

## Community Builder 2.0 Primer

Social Networking with Style

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#### **Acknowledgments**

This book has been prepared using LibreOffice Writer.

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#### **Printing this Book**

When you print this CB Primer Book from its pdf download you will see that there might be blank pages added before some new chapter pages. This is done automatically so that all new chapters start on an odd numbered page. In order words you can print the pdf download in a double-sided page format.

#### **Document Translation**

The source files (odt and images) are available to Joomlapolis translation teams to translate into their language. If you are a translation team leader and wish to translate this book into your language you should contact the documentation team via email sent to documentation@joomlapolis.com.

#### Publication date and software version

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### Preface

Book expectations

#### Who is this book for?

Anyone who wants to get up to speed quickly with Community Builder (abbreviated CB throughout this document) will find this book valuable.

#### What's in this book?

This book introduces some of the main features of Community Builder, the social networking platform for Joomla.

The layout of this book is somewhat unconventional as it follows a quick-start approach showing you things you can do out-of-the-box with little or no extra configuration and then gradually introduces extra configuration possibilities as they are needed. Sometimes the images included to help explain one topic also introduce elements and features that will make the reader think and understand future possibilities. This approach hopefully makes reading more enjoyable and easier to follow.

The concepts explored are:

- Expectations, installation and first steps (Chapter 1 and Chapter 2)
- Working with fields and a closer look at image fields ( Chapter 3 and Chapter 4 )
- Creating user lists and searching for users ( Chapter 5 )
- Working with tabs, display types and profile positions ( Chapter 6 )
- Exploring operations with user management ( Chapter 7 )
- Plugin concepts and built-in apps (Chapter 8)
- Configuring and exploring user connections ( Chapter 9 )
- Language translation concepts ( Chapter 10 )
- More configurations and implication tips ( Chapter 11 )
- Conclusions and more resources ( Chapter 12 and Appendix A )

#### Where to get more help

This book, other Community Builder guides, the built-in Help system, and user support systems assume that you are familiar with your computer and basic Joomla functions and operations.

#### Help system

Community Builder comes with an extensive Help system. This is your first line of support for using Community Builder. The built-in Help system is comprised of Help pages and field tooltips.

To reach a Help page, click on the Help button on the upper right hand (left for RTL cases) corner of any CB administrative page below the Joomla logo as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Help button

To view a field tooltip, hover the mouse pointer over the small round information icon to see a popup box (tooltip) with a brief explanation of the field's purpose. A sample popup tooltip is shown in Figure 2.

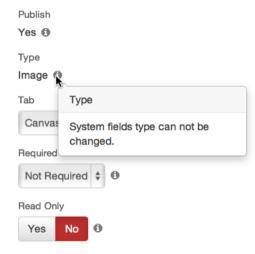


Figure 2: Tooltip popup

#### Free online support

The Joomlapolis community not only helps develop software, but provides free, volunteer-based support. See Table 1 and this web page: http://www.joomlapolis.com/support for relevant resources.

Table 1: Free support for Community Builder users

Free Community Builder support	
Ask Community	Questions and answers from the CB community on the Joomlapolis forums. www.joomlapolis.com/forum/community-discussions
Documentation	The Community Builder 2.0 Primer. This document.
FAQs	Answers to frequently asked questions www.joomlapolis.com/support/faq
Tutorials	A variety of online tutorials are available on Joomlapolis www.joomlapolis.com/support/tutorials
Videos	The Joomlapolis Youtube channel has many video tutorials. www.youtube.com/Joomlapolis
Getting Started articles	A number of Getting Started articles have been prepared to help you. www.joomlapolis.com/documentation/community-builder/getting-started
Searching Paid Forums	The paid support forums on Joomlapolis are great read-only references that are freely available to everyone. www.joomlapolis.com/forum/152-support-and-presales

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#### Paid support and training

Alternatively, you are able to pay for support services and add-ons that add new functionality to Community Builder. Paid resources are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Paid support and add-ons for Community Builder users

Paid Community Builder add-ons and support		
Professional Membership	You can purchase a Professional membership subscription to get more add-ons and posting rights on the Joomlapolis Professional Support forum where CB Team members provide same/next business day responses for any issues you may encounter on <i>any of your</i> CB website installations. More information about Professional membership is available here:  www.joomlapolis.com/support/membership	
Developer Membership	Purchasing a Developer membership subscription gives you access to all Joomlapolis add-ons, CBSubs GPL, CB Package Builder and Joomla GPL Templates. You can also post on the Developer Support forums for same/next business day responses for <i>all your customer</i> CB website installations.  www.joomlapolis.com/forum/255-developer-members-support	
CBSubs Paid Subscriptions Membership	To add paid (or free) subscription membership levels to your website, you can subscriber to the CBSubs GPL membership level (or Developer level) and download CBSubs GPL for your CB website.  More information about CBSubs can be found here:  www.joomlapolis.com/cb-solutions/cbsubs	
CB Package Builder Membership	Most powerful and flexible file download solution for Joomla. This CB plugin lets you transform your digital files into packages that can only be downloaded by authorized users. Joomla ACL is supported along with built in conditions (based on user CB field values) can be used for download authorization. CB Packager Bot, CBSubs Packager Bot and CB Packager module also available in this all inclusive package that is also available to Developer Membership subscribers.  More information about CB Package Builder can be found here: www.joomlapolis.com/addons/cb-package-builder	
Powered by Community Builder Footer Removal	All paid subscribers automatically get access to download the Footer removal plugin. You can also remove the footer under a very reasonable sponsoring subscription as described here:  www.joomlapolis.com/community-builder-remove-footer	
Joomlapolis Joomla GPL Templates	Joomlapolis also offers some very light-weight and fast-loading Joomla templates that have built-in support for Community Builder pages.  More info about these offerings is available here:  www.joomlapolis.com/joomla-templates	
Installation Services	A variety of fixed cost services packages are available for your Joomla, CB, or add-ons installation needs.  Joomlapolis Installation Services	
By the hour Professional Services	You can purchase on or more hours of training, technical, consultancy or general support.  Joomlapolis Hourly Services	

#### What you see may be different

Community Builder runs as an extension on a Joomla CMS system. The illustrations in this guide were taken from a Joomla 3.3.6 website with CB 2.0.5 installed. Therefore, some illustrations may not look exactly like what you see on your computer display.

Note

This book assumes that you have installed CB 2.1.4+ for the very first time on your Joomla 3.8.6+ website. If you are upgrading to CB 2.1.4+ from a CB 1.9.1 environment you may notice differences in your CB Configuration parameter contents and field/tab titles because of the migration process.

#### What are all these things called?

The terms used in Community Builder for most parts of the *user interface* (the parts of the program you see and use, in contrast to the behind-the-scenes code that actually makes it work) are the same as for most other Joomla extensions.

But there are some CB specific terms that a CB user should become accustomed with as early as possible. The technical names for common CB elements are shown in Table 3.

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Table 3: Community Builder Terminology

<b>Community Builde</b>	r Terminology
CB User Profile	A front-end page generated for each user that contains information about this user. The data is formatted as CB Fields placed in CB Tabs. Users can edit their profile data.
CB Tab	A specific area on a CB User Profile that contains one or more CB Fields A CB Tab can be configured to appear in various profile positions and in different layouts.
CB Field	A piece of data associated with a specific user. Each CB Field is of a specific type. E.g., text field, image field, date field, file field, etc. A CB Field also has other characteristics. E.g., a field can be marked readonly, not to be displayed on profile views, to appear during registration process, etc.
CB Plugin	Community Builder can be extended by installing CB Plugin packages. A CB Plugin is installed using the CB Plugin Management page installer and not the Joomla Extensions Manager installer.
CB User List	A list of users with some specific to these users data formatted on a front-end CB generated page. You can create as many user lists as you want.
CB Registration Form	A front-end form that needs to be filled-out before a user is given a CB User Profile and a Joomla user account on a website. The form may be extended with CB Fields that can be filled-out during the registration process.
CB Login Module	A Joomla module that is installed by the Community Builder package. This module lets users login and logout on your website and can be configured to provide more information (e.g., show user avatar, link to user profile page, etc.). This should be used instead of the Joomla Login module.
CB Online Module	A Joomla module installed by CB that show the current number of online users and it can be configured to show much more also. This module should be used instead of the built-in Joomla "Who's Online" module.
CB Workflows Module	A Joomla module installed by CB that shows CB Users and CB Moderators a list of pending actions that needs their attention. E.g., a pending connection for the user, pending registration form approvals, image approvals, user reports, etc.
CB Connections	A connection between to users. The connection can bidirectional or unidirectional and can be configured to require approval or not. Connections can be characterized with one or more tags. E.g., Friend, Co Worker, Family, etc. All connections of a user are shown in the CB Connections tab on the user profile and can be managed or removed by user.

There are more CB related elements that need to be mastered, but these are the basic ones that you will run into during your first CB interactions.

Note

Within the context of this book the prefix CB may be dropped from the terms in the previous table. So user profile, tab, field, plugin, etc. will implicitly refer to the CB user profile, CB tab, CB field, CB plugin, etc., unless otherwise stated.

#### Frequently asked questions

#### How is Community Builder licensed?

Community Builder is distributed under the GNU Genral Public License v2. The GNU License details may be seen at www.joomlapolis.com/gpl-terms.

#### May I distribute Community Builder to anyone? May I sell it? May I use it in my business? Yes.

#### How many websites may I install it on?

As many as you like.

#### Is Community Builder available in my language?

Community Builder has been translated (localized) into many languages, so your language probably is supported. Check here for your language: www.joomlapolis.com/cb-solutions/languages

#### How can you make it for free?

Community Builder is developed and maintained by team of paid professionals and has the backing of over 500,000 users on Joomlapolis alone. Its development is supported and funded from donations, paid support and extra add-ons subscriptions and footer removal supporters.

#### **How can I contribute to Community Builder?**

You can help with the development and user support of Community Builder in many ways, and you do not need to be a programmer. To start, check out the free forums on Joomlapolis and help new users asking questions you can answer.

#### May I distribute the PDF of this book, or print it?

Yes, as long as you meet the requirements of one of the licenses in the copyright statement at the beginning of this book. You do not have to request special permission.

#### How do I remove the Powered by Community Builder footer?

Displaying such a footer on your website CB powered pages will attract more users to try out Community Builder and thus increase the potential for more paid subscriptions and donations. This is one of the means that help us keep Community Builder free. You can however remove this footer from all your websites for a modest fee. More information about this can be found: www.joomlapolis.com/community-builder-remove-footer

#### How do I develop my own CB Plugins?

We will be working on a more comprehensive development document, but in the meantime your best approach would be to just study our CB plugin code and learn by example.

#### What happens to my paid for add-ons when my membership expires?

Everything distributed on Joomlapolis is GPL licensed. This means that things will continue to work as usual even after your subscription expires. You can also install what you already downloaded on more websites. The only implication is that when your subscription expires you will no longer be able to get maintenance release or post on the support forums.

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# Chapter 1 Introducing Community Builder

Let's build up expectations

#### What is Community Builder?

Community Builder is a Joomla extension that helps you create and manage your very own – tailored to your specific needs – social networking website.

It provides the framework and the tools needed to implement your specific social network use case starting from the registration process, the data gathering, the moderation and most importantly the empowerment needed to motivate your users to socially expand your network.

Community Builder is designed out of the box to render its front-end and back-end (administrative) pages in a cleanly formatted layout that adapts to all viewing devices. It can be viewed on all desktop, tablet and mobile device Internet browsers.

#### From a Joomla Perspective

Community Builder is distributed as a Joomla package that is installed using the Joomla Extensions  $\triangleright$  Extensions Manager page. The package contains and automatically installs the following Joomla elements:

- 1. Community Builder component
- 2. CB Login module
- 3. CB Workflows module
- 4. CB Online module
- 5. CB Library
- 6. CB Admin module
- 7. CB System plugin

#### **Technical Prerequisites**

Community Builder can be installed on a Joomla website environment that has the following technical characteristics:

- Joomla 3.3.6 or better (Joomla 3.8.8 recommended)
- PHP 5.3.10 or better (PHP 7.0+ recommended)
- MYSQL 5.1 or better (MYSQL 5.5+ recommended)
- curl and curl multi exec must be enabled on your hosting environment
- GD2 Library (optionally needed for image processing)

#### **Sample Front-end Pages**

Community Builder front-end pages can be configured to support your specific social community. Its registration form, email sign-up messages, user profiles, user lists and more will help you build a thriving online society.

