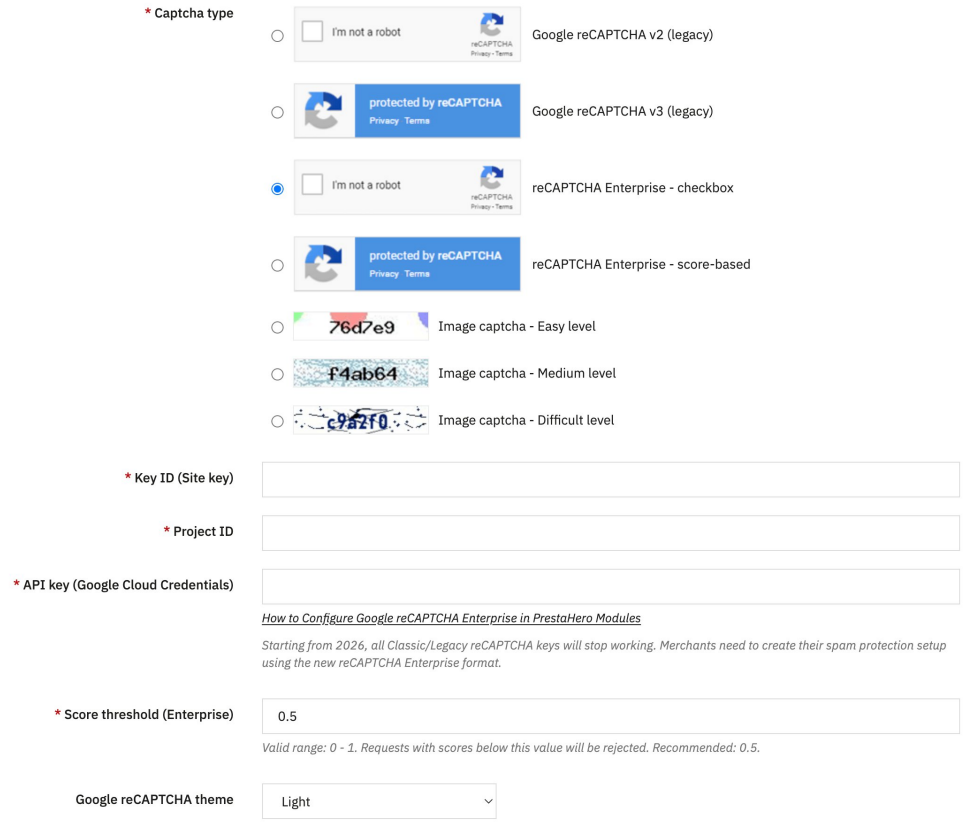
The Enterprise checkbox version is similar to reCAPTCHA v2 but powered by Google Cloud for higher accuracy and long-term support.

It requires:

- **Key ID**
- **Project ID**
- **API Key (Google Cloud Credentials)**

Use this version if you prefer a visible “I’m not a robot” interaction with enhanced protection.

