

# Embedding a SitePal Avatar on a Shopify Product Page

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*SitePal Technical Note*

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## Overview

SitePal avatars can be embedded directly into Shopify product pages to greet visitors, deliver a sales pitch, or provide product information through an interactive talking avatar. This guide walks you through the process of adding a SitePal avatar to a Shopify product page using a Custom Liquid block within Shopify's Online Store 2.0 theme editor.

## Working Example

<https://sitepal-orbital.myshopify.com/products/personal-transporter-t-1000>

## What You Will Need

- **SitePal Account** — An active SitePal subscription (Bronze plan or higher) with a published Scene containing your avatar and any associated audio.
- **SitePal Embed Code** — The embed code for your Scene, available from the SitePal dashboard.
- **Shopify Store** — A Shopify store with a product page already created.
- **Shopify Theme** — A Shopify Online Store 2.0-compatible theme (e.g., Dawn, Horizon). Classic/vintage themes use a different approach and are not covered here.

## Step-by-Step Instructions

### Step 1: Prepare Your SitePal Scene

1. Log in to your SitePal account at [www.sitepal.com](http://www.sitepal.com).
2. Create or select the Scene you want to embed. A Scene contains your chosen avatar, background, and any audio or AI configuration.
3. If you want the avatar to deliver a specific message (e.g., a product sales pitch), record or upload the audio and attach it to the Scene. You can do this under the Audio tab in the Scene Editor.
4. Publish the Scene when you are satisfied with the configuration.

### Step 2: Obtain Your Embed Code

5. From the SitePal dashboard, navigate to your Scenes list.

6. Click the Embed button (or select "Get Embed Code") for the Scene you want to use.
7. SitePal will provide two lines of code:
8. a) A <script> tag that loads the SitePal embed library, referencing your Account ID.
9. b) A JavaScript function call (AC\_VHost\_Embed) that specifies your Account ID, Scene ID, dimensions, and security key.
10. Copy both lines. You will paste them into Shopify in a later step.

```
<script src="//vhss-d.oddcast.com/vhost_embed_functions_v4.php?acc=YOUR_ACCOUNT_ID&js=0"></script>
<script>
AC_VHost_Embed(
  YOUR_ACCOUNT_ID, // Account ID
  600,              // Width (pixels)
  800,              // Height (pixels)
  "",               // (reserved)
  1, 1,            // Parameters
  YOUR_SCENE_ID,   // Scene ID
  0, 1, 0,         // Parameters
  "YOUR_SECRET_KEY", // Security key
  0, 1             // Parameters
);
</script>
```

### Step 3: Open the Shopify Theme Editor

11. Log in to your Shopify admin at [your-store.myshopify.com/admin](https://your-store.myshopify.com/admin).
12. In the left sidebar, go to Sales Channels > Online Store.
13. Click the Customize button on your active theme (or click "Edit theme" from the Themes page).
14. The Shopify Theme Editor will open, showing a visual preview of your store.

### Step 4: Navigate to the Product Page Template

15. In the Theme Editor, use the page selector dropdown at the top center of the screen.
16. Select Products > Default product (or the specific product template you want to modify).
17. Choose the product you want to feature the avatar on from the product picker if prompted.
18. The editor will now show the layout of your product page.

### Step 5: Add a Custom Liquid Block

19. In the left sidebar of the Theme Editor, locate the Product information section. This is the main content area containing your product title, price, description, and buy button.
20. Click Add block within the Product information section.
21. From the block type list, select Custom Liquid.
22. A new Custom Liquid block will appear in the section. You can drag it to reposition it — for example, placing it near the top so the avatar is visible alongside the product image.

### Step 6: Paste the SitePal Embed Code

23. Click on the new Custom Liquid block in the sidebar to select it.

24. In the Custom Liquid text field on the left, paste the complete SitePal embed code (both the `<script>` tag and the `AC_VHost_Embed` function call) that you copied in Step 2.
25. The avatar may or may not render in the Theme Editor preview — this is normal. It will render on the live page.

### Step 7: Adjust Dimensions (Optional)

26. The embed code includes width and height parameters (in pixels) within the `AC_VHost_Embed` function call.
27. Adjust these values if the avatar appears too large or too small relative to your product page layout. Common sizes for a product-page sidebar are 300×400 or 400×500 pixels.
28. You can also wrap the embed code in a `<div>` with CSS styling for more precise control:

```
<div style="max-width: 100%; text-align: center;">  
  <!-- Your SitePal embed code here -->  
</div>
```

### Step 8: Save and Preview

29. Click Save in the top-right corner of the Theme Editor.
30. Click Preview to view the product page with the embedded avatar.
31. Verify that the avatar loads, displays correctly, and plays audio (if configured).
32. Test on both desktop and mobile views using the device toggle in the Theme Editor.

### Step 9: Make Your Store Public

33. If your store is still password-protected (showing an "Opening soon" page), you will need to remove the password before visitors can access it.
34. Go to Online Store in the Shopify admin sidebar.
35. Look for the password protection banner and click Remove password (or go to Preferences to manage it).
36. Note: Shopify requires a business address on file before allowing you to remove password protection. Complete any required store setup steps first.
37. Once the password is removed and saved, your store — and the embedded SitePal avatar — will be publicly accessible.

### Tips and Best Practices

- **Placement:** Placing the avatar inside the Product information section (rather than as a standalone section) keeps it contextually tied to the product details. This is the recommended approach for product-specific avatars.
- **Audio:** For a sales pitch or product greeting, pre-record and attach the audio directly to the SitePal Scene. This is simpler than using the `API sayText()` function and ensures the message plays reliably on page load.
- **Performance:** The SitePal embed script loads asynchronously and should not noticeably impact page load times. However, avoid embedding multiple avatars on the same page.

- **Mobile Responsiveness:** Test avatar sizing on mobile devices. You may want to reduce the width and height for smaller screens, or use a responsive wrapper div with max-width: 100%.
- **Multiple Products:** The Custom Liquid block is added to the product template, so by default it will appear on all products using that template. If you want the avatar on only one product, create a dedicated product template (e.g., "Product with Avatar") and assign it to that specific product.
- **AI-Powered Avatars:** For interactive AI Avatars that can answer customer questions in real time (requires Gold plan or higher), configure your AI Avatar settings in the SitePal dashboard before embedding. The same embed approach applies.