#### **Registration Page**

The CB Registration page can contain as many CB Fields as needed to help you categorize and group your community members. One of the available layout options for the registration form is the flat layout that is shown in Figure 3.

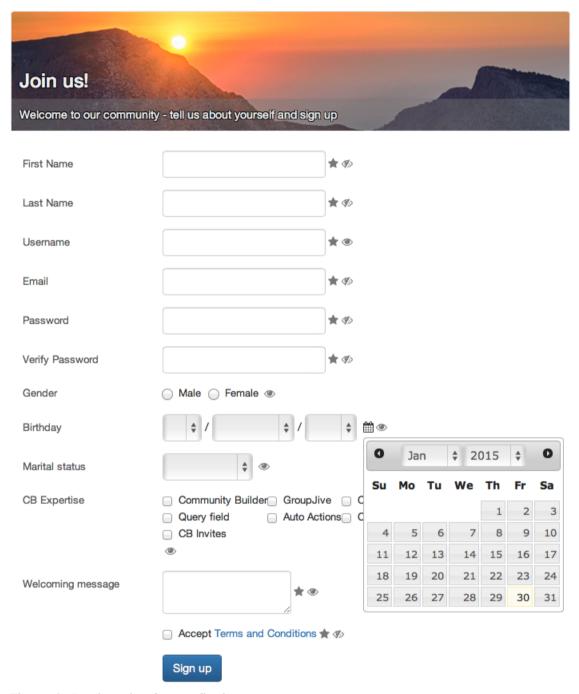


Figure 3: Registration form – flat layout

Of course, everything is configurable. The Join Us! message, the tagline Welcoming message, the fields on the form and even the splash image can be changed to your liking with parameter settings or language plugin string overrides.

The Registration Form can also be configured to follow a tabbed-based layout and display the relevant CB Fields (that have been marked for inclusion in the registration form) grouped by their CB Tab location as shown in Figure 4.

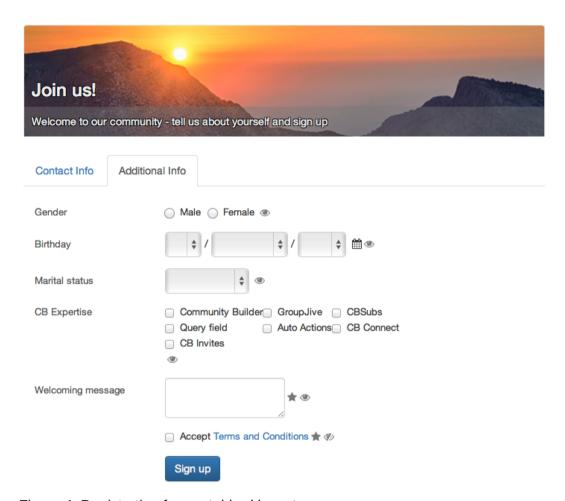


Figure 4: Registration form - tabbed layout

Tip

You can select the different registration form layout options from your Community Builder > Configuration > Registration tab > Registration Layout parameter. In order for this setting to work, you also need to have set the Template Output parameter to Divs on the Configuration > User Profile tab.

And there is also a third layout option for the registration form to display the form in a stepped-base format as shown in Figure 5.

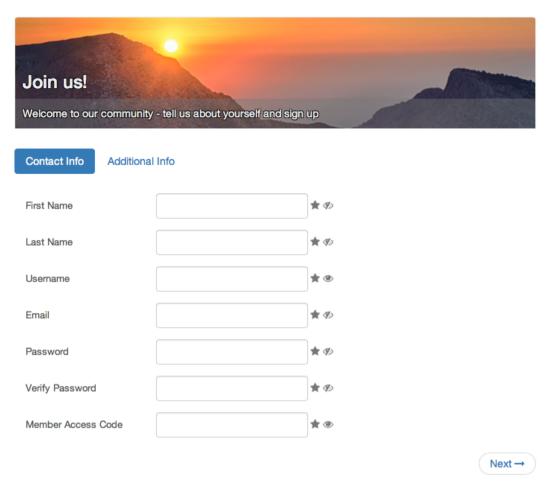


Figure 5: Registration form – stepped-base layout

Tip

You can inspect the page layout using your browser development tools (example Firebug) to see the CSS tags that are used and add extra stylings in your Joomla template file to adjust to your liking (CSS skills needed).

#### **Login Module**

The CB Login module replaces the Joomla Login module and does much more to help your community members feel more at home.

There are many built-in configurations that will let you easily adjust the module to your liking and to you Joomla template position placement. For example Figure 6 shows the CB Login module in its default bootstrap layout for vertical template positions.

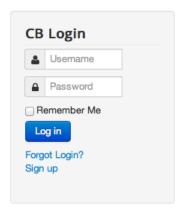


Figure 6: CB Login module vertical layout

You can also adjust the CB Login module so it fits nicely in a horizontal layout template position as shown in Figure 7.



Figure 7: CB Login module horizontal layout

The Login module has many additional parameter settings that will help your users to quickly participate and navigate on your website. Such an example is shown in Figure 8 where a logged in user can see his/her profile image and click it to reach his/her user profile page and can also see if unread private messages exist.



Figure 8: CB Login with image to profile link and private messages

Tip

You can inspect all the CB Login module settings from your Joomla Extensions > Module Manager page by selecting an existing CB Login module (or creating a new module instance) and looking in the 4 Options tabs.

#### **Users Online Module**

The CB Online module can be configured in many different modes to help you highlight your membership activities. Figure 9 shows you 6 different CB Online module mode possibilities.



Figure 9: CB Online module

The names displayed in the CB Online module are linked to each user's CB profile page.

Tip

You can inspect all the CB Online module settings from your Joomla Extensions > Module Manager page by selecting an existing CB Online module (or creating a new module instance) and looking in the Options tabs.

#### **User Profile Page**

The User Profile pages are configurable and can be structured in many different ways to suite your use case.

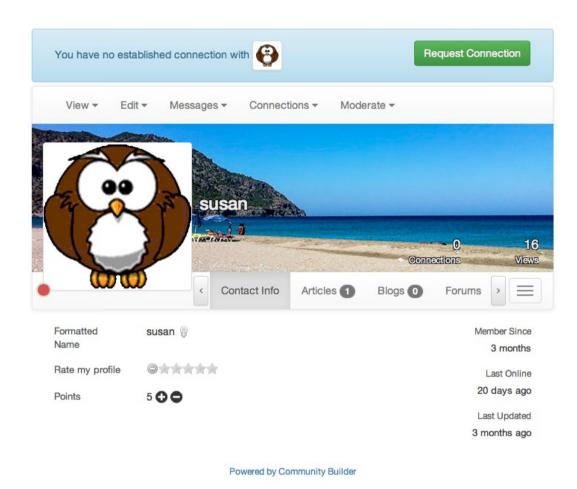


Figure 10: User Profile Page

#### **User List Page**

Letting your members search for other members is key to empowering your community to socialize and grow.

You can configure as many user lists as needed and each one may be configured differently and can also be searchable.

#### all members

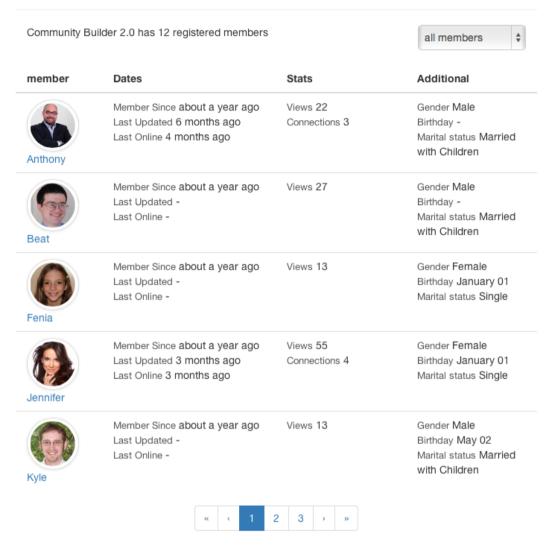


Figure 11: User List table layout

User Lists can also be configured to be displayed in a grid layout.

Tip

The round profile images in the User List table layout sample of the figure can be configured and is discussed in Chapter 4 Working with Images.

#### Grid layout

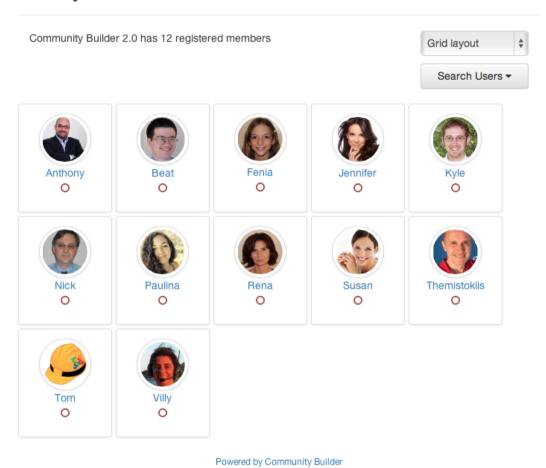


Figure 12: User List grid layout

We will be exploring more user list topics later on in this book in Chapter 5 Working with User Lists.



# Chapter 2 Installing Community Builder

Your getting started steps

#### **Before You Install**

Before you plunge in and install the latest Community Builder package on your Joomla website you should take some precautionary measures.

#### **Check Joomla Version**

Before you attempt to install Community Builder on your Joomla website you should first check that your Joomla version and the Community Builder version you intend to install are compatible. Joomla technical requirements can be found here:

downloads.joomla.org/us/technical-requirements-us

Community Builder technical requirements can be found here:

#### **Check PHP Version**

Joomla 3.x requires a PHP version of at least 5.3.10+ (5.6+ recommended).

#### **Check MYSQL Version**

Joomla 3.x requires MYSQL version 5.1 or better (5.6.24 or better recommended). For additional database possibilities and other technical requirements please check the Joomla Technical Requirements page here:

http://www.joomla.org/technical-requirements.html

#### **Check PHP upload\_max\_filesize parameter**

The CB package is slightly more than 4 MB in size. This means that your PHP upload\_max\_filesize parameter needs to be set to at least 6 MB (8 MB is recommended by Joomla).

#### **Check PHP post\_max\_size parameter**

The PHP post\_max\_size parameter should be set to the same value as the upload\_max\_filesize parameter. Joomla recommends that this is set also to 8M.

#### **Check Joomla Directory Permissions**

Before attempting to install any Joomla extension you should make sure that all your folder permissions are writable (green). Only exception to this rule can be your configuration.php file that may be Unwritable (read).

#### **Backup First**

The Internet is a dynamic environment. Server and bandwidth glitches may interfere with your installation process and cause unwanted results. As a precaution you should always take a backup before you attempt any new extension installation on your Joomla website.

Tip

You can check your Joomla version, PHP version, MYSQL Version, etc. from your System menu > System Information tab area. You can also check your PHP variable settings (example upload\_max\_filesize) from the System menu > PHP Information tab area and your folder permissions from the Directory Permissions tab.

#### **Installation Methods**

Joomla extensions are installed from the Joomla administration area ➤ Extensions ➤ Extension Manager Page as explained in the Joomla documentation page here:

docs.joomla.org/Installing an extension

There are basically 4 methods that you can use to install Community Builder on your Joomla website.

#### **Upload Package File Method (Preferred)**

If you have not already downloaded the latest Community Builder package from Joomlapolis you should do so now by registering a free (or paid account) account and logging in so you can access the latest CB Package from the Community Builder page:

#### www.joomlapolis.com/community-builder

If you are a free member you will be also able to download the latest Nightly Build package that typically includes latest fixes rolled out by the CB Team to be included in the next stable release. Otherwise, you can download the official stable release which would be CB 2.1.4<sup>1</sup> (or better) as shown in Figure 13.