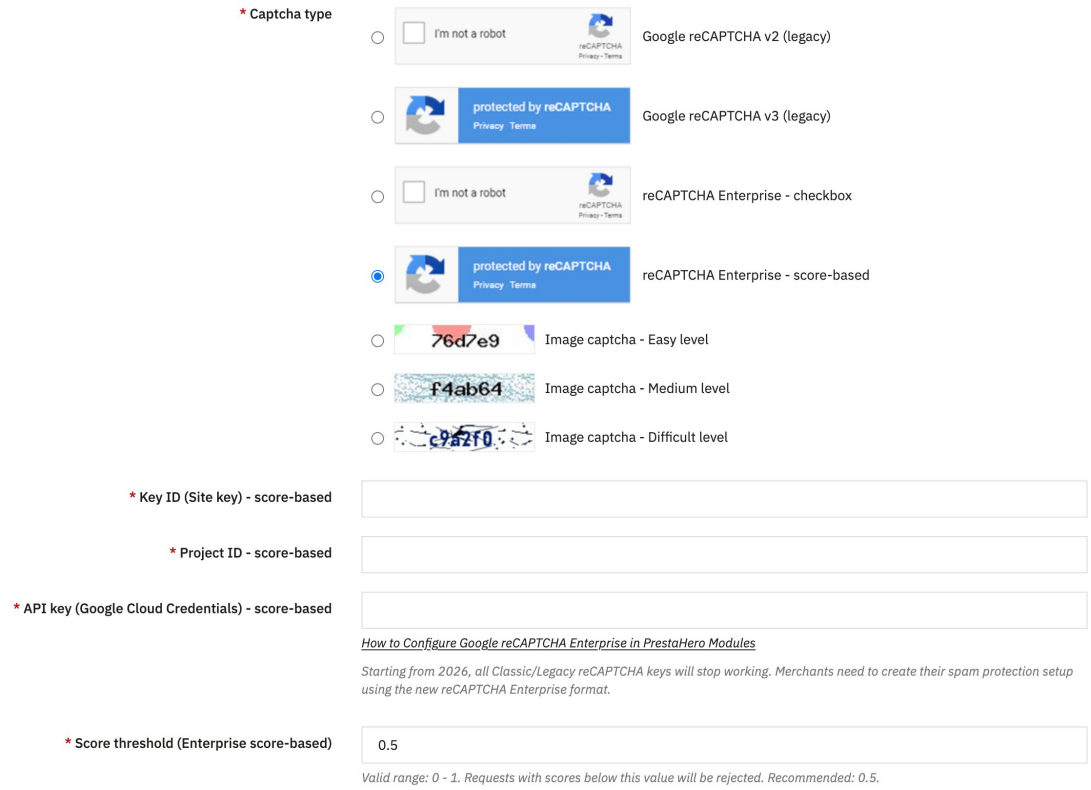
[See the setup guide for the Enterprise version here.]



5. reCAPTCHA Enterprise (Score-based)

A more advanced version of reCAPTCHA v3, using Google’s Enterprise security model.
It analyzes user behavior and returns a risk score. Recommended for checkout pages, login forms, or any area requiring a seamless user experience.

[See the setup guide for the Enterprise version here.]



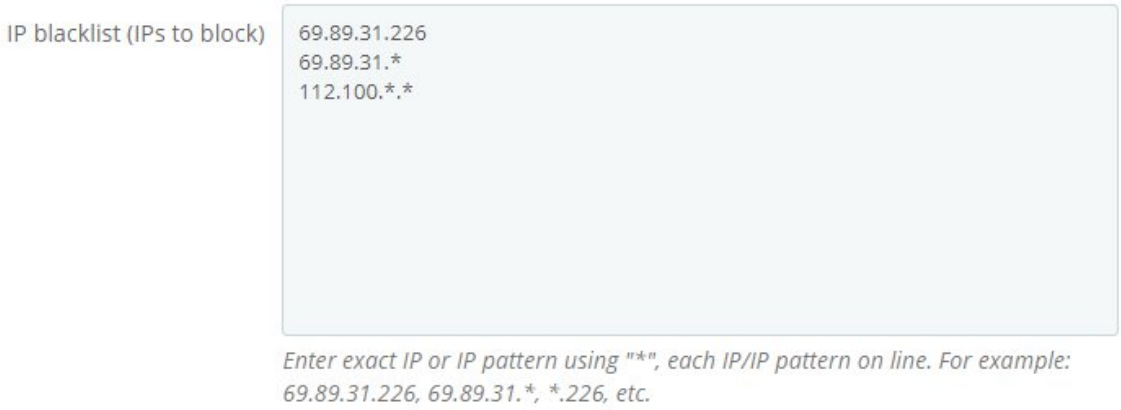
3. IP blacklist and email blacklist

❖ IP blacklist

With **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA**, you can enter IP addresses of spammers and ban them from submitting your forms.

