
Community Builder Facebook Connect Plugin enables automatic registration / login to CB websites using Facebook credentials

CB Facebook Connect 1.1

A CB 1.2.3 compatible plugin



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1 Introduction

The **CB Facebook Connect Plugin** version **1.1** is a CB 1.2.3+ compatible CB plugin that will integrate with your CB 1.2.3+ powered website and via the CB Login module (with Integration enabled) will allow users to sign-in (register) and/or login using their Facebook credentials.

Since it is fully compatible with CB 1.2.3, it is automatically Joomla 1.5 native (and also Joomla 1.0 and Mambo).

Users will still be able to register via the traditional CB registration form. However, users may also elect to just sign-in using their Facebook credentials. If a Facebook session is not present, the user is presented with a popup window to sign into Facebook first. Users that have registered via the traditional CB registration form may elect to link their CB account with their Facebook account, thus being able to one click login in the future.

1.1 Assumptions – Prerequisites

This document assumes that you have properly installed Joomla 1.5.X or Joomla 1.0.X (www.joomla.org) and CB 1.2.3 (www.joomlapolis.com) on your website and that you have downloaded the CB Facebook Connect Plugin distribution package from Joomlapolis as a CB Documentation subscriber.

In addition to the CB 1.2.3 prerequisite, this CB Facebook Connect plugin attempts to use **curl** if enabled in your hosting environment. You should consult your hosting organization to establish if **curl** is supported in your environment. If curl is not enabled, then the plugin will try using other alternatives (i.e., snoopy library) without guaranteed results. This **curl** is required.

Please read note below:

In order for this plugin to integrate with the CB Login module you must make sure that the '**CB Plugins Integration**' parameter on the CB Login module is **Enabled**. This is also described in Steps 9-11 on **Figure 10**.

1.2 Basic Terminology and Use Cases

The following terminology will be used later on and it is important that you understand the meaning and usability of these terms in order to comprehend the exact operations and use cases supported by this plugin.

Registration: The registration process of a CB powered website typically is started by visiting the CB Registration form. The registration form is typically accessed by a link from the CB Login module (with the appropriate module parameters and CB configuration parameters set) or directly from a menu item set to point to the CB Registration form. The CB Registration process is managed by CB Workflows specified in the CB Configuration Registration Tab area (email confirmation, registration approval parameters). The CB Facebook Connect plugin basically bypasses the registration process for users with Facebook accounts. These 'Facebook users' can register and login with a single click.

Sign-in: The process of associating an existing user account (username / password / email address triplet) with a Facebook account is called 'linking' and this term will be used later on during the configuration chapters of this document.

Sign-out The process of logging out from the website that we logged onto using our Facebook account (via Sign-in process).

There are basically 3 use cases possible with this plugin. These are illustrated in the following **Figure 1**.

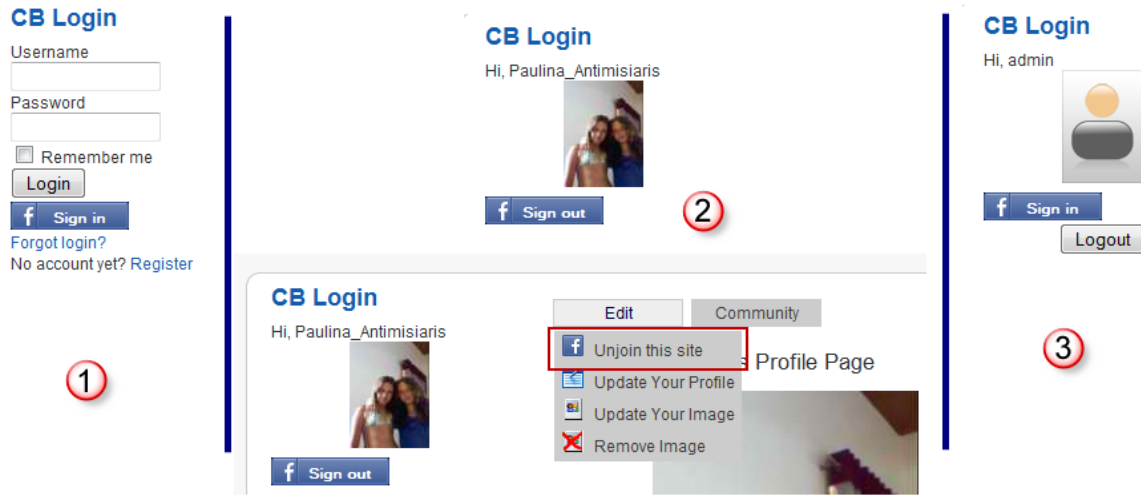



Figure 1: CB Facebook Connect use cases

The first use case of **Figure 1** shows how the CB Login module appears for a user that is not logged in on our CB powered website with the CB Facebook Connect version 1.1 plugin installed. The user may choose to login using his website credentials (if he has previously completed the CB Registration form), or may choose to register by clicking on the Register URL of the CB Login module, or finally the user may choose to bypass the registration process and click on the  button to use his/her Facebook credentials to login. In this situation, the CB Facebook Connect plugin will cause a Facebook Application popup window to appear asking the user if he/she agrees to associate his/her Facebook account with this website. Such a popup browser window is illustrated in **Figure 2** and in **Figure 3** depending on the existence of a Facebook session or not.