- ✓ Build your own community!
- ✓ Simplify member registration
- ✓ Let your members connect
- ✓ Personalize profiles member lists
- ✓ Scalable, reliable, robust
- ✓ Hundreds of plugins available
- ✓ It's free & open source GPL



Figure 13: Downloading Latest CB Package from Joomlapolis

 $1\,$  CB 2.1.4 was the latest version released during the preparation of this book chapter.

Your download package should read something like:

- pkg communitybuilder 2.1.4+f26954917.zip for a stable release package
- pkg\_communitybuilder\_2.1.4+build.2018.03.08.19.14.41.a261fdeba.zip for a latest build package

The specific version number, date stamp for latest build, and hash code may differ depending on when you download.

To proceed with the installation, you need to click on the Choose File button on your Upload Package File tab page and select the specific package you downloaded previously from Joomlapolis and finally click on the Upload & Install button as shown in Figure 14.

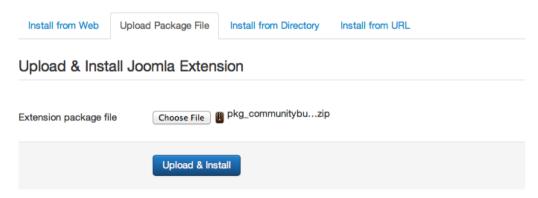


Figure 14: Upload & Install Joomla Extension

If all goes well you should see the green Joomla Installing Package was successful message and the Community Builder splash screen as shown in Figure 15.

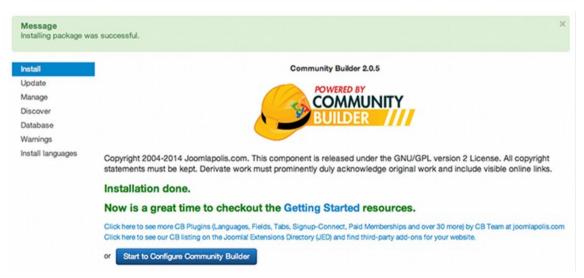


Figure 15: Installation done CB splash page

#### **Install from WEB Method**

From your Joomla administration area Extensions  $\gt$  Extension Manager Page select the Install From WEB<sup>2</sup> tab and type Community Builder in the search box.

#### **Install from Directory Method**

You can manually unzip the CB package and upload it to a folder on your Joomla hosting environment and then use this method to install the package.

#### **Install from URL Method**

This method does not apply to CB since there is no public URL with the CB package on Joomlapolis.

<sup>2</sup> At times this service may not be available due to maintenance reasons on the Joomla Extensions Directory website.

#### **Inspecting Your New Installation**

After successfully installing Community Builder you can inspect what Joomla elements have been installed and how these are presented on your Joomla website.

#### **Joomla CB Elements**

When you visit your Joomla Extensions > Extensions Manager Manage Page you should see many Community Builder related elements (just search for Community Builder so see them listed) with author CB Team as the are shown in Figure 16.

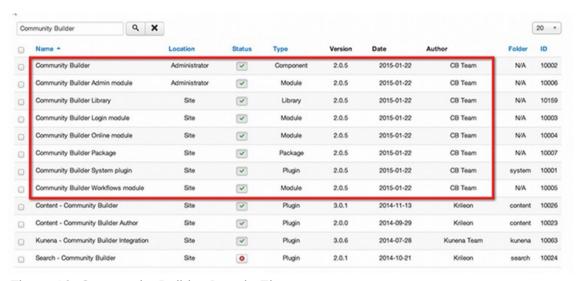


Figure 16: Community Builder Joomla Elements

These elements are briefly explained in Table 4.

Table 4: New elements present after Community Builder package installation

Elements you will s	see on your Joomla site after CB installation	
Community Builder Package	The Community Builder Package is what was initially installed on your Joomla website (remember the upload file was named pkg_).	
Community Builder	This is the Joomla component that the CB package installed.	
Community Builder Admin Module	Administrative module responsible for the new Community Builder menu and the CB News/Update areas you will see in the Joomla Control Panel.	
Community Builder Library	The CB framework as a Joomla Library.	
Community Builder Login module	A renjacement to be used instead of the Johnnia Louin module	
Community Builder Online module	A replacement module to be used instead of the Joomla Online module.	
Community Builder System plugin	A Joomla plugin that handles the redirection of any Joomla login or registration requests to the relevant CB pages.	
Community Builder Workflows module	The CB Workflows module that will enable CB Moderators to handle requests for new approvals, image uploads and user reports.	

#### **Community Builder Joomla Navigation Menu**

After you install the CB Package you will see a new Community Builder menu addition to your main Joomla Navigation menu strip just to the right of your Help menu item as shown in Figure 17.

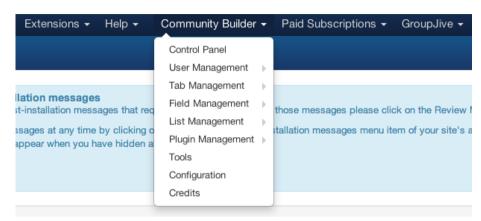


Figure 17: Community Builder Menu

This new menu gives you quick access to Community Builder administrative pages, but you may also use the Community Builder menu entry that also appears in the Components menu.

Note

The Paid Subscriptions and GroupJive menu items will automatically appear when you install CBSubs or GroupJive (paid membership needed).

#### **Site Community Builder Menu**

A new Community Builder menu has been created and populated with CB specific menus as shown in Figure 18 and Figure 19.



Figure 18: Site Community Builder menu

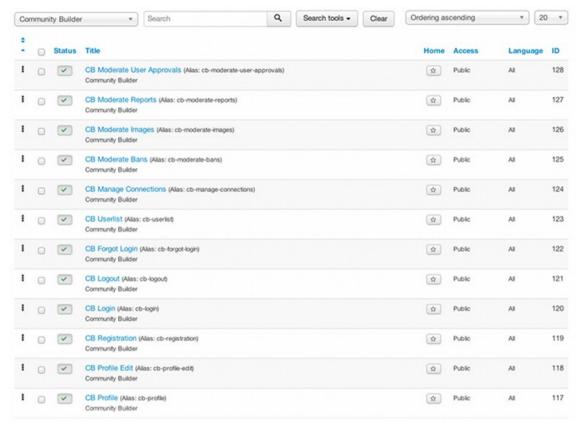


Figure 19: Community Builder site menu entries

Tip

You can move these menu items to other menus on your website or you can just create new alias items pointing to these. You can also create new CB related Joomla site menu items from your Joomla Menus menu page.



All Joomla menu items in Figure 19 are published for Public viewing. You should not change this unless you are absolutely certain of the implications. For example, if you set the CB Profile menu to Registered, then Joomla will not give public access to the CB Registration form which means that your registration process will not work.

#### **New Community Builder Module Instances**

When you install the Community Builder package on your Joomla site for the very first time along a number of module instances are also created.

You can view the front-end module instances by visiting your Joomla Extensions  $\gt$  Module Manager page and searching for names that start with CB with the filter set to Site. This is shown in Figure 20.

As you can see there are three instances created, one module instance for each of the Community Builder Login, Workflows and Online modules.

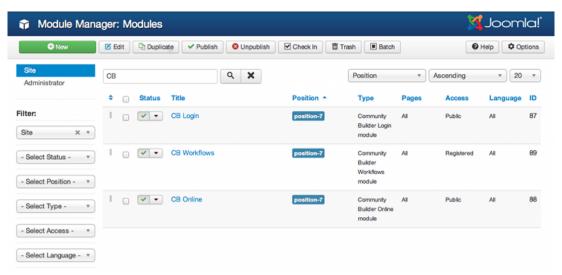


Figure 20: Front-end CB Module Instances

These site module instances when configured, properly positioned according to your Joomla template and published will output content similar to that of Figures 6, 7, 8 and 9.

Tip

You can create more CB module instances from your Joomla Extensions ➤ Module Manager page by clicking on the New button and selecting the appropriate module name from the list.

There are also 4 module instances (each one configured differently) of the Community Builder Admin module that you can see by setting the filter to Administrator and the Type to Community Builder Admin module as shown in Figure 21.

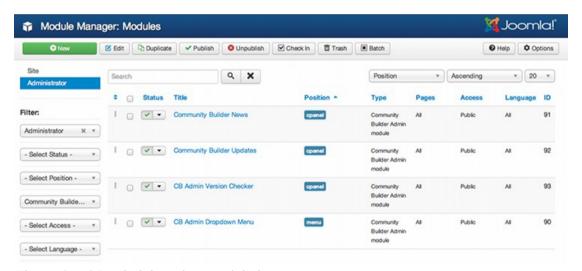


Figure 21: CB administration module instances

One of the CB Admin module instances is used to render the Community Builder menu shown in Figure 17, a second one is used to render the CB version checker on the Community Builder  $\succ$  Control Panel page and the Community Builder  $\succ$  Configuration page. Finally, the 2 remaining

module instances are used to render the News and Updates blocks in the Joomla System > Control Panel page as shown in Figure 22.

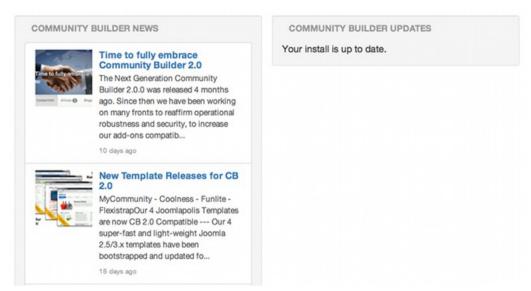


Figure 22: Appearance of CB module instances on Joomla control page

#### **Community Builder System Plugin**

The Community Builder System plugin can be found in the Extensions Plugin Manager page and it should be published by default.

This Joomla system plugin is needed to handle various URL redirections and URL parsing. You can inspect the Parse URLs tab parameters to see the relevant settings as shown in Figure 23.

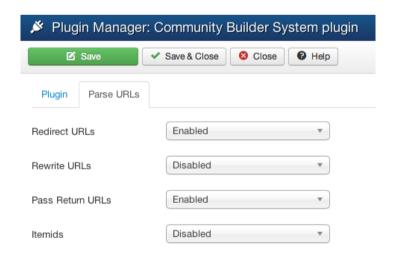


Figure 23: Community Builder system plugin

Note

If you have SEF enabled on your Joomla site you might have to enable all Parse URLs tab parameters

#### **After Installation Getting Started Steps**

The installation splash screen shown in Figure 15, prompts you to check out the Getting Started resources on Joomlapolis. Please visit these short articles now and follow the instructions they provide.

For the seasoned Joomla users reading here is a high level series of reminder steps that you need to take care of when you install Community Builder for the first time on your Joomla website:

- Configure Community Builder Name Style, Date Format, Allow User Registration, Fields validation in User Management and Template Output parameters
- 2. Turn off Joomla registrations
- 3. Turn off Joomla emails to new users
- 4. Configure and publish your CB Login module
- 5. Unpublish your Joomla Login module
- 6. Configure and publish your CB Workflows module
- 7. Configure and publish your CB Online module
- 8. Unpublish your Joomla Online module

If these descriptions are not sufficient then by all means visit the Getting Started articles by clicking on the following URL:

http://www.joomlapolis.com/documentation/community-builder/getting-started

If you are a visual learner you can visit our Community Builder 2.0 Video Tutorial series (over 40 short sessions) by clicking on the following URL:

http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLp0puRITgC7PuyzPsMUECDI46VE7IFSAX

#### **Updating from Community Builder 1.9.1**

If you are updating from a CB 1.9.1 installation there are some special precautionary steps that you should follow:

- 1. Take a full backup and if possible perform the remaining steps on a cloned environment
- 2. Make sure your existing CB Plugins are CB 2.1.4+ compatible. Most likely they will not be, so you need to have new versions at hand to upgrade them also after your CB 2.1.4 upgrade.
- 3. Unpublish all non core CB Plugins, even the ones you purchased from Joomlapolis in the past. This will ensure that your CB upgrade process will not be affected by incompatible old add-ons attempting to access API function calls that might not be available in CB 2.1.4. If you have CBSubs installed then also unpublish the CBSubs Joomla plugin.
- 4. Install the latest CB 2.1.4+ package. Hopefully, everything will complete without problems. If any issue appears then seek help on the free/paid forums on Joomlapolis.
- 5. Run all CB Tools to make sure everything is green. If needed follow any fix recommendations reported by CB Tools.
- 6. Update all extra CB Plugins (previously unpublished) to their latest CB 2.1.4+ compatible release.
- 7. Publish the now upgraded CB Plugins.
- 8. If process was done on a cloned environment, redo on live environment.

