

Mega Menu

Magento 2 Extension — Activation, Configuration & Storefront Guide

A theme-agnostic, SEO-friendly mega menu for Magento 2. Category-driven top navigation with lazy-loaded dropdowns (subcategories + featured products), custom links, a mobile drill-down panel, and automatic alignment + colour adaptation to the active theme — on Hyvä, Luma, Adobe Commerce default and custom themes.

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1. Introduction

ETechFlow Mega Menu is a Magento 2 extension that replaces the theme's default top navigation with a fast, category-driven mega menu. Each top-level category opens a rich dropdown that lazy-loads its subcategories (with product counts) and a set of featured product cards.

The menu auto-detects the active theme and renders the right variant — Alpine.js for Hyvä themes, vanilla JavaScript for Luma / Adobe Commerce / custom themes — and adapts its position and colours to match the surrounding design automatically. This guide walks through installation, every admin setting, the licence activation flow, and each storefront feature with screenshots.

2. What the Module Does

Core capabilities:

- **Category-driven navigation** — The children of a configurable Root Category become the top-level menu items, ordered by category position.
- **Lazy-loaded dropdowns** — Subcategories and featured products load on first hover or focus from a cached JSON endpoint, so the page itself stays light and fast.
- **Featured products per category** — Show a configurable number of product cards in each dropdown, sourced by Category Position, Newest, Best Sellers, On Sale, or Price.
- **Subcategory product counts** — Each subcategory link shows how many products it contains.
- **Custom menu links** — Add your own top-level items (Label + URL/path + Sort) that merge in after the category items.
- **Mobile drill-down** — On small screens the desktop dropdown is replaced by a slide-out drill-down panel.
- **Promo CMS block** — Optionally render a CMS block as a banner/column inside every dropdown.
- **Automatic theme adaptation** — The bar aligns to the theme's content width and adopts its colours at runtime; an optional Accent Color override is available.
- **Theme-agnostic & lightweight** — Scoped .etmm-* CSS, no jQuery (Luma variant), no Knockout/RequireJS. The top-level bar is server-rendered HTML for SEO and speed.
- **Subscription licensing** — Stripe-managed subscription with in-admin self-checkout, automatic key activation, and portal-validated server-IP enforcement.

3. Installation

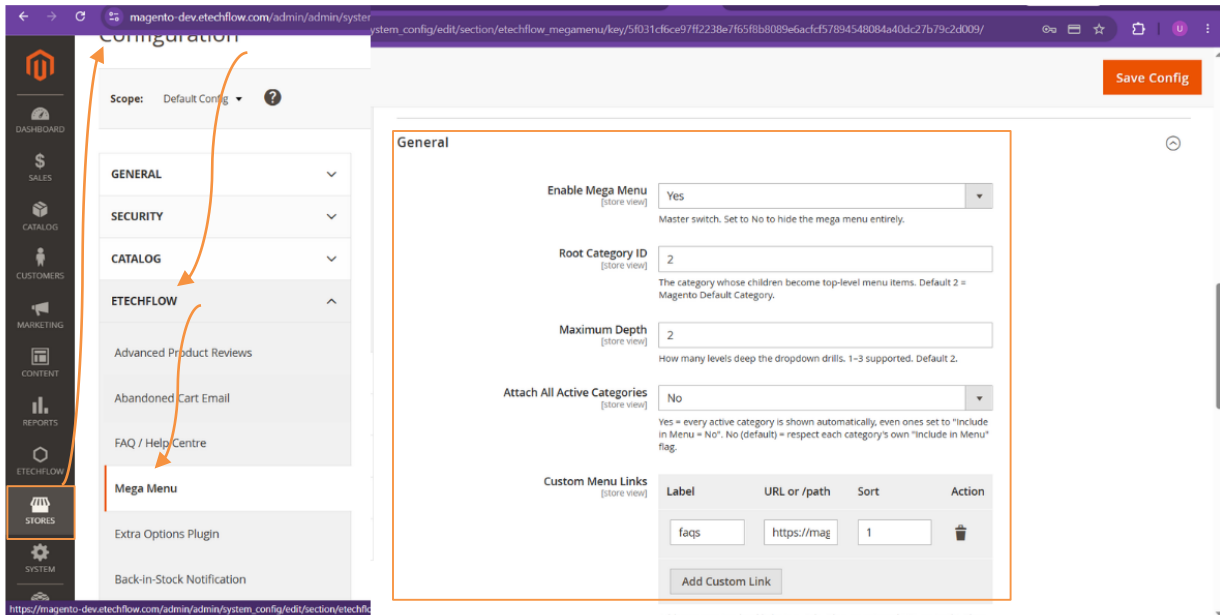
Install via Composer:

```
composer require etechflow/module-mega-menu
bin/magento module:enable Etechflow_MegaMenu
bin/magento setup:upgrade
bin/magento setup:di:compile
bin/magento setup:static-content:deploy -f
bin/magento cache:flush
```