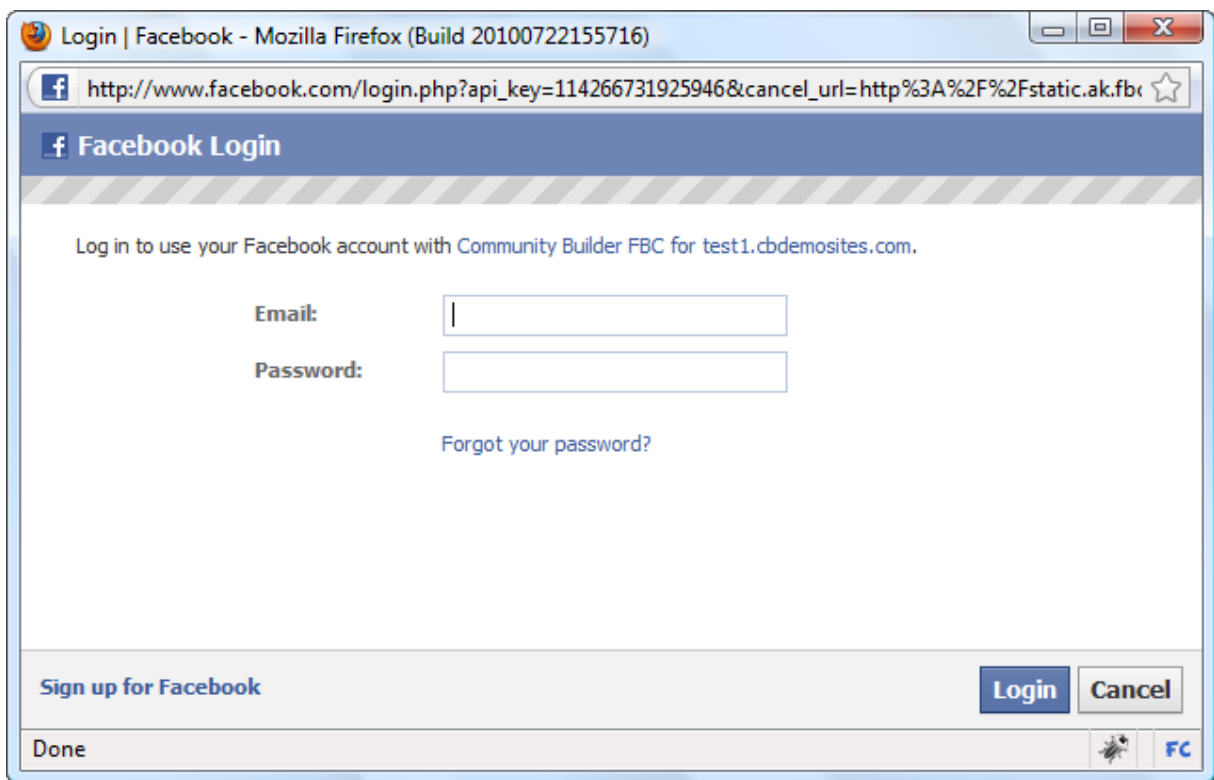


Figure 2: Facebook Connect Application Browser Popup Window (no session)