Tip

You can watch the tutorial #30 of the CB 2.0 Playlist series that actually demonstrates the upgrade process:

 $\label{lem:https://www.youtube.com/watch?} $$v=AtMsAhScimg\&list=PLp0puRITgC7PuyzPsMUECDI46VE7IFSAX\&index=30$$ 



## Chapter 3 Working with Fields

The building blocks of your profiles

#### What is a CB Field

A Community Builder Field is an entity that holds user specific data.

#### **Field Properties**

Each CB Field has the following general properties:

- Title
- Name
- Description
- Publish Yes/No status
- Type
- Tab
- Required / Not Required status
- Read Only Yes/No status

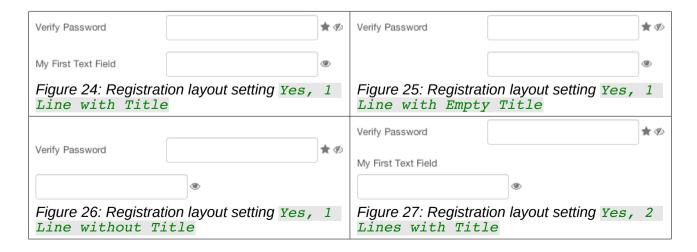
- Show on Profile
- Show on Registration
- Default Registration Value
- Show on Profile Edit
- Searchable Yes/No status
- Size
- Ordering
- CSS Class

Some field types may have additional general properties. E.g., the Integer Number type field has a Maximum Length property and the Text Area type field has Columns and Rows properties.

The Show on Profile, Show on Registration and Show on Profile Edit properties can be configured to one of the following 5 settings:

- 1. No
- 2. Yes, 1 Line with Title
- 3. Yes, 1 Line with Empty Title
- 4. Yes, 1 Line without Title
- 5. Yes, 2 Lines with Title

Figures 24 through 27 show you how a text field would display on the registration form when configured to one of these options.



Note

Some of the field layout setting options might seem inappropriate (and they are for the text field type). Their value will become much clearer when combined with the placeholder parameter and other field types (e.g., text area or editor field types).

### Another Note

In addition to these 4 field layout settings you can do much more creative field layout handling with the advanced parameters located in your field Parameter Layout sub-tab.

#### **Field Types**

Your default Community Builder installation has 24 built-in field types (Type parameter) that you can use when creating CB fields. In alphabetical order these are:

- Check Box (Single)
- 2. Check Box (Multiple)
- Date
- 4. Time
- 5. Datetime
- 6. Drop Down (Single Select)
- 7. Drop Down (Multi-select)
- 8. Email Address
- 9. Editor Text Area
- 10. Text Area
- 11. Text Field
- 12. Integer Field
- 13. Radio Buttons

- 14. Web Address
- 15. Image
- 16. Password
- 17. Custom HTML
- 18.File
- 19. Video
- 20. Audio
- 21. Rating
- 22. Points
- 23. Terms and Conditions
- 24. Forum Status

**Note** 

There are extra field types that can be added by installing extra CB Field plugins. E.g., the CB Query field and the CB Progress field add-ons that are part of the Professional membership offering.

### **Core CB Fields**

By default every new CB installation has 19 predefined CB fields.

			Properties						
Name	Title	Туре	R e q	P r o	R e g	E d i	S e a	P u b	
acceptedterms	Terms and Conditions	Terms and Conditions	×	×	×	×	×	~	
avatar	Profile Image	Image	×	<b>✓</b> (1	×	<b>~</b> (1	×	~	
canvas	Canvas Image	Image	×	<b>~</b> (1	×	<b>~</b> (1	×	~	
connections	Connections	Connections	×	<b>√</b> (2	×	×	×	~	
email	Email	Email address (main)	~	×	<b>✓</b> (1	<b>✓</b> (1	×	~	
firstname	First Name	Predefined name and username fields	~	×	<b>~</b> (1	<b>✓</b> (1	×	×	
formatname	Formatted Name	Formatted name	×	<b>✓</b> (1	×	×	×	~	
hits	Views	Counter	×	<b>✓</b> (2	×	×	×	~	
lastname	Last Name	Predefined name and username fields	~	×	<b>✓</b> (1	<b>✓</b> (1	×	×	
lastupdatedate	Last Updated	Datetime	×	<b>√</b> (2	×	×	×	~	
LastvisitDate	Last Online	Datetime	×	<b>~</b> (2	×	×	×	~	
middlename	Middle Name	Predefined name and username fields	×	×	<b>✓</b> (1	<b>✓</b> (1	×	×	
name	Name	Predefined name and username fields	~	×	<b>✓</b> (1	<b>✓</b> (1	~	~	
onlinestatus	Online Status	Online Status	×	<b>✓</b> (1	×	×	×	~	
params	User Parameters	User parameters	×	×	×	<b>✓</b> (1	×	~	
password	Password	Password	~	×	<b>~</b> (1	<b>✓</b> (1	×	~	
pm	РМ	Private Message	×	×	×	×	×	~	
registerDate	Member Since	Datetime	×	<b>✓</b> (1	×	×	×	~	
username	Username	Predefined name and username fields	~	×	<b>✓</b> (1	<b>✓</b> (1	~	<b>~</b>	

**Note** 

Don't be alarmed if the properties of your fields do not exactly match the ones listed. CB Configuration parameters may influence some property values. E.g., the name fields depend on the Configuration Name Style parameter setting.

#### **Field Parameters**

By default every CB field has a Parameters tab that contains more settings for the field. These settings are further organized in sub-tabs.

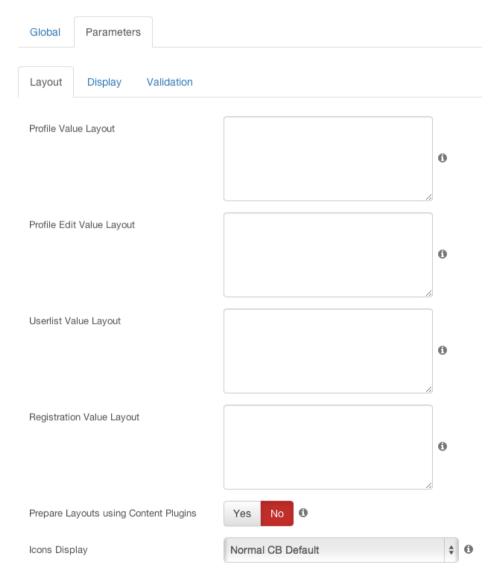


Figure 28: Field Parameter sub-tabs

In most field type cases you should expect to find, as shown in Figure 28, the following three subtabs under the field Parameter tab:

- 1. Layout
- 2. Display

**Note** 

For most field types you will see the Layout, Display and Validation sub-tabs. However, there are specific field types that might not have these or might also have extra sub-tabs. Take a look at the Parameter sub-tabs for image type fields or file type fields as examples.

#### **Layout Sub-tab Parameters**

The parameters on the Layout sub-tab let you influence the way the field is displayed in various Community Builder pages, basically extending the built-in default views.

There are 4 layout specific parameters on the sub-tab:

- 1. Profile Value Layout
- 2. Profile Edit Value Layout
- 3. Userlist Value Layout
- 4. Registration Value Layout

Each one of these text area parameters can be used to alter the way the field is rendered in specific CB views. You can insert HTML code and CB field substitutions in this process. The substitution [value] is used to reference the default value of the field.

Here are some samples you can experiment with on a CB text type field that is used to store a user's nickname. On the field's Profile Value Layout parameter try one of the following:

- 1. My nickname is <strong>[value]</strong>
- 2. My username is <i>[username]</i>, but you can call me <b>[value]</b>
- 3. [username]'s nickname is [value]

This is a very powerful feature that you can use to adjust the way any field is displayed on specific CB pages (profile view, profile edit, user lists, registration).

Tip

The Joomlapolis Youtube channel has various tutorial examples about CB Field Layout parameters. More help can be found on the free or paid forums on Joomlapolis.

#### **Display Sub-tab Parameters**

For most field types there is typically only one parameter in this area, the Placeholder Value that is used to specify the HTML placeholder attribute value that is shown in field edit mode.

You can experiment with this parameter by giving it some value (e.g., nickname goes here) and then seeing how this value is shown in the field box during profile editing.

**Note** 

Try creating different types of CB fields and seeing what field type specific parameters appear in this sub-tab. E.g., look at the date field parameters.

#### **Validation Sub-tab Parameters**

Once again the presence and parameter contents of this sub-tab depends on the specific field type. The text field type initially has the following 4 Validation sub-tab parameters:

- 1. Minimum length
- 2. Authorized input (drop-down selector that may display additional parameter inputs)
- 3. Forbidden words at registration
- 4. Forbidden words in user profile edits

Each one of these parameters has its own tooltip explanation to guide you.

Note

Experiment with other field types to see how this area adjusts itself. E.g., the Drop Down field types do not have this sub-tab, the Date field types have different parameters, etc.

The Joomlapolis Youtube channel has various CB Field creation tutorial examples that you can watch and get the hang of things. More help can be found on the free or paid forums on Joomlapolis.



# Chapter 4 Working with Images

A picture is worth a thousand words

#### **Introduction to Image Fields**

The image field type is one of the 23 types available in Community Builder. This book will not have a dedicated chapter for each of these field types, but image fields have a big impact on the overall appearance of your CB website and for this reason we are exploring these here in more detail.

#### **Built-in Image Fields**

Looking back at the list of Core CB Fields that are created during the CB installation process we notice that there are 2 Image field types:

- 1. avatar
- 2. canvas

As these are 2 highly visible elements on our user profiles, it is worth while to take a closer look at both.

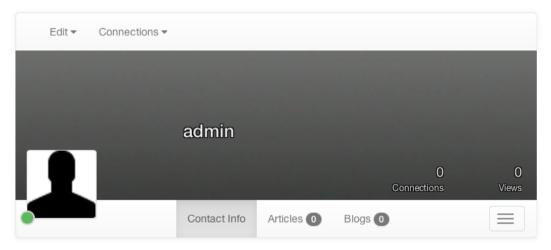


Figure 29: Default avatar and canvas rendering

In Figure 29 we see how these two image fields initially appear when viewing the admin's profile on a new CB installation. The gray image is the default canvas image and the shadow person image is the default (empty) avatar image.

Let's first focus on the canvas field and take a look at the details of this field in the CB Field Management pages. As seen in Figure 30, the canvas image field has 5 Parameter sub-tabs:

- 1. Layout
- 2. Image limits
- 3. Image Gallery
- 4. Image Display
- 5. Terms and Conditions

Actually the first thing that someone will notice is that the Title of the field has changed from Canvas Image (when viewing the CB Field Management summary page) to the string USER\_CANVAS\_IMAGE\_TITLE (when viewing the field parameters). This is just the default language string that is used and such matters will be discussed later in this document.

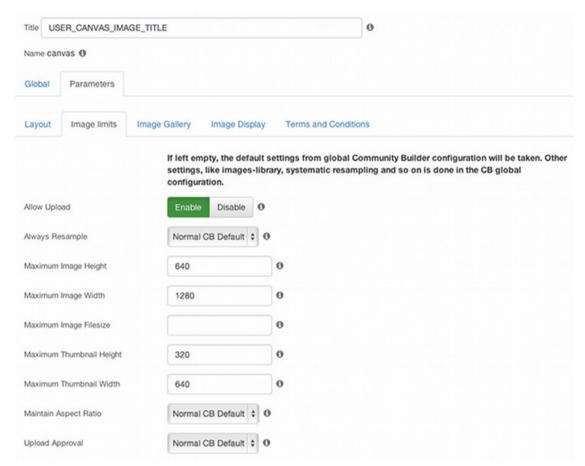


Figure 30: Canvas field Image limits parameters

In the Image limits sub-tab there are some parameters that are set to Normal CB Default.

There are also some parameters that have empty (blank) values.

In both cases, such settings will fall-back to values that where configured in the CB Configuration pages.