On production hosts the module is locked by default until a licence is activated (the License Required gate appears). Either purchase a plan from the in-admin gate, paste an existing key into the License Key field, or set Production Environment = No for dev/staging.

4. General Settings

All configuration lives under Stores → Configuration → ETECHFLOW → Mega Menu. The General group controls the core behaviour of the menu.

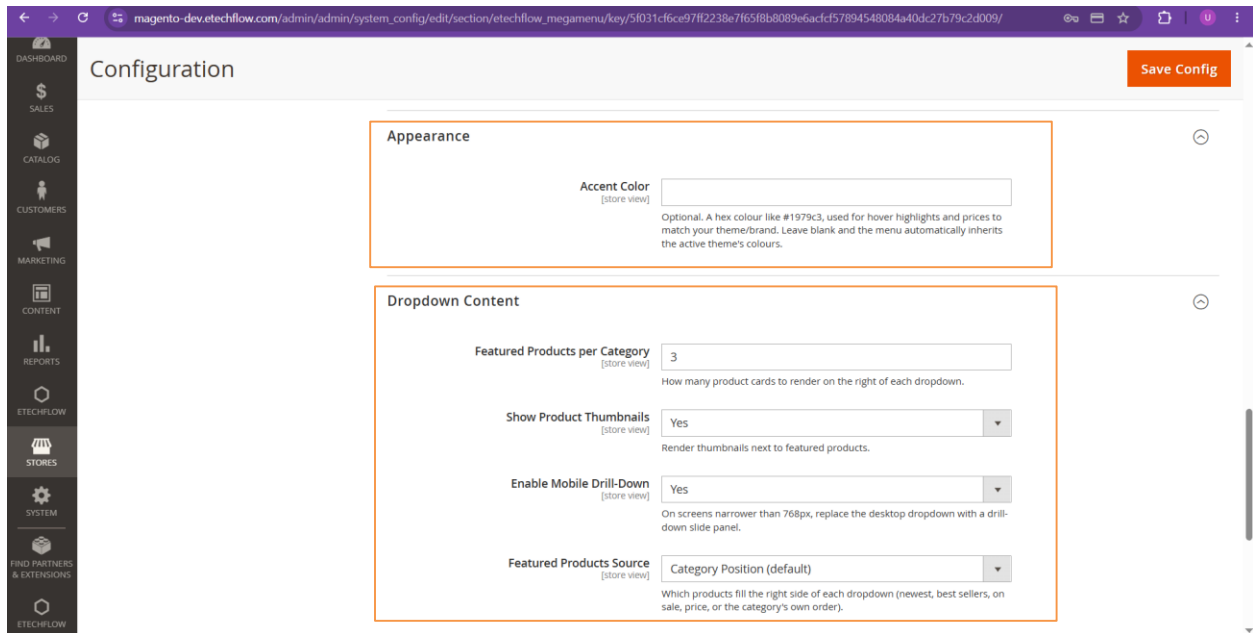


Stores → Configuration → ETECHFLOW → Mega Menu — General settings

- **Enable Mega Menu** — Master switch. No hides the mega menu entirely and the theme’s native navigation returns.
- **Root Category ID** — The category whose children become the top-level menu items. Default 2 (Magento Default Category).
- **Maximum Depth** — How many levels deep the dropdown drills (1–3). Default 2.
- **Attach All Active Categories** — Yes shows every active category, even ones set to “Include in Menu = No”. No (default) respects each category’s own flag.
- **Custom Menu Links** — Add your own top-level items — covered in section 6.

5. Appearance & Dropdown Content

The Appearance and Dropdown Content groups control how the dropdowns look and what fills them.