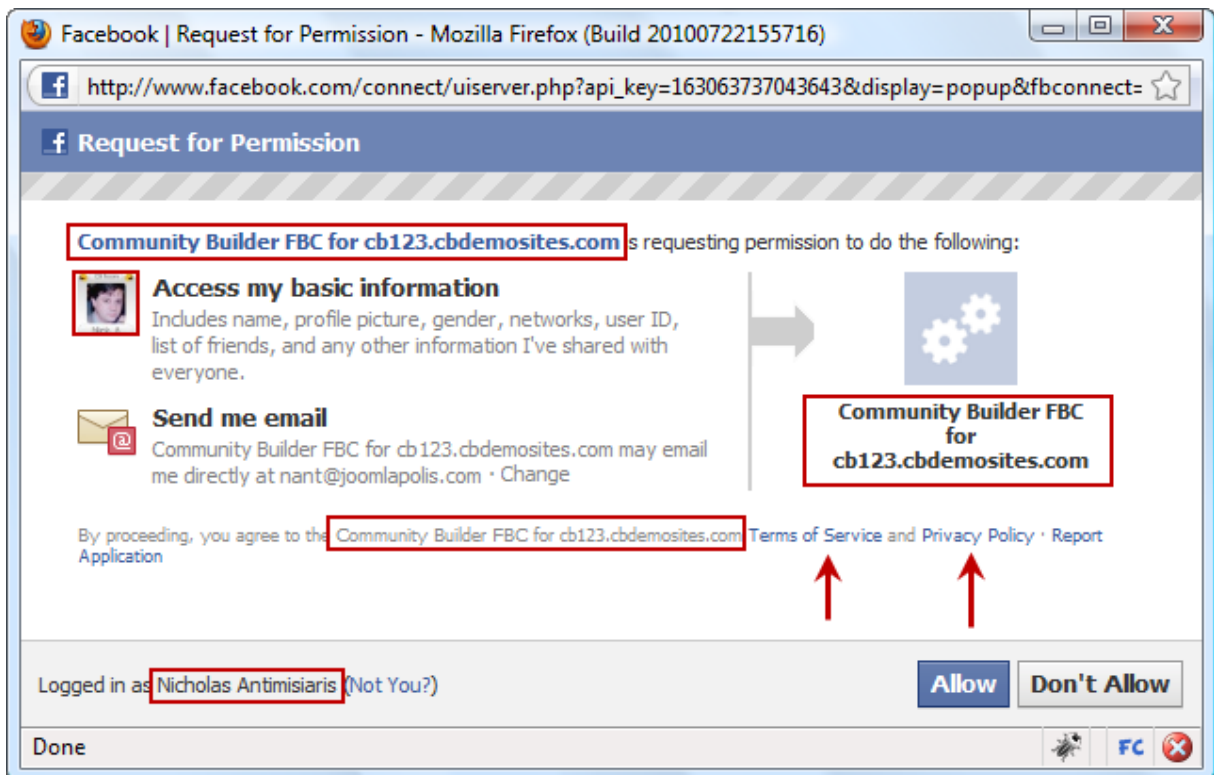



Figure 3: Facebook Connect Application Browser Popup Window (existing session)

After the Facebook user accepts to connect/share his/her Facebook account with your website a number of cases are possible:


- If a user account does not exist, then a new one is automatically created on the website. The new CB User will have a username that consists of his/her Facebook account name (e.g., Firstname_Lastname) and an email address that is the same as the Facebook primary email address. If CB has been configured to use firstname / lastname, then the relevant Facebook fields will be synchronized with the CB fields. The user avatar will also be taken from the Facebook profile.
- If the Facebook user already has an account on the website (via previously signing up), then the user is logged on using this account.
- If the Facebook user does not have an account on the website but there is a conflict (e.g., email address already in use on other website account, etc.), then an error message will be displayed and no further action will take place.

If the primary email address of Facebook is already used on the website, then CB will reject the new registration and ask the user if a username/password reminder is needed.

In the last case ( button and Connection Approval), the user will automatically be registered and logged into our site. In this use case and if the user is visiting our website for the first time, a new account is automatically created for this user based on his/her Facebook credentials. The users' Facebook profile image will be synchronized with his CB Profile image (if so configured) and a default username will be created for the user. This is actually the situation illustrated in the second use case of **Figure 1**.

In use case two of **Figure 1**, the user is logged in with his/her Facebook account and the CB edit menu on the user profile has a Unjoin menu item. This item would disassociate the user account previously create (or linked) with the Facebook account and from this point on, the user would have to login to the site using his/her website credentials. If a Facebook linked user does click this Unjoin item, then the system will present a popup window warning requesting that the user change his/her

account password, because after the unlinking the only way to login to the website with this account is through the traditional username/password sequence.

Finally, the third use case illustrated in **Figure 1** deals with the case where a traditional user is logged in (using his/her username/password pair) and has the option to click on the  button to link this account with his/her Facebook account.

1.3 Distribution Package

The **CB Facebook Connect 1.1** plugin package is downloaded as a single package named **unzip1st_cbfb_1.1.zip** that contains the following items:

- **plug_cbfb_1.1.zip** (your CB Facebook connect plugin package)
- **CB-FBC_1.1.pdf** (this documentation)

1.4 Upgrading to 1.1

If you have installed the RC3, RC2 or RC1 version of the CB Facebook Connect plugin and are working on a Joomla 1.5 environment you can upgrade to the latest 1.1 version by installing the 1.1 version right over the existing setup. No parameter settings will be lost in the process. If you are on a Joomla 1.0 or Mambo environment you need to first uninstall your existing version (keep notes on existing configuration parameters) and install new version.

Please note that as of RC3 the CB Facebook Connect plugin will interface with the Facebook API and obtain the email address of the signed-in user during the synchronization process. A new configuration parameter has been added to the plugin and an additional step is needed when preparing the Facebook application in the Facebook developers area.

CB Facebook Connect Plugin versions prior to RC3 could not grab the primary email address from Facebook API (at the time API did not permit this), and any users created would have an email address in the form of xxx@invalid. This of course is not a valid email address and would cause issues with various newsletter

components. The 1.0 version will identify such cases and continuously ask the Facebook user permission to use the Facebook primary email address from Facebook API.