These default values are picked-up from the Community Builder ➤ Configuration ➤ Images tab area as shown in Figure 31.

By default the canvas and avatar fields are configured to let users upload image files to them. See the Allow Upload parameter setting that is Enabled. If you set this to Disabled you will see that all the followup parameters will disappear as they are only relevant if uploading is enabled.

Note

In many cases image field size parameter settings depend on your Joomla template and the logical space allocated for the image. You should experiment with image size parameters and properly configure your image fields as soon as possible as the settings cannot be applied retroactively on already uploaded images.

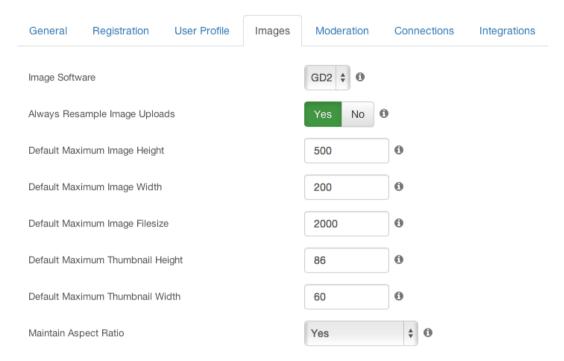


Figure 31: Default Image parameters

Image fields have size settings that influence a normal image and thumbnail image.

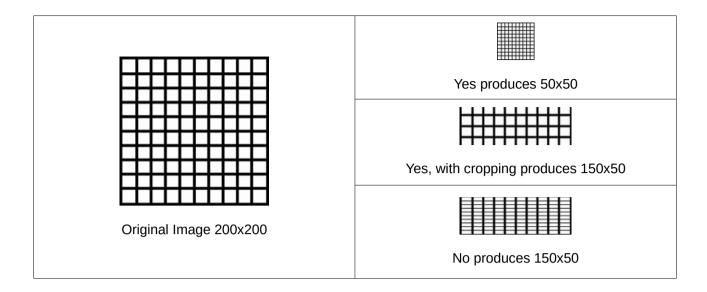
The Height and Width related parameters represent pixels and the Filesize kilobytes. Once again the tooltips should be viewed when in doubt.

#### **Maintain Aspect Ratio Parameter**

The Maintain Aspect Ratio parameter is important to help resize user uploaded images so they can blend in with the space allocated for them. The parameter has the following 4 possible settings:

- Normal CB Default (means value will be taken from similar parameter of the CB Configuration > Images tab)
- 2. Yes (means that the original image dimensions will be proportionally preserved when resizing during upload for normal view and thumbnail view image sizes)
- 3. Yes, with cropping (means that dimensions will be preserved during upload resizing and extra cropping will take place to get exact size images)
- 4. No (means exact size images will be created during upload but images might be stretched)

To illustrate the implications of these settings lets see the results of resizing a sample grid squared image to dimension settings height=50px and width=150px with the three Maintain Aspect Ratio options. The goal is to produce a resized image to our desired rectangle dimensions of 150x50.



As you can see the 2 settings that produce the exact rectangle are:

- Yes, with cropping (preserves the proportions so result has squares in it)
- No (stretches and squishes the squares)

Tip

If you want your images to be scaled to exact dimensions you need to set the Maintain Aspect Ratio parameter to either Yes, with cropping or to No. The latter setting will produce exact size images with distorted looking results.

#### **Approval Upload**

Any CB Image field can be configured to require approval before it is visible on CB pages. This setting can be configured to:

- Normal CB Default
- Yes
- No

When set to Yes, images uploaded by users for this field will be put in a pending approval status until a CB Moderator manually approves them. This approval workflow is managed through the CB Workflows module.

**Note** 

Users that are CB Moderators are obviously exempt from approval processes and any images they upload are immediately visible.

#### **Image Gallery sub-tab**

The Image Gallery sub-tab lets you configure things so your users (in addition to or instead of uploading and image) can select an image from a predefined list (gallery) of images.

By default, when you create a new image field, the Image Gallery sub-tab of the field will have its Allow Gallery parameter Disabled. When you enable this parameter, as shown in Figure 32, you will see an extra Path setting requested.

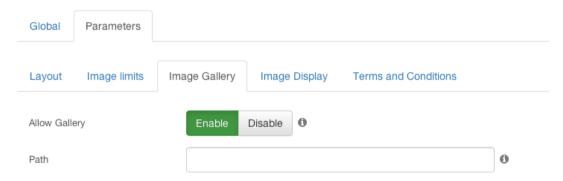
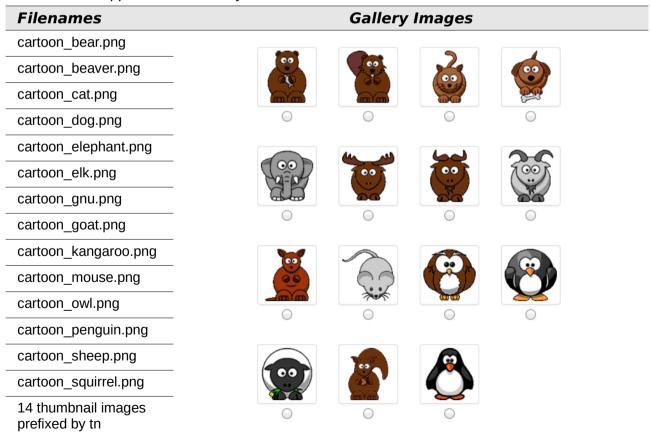


Figure 32: Image Gallery settings

If this is left empty (blank), then the built-in avatar gallery will be used, These gallery images are located in your Joomla root path /images/comprofiler/gallery where you will see a set of 28 files that represent the full-size and thumbnail size images.

Table 5: Free support for Community Builder users



By inspecting the Path tooltip you will see that the canvas field Gallery is located in the /images/comprofiler/gallery/canvas folder.

Tip

You can create your own image gallery by dropping your own set of image files (and thumbnail files) in a new folder on your website and set the Path parameter appropriately. The filenames will be used in the title tag of the image with the first letter capitalized and the underscores replaced by spaces. So the filename cartoon\_squirrel.png will produce an image with a title of Cartoon squirrel.

#### **Image Display sub-tab**

The parameters in this area let you further configure the styling of the image and also the default images to be shown in empty image or pending approval situations.

As you can see in Figure 33 some parameter options default to Normal CB Default settings and can take the values set to the relevant parameters in the CB Configuration pages.

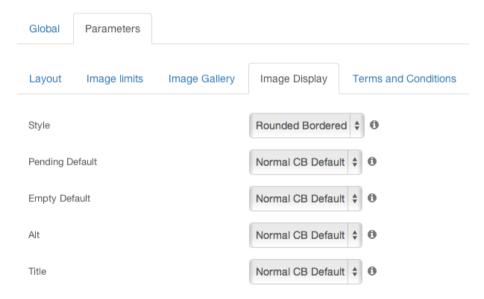


Figure 33: Image Display sub-tab parameters

The Style parameter can be set to one of the following 5 options:

- 1. None
- 2. Rounded
- Rounded Bordered (default)
- 4. Circle
- 5. Circle Bordered

You can experiment with this setting and see how the image is rendered.

In Figure 34 you can see how this setting affects our squared grid image rendered for each of the 5 options.

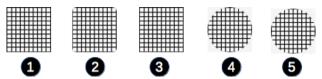


Figure 34: Style options for image field

The Pending Default and the Empty Default parameters are used to configure what images CB is to show in these 2 situations. Before a user uploads an image for a CB image field, a default empty image is needed and if the CB image field is configured to require moderator approval, then a pending approval image is needed.

These 2 settings are configured from a drop down selection from the following list of available options:

- 1. Normal CB Default
- 2. No image
- 3. nophoto f.png
- 4. nophoto m.png
- 5. nophoto n.png
- 6. pending f.png
- 7. pending\_m.png
- 8. pending n.png

Tip

The 6 filenames in this list are picked up from the default CB template plugin folder located in /components/com\_comprofiler/plugin/templates/default/images/avatar path. The canvas image parameters look in the ../images/canvas folder instead.



## Chapter 5 Working with User Lists

Your white pages directory

#### What is a User List

A CB User List is exactly what you would expect. It is just a list of users displayed by Community Builder.

Such a list can be configured to:

- · display data from CB fields for each user
- · filter users based on specific CB field criteria
- · be visible only for specific Joomla ACL views
- appear as a table list or in a grid layout
- · be searchable by viewers based on one or more CB field criteria

We will be exploring these concepts in the remainder of this chapter.

#### **Creating a User List**

To create a CB User List you need to access the CB User List page from the Community Builder menu and click on the New button. You can of course directly select the Add New List menu item from the Community Builder menu. In both cases you will see a page like the one shown in Figure 35.

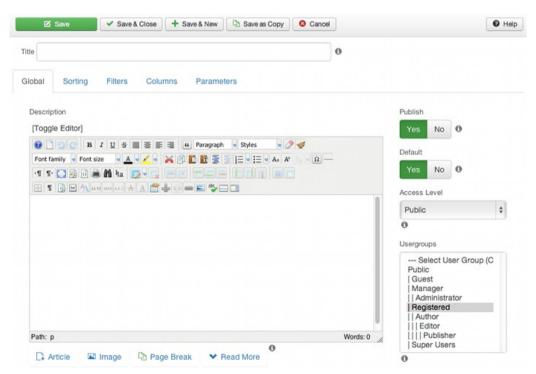


Figure 35: Creating a User List

You first need to give your list a title and a description. Both will be displayed on the CB User List pages of your website, so choose these carefully. You can of course always come back and make changes if needed.

The Global tab also lets you configure if the list if published or not, if it is a default list or not (there can only be one default list), the Joomla Access Level views that can see this list and the Joomla user groups that will be used as a first screening of users that will actually appear in the list.

You can study the tooltips of these parameters for more information and as you can see there is also a Help button on this screen that you can click on to access the relevant help screen.

#### **Sorting a List**

The Sorting tab of your user list configuration lets you configure the order of appearance of users on the list.

There are 2 configuration methods to choose from in order to define your desired sorting order. The Basic and Advanced modes. Once again the tooltip icon is your friend and will help you with the settings.

By default each list is set to a Basic mode ordering by ascending usernames.

#### Filtering a List

In addition to the first level of filtering that was selected using the <code>Usergroups</code> selector in the Global tab of the list configuration, there is another level of filtering.

Once again there is a Basic and Advanced mode that can be used to configure this extra filtering. Check the tooltip icons for assistance.

#### **Using Columns to specify list contents**

One of the most important aspects of any list is its contents. The Column tab in a user list configuration is used to configure the list contents.

In order to illustrate how the Column tab configuration works, we will replicate the process used to generate the CB User List shown in 23.

Our list has 4 columns that are named:

- 1. member
- 2. Dates
- 3. Stats
- 4. Additional

The member column is configured to show 2 CB fields in the list column:

- Profile image (avatar) on one line without a title
- · Formatted Name (formatname) on one line without a title

The final configuration is shown in Figure 36.



Figure 36: Member column

The Dates column is configured to show 3 CB fields in the list column:

- Member Since (registerDate) on one line with a title
- Last Updated (lastupdatedate) on one line with a title
- Last Online (lastvisitDate) on one line with a title

This is shown in Figure 37.

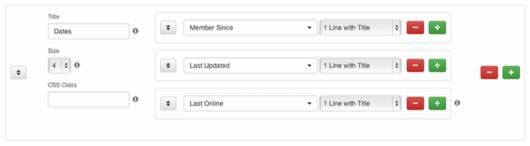


Figure 37: Dates column

The Stats column has 2 fields:

- · Views (hits) on one line with title
- · Connections (connections) on one line with title

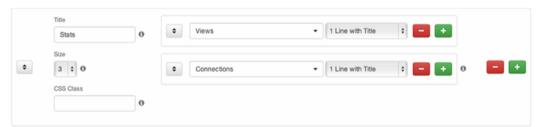


Figure 38: Stats column

And finally the Additional column that has 3 fields that were created manually after our CB install:

- Gender (cb\_gender) one line with title
- Date of Birth (cb bdate) one line with title
- Marital status (cb\_status) one line with title

This is shown in Figure 39.



