

# Dope Studio Business Reviews Slider Lite (Display unlimited Google reviews)

<https://wpdemo.net/demos/plugins/dope-studio-business-reviews-slider-lite>

**Show unlimited Google reviews on your site for free.** Dope Studio Business Reviews Slider Lite fetches and displays your Google reviews in a polished, responsive slider — with no limits on how many reviews you can show.

## **Fresh reviews every day (recommended setup):**

1. Run your first fetch with **Max reviews** left empty to import your full review history.
2. Set **Max reviews** to a small value (for example 1-5).
3. Enable daily cron.

After that, your stored reviews are preserved, and each cron run appends only newly discovered unique reviews.

The plugin uses [Apify](#) to fetch your reviews. Apify offers a generous free tier that covers most small and medium businesses with no credit card required. You're in control of your own account and your own data.

**Free and unlimited.** Fetch as many reviews as you like, display as many as you want, and pay nothing — as long as you stay within Apify's free usage limits, which are more than enough for the vast majority of sites.

**Pro version available — also free:** adds support for additional review platforms and more advanced controls. [Check pro features](#)

## **Why Dope Studio Business Reviews Slider?**

Getting Google reviews onto your site has always meant either paying for an expensive SaaS widget subscription or wrestling with the restrictive (and increasingly costly) Google Places API. This plugin takes a different approach:

- **Unlimited reviews, zero cost** — Apify's free tier is genuinely generous. Most sites will never need to pay a penny.

- **No Google API key required** — reviews are fetched via Apify, so you don't need to set up Google Cloud billing just to show your reviews.
- **You own your data** — reviews are cached directly in your WordPress database. No third-party dashboard, no lock-in.
- **One shortcode, done** — drop [dsbrsl\_google\_reviews\_slider] anywhere and your reviews appear.

## What's included in Lite

### Review fetching

- Fetch unlimited Google reviews via Apify (free tier)
- Manual fetch from wp-admin whenever you need fresh reviews
- Automatic scheduled fetching via WordPress cron — set it and forget it
- Reviews cached in WordPress options for fast, server-efficient rendering

### Beautiful slider

- Dark and light themes
- Autoplay with custom interval
- Optional infinite loop
- Progress bar pagination
- Mobile and tablet swipe support
- Configurable cards per view across mobile, tablet, and desktop
- Optional summary header block showing overall rating and review count

### Full display control

- Filter out reviews below a minimum star rating
- Hide reviews with no written comment
- Set a frontend display limit independently from your fetch limit
- Show reviews newest-first
- Optionally show or hide "Read on Google" links

### Optional Google Places enrichment

- Pull your live overall rating and total review count from the Google Places API to display in the header — useful if you want the header to reflect your full review total rather than just fetched reviews
- Entirely optional — the plugin works great without a Google API key

### External services

This plugin connects to third-party services to fetch review data and optional rating summary data.

## 1. Apify (review fetching)

- Purpose: fetches Google reviews on your behalf.
- When data is sent: only when you manually trigger a fetch from wp-admin, or when the scheduled cron runs.
- Data sent: your Apify API token, Google Place ID and/or Google Maps URL, selected language, and max review limit.
- Apify free tier: <https://apify.com/pricing>
- Terms: <https://docs.apify.com/legal/general-terms-and-conditions>
- Privacy policy: <https://docs.apify.com/legal/privacy-policy>

## 2. Google Places API (optional – for summary header only)

- Purpose: retrieves your place's overall rating and total review count for display in the slider header.
- When data is sent: only during fetch operations, and only if you have enabled Places summary mode and added a Places API key.
- Data sent: your Google Places API key and Google Place ID.
- Terms: <https://cloud.google.com/maps-platform/terms>
- Privacy policy: <https://policies.google.com/privacy>

## Requirements

- WordPress 6.0+
- PHP 7.4+
- Outbound HTTP access from your server
- Free Apify account + API token (<https://apify.com>)

Optional:

- Google Places API key (only needed if you want the Places-powered summary header)

## Quick start

Getting up and running takes about two minutes:

1. Sign up for a free Apify account at <https://apify.com> and copy your API token.
2. Activate the plugin and open **Business Reviews Lite** in wp-admin.
3. Paste your **Apify token**.
4. Add your Google source — either a **Place ID** or a **Google Maps URL** (or both).
5. Click **Fetch Google reviews now**.
6. Drop the shortcode onto any page or post: `[dsbrsl_google_reviews_slider]`

That's it. Your reviews are live.

## **Admin settings overview**

### **Data source**

- Enable Google reviews toggle
- Apify API token
- Google Place ID
- Google Maps URL
- Max reviews to fetch
- Review language

### **Automatic fetching**

- Enable cron auto-fetch
- Fetch frequency
- Fetch start time

### **Optional Places summary**

- Google Places API key
- Use Places summary toggle

### **Slider defaults**

- Theme (dark / light)
- Autoplay + interval
- Infinite loop
- Dot navigation
- Swipe
- Slides per view (mobile / tablet / desktop)
- Slider title
- Display limit
- Show summary block toggle
- Show "Read on Google" link toggle

### **Rating and review counters**

- Rating mode (Auto / Manual)
- Manual rating value
- Review count mode (Fetched / Custom)
- Custom review count value

### **Filters**

- Minimum star rating
- Hide textless reviews

### **Usage**

## Basic shortcode:

```
[dsbrsl_google_reviews_slider]
```

All settings from the admin page are used as defaults. You can override any of them per shortcode:

```
[dsbrsl_google_reviews_slider theme="light" limit="10" autoplay="1" desktop="3"]
```

## All available attributes:

- theme="dark|light"
- limit="0" — number of reviews to display (0 = all)
- autoplay="0|1"
- interval="1500-20000" — autoplay speed in milliseconds
- loop="0|1"
- show\_dots="0|1"
- swipe="0|1"
- mobile="1-6" — cards per view on mobile
- tablet="1-6" — cards per view on tablet
- desktop="1-6" — cards per view on desktop
- show\_summary="0|1"
- show\_read\_on\_google="0|1"
- rating\_mode="auto|manual"
- manual\_rating="0-5"
- min\_rating="0|2|3|4|5"
- show\_no\_comment="0|1"

## Storage

Reviews and settings are stored entirely within your own WordPress database — nothing is sent to external servers except during a fetch operation.

- dsbrsl\_settings — plugin configuration
- dsbrsl\_reviews\_cache — fetched review data

## Troubleshooting

### Fetch times out

- Lower your max reviews count and try again
- Check whether your hosting provider restricts outbound HTTP requests or has short timeout limits
- Wait a moment and retry — Apify may occasionally be under load

### **No reviews showing on the frontend**

- Confirm the shortcode is exactly [dsbrsl\_google\_reviews\_slider]
- Make sure Google reviews are enabled in plugin settings
- Run a manual fetch and check the cache count shown in the admin panel
- Double-check your Place ID or Google Maps URL is correct

### **Header rating or count looks wrong**

- If Places summary is enabled, the header pulls from the Google Places API — this reflects your total review count across all time
- Disable Places summary to use values derived from your fetched reviews only