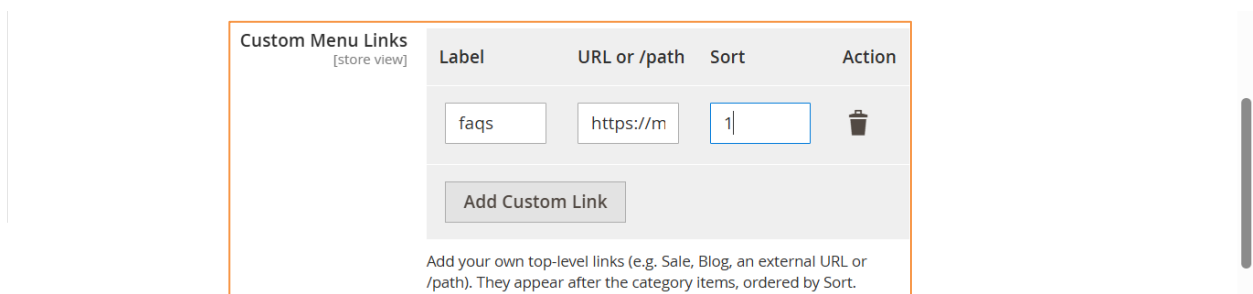


Appearance (Accent Color) and Dropdown Content settings

- **Accent Color** — Optional hex colour (e.g. #1979c3) for hover highlights and prices. Leave blank and the menu automatically inherits the active theme’s colours.
- **Featured Products per Category** — How many product cards render on the right of each dropdown.
- **Show Product Thumbnails** — Render thumbnails next to featured products.
- **Enable Mobile Drill-Down** — On screens narrower than 768px, replace the desktop dropdown with a drill-down slide panel.
- **Featured Products Source** — Which products fill each dropdown: Category Position (default), Newest, Best Sellers, On Sale, Price Low→High, or Price High→Low.

6. Custom Menu Links

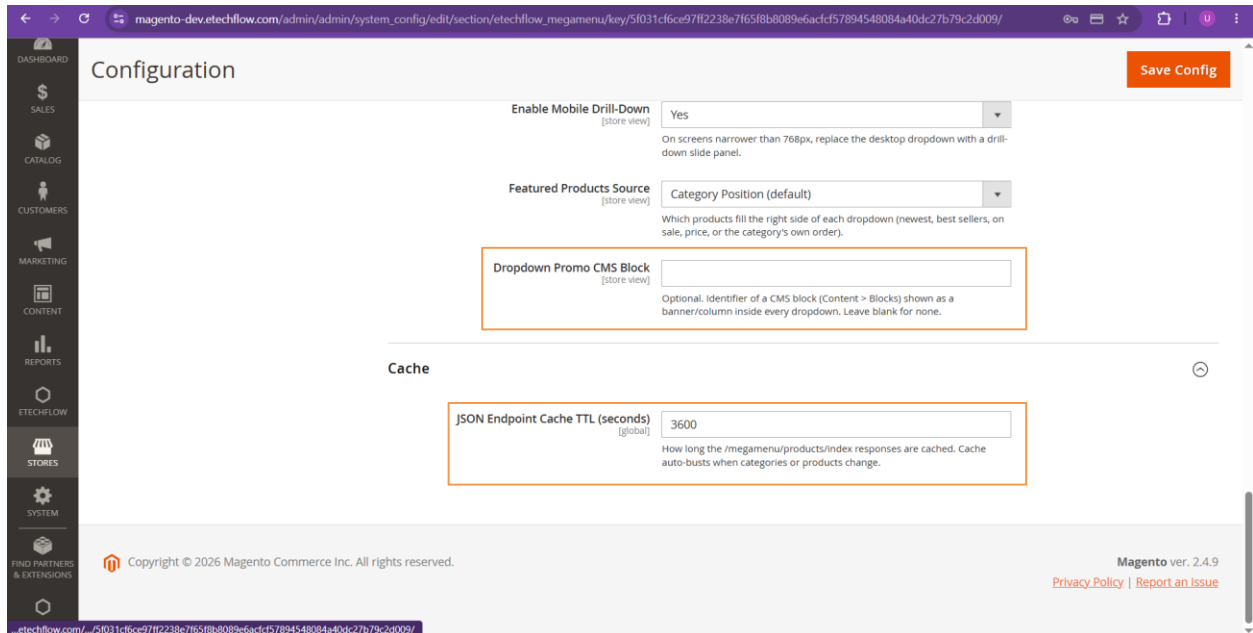
The Custom Menu Links table lets admins add their own top-level items without touching categories. Each row has a Label, a URL or /path, and a Sort value; click Add Custom Link to add more rows, or the trash icon to remove one. Custom links appear after the category items, ordered by Sort. In the example below a “faqs” link is added pointing to /faqs.