2 Installation Process

The installation of the **CB Facebook Connect 1.1 plugin** package is performed just like any other CB plugin. Once you have downloaded the package and extracted the plugin package from the distribution package (which contains also this document you are reading), you should install the CB plugin by visiting the CB Plugin Management backend on your CB 1.2.3+ powered website.

All CB plugins must be installed using our CB Plugin Management administration panel. To locate the CB plugin Management panel from your Joomla 1.5.x administration backend follow the **Components → Community Builder → Plugin Management** menu sequence as illustrated in **Figure 4**.

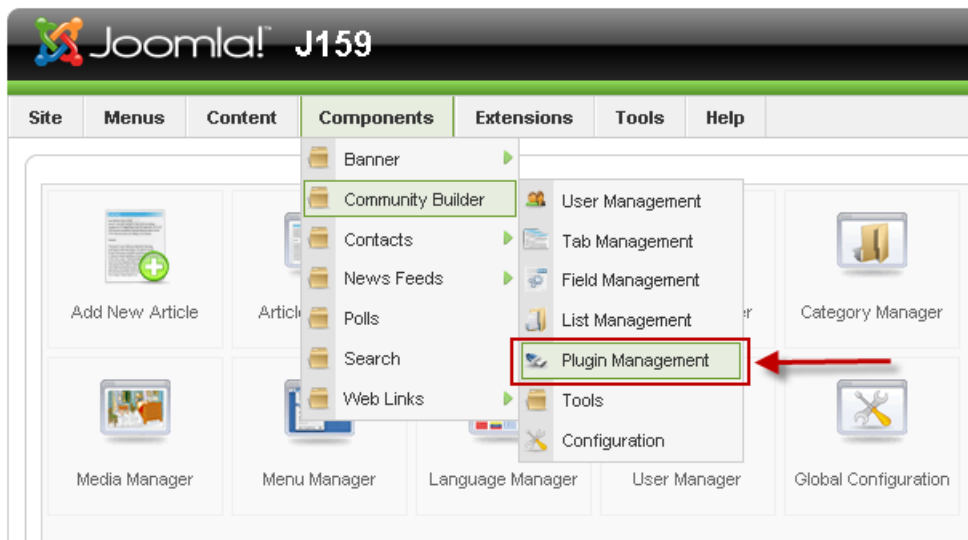


Figure 4: Navigating to the CB Plugin Management Panel

This will reveal the **CB Plugin Management** panel where you will see an **Install New Plugin** area as illustrated in **Figure 5**. Simply click **Browse...** and locate the **plug_cbfb_1.1.zip** package on your local storage followed by clicking the **Upload File & Install** button.

Install New Plugin

Upload Package File

Package File:

Figure 5: CB Facebook Connect Plugin Installation

After the **Upload File & Install** button has been selected (clicked on), the plugin installation process will start and you should soon see the progress – completion messages regarding the CB Facebook Connect plugin installation task. Hopefully, you should see something similar to the illustration in **Figure 6**.

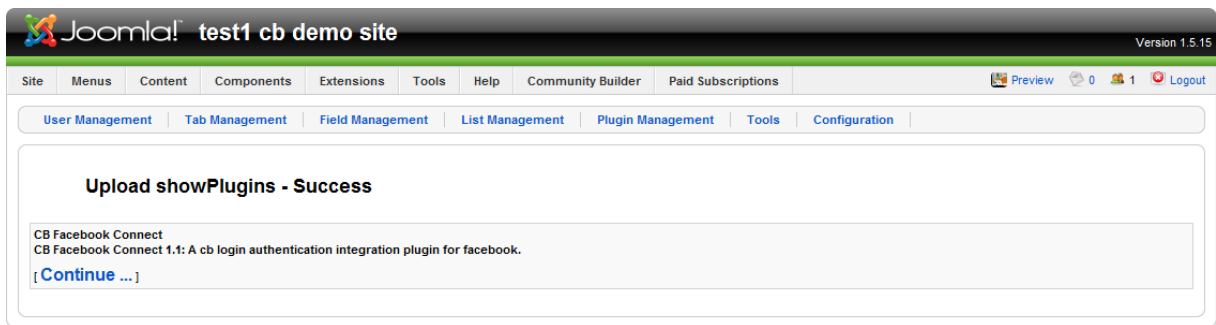


Figure 6: Successful CB Facebook Connect Plugin Installation

If anything out of the ordinary occurs during your specific installation process after following the previous instructions, please post to the appropriate Joomla! forums for free community support.

For further verification of successful installation of the **CB Facebook Connect** plugin you should be able to see an extra **CB Facebook Connect** line item in your CB Plugin Management summary panel as illustrated in **Figure 7**. Notice that there is a red **X** in the 'Published' column. This means that the CB plugin has not been enabled yet.

8	CB Facebook Connect				1	Public	user	cb.facebookconnect
---	---------------------	--	--	--	---	--------	------	--------------------

Figure 7: CB Facebook Connect item in CB Plugin Management Summary Panel

This plugin does not install any extra CB Tabs like other plugins usually do, so don't bother looking for one in the CB Tabs Management area.

