



**Getting Started  
with  
IDX Broker**

Thank you for choosing IDX Broker to display area real estate listings on your website! This guide will give you step-by-step instructions for adding your IDX tools to your site. If you need technical information or more details, please consult our User's Manual.

## Logging In

When your account is first activated, you'll get an email from the support team at IDX, Inc. with your login address, username and password. Click on this link or copy and paste it into your browser's address bar, enter your username and password, and click **Log In**.

Client Login:

Log In ? :

Password:

Remember Login for 2 Weeks

[Forgot your password?](#)

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## Choosing your Tools

If you aren't already viewing your list of links, click **Account Management** in the main menu, and then click **Page Links** in the submenu.



This is a list of all the standard tools that come with your IDX account. Click some of these links and have a look at the pages. (*Tip: Try opening them in new tabs or windows so you still have your list of links open.*) You have about two dozen tools to choose from, and can pick and choose which ones you want to make available to your customers. Most websites will want to at least make use of the **Basic Search** and **Featured Properties** tools.

Once you've had a look at these pages, make a note of the links you want to use.

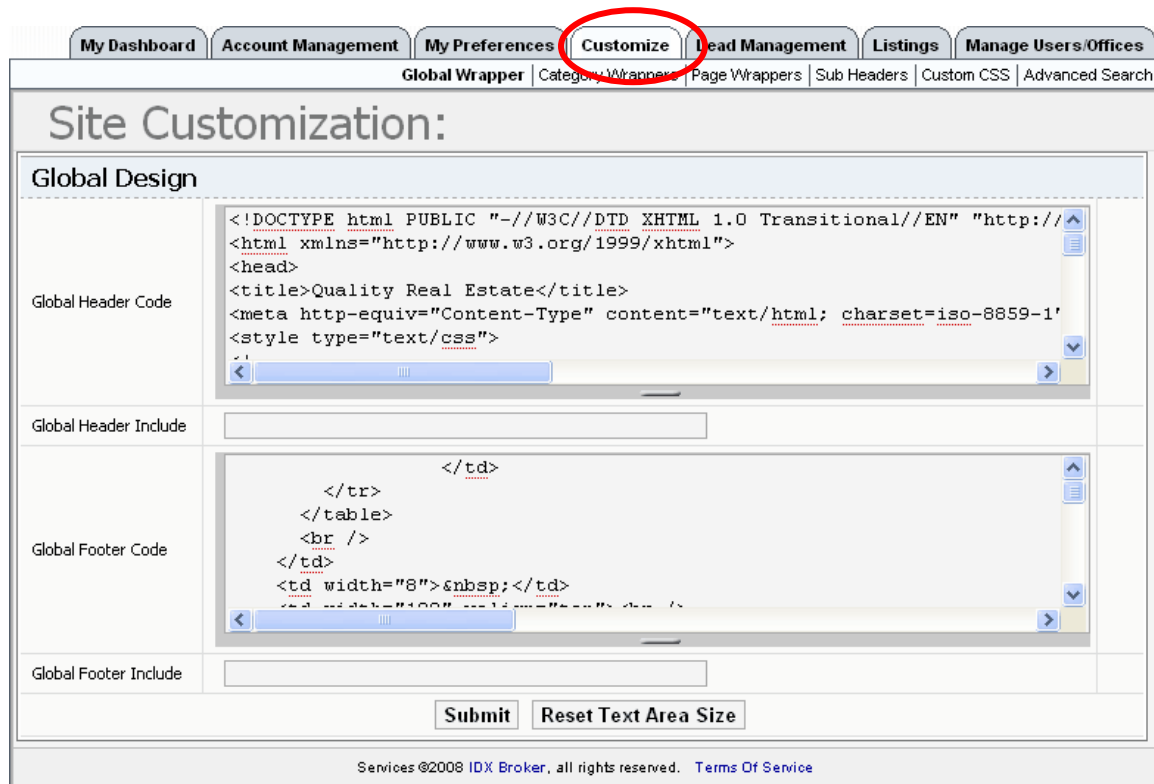
## Adding IDX to Your Site

There are two primary methods for integrating IDX tools with your website. The first uses a global wrapper and external links, and the second method uses iframes. The method you choose will depend on the type of website you use, the amount of maintenance you're willing to perform, and what your priorities are for your website.