Figure 39: Additional column

If you have been closely looking at the 4 column figures, you might have noticed the Size parameter that is given the values 2, 4, 3 and 3.

This settings helps configure the column spacing of our list. The tooltip on the Size parameter gives us an explanation. The Bootstrap layout CB is using is divided into 12 units. So our total list will consume 12 bootstrap units when it is rendered. We have given our columns Size parameter settings based on our anticipation of their content width and we have made sure that the sum of our 4 settings is 12.

Tip

Experiment with the Size parameter of your list columns to see how it influences the list rendering. You should be able to get the hand of this and make it work for your user lists.

#### **User List Parameters**

Each user list has additional settings in its Parameters tab. In fact this tab has 4 sub-tabs:

- 1. Search
- 2. Display
- 3. Paging
- 4. Linking

These tabs contain various parameter settings that can be used to configure a user list to be searchable (which fields and how searching is to work). There are also settings that adjust the display and the paging of items on a list.

#### Search

This sub-tab has 4 parameter settings that can be used to configure a user list to be searchable.

The first parameter in the sub-tab is the **Searchable fields** setting that can be configured to one of the following:

- 1. No
- 2. Searchable fields, displayed ones only
- 3. All searchable fields
- 4. Specific searchable fields

These options are self-explanatory and are basically used to configure which searchable fields can be used for the user list's search criteria.

**Note** 

Every CB Field has a Yes/No Searchable property that will always be enforced. This means that if a field is not set to be searchable then you will not be able to select it as a search criteria in a user list, even if the field is displayed on the list.

Tip

There are a number of video tutorials in the Joomlapolis Youtube channel that give user list examples and search setup configurations.

The **Search criteria** parameter for a list can be set to:

- 1. Simple Exact match: Only 'and' and ranges
- 2. Simple Any word match: Only 'any of' and ranges (WARNING: can be slow)
- 3. Advanced: all possibilities (WARNING: can be slow)

Once again these settings are self-explanatory, but feel free to experiment and see how they influence your list searching.

There are 2 more Yes/No settings in this sub-tab. The Hide Empty Searches and the Collapse Search Criteria parameters. Tooltip popups are your friend here.

#### **Display, Paging and Linking User List parameters**

The remaining 3 sub-tabs on the user list Parameters tab are:

- 1. Display
- 2. Paging
- 3. Linking

The Display sub-tab has a series of Yes/No settings that once again are simple to understand with the help of the tooltip help popups.

The most important item here that should be understood is the Use Grid Layout parameter. By default this is set to No and the resulting list is rendered in tabular form as is the list shown in Figure 11.

Tip

The Use Grid Layout parameter set to Yes is how the user list in Figure 12 was produced. You can see this configuration once again in a relevant video tutorial on the Joomlapolis Youtube channel.

The Paging parameters let you adjust if list paging is enabled and how many items per list page to display.

The Linking parameters let you link each list item to the relevant user profile.

#### Joomla Menu Link to specific CB User List

Your default Joomla menu for CB User Lists will display the default user list and also a drop-down list selector that lets your users switch to view a different user list (if available).

You can also create a new Joomla menu that is directly attached to a specific CB User List.

**Note** 

There are such examples in our CB 2.0 Tutorials playlist on the Joomlapolis Youtube channel.



## Chapter 6 Working with CB Tabs

More than just a grouping of fields

#### What are CB tabs?

A Community Builder tab is something that contains fields and can be positioned in a specific CB supported spot and also has specific displaying and viewing properties.

#### **Tab Properties**

A CB Tab has the following properties:

- 1. **Title** (the name you want to give the tab and may be displayed on user profiles if so configured)
- 2. Description (an HTML formatted description of this tab that is normally displayed during profile edit)
- 3. Publish (Yes/No status)
- 4. **Profile Ordering** (the ordering of this tab compared to others that occupy the same position)
- 5. Registration Ordering (the ordering of this tab's fields that are marked to appear on registration form)
- 6. Position (where this tab contents are to be shown on a user profile)
- 7. Display Type (how this tab is to be displayed)
- 8. Access Level (which Joomla ACL Views can see this tab)
- 9. CSS Class

#### **Profile Positions**

The default CB Template has a number of predefined positions that a tab can be configured to appear in. If multiple tabs share the same position then the layout will be adjusted so accommodate the tab contents.

There are 14 profile Canvas positions available:

1. Canvas N	Menu	8. Canv	as Titl	e Mid	dle	
2. Canvas E	Background	9. Canv	as Titl	e Bot	tom	
3. Canvas S	Stats Top	10.	Canvas	Main	Left	
4. Canvas S	Stats Middle	11.	Canvas	Main	Left	Static
5. Canvas S	Stats Bottom	12.	Canvas	Main	Middle	Э
6. Canvas I	Photo	13.	Canvas	Main	Right	
7. Canvas 1	Title Top	14.	Canvas	Main	Right	Static

Some of these positions have been tagged (with list number) on Figure 40 for your visual inspection.

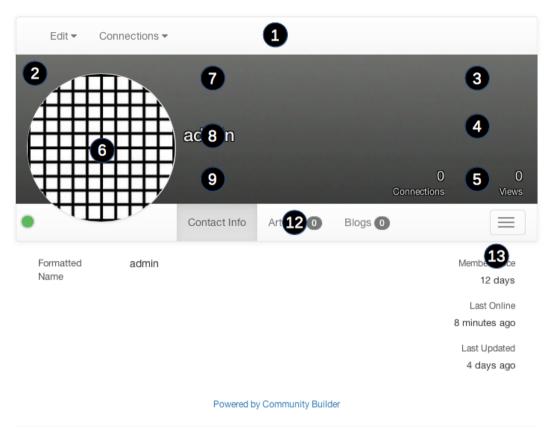


Figure 40: Profile Canvas Position options

There are 6 traditional profile positions:

- 1. Header (above left/middle/right)
- 2. Left side (of middle area)
- 3. Middle area
- 4. Right side (of middle area)
- 5. Main area (below left/middle/right)
- 6. Bottom area (below main area)

The Header position is located above the Canvas Menu position. The Left, Middle, Right follow below the entire Canvas area and then the Main and Bottom positions.

These locations are shown in Figure 41 that is a profile page containing 6 published tabs in these 6 positions.

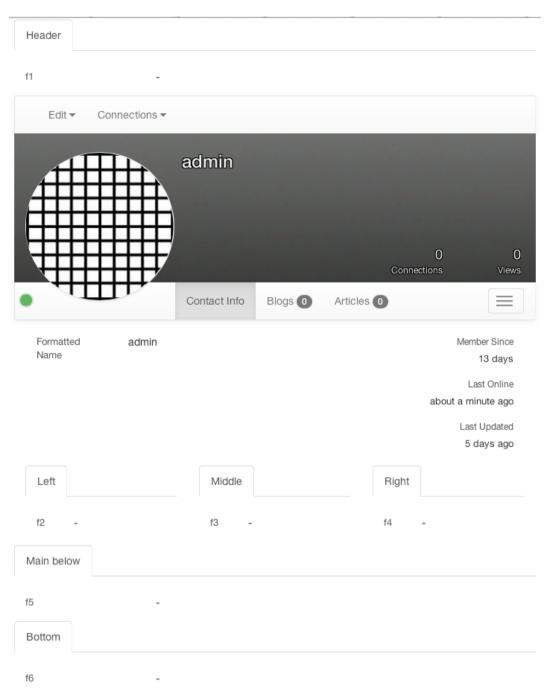


Figure 41: Traditional Profile positions

The profile page also has some new positions after the Bottom traditional position location. There is a grid set of  $9 \times 9 = 81$  positions named Line 1 Column 1, ..., Line 1 Column 9, ..., Line 9 Column 9.

Finally there is are 9 more position marked as Not displayed on profile 1 through 9. These positions do not have any physical location and are assigned to tabs that have fields in them that we do not want to appear in normal profile viewing. Such fields and tabs will appear however during profile editing.

#### **Display Type**

Another tab property is the **Display Type** that influences the actual appearance of the tab contents on a profile page. This property can be set to one of the following values:

- Tab Horizontal (Left/Right)
- Nested Tab Horizontal (Left/Right)
- Tab Vertical (Up/Down)
- 4. Nested Tab Vertical (Up/Down)
- 5. Tab Menu
- 6. Nested Tab Menu
- 7. Div with Title

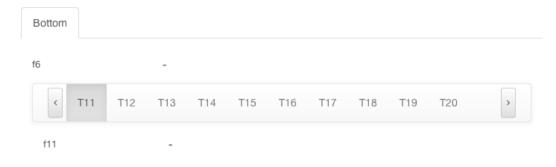
- 8. Div without Title
- 9. Rounded Div with Title
- 10. Rounded Div without Title
- 11. Overlay moving with Mouse
- 12. Fixed Overlay closing with Mouseout
- 13. Button with Fixed Overlay

When you create a new CB tab, its default <code>Display Type</code> is set to <code>Tab Horizontal</code> (<code>Left/Right</code>). This means that if multiple tabs are set to the same position and have display type set to <code>Tab Horizontal</code> (<code>Left/Right</code>), then they will be spaced out horizontally from left to right. If there are more tabs than the template spacing will allow, then the extra tabs will just overflow below (feel free to experiment and verify this on your own). Such an example is shown in Figure 42.



Figure 42: Tab overflow example

To overcome this overflowing issue, you can set these same positioned tabs to a Display Type of Tab Menu. This will produce an effect shown in Figure 43 where left and right scroll buttons are provided.



Powered by Community Builder

Figure 43: Tabs set for Tab Menu Display Type in position Line 1 Column 1

And as Community Builder is responsive this <u>Tab Menu</u> set will collapse in a narrow browser to an expandable menu icon as shown in Figure 44.

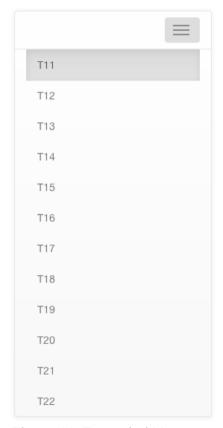


Figure 44: Expanded Menu Icon

Another Display Type setting is the Nested Tab Menu option that is illustrated in Figure 45.

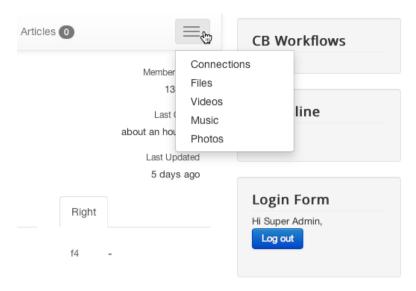


Figure 45: Nested Tab Menu Example

Note

You can experiment with the rest of the <code>Display Type</code> settings and get a feel of how they influence the way your tabs are displayed on your profile pages.

#### **Tab Access Level Property**

For Joomla users this setting should be more or less understood. This property basically lets you decide which Joomla ACL views can actually see a specific tab. This is one method you can use to give your users different tabs depending on which Joomla user groups the are part of.

Tip

As an exercise, try and create and configure 2 different tabs (and put some fields in them) and make one tab available to user A (but not to user B) and the second tab available to user B (but not to user A).

#### **Search Tools and Batch Tools**

We haven't really mentioned this yet, but our CB Tab Management page also has 2 very powerful operational functions that will make your life easier.

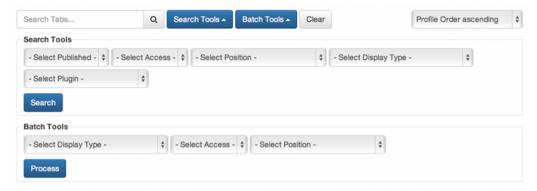


Figure 46: Tab Management Search and Batch Tools

The Search Tools let you filter off the Publication status, the Access view, the Position setting, the Display type or the Plugin property of tabs.

In a similar fashion the Batch Tools let you perform mass processing on a preselected set of tabs.



# Chapter 7 Working with CB User Management

Operational matters

#### **CB User Management Basics**

It may look like your Joomla User manager, but it is much more.

Once CB is installed you should stop using the Joomla User Manager and use the CB User Management page instead.

If you use the Joomla user manager (especially for creating or deleting users), you will risk getting you database out of sync.