3 Configuration

To properly configure the CB Facebook Connect plugin we need to first create and configure our own Facebook application on the Facebook developers website. Don't let this scare you. We will guide you through this process in great detail and will provide many screenshots to make you feel comfortable with the entire process. You will only have to do this once for every CB 1.2.3 website you have installed the CB Facebook Connect plugin on. After creating this Facebook application you will need to copy/paste 3 elements given by the Facebook application instance over to your CB Facebook Connect plugin parameters and then configure extra synchronization settings as needed.

3.1 Overview of CB Facebook Connect Plugin Parameters

Once the **CB Facebook Connect** plugin has been successfully installed, the next step should be to enable the plugin (since it is not enabled by default) and then to explore the various plugin parameters.

You can enable the plugin by following one of the following processes. If you visit the **CB Plugin Manager** panel as illustrated in **Figure 8**, you will see that the **CB Facebook Connect** row in the table has a red X in the **Published** column. By clicking on the red X you can enable the plugin and see that the red X turns into a green checkmark (✓).

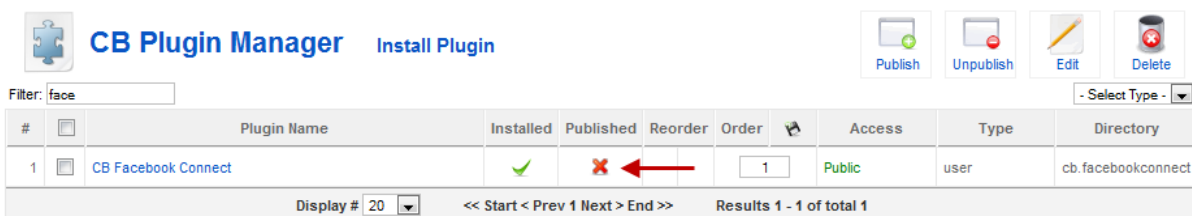


Figure 8: Enabling the CB Facebook Connect Plugin

You can also click on the **CB Facebook Connect** link in the **CB Plugin Manager** summary panel (see **Figure 8**) to edit the CB Facebook Connect plugin parameters as illustrated in **Figure 9**.

Community Builder Plugin: Edit [CB Facebook Connect]

Plugin is not published

Plugin Common Settings

Name:

Plugin Order:

Access Level:

Published: Yes No

Description: CB Facebook Connect 1.1: A cb login authentication integration plugin for facebook.

Folder / File: user/cb.facebookconnect.php

Parameters

To begin developing your facebook application to connect with your <http://test1.cbdemo sites.com> CB website, you must do the following steps.

1. Navigate to [Developer Application](#).
2. Click [Set Up New Application](#).
3. In **Essential Information** area complete *Application Name* (e.g., Community Builder FBC for test1 cb demo site) and Agree to Facebook Terms then click on **Create Application** button.
4. Click on the **Web Site** link on the left column (under About).
5. Complete the following:
 1. *Site URL* (e.g. <http://test1.cbdemo sites.com/>)
6. Click **Save**
7. Copy **API Key**, **Application Secret**, and **Application ID** to their respective locations.
8. Click **Save**
9. Locate **CB Login** (`mod_cblogin`) within **Module Manager**.
10. Set the parameter *CB Plugins integration* to Yes.
11. Click **Save**

[Application](#)

Figure 9: CB Facebook Connect Plugin Parameters

As you can see in Figure 9, the plugin is not enabled. The red **“Plugin is not Published”** message on the top of your edit page and the **No** selection in the Published radio parameter field (see red ← in the left part of **Figure 9**) should be a clear enough indication that the plugin is not published. You can publish the plugin by selecting the Yes value for the Published radio parameter and then clicking on the Apply or Save icon (top right corner of **Figure 9**).

Enabling the CB Facebook Connect plugin does not put it in an operational mode. We need to configure 2 Facebook related parameters, the ‘API Key’ and ‘Application Secret’ parameters in order to have our CB plugin communicate with Facebook.

You will also see in **Figure 9** that there are additional plugin parameters in the right area of the page. Before diving into details we will focus on the plugin description and configuration overview given on the top part of this right area. The description is illustrated in **Figure 10**.

Parameters

To begin developing your facebook application to connect with your <http://cb123.cbemosites.com> CB website, you must do the following steps.

1. Navigate to [Developer](#) Application.
2. Click [Set Up New Application](#).
3. In **Essential Information** area complete *Application Name* (e.g., Community Builder FBC for) and Agree to Facebook *Terms* then click on **Create Application** button.
4. Click on the **Web Site** link on the left column (under About).
5. Complete the following:
 1. *Site URL* (e.g. <http://cb123.cbemosites.com>)
6. Click **Save**
7. Copy **API Key**, **Application Secret**, and **Application ID** to their respective locations.
8. Click **Save**
9. Locate **CB Login** (mod_cblogin) within **Module Manager**.
10. Set the parameter *CB Plugins integration* to **Yes**.
11. Click **Save**

Application

Application ID:

API Key:

Application Secret:

Registration

Require Admin Approval: ⓘ

Require Email Confirmation: ⓘ

Figure 10: Facebook Connect Application Configuration Instructions

We will go through these steps in detail in the next section.