### ***Global Wrappers and External Links***

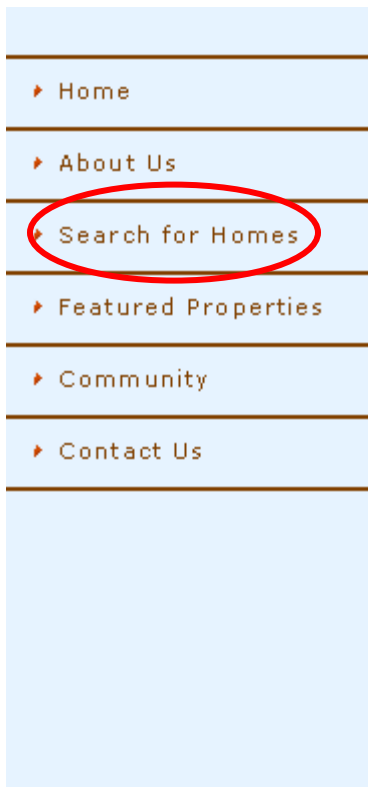
Most customers will add IDX to their site by simply adding the links they choose to the menu or navigation on their existing website. The use of a global wrapper matches their IDX tools to their own web pages, creating a seamless experience for their visitors.

For most accounts, your support contact at IDX Broker will build an initial global wrapper for you before sending your welcome email. We create this by modifying the source code from your own website and “wrapping” it around your IDX tools. If you want to view this wrapper, click **Customize** in the main menu of your control panel.



The screenshot displays the 'Site Customization' control panel. At the top, a navigation menu includes 'My Dashboard', 'Account Management', 'My Preferences', 'Customize' (highlighted with a red circle), 'Lead Management', 'Listings', and 'Manage Users/Offices'. Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail shows 'Global Wrapper' > 'Category Wrappers' > 'Page Wrappers' > 'Sub Headers' > 'Custom CSS' > 'Advanced Search'. The main content area is titled 'Site Customization:' and contains a 'Global Design' section. This section has four fields: 'Global Header Code' (containing HTML boilerplate code), 'Global Header Include' (an empty text box), 'Global Footer Code' (containing HTML table code), and 'Global Footer Include' (an empty text box). At the bottom of the 'Global Design' section are 'Submit' and 'Reset Text Area Size' buttons. The footer of the control panel reads 'Services ©2008 IDX Broker, all rights reserved. Terms Of Service'.

If this area is blank, you do not currently have a wrapper in place. This may be the case if you have indicated you will be framing your pages in, or if you did not have a site design finalized when your IDX account was created.



If you do have a wrapper, all you need to do is copy and paste the links you chose from the Page Links page referenced earlier into your site navigation. Or, email these links to your designer and let them know they should add these to your menu as external links that open in the same window. For most websites, the html code to accomplish this will look something like this:

```
<a href=
"http://qualityrealestate.idxco.com/idx/9/basicSearch.php">
Search for Homes</a>
```

Once those are added, you or your designer will want to make sure the menu in your IDX wrapper matches your new site menu. This means copying and pasting the same links into your IDX wrapper that you pasted into your own website code. For assistance with this, contact the IDX support team at [help@idxbroker.com](mailto:help@idxbroker.com), or view our User's Manual at <http://idxbroker.com/support>.

Using the global wrapper method will generally provide a more professional appearance to your site, make use of better SEO practices, and allow you to make full use of plug-ins and widgets such as quick search forms, slideshows, showcases, and lead generation tools.

## ***Framing***

You also have the option of framing your IDX tools into your site instead of using a global wrapper and external links. To do this, you'll need to create additional pages on your website where the IDX tools will appear. For example, you may create a page called Property Search. Then, somewhere in the code for this page, you would include an iframe tag that calls your IDX tool. The html to accomplish this will look something like this:

```
<iframe src="http://qualityrealestate.idxco.com/idx/9/basicSearch.php" width="600px"></iframe>
```

You may choose to frame your IDX tools into your site if you are using certain template sites that don't allow you to place external links in your navigation. However, you will lose some SEO benefits, and may have a difficult time getting IDX links from emails, quick search tools or other widgets to open correctly.

## **And you're done!**

That's really all there is to getting started with IDX. There are a wealth of other tools and options available, but once you've added your links or frames, you've made the primary benefits of IDX available to your website visitors. Please have a look around your control panel and view our User's Manual for help with lead generation, widgets, managing listings, and other great features. And help is always just an email away, at [help@idxbroker.com](mailto:help@idxbroker.com).