Custom Menu Links — Label, URL/path, Sort, and Add Custom Link

7. Cache Settings

The Dropdown Promo CMS Block and Cache groups round out the configuration.

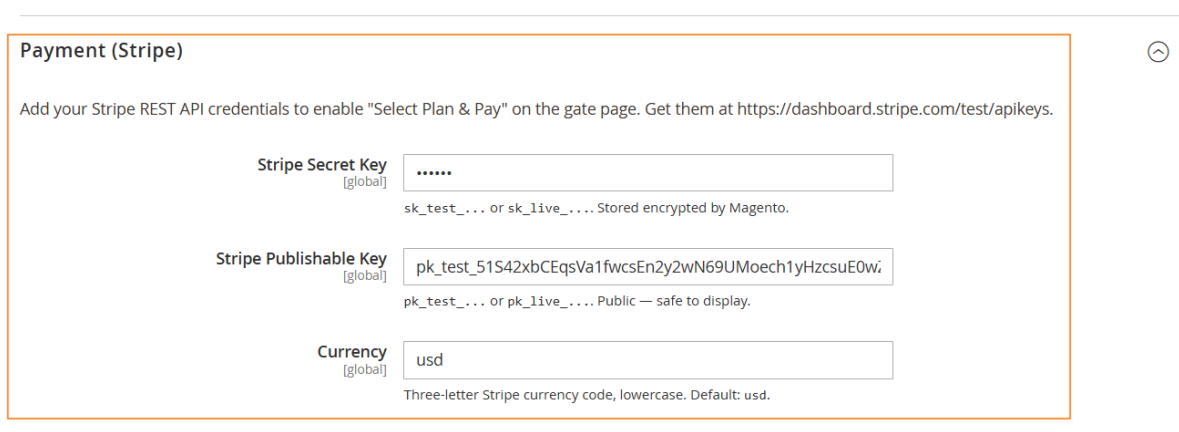


Dropdown Promo CMS Block and the JSON Endpoint Cache TTL

- **Dropdown Promo CMS Block** — Optional identifier of a CMS block (Content → Blocks) shown as a banner/column inside every dropdown. Leave blank for none.
- **JSON Endpoint Cache TTL (seconds)** — How long the /megamenu/products/index responses are cached. Default 3600. The cache auto-busts whenever categories or products change, so dropdown data stays fresh without manual flushes.

8. Payment (Stripe) Settings

The Payment (Stripe) group captures the Stripe credentials used by the in-admin checkout on the licence gate. They are NOT used for store payments.



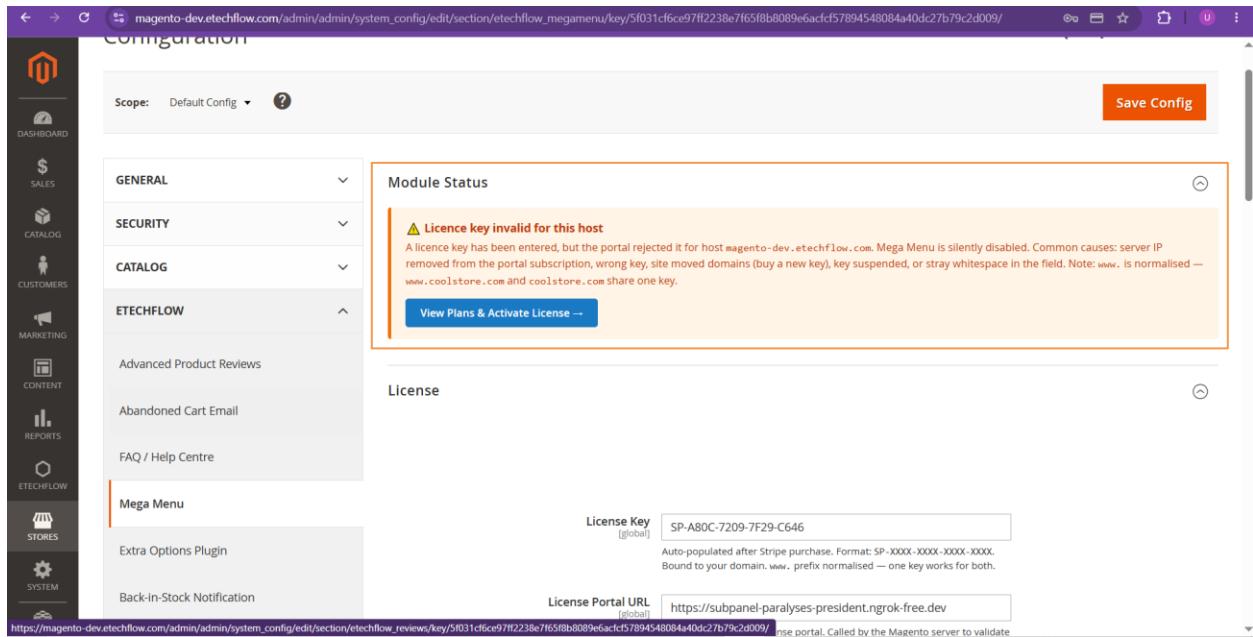
Payment (Stripe) — secret key (encrypted), publishable key, currency