3.2 Configuration of Facebook Application on Developers Site

The 11 steps outlined in **Figure 10** will provide you with the **Application ID**, **API Key** and **Application Secret** values needed to be copied / pasted into the relevant CB Facebook Connect plugin parameters seen in the figure.

Before we begin the process lets agree on some basic assumptions that will help us along the way:

- The CB 1.2.3 website we want to integrate with Facebook is located at ***http://www.mycbwebsite.com*** (you should substitute this with your specific website). Please notice that the URL that will be shown in your specific plugin parameter instruction will have your website URL in it (see red outlined portion of **Figure 10**)

Lets now begin the process:

Step 1: Visit the Facebook developers area located at <http://www.facebook.com/developers> .

Step 2: Click on Setup New Application button as illustrated in **Figure 11**.



Figure 11: Set Up New Application on Facebook Developers Site

Step 3: In the “**Essential Information**” area complete the **Application Name** (e.g., Community Builder FBC for www.mycbsite.com) and Agree to Facebook terms and then click on “**Create Application**” button. This is illustrated in **Figure 12**.

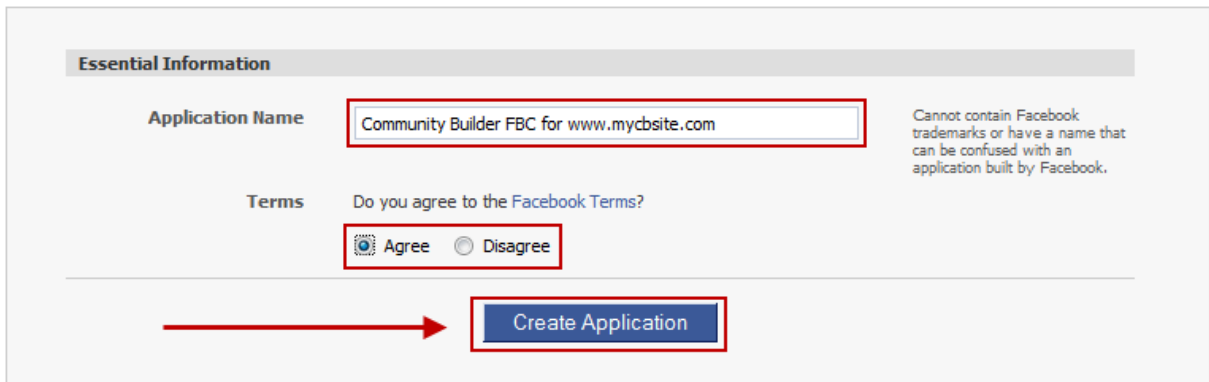


Figure 12: Completing the Facebook Developers Essential Information form

After clicking on the Create Application button as instructed in Step 2 Facebook might present you with a Captcha challenge form to complete. Once this is successfully completed you will be taken to the main application About panel as illustrated in **Figure 13**.