**Tip** 

If you make a mistake and add or remove users from the Joomla User Manager, you should run the Community Builder  $\succ$  Tools  $\succ$  Synchronize Users tool that will synchronize your Joomla and CB tables in the database.

Note

You should always delete users using the CB User Management page ad this will fire necessary event triggers for clean-up activities that need to be performed in other integrated extensions using CB plugins. For example, when a user is deleted using the CB User Management page, this user's private messages are also deleted from the uddelM database. Removal of a user from the Joomla User Manager will most likely result in leaving such entries in the database.

The CB User Management page shown in Figure 47 is accessible from the Community Builder ➤ User Management menu.

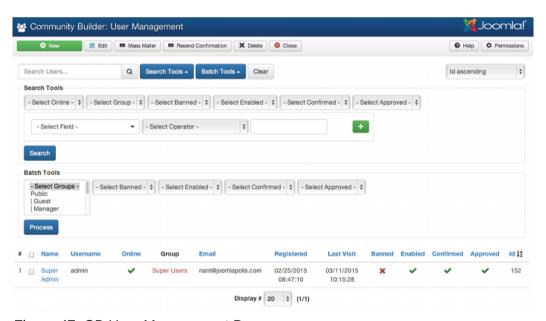


Figure 47: CB User Management Page

Notice the Help button (every CB administrative page has one) in the upper right corner and also the following action buttons:

- 1. New (used to create a new user)
- 2. Edit (used to edit a specific checkbox selected user)
- 3. Mass Mailer (used to send mass personalized emails to selected users)
- 4. Resend Confirmation (used to resend pending confirmation emails)
- 5. Delete (used to delete one or more selected users)
- 6. Close (closes the CB User Management page and takes you back to the CB Control Panel page)
- 7. Search Tools
- 8. Batch Tools

The New, Edit, Delete and Close buttons are self-explanatory and you can explore their functionality on your own. Let's discuss the other buttons.

#### **Mass Mailer**

From your User Management page you can select one or more users by toggling their checkbox in the first column. You can also use the Search Tools (discussed later on) to filter your displayed users before selecting the ones you want (again using the checkboxes).

Once you have selected at least one user you can click on the Mass Mailer button and you will see the Mass Mailer page that lets you configure everything related to the mass email message you want to send.

You will first be shown a list of the selected users (with their email addresses) that will be emailed. You can configure the following:

- Simulation Mode (a checkbox to do a dry-run)
- 2. Email Subject
- 3. Email Message (HTML supported editor)
- 4. Email Attachments
- 5. From Name

- 6. From Email Address
- 7. Reply-To Name
- 8. Reply-To Email Address
- 9. Emails per batch
- 10. Seconds of pause between batches

Once again, the field tooltips are here to help you understand the meaning of each setting. Once you have populated the fields you can click on the Send Mails button to start the mailing process or you can click on the Cancel button to return to the User Management page.

**Tip** 

The Subject and Message fields support CB field substitutions so you can personalize your messages. E.g., Hi [firstname] can be used to setup a personal greeting to each emailed user.

#### **Resend Confirmation**

If you have configured your CB Registration process to require applicants to verify their emails before they are activated, then this functionality is useful for you. The Search Tools can be used to find all Pending confirmation users and you can checkbox select them and then click on the Resend Confirmation button to send them a reminder email.

**Note** 

The email confirmation workflow for the registration process is activated from the Community Builder  $\succ$  Configuration  $\succ$  Registration tab by setting the Email Confirmation parameter to Yes.

#### **Search Tools**

The Search Tools button when clicked will reveal a set of drop-down filters that can be applied against your displayed users.

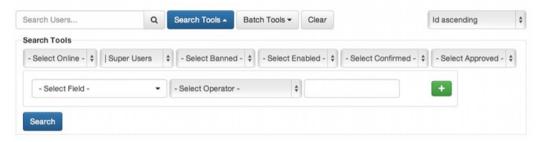


Figure 48: User Manager Search Tool Filters

You can also filter on specific combinations of CB Field values. Once you have selected your filters you can click on the Search button to apply them. If needed, the CB User Management Help button gives more details on these filters.

Tip

The green + button can be used to cascade CB Field based filtering in your Search Tools area. Such cascading will produce additional (AND) filtering criteria that will be applied against your results.

# **Batch Tools**

The Batch Tools functionality lets you perform batch updates on a preselected number of users. It can be used after Search Tools filtering to perform specific updates on many users in one pass.

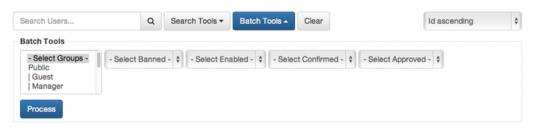


Figure 49: User Management Batch Tools options

As you can see you are able to mass update the following user properties:

- 1. Joomla ACL groups
- 2. Banned status
- 3. Enabled status
- 4. Confirmation status
- 5. Approval status



# Chapter 8 Working with Plugins

Profile applications at work

#### What is a CB Plugin?

A Community Builder plugin is an application that can operate on CB related pages. CB plugins should not be confused with Joomla plugins<sup>3</sup>.

CB Plugins are installed and managed using the Community Builder Plugin Management page (see the Install CB Plugin button in Figure 50) and not the Joomla Plugin Manager.



If you try to install a CB plugin using the Joomla Extensions installer you will get an error stating something like:

Can't find Joomla XML setup file.

If you try to install a Joomla plugin using the CB PLugin Management page you will also get an error stating:

Could not find a CB XML setup file in the package.

### **Plugin Types**

There are 3 CB plugin types:

- 1. User
  - Such a CB plugin will add functionality to one or more CB pages. Such a plugin can also extend CB by adding a new field type to the CB Field Management page (e.g., the CB Query field plugin) or a new user profile tabs (e.g., CB Gallery plugin, CB Profilebook plugin, CB Invites, etc.). User type plugins are further characterized as component plugins.
- 2. Template
  - A plugin that adds a new CB template (or over-rides an existing CB template). Once you install and publish such a CB template plugin your Configuration Template parameter (see user profile tab) will have an extra option in the drop-down selector (in addition to the default one)
- 3. Language
  - CB localization is accomplished with one or more CB Language plugins. Correct, CB does not use the (we believe slow loading) Joomla ini files.

Note

The CB Plugin code folders are located in your Joomla  $\succ$  components  $\succ$  com\_comprofiler  $\succ$  plugin  $\succ$  (user, language, templates) folder area.

Let's discuss these concepts by looking into specific example plugins that are preinstalled for us during the CB installation process.

3 The term plugin was actually introduced in Community Builder before the birth of Joomla (after the Mambo fork) and was selected to distinguish itself from the Mambo term mambot that was used.

### **Built-in plugins**

Your Community Builder installation has some built-in plugins that you can see by visiting the CB Plugin Management page.

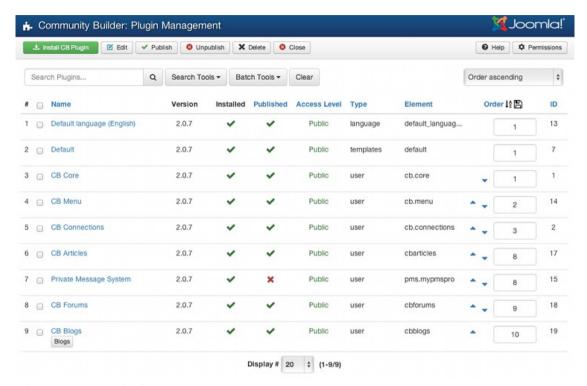


Figure 50: CB Plugin Management page

A quick visual inspection of our CB Plugin Management page as shown in Figure 50 will reveal that our default CB installation has: 1 language type plugin, 1 template type plugin and 7 user type plugins. You will also notice the Blogs button under the CB Blogs listing (in position 9 of the page). This is an indication that the CB Blogs plugin is a user type component plugin.

A CB user type plugin may also have one or more CB tabs associated with it and even specific CB fields. Such examples are:

- CB Core plugin has Canvas, Contact Info, Portrait, Statistics and User Profile Page Title tabs
- 2. CB Menu plugin has User Status and Menu tabs
- 3. CB Blogs plugin has Blogs tab
- 4. CB Articles plugin has Articles tab
- 5. CB Forums plugin has Forums tab
- 6. CB Connections plugin has Connections and Connections Paths tabs
- 7. Private Message System plugin has Quick Message tab

The first 2 plugins in this list are core elements of Community Builder and should not be tampered with unless you are absolutely sure of what you are doing.

Looking at our CB Plugin Management page you will also see that each plugin has Published status property and an Access Level status. Some plugins cannot be unpublished (e.g., CB Core, Default Language, Default template) and some cannot even be deleted.



In most cases you should not change the Access Level status of your plugins and just keep them at Public (unless you are absolutely sure of implications). For example if you change the Access Level of your CB Core plugin to Registered you will basically kill your CB Registration process by not allowing code elements of CB to be accessible to the public viewers wishing to registered on your website.

In the remainder of this chapter we will be exploring some of the built-in user type plugins that you can configure and take advantage of on your CB website.

We will be discussing CB Language plugins in a dedicated chapter.

**Note** 

You can study the contents of the default template folder in your Joomla  $\succ$  components  $\succ$  com\_comprofiler  $\succ$  plugin  $\succ$  templates  $\succ$  default folder and also the video tutorial #31 of our CB 2.0 tutorials playlist to see how to create a basic template over-ride plugin.

#### **CB Blogs plugin**

The CB Blogs plugin lets you configure a new application for your user profile pages. Your users will be able to create their own blog elements from their user profiles. The plugin also creates a CB BLogs tab that should also be published during the configuration process.

You can configure your CB Blogs plugin be clicking on it in your CB Plugin Management page and accessing its Parameters tab that is shown in Figure 51.

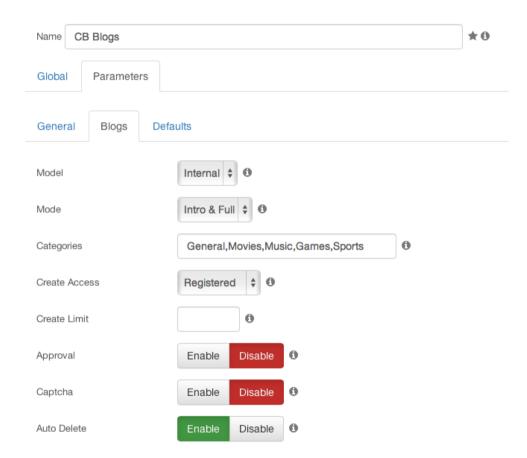


Figure 51: CB Blogs Parameters

By default the CB Blogs Model setting (check tooltip) is configured to Internal mode and the Categories field contains a set of comma delimited blog category names that are available to users to blog under. The Internal mode setting will store user created blogs in an internal to CB storage area.

There are 2 additional Model options available for selection:

- 1. Joomla (stores user created blogs as Joomla articles in specific Joomla categories)
- 2. K2 (stores blogs as K2<sup>4</sup> articles)
- 4 Requires the installation and configuration of the K2 extension.

These 2 models have some advantages over the Internal model. If you store user blogs as Joomla articles, you can use the built-in Joomla article presentation features to display these user blogs in dedicated Joomla pages. The same is true for the K2 model as K2 also has similar page layout possibilities.

When selecting one of the Joomla or K2 Models for your CB Blogs you need to first create a Categories tree structure that will be used. Let's say you want to allow users to store their blogs in one of three categories: Personal, Trendy, Miscellaneous. Your Joomla categories tree should look like:

- · User Blogs
  - Personal
  - Trendy
  - Miscellaneous

Then in your CB Blogs > Parameters > Blogs tab you would populate the Categories (drop-down for Joomla/K2 Models) to User Blogs. This will enable users to select one of the three subcategories as their blogging category when they create a new blog.

The rest of the parameters on the Blogs and the Defaults sub-tabs are self-explanatory and have helpful tooltips to guide you.

Tip

If you need extra help you can visit the video tutorials on the Youtube Joomlapolis channel as it has some very relevant sessions on CB Blogs and the individual Models configurations.

**Note** 

The Captcha parameter on the Parameters Blogs tab integrates with the CB Antispam plugin that is a paid members download.