- **Stripe Secret Key** — Your sk_test_... or sk_live_... key. Stored encrypted by Magento.

- **Stripe Publishable Key** — Your pk_test_... or pk_live_... key. Public — safe to display.
- **Currency** — Three-letter Stripe currency code, lowercase. Default usd.

9. License Section — Locked State

When the module is not yet licensed (or the licence is invalid for the current host), a Module Status banner at the top of the configuration shows a “Licence key invalid for this host” notice with a View Plans & Activate License button that opens the gate page.

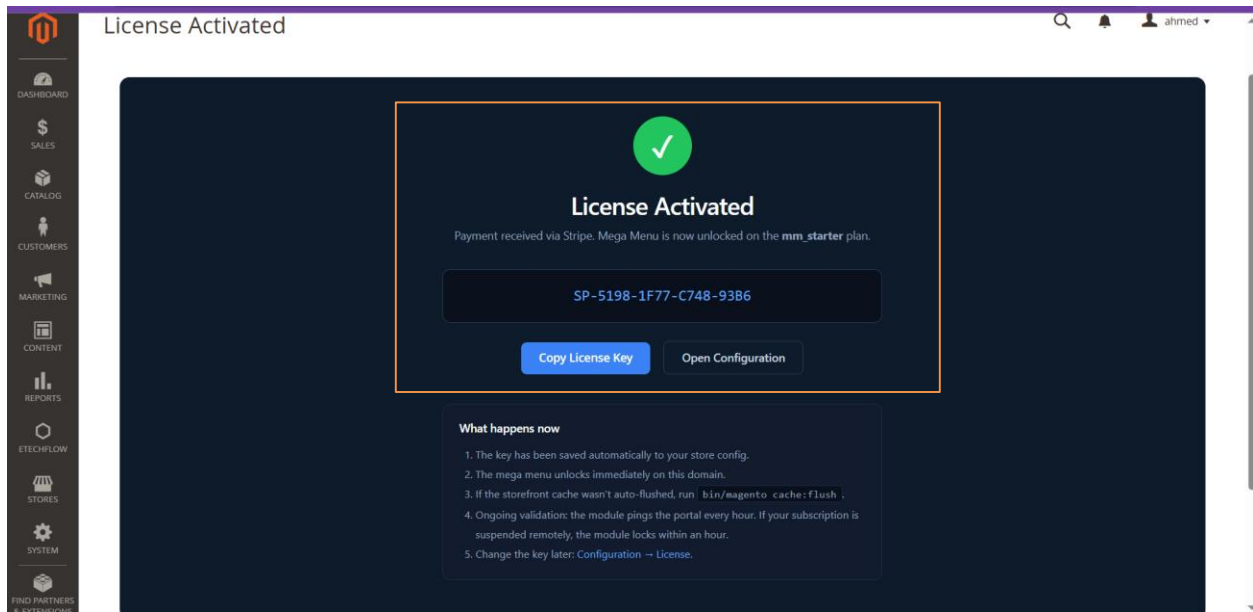


Module Status banner + License section in the locked state

- **Production Environment** — Yes = live site (licence enforced). No = dev/staging (licence bypassed).
- **License Key** — Paste an SP-XXXX subscription key, an HMAC per-module key, or a shared eTechFlow bundle key.
- **License Portal URL** — The eTechFlow portal endpoint that validates SP-XXXX keys and completes activation.