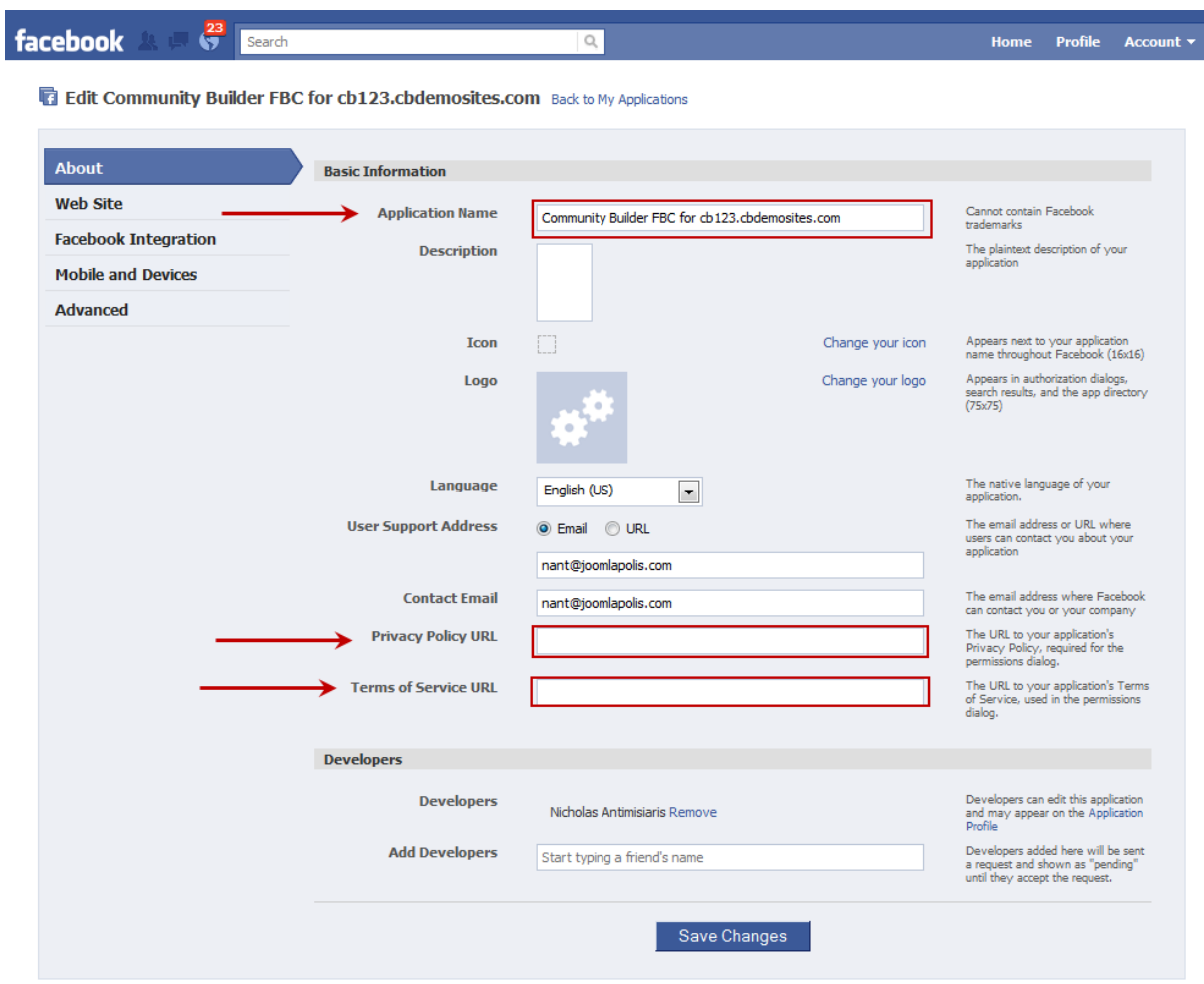



Figure 13: Facebook Application About panel

On this About application panel page you will see Application Name you specified earlier on and you will also see two URL field parameters that you can populate with URLs to your website Privacy policy and your website Terms of service content articles. These URLs will be included in the Facebook popup window requesting end use permissions (illustrated in **Figure 3**) when they use the plugin on your website. You can visit this page again and make changes if needed. Once you click on the Save Changes button you will be taken to the Main application panel as illustrated in **Figure 14**.

My Applications + Set Up New Application

Changes saved. Note that your changes may take several minutes to propagate to all servers.

- Community Builder FBC for cb123.cbdemosites.com
- Community Builder FBC for cbsubs.cbdemosites.com
- Community Builder FBC for test2.cbdemosites.com
- Community Builder FBC for www.mycbsite.com
- Community Builder FBC 11 for test1.cbdemosites.com
- Playground CB Project



Community Builder FBC for cb123.cbdemosites.com

Directory Status: **Not Submitted**
Once you have completed your application, you may [submit it](#) to the Application Directory.

Monthly Active Users	People Who Like This	Total Users
0	0	0

Application ID
163063737043643

API Key
01b7403afadb5ca311ecfba4963c2945

Application Secret
16c479f401fdd4a38fdf93b4659ca337

[Edit Settings](#)

[Application Profile Page](#)

[Insights](#)

[Translations](#)

[Advertise](#)

[Reset Application Secret](#)

Contact Email
nant@joomlapolis.com

Support Email
nant@joomlapolis.com

Sample Code
Get started quickly with some [example code!](#)

[Delete Application](#)

Figure 14: Main Application Panel for our Facebook Application

Please notice the three generated values on this Main Application Panel page as illustrated in **Figure 14**. The Application ID, API Key and Application Secret are unique to your application and you will be using these in your CB plugin later on.

Step 4: Click on the **Edit Settings** link on your Main Application panel (as illustrated in **Figure 14**) and you will be taken back to the About Panel page (previously illustrated in **Figure 13**). You can now click the **Web Site** button (under the About button) shown in **Figure 13**.

Step 5: Complete the **'Site URL'** parameter with your CB website URL (e.g., <http://www.mycbwebsite.com/>). This is illustrated in **Figure 15**.

IMPORTANT: The **'Connect URL'** parameter value must end in a **'/'** character.