#### Bonus Tip

Your users can make use of any Joomla HTML editor to create their blogs. You can also install and configure the free JCE HTML editor and let users upload images for their blogs in their own dedicate storage area on your site. There is a video tutorial on the Joomlapolis Youtube channel that shows you how to do this.

# Developer Tip

The Parameters General tab has a Template parameter that is set to Default. You can create your own template for blog pages by studying (cloning) the default one located in your Joomla  $\succ$  components  $\succ$  com\_comprofiler  $\succ$  plugin  $\succ$  user  $\succ$  plug\_cbblogs  $\succ$  templates  $\succ$  default folder.

#### **CB** Articles plugin

The CB Articles plugin integrates with the Joomla Articles component (or the K2 component) and displays all articles published by an author in an Articles tab (also needs to be published) on the author's user profile page.

The configuration of this plugin is simple:

- 1. Go to the Parameters Articles sub-tab by clicking on the CB Articles plugin link on the CB Plugin Management page
- 2. Set the Model parameter to either Joomla or K2 (depending on which content you want to show and if you have K2 installed of course)
- 3. Select which Joomla/K2 categories are to be exempt by selecting them in the **Exclude Categories** parameter.

If you leave the Model setting to its default Auto Detect setting then all content from all Joomla categories will be used.

**Note** 

The Articles plugin does not provide the means to initiate the creation of new articles from your CB profile page. You would need to use Joomla or K2 links to create such content items that the Articles plugin will then pick-up for display purposes only.

Tip

If you need extra help you can visit the video tutorials on the Youtube Joomlapolis channel as it has some very relevant sessions on CB Articles.

#### Developer Tip

The Parameters General tab has a Template parameter that is set to Default. You can create your own template for blog pages by studying (cloning) the default one located in your Joomla  $\succ$  components  $\succ$  com\_comprofiler  $\succ$  plugin  $\succ$  user  $\succ$  plug\_cbarticles  $\succ$  templates  $\succ$  default folder.

#### **CB Forums plugin**

The CB Forums plugin (and relevant tab) are used to integrate Community Builder with the Kunena Forum extension (must be downloaded from the Kunena site and installed) for Joomla.

Once you have installed and configured Kunena for Community Builder integration (basically publish the Kunena – Community Builder Integration plugin from the Kunena Plug-in Manager page) you can publish and configure the CB Forums tab and the CB Forums plugin parameters.

The CB Forums tab is not published by default, so you should not forget to publish it. The actual tab parameters has three sub-tabs that you can configure:

- 1. Posts sub-tab
- 2. Favorites sub-tab
- 3. Subscriptions sub-tab

The default parameters on these sub-tabs will work just fine, but feel free to take a closer look at all the parameters and read their tooltips if the labels are not self-explanatory.

There are also some parameters that you can configure in the CB Forums plugin area that basically map CB fields to Kunena ones. This way users profile data can be used to influence various Kunena forum user values.

To see these extra parameters toy need to first specify the Kunena version in the Model parameter drop-down option and set it from its Auto Detect setting to one of the values:

- 1. Kunena 2.x
- 2. Kunena 3.x

depending on the version of Kunena you have installed.

Once the Kunena version is selected you will see 2 new sub-tabs appear that are named: Profile and Sidebar.

The Profile sub-tab parameters are:

1.	Ordering	7. Location
2.	Viewtype	8. ICQ
3.	Signature	9. AIM
4.	Personal Text	10.YIM
5.	Gender	11.MSN
6.	Birthdate	12.Skype

13. Twitter 20. Digg
14. Facebook 21. BlogSpot
15. Gtalk 22. Flicker
16. MySpace 23. Bebo
17. LinkedIn 24. Website
18. Delicious 25. Hide Email
19. FriendFeed 26. Show Online

Each parameter can mapped to a CB field. For example the **Gender** parameter can be mapped to a CB Radio type field that accepts the values 1=Male, 2=Female and 0=Unknown. These values are given in the tooltip popup helper of the **Gender** parameter. Similar tips are given in the other parameters.

You might notice that you cannot map the following Kunena field entities:

- 1. Posts
- 2. Karma
- 3. Rank
- 4. Thank You

In order to be able to display these values in user profile pages (or even CB User lists), you need to create new CB Fields of type Forum Status and configure the Status drop-down parameter setting (located in the field Parameters > Display sub-tab) appropriately.

Tip

If you need extra help you can visit the video tutorials on the Youtube Joomlapolis channel as it has some very relevant sessions on CB Forums configuration and settings.

#### Exercise Tip

Create a cb\_gender radio button field and sync it with the Kunena Gender field in your CB Plugin Management > CB Forums > Parameters > Forums > Profile tab. Then create 4 Forum Status type fields cb\_posts, cb\_rank and cb\_karma. You can then display these Kunena calculated fields on your user profile pages. This exercise will help you understand the Sidebar sub-tab usage discussion that follows.

There is also a Sidebar sub-tab that lets you add HTML code to replace the Kunena Forum sidebar default display. There are three text-area parameters for code for sidebar display shown to:

- 1. Registered (posters that are registered on the site)
- 2. Anonymous (anonymous posters)
- 3. Deleted (posts belonging to deleted users)

By default a Kunena forum sidebar looks like the one shown in Figure 52.

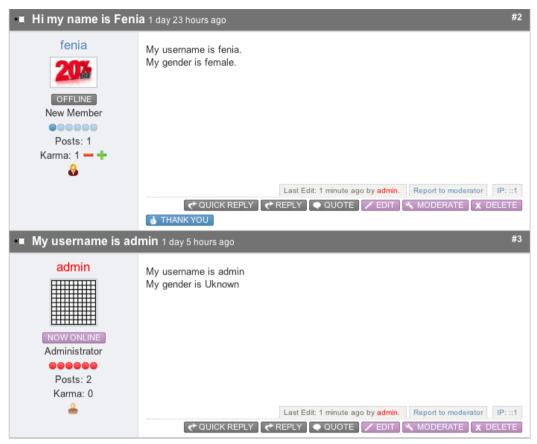


Figure 52: Default Kunena forum sidebar

With the Sidebar sub-tab parameters we can take over the display of the forum sidebar and adjust it as we see fit. Some CSS, HTML and CB field substitution knowledge is needed to really take advantage of this feature.

To get you started here is a sample that basically replicates the default Kunena view and adds an extra VIP tag at the end (after the gender icon) for posters that have their cb\_vip checkbox field (you need to create this in CB Field Management page) checked (means set to 1).

Figure 53, Figure 54 and Figure 55 give you code snippets for sidebar configuration of forum posts made by Registered, Deleted and Guest posters. If you have configured the fields according to the previous Exercise Tip project you should be able to just copy and paste the code from the 3 figures into the three parameter text areas of the sidebar sub-tab.

```
<a class="kwho-user"
             title="View [username]'s Profile" rel="nofollow">[username]</a>
      <span class="kavatar">
                    <a class="kwho-user"
                    title="View [username]'s Profile"

title="View [username]'s Profile"
                    rel="nofollow">
                    class="kavatar"
src="[cb:userdata field="avatar" reason="list" /]"
                    alt="[username]'s Avatar"
style="max-width: 144px; max-height: 144px" />
                    </a>
             </span>
      [cb:if onlinestatus="true"]
      <1i>1i>
             <span class="kicon-button kbuttononline-ves">
                    <span class="online-yes">
                           <span>NOW ONLINE</span>
             </span>
      [/cb:if]
      [cb:if onlinestatus="false"]
      -
             <span class="kicon-button kbuttononline-no">
                    <span class="online-no">
                          <span>OFFLINE</span>
                    </span>
             </span>
      [/cb:if]
      [cb:userfield field="cb_rank"/]
      Posts: [cb:userfield field="cb_posts"/]
      class="kpost-karma">
             Karma: [cb:userfield field="cb_karma"/] [karmaminus] [karmaplus]
      </1i>
      [cb:if cb_gender="0"]
      </span>
      [/cb:if]
      [cb:if cb_gender="1"]

             <span class="kicon-profile kicon-profile-gender-male"
title="Gender: Male">
             </span>
      [/cb:if]
      [cb:if cb_gender="2"]

             <span class="kicon-profile kicon-profile-gender-female"
title="Gender: Female">
             </span>
      [/cb:if]
      [cb:if cb_vip="1"]
      <1i>>
             <span class="kicon-button kbuttononline-yes">
                    <span class="online-yes">
                          <span>VIP</span>
                    </span>
             </span>
      [/cb:if]
```

Figure 53: Sidebar code for Registered forum posters

```
DELETED
```

Figure 54: Sidebar code for deleted forum posters

```
GUEST
```

Figure 55: Sidebar code for guest posters

And in Figure 56 you see the results where the default Kunena sidebar view is replicated with the addition of a VIP tag that follows the gender icon (if the poster's cb\_vip checkbox field is ticked),



Figure 56: Forum sidebar replicated with new VIP feature

Tip

If you are working on a multi-language website you will want to create 3 new language strings in your language plugins and localize the three sidebar code snippets. More about language strings later on in this book.

#### **Private Message System plugin**

This plugin is used to integrate Community Builder with the uddelM (must be downloaded from the uddelM site and installed) private message extension for Joomla.

Once you have installed and configured uddeIM for Community Builder integration (basically locate the Use profile links and Show thumbnails parameters on the Integrations tab of uddeIM and set them to Community Builder and set the Allow BB code tags on the Messages tab to Yes) you can publish and configure the Quick Message tab and the Private Message System plugin parameters.

There are also 2 more Community Builder related settings that you should look at:

- 1. Community Builder ➤ Connections tab ➤ Notification Method parameter that you can configure for PMS or PMS and Email
- 2. CB Login module ➤ Logout Options ➤ Private Message Notifications and Private Message Icon parameters

Tip

If you need extra help you can visit the video tutorials on the Youtube Joomlapolis channel as it has some very relevant sessions on uddelM configuration and settings.



# Chapter 9 Working with Connections

People relations on your site

#### What's a Connection?

The Connections functionality lets your users form relationships with each other. On many public social networking sites this relationship uses the term *friend request*. Community Builder uses the term *connection request*.

# **Configuration Steps**

The Connections feature is by default enabled when you install Community Builder for the first time. You can verify the configuration settings by inspecting:

- 1. Community Builder ➤ Configuration ➤ Connections tab
- 2. Community Builder ➤ Plugin Management ➤ CB Connections plugin
- 3. Community Builder ➤ Tab Management ➤ Connections and Connection Paths tabs

#### **Configuration Connections tab**

There are a number of parameter settings located on the Connections tab on your CB Configuration page.

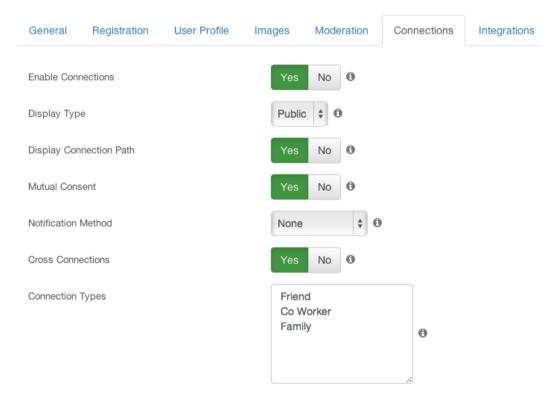


Figure 57: Connections tab configuration

Most of the parameter names are self-explanatory and the tooltips will prove useful if something is not clear.

However, here are some concepts that will help you:

- The Display Type is used to specify if Connections tab is viewable on other user profiles
- The DIsplay Connection Path will show you how you are connected to the owner of the user profile you are visiting. The Connection Path tab also needs to be published for this setting to work.
- 3. Mutual Consent means that a connection is only established when both ends agree. This means someone must request and the requester must accept.
- 4. Notification Method lets you establish how users will be notified of new connection requests and connection acceptance events.
- 5. Connections can be bidirectional or unidirectional. By default <a href="Cross Connections">Cross Connections</a> are set to Yes.
- 6. Connections Types are used as tags to characterize a connection.

#### **CB Connections plugin**

The CB Connections plugin has no parameters to configure, but it needs to be published.

#### **Connections and Connection Paths tabs**

The Connections tab has the following