10. Activating the License

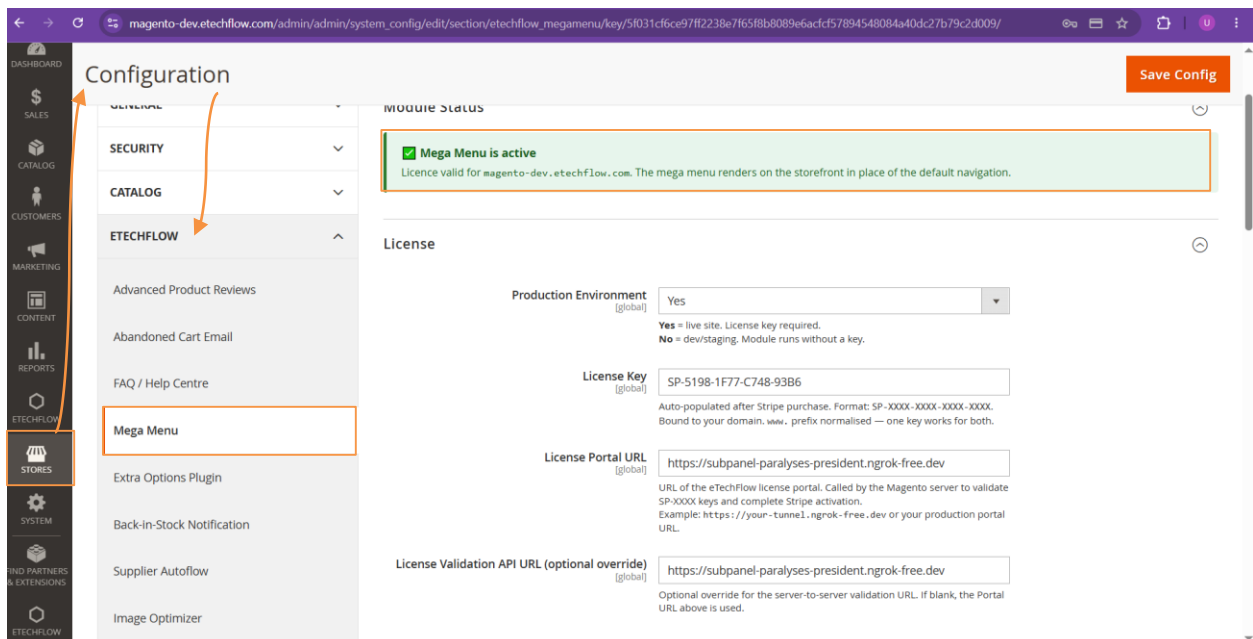
Clicking View Plans & Activate License (or opening Stores → Settings → Mega Menu) shows the gate page with the plan tiers and an “Enter License Key” option. Choosing a plan reveals a name + email form; submitting it opens Stripe’s hosted checkout where the customer pays by card. Stripe then returns to Magento, which verifies the payment with the eTechFlow portal, mints an SP-XXXX key, and shows the License Activated confirmation. The key is saved automatically.



License Activated — SP-XXXX key auto-saved, with Copy Key and Open Configuration

11. Configuration After Activation

After activation, returning to Stores → Configuration → ETECHFLOW → Mega Menu shows a green “Mega Menu is active” banner at the top of the License group.