Note:

IPv4 addresses are usually represented in dot-decimal notation, consisting of four decimal numbers, each ranging from 0 to 255, separated by dots, each part represents a group of 8 bits (an octet) of the address.



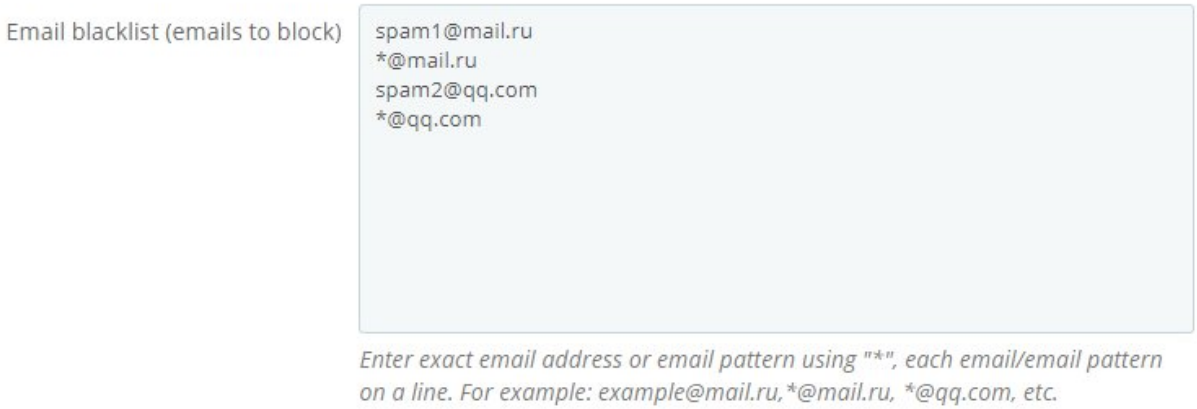
You may enter the exact IP address (for example: 69.89.31.226) or an IP pattern using "*" character, each IP/IP pattern on one line.

Note:

IP pattern is a way to represent an IP address range. You can replace one or several octets of IP address with "" character. For example, if you enter this IP pattern: 69.89.31.*, CAPTCHA will ban all IP addresses from 69.89.31.0 to 69.89.31.255*

- **Email blacklist**

Similar to banning IP addresses, you can also ban email addresses which often send spam emails to your inbox. **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA** also supports banning email addresses from email domain such as mail.ru, qq.com, etc.



You can enter the exact email address or email pattern using "*" character, each email or email pattern on a line.

For example, if you enter *@mail.ru email pattern, **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA** will ban all emails which are sent from users having "@mail.ru" on their email addresses.

4. Tips

This module should work perfectly on most Prestashop websites without any code modification, however if you website is installed with a custom theme or custom modules you may (rarely) get into some problems when installing the module to your website.

The following tips will guide you on how to quickly fix the problems by modifying some code so you can fix the problems yourself but we recommend you contact us. We're happy to support you and we'll help you solve the issues for free!

❖ For PrestaShop 1.7.x

If you see an error that says methods **validate** and **getFormat** are overridden already by another module, it means some other modules have overridden the method that causes blocking the **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA** module to implement its overriding code. To solve the problem, you need to manually edit the methods (in overriding files) with the overriding code of the **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA** module.

ERROR: "METHOD VALIDATE() IS OVERRIDEN ALREADY"

Step 1: Open this file: *root/YOUR-SITE/modules/ets_advancedcaptcha/override/classes/form/CustomerForm.php*

Step 2: Copy the code highlighted on the photo below

```php
if (!class_exists('CustomerFormCore') || version_compare(_PS_VERSION_, '1.7', '<'))
    exit;
class CustomerForm extends CustomerFormCore
{
    public function validate()
    {
        if (Tools::isSubmit('submitCreate') && Module::isEnabled('ets_advancedcaptcha') && ($captcha = Module::getInstanceByName('ets_adva
        {
            $captchaField = $this->getField('captcha');
            $errors = array();
            $captcha->captchaVal($errors);
            if ($errors)
            {
                $captchaField->addError(implode(',', $errors));
            }
        }
        return parent::validate();
    }
}
```

