Here is a complete guide on how to configure and add Delivery Messages across all possible scenarios, permutations, and combinations.

Where to Create Delivery Messages

1. Go to your WordPress Admin dashboard.
2. Navigate to **WooCommerce > Delivery Messages**.
3. Click **Add New Delivery Message**.
4. Configure the 4 key sections:
    - **Title**: An internal identifier (e.g., *"Next Day Delivery for Apparel"*).
    - **Editor Content**: The message text shown to customers. Use {dd_countdown} to output a live countdown timer with calculated delivery dates.
    - **Assign to Categories**: Checkboxes to target entire product categories.
    - **Assign to Products**: Searchable multi-select dropdown to target specific products.
    - **Message Style**: Set a custom background color and icon.
5. Click **Publish** or **Update**.

Core Display Logic

When a customer visits a product page:

- **OR Condition**: A message displays if the product **matches any of the assigned categories** OR **is in the assigned products list**.
- **Stacking Behavior**: If a product matches **multiple messages**, all matching messages are displayed **stacked vertically** in chronological order (newest published message first).
- **Deduplication**: If a product matches both a category rule and a product rule for the *same* message, the message is displayed **only once** (no duplicate cards).

All Permutations & Scenarios

Scenario 1: One Message $\rightarrow$ One Category

Example: A standard shipping notice for "Electronics".

- **In the message settings:**

    - Check only [x] Electronics under **Assign to Categories**.
    - Leave **Assign to Products** empty.
- **Result:**
    - Every product inside "Electronics" will show this message.
    - Products in other categories will not show it.

Scenario 2: One Message $\rightarrow$ Multiple Categories

Example: Standard delivery message for both "Clothing" and "Footwear".

- **In the message settings:**
    - Check [x] Clothing and [x] Footwear under **Assign to Categories**.
    - Leave **Assign to Products** empty.
- **Result:**
    - Any product belonging to "Clothing", "Footwear", or both will display this message.

Scenario 3: One Message $\rightarrow$ Single Specific Product

Example: A special delivery warning for a fragile or pre-order product (regardless of category).

- **In the message settings:**
    - Uncheck all categories under **Assign to Categories**.
    - In **Assign to Products**, search and select only "Fragile Glass Vase".
- **Result:**
    - Only the "Fragile Glass Vase" product page will show this message.
    - Other items in the same category will not show this message.

Scenario 4: One Message $\rightarrow$ Multiple Specific Products

Example: Heavy item courier surcharge message for 3 specific heavy items.

- **In the message settings:**
    - Leave **Assign to Categories** empty.
    - In **Assign to Products**, search and select "Heavy Gym Weights", "Large Treadmill", and "Rowing Machine".
- **Result:**

- Only those 3 selected products display the message.

Scenario 5: One Message $\rightarrow$ Hybrid (Category + Specific Products)

Example: A message applies to all "Bakery" items, plus one special "Custom Gift Basket" in the "Gifts" category.

- **In the message settings:**
  - Check [x] Bakery under **Assign to Categories**.
  - In **Assign to Products**, search and select "Custom Gift Basket".
- **Result:**
  - All products in the "Bakery" category will display the message.
  - The "Custom Gift Basket" will also display the message, even though its category was not checked.
  - *Note:* If a product is in "Bakery" AND you also selected it in the product picker, it will only display the message **once**.

Scenario 6: Multiple Messages $\rightarrow$ Single Product (Message Stacking)

Example: A product needs to show both a general shipping cut-off countdown AND a special handling note.

- **Message 1 (Cut-off notice):**
  - Content: Order within {dd_countdown} (Blue background / Truck icon).
  - Assigned to: [x] Furniture category.
- **Message 2 (Special handling notice):**
  - Content: Requires 2-person delivery courier. (Orange background / Package icon).
  - Assigned to: Specific product "Mahogany Dining Table" (or directly to the Furniture category as well).
- **Result:**
  - Visiting "Mahogany Dining Table" displays **both messages stacked vertically** (Message 2 above Message 1 or vice-versa, ordered by publish date).

Scenario 7: Multiple Categories with Multiple Messages

Example: A product belongs to multiple categories, each with its own delivery message.

- Product "Apple Watch" is assigned to both:
    - **Category A:** Electronics (Has Message A: *"Standard delivery in 2-3 business days"*).
    - **Category B:** Express Shipping Eligible (Has Message B: *"Place your order within {dd_countdown} for next-day dispatch"*).
- **Result:**
    - Because the product belongs to both categories, both **Message A** and **Message B** will display together on the product page.

Scenario 8: Product-Level Override / Supplementary Note

Example: You have a category-wide message, but want to add an extra note to a single variant or high-value item without creating a new category.

1. **Global/Category Message:** Assign to the category (e.g., Jewelry).
2. **Product-Specific Message:** Assign only to "Diamond Engagement Ring" under **Assign to Products**.

- **Result:**
    - Normal jewelry items will show only the category message.
    - The "Diamond Engagement Ring" will show **both** the category message and the diamond-specific message.

Quick Reference Summary Table

What you want to achieve	Assign to Categories	Assign to Products	How it renders on frontend
All products in one category	Select 1 Category	Leave blank	Shows on all products in that category
Across multiple categories	Select multiple categories	Leave blank	Shows on products in any of those categories
Only 1 or few products	Leave unselected	Select 1 or more products	Shows only on the chosen products
Category + extra products outside category	Select category	Select extra products	Shows on all category items + the extra products
Show 2 or more messages on one product	Create 2 separate Delivery Messages and target either the	Both messages render stacked vertically	

What you want to achieve	Assign to Categories	Assign to Products	How it renders on frontend
	product's category or the product directly		