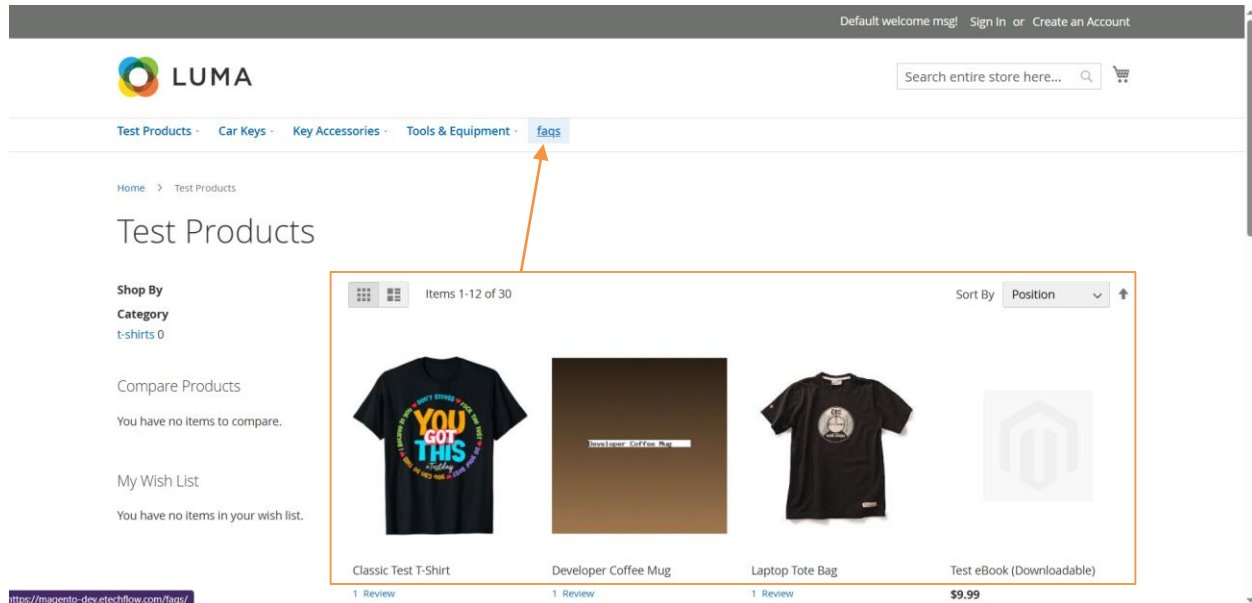


Green “Mega Menu is active” banner + auto-populated License Key

- **License banner** — Switches from the yellow “invalid for this host” notice to a green “Mega Menu is active” banner.
- **License Key field** — Auto-populated with the SP-XXXX key.
- **Storefront** — The mega menu unlocks immediately on the licensed domain and renders in place of the default navigation.

12. Storefront — The Mega Menu Bar

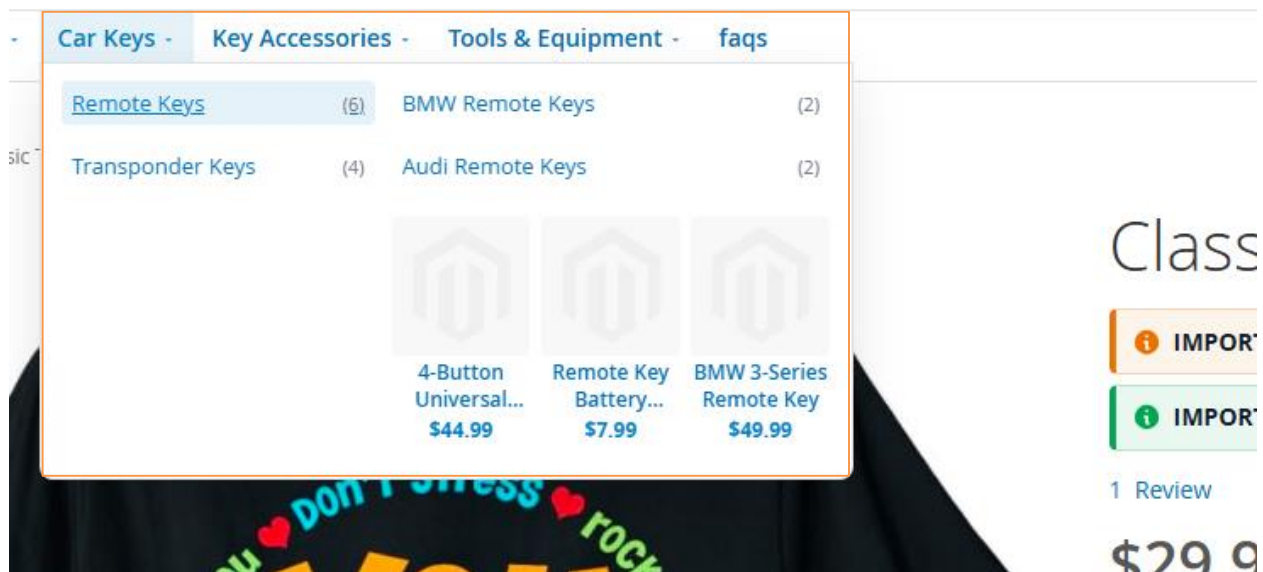
On the storefront the mega menu renders as a horizontal bar in place of the theme’s default navigation. Top-level categories — and any custom links such as “faqs” — appear as real, crawlable links, aligned with the page content and styled to match the theme. A small chevron marks items that have a dropdown.