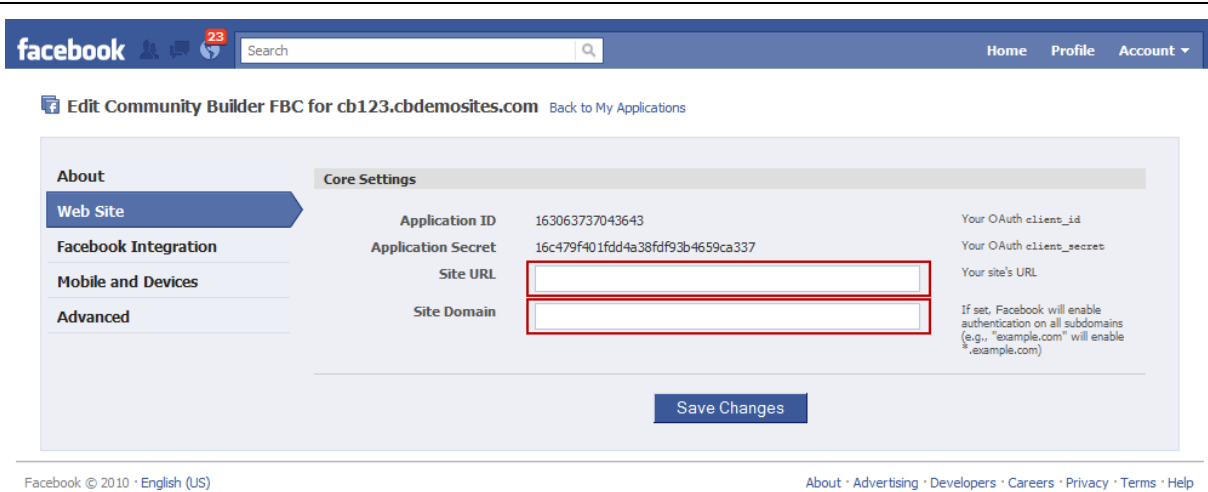


Figure 15: Facebook Application Web Site Parameters Screen

Step 6: Click on the Save button shown in **Figure 15**.

Step 7: After clicking the Save button in **Figure 15** you will be taken back to the main application page illustrated in **Figure 14**. Copy the **Application ID**, the **API key** and **Application Secret** values from the Facebook Application page shown in **Figure 14** to the relevant CB Facebook Connect Plugin parameters shown in **Figure 10**.

Step 8: Click Save in the CB plugin window.

Step 9-11: These steps refer to properly setting up the CB Login module to enable the CB API to integrate with it.

This concludes the creation of our Facebook application on the Facebook developers website. There is no need to revisit the Facebook developers website for this CB Facebook Connect installation. You will however need to create a new Facebook application for any additional CB Facebook Connect plugin installations (on other CB powered websites). This is why we emphasized the naming conventions semantics earlier on.

If you have successfully followed instructions outlined up to this point, your published and properly configured CB Facebook Connect plugin should produce a Facebook

Connect button in your CB Login module as illustrated in **Figure 1**. If you do not see such a button, then you have most likely done something wrong or you have not modified your CB Login module parameter as discussed in the prerequisites section note in **Chapter 1.1**. If you feel that you have done things properly from your end, then perhaps something else is wrong (bug in code or bug elsewhere that is blocking proper operation), then please post to the relevant forum area as instructed in **Chapter 5**.

4 Other plugin parameters

As you can see in **Figure 10**, there are two more Registration related parameters that you can configure (or leave as is using their default settings). These are:

- Require Admin Approval: [initial value: Default (CB Settings)]

This setting is used to instruct the CB Facebook Connect plugin about how it should handle Admin Approvals for registrations initiated by the plugin. The acceptable values are:

- Default (CB Settings)

This setting instructs the plugin to follow whatever workflow process has been specified in CB → Configuration → Registration tab. All users are treated the same (as far as Admin Approval) whether they have filled out the registration form of CB or they have clicked on the Facebook sign-in button on the CB Login module.

- No (over-ride CB)

This setting will automatically approve users that have selected to sign-in using the Facebook sign-in button on the CB Login module. This will over-ride whatever setting has been specified regarding the Admin Approval process in the CB Configuration Registration tab parameter.

- Yes (over-ride CB)

This setting will force approval needed process for users that have selected to sign-in using the Facebook sign-in button on the CB Login module. This will over-ride whatever setting has been specified regarding the Admin Approval process in the CB Configuration Registration tab parameter.

- **Require Email Confirmation:** [initial value: Default (CB Settings)]

This setting is used to instruct the CB Facebook Connect plugin about how it should handle Email Confirmation for registrations initiated by the plugin. The acceptable values are:

- **Default (CB Settings)**

This setting instructs the plugin to follow whatever workflow process has been specified in CB → Configuration → Registration tab. All users are treated the same (as far as Email Confirmation) whether they have filled out the registration form of CB or they have clicked on the Facebook sign-in button on the CB Login module.

- **No (over-ride CB)**

This setting will automatically confirm users that have selected to sign-in using the Facebook sign-in button on the CB Login module. This will over-ride whatever setting has been specified regarding the Admin Approval process in the CB Configuration Registration tab parameter.

5 Questions, Support, Modifications, Enhancements

.All questions and support issues should be directed to the appropriate forums area of the JoomlaPolis.com website:

http://www.joomlapolis.com/component/option,com_joomlaboard/Itemid,38/func,showcat/catid,117/

Please do not contact the author directly – use the forums.

Once again we would like to thank our CB Documentation subscribers for supporting our efforts.

Enjoy!