Step 3: Open this file: *root/YOUR-SITE/override/classes/form/CustomerForm.php*

Step 4: Find a method (function) named "validate", paste the code you copied at step 2 into the method just at the START of the method then save your changes

ERROR: "METHOD GETFORMAT() IS OVERRIDEN ALREADY"

Step 1: Open this file: *root/YOUR-SITE/modules/ets_advancedcaptcha/override/classes/form/CustomerFormatter.php*

Step 2: Copy the code highlighted in the photo below

```php

if (!class_exists('CustomerFormatterCore') || version_compare(_PS_VERSION_, '1.7', '<'))
    exit;
class CustomerFormatter extends CustomerFormatterCore
{
    public function getFormat()
    {
        if (Module::isEnabled('ets_advancedcaptcha') && ($captcha = Module::getInstanceByName('ets_advancedcaptcha')) && $ca
        {
            $formats = parent::getFormat();
            $formats['captcha'] = (new FormField)
                ->setName('captcha')
                ->setType('hidden')
                ->setRequired(true)
                ->setValue(1);
            return $formats;
        }
        return parent::getFormat();
    }
}
```

Step 3: Open this file: *root/YOUR-SITE/override/classes/form/CustomerFormatter.php*

Step 4: Find a method (function) named "getFormat", paste the code you copied at step 2 into the method just at the START of the method then save your changes.

ERROR: "METHOD SUBMIT() IS OVERRIDEN ALREADY"

Step 1: Open this file: *root/YOUR-SITE/modules/ets_advancedcaptcha/override/classes/form/CustomerLoginForm.php*

Step 2: Copy the code highlighted on the photo below



```
22
23  if (!class_exists('CustomerLoginFormCore') || version_compare(_PS_VERSION_, '1.7', '<'))
24      exit;
25  class CustomerLoginForm extends CustomerLoginFormCore
26  {
27      public function submit()
28      {
29          if (Tools::isSubmit('submitLogin') && Module::isEnabled('ets_advancedcaptcha') && ($captcha = Module::getIns
30          {
31              $captcha->captchaVal($this->errors['']);
32          }
33          return !$this->errors['']? parent::submit() : !$this->hasErrors();
34      }
35  }
```

Step 3: Open this file: *root/YOUR-SITE/override/classes/form/CustomerLoginForm.php*

Step 4: Find a method (function) named "submit", paste the code you copied at step 2 into the method just at the START of the method then save your changes.

- **For PrestaShop 1.5.x and 1.6.x**

ERROR: "OVERRIDE CONTROLLER"

If methods: *processSubmitAccount, processSubmitLogin, sendRenewPasswordLink, postProcess, initContent* are overridden already, follow these steps to fix the problem.

Step 1: Open 3 files: *AuthController.php, ContactController.php, PasswordController.php* that are located in "root/YOUR-SITE/modules/ets_advancedcaptcha/override/controllers/front/" folder

Step 2: Copy methods (functions) that are defined on the files.

Step 3: Open these respective overriding files (*AuthController.php, ContactController.php, PasswordController.php*) in overriding folder of your website at "root/YOUR-SITE/override/controllers/front/"

Step 4: Find and replace the methods defined in those files with the methods you copied in step 2 then save your changes

***Note:** if you replace the whole methods that are overridden by other modules, the other modules may not work properly anymore (but the **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA** module will surely work).*

So, if you have programming knowledge, you should check the existing overridden methods and only insert necessary codes that are defined on overriding files of the **CAPTCHA - reCAPTCHA** module.

We recommend you contact us for a quick and free fix of the problem (as it requires coding work), we're happy to support you.

V. THANK YOU

Thank you again for purchasing our product and going through this documentation. We hope this document is helpful and efficient in the complete setup of this module.
If you do have any questions for which the answer is not available in this document, please feel free to contact us.