Storefront mega menu bar with category items + the custom “faqs” link

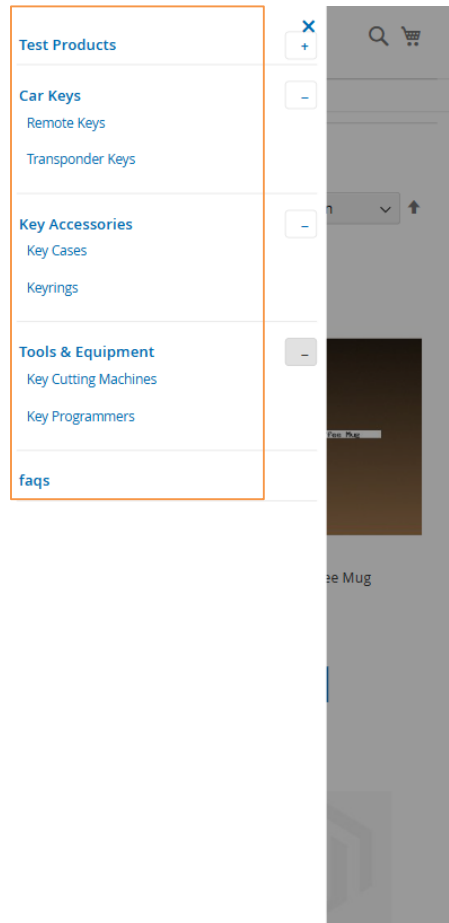
13. Storefront — Dropdown: Subcategories & Featured Products

Hovering or focusing a top-level item opens its dropdown. The left column lists the subcategories with a product count beside each (e.g. Remote Keys (6), Transponder Keys (4)); deeper subcategories appear alongside. The right column shows featured product cards with thumbnail, name and price, drawn from the configured Featured Products Source. All of this loads on first hover from the cached JSON endpoint, then is reused instantly afterwards.



14. Storefront — Mobile Drill-Down

On screens narrower than 768px (when Enable Mobile Drill-Down is on), a hamburger opens a slide-out panel. Each category with children has a +/- toggle that drills down to its subcategories; custom links appear in the same list, and an × closes the panel.



Mobile drill-down panel with expandable categories

15. Dynamic Theme Adaptation

The menu adapts itself to whatever theme it is placed in, at runtime — no manual CSS needed.

- **Alignment** — The bar measures the theme's content container (header row / main column) and matches its width, left offset and padding, so it lines up with the logo, breadcrumbs and page content on any theme. It recalculates on window resize.
- **Colour** — It reads the theme's brand colour (a primary button's background, falling back to the link colour) and link-text colour and applies them to the bar text, hovers and prices — so the menu matches the surrounding site automatically. The admin Accent Color setting overrides this when set.

16. Subscription Tiers & Licensing

Mega Menu is licensed through the eTechFlow portal with three tiers — Starter, Professional and Enterprise — selectable on the gate page. Higher tiers add multi-store coverage, accent-colour branding, per-dropdown promo blocks, and priority support.

Three key types are supported:

- **SP-XXXX subscription key** — Issued automatically after a Stripe purchase and validated against the portal.
- **HMAC per-module key** — An offline key cryptographically bound to your domain.
- **Bundle key** — A shared eTechFlow key that activates all eTechFlow modules at once.

17. Domain & License Enforcement

Active SP-XXXX subscriptions are validated against the eTechFlow portal. Enforcement behaviour:

- **Suspended / invalid key** — The mega menu is hidden and the theme's native navigation returns; the storefront updates within a short window.
- **Server-IP binding** — The portal binds the licence to the store's server IP; removing the authorised IP locks the module.
- **Portal unreachable** — A short offline grace period keeps the menu working through a transient network blip, then the module locks until the portal is reachable again.
- **Dev hosts** — localhost, *.test, *.local, *.dev, staging.*, *.ngrok-free.dev and similar patterns auto-bypass licensing.
- **Production toggle** — Production Environment = No disables licensing entirely — use on non-standard dev/staging domains the auto-detector misses.

18. Support & Contact

If you hit a problem, gather: Magento version, PHP version, active theme name, steps to reproduce, and a browser dev-tools screenshot of the storefront with the menu visible.

Channels:

- **Email** — support@etechflow.com
- **Website** — <https://etechflow.com>
- **Module repository** — <https://github.com/etechflow/module-etechflow-mega-menu>

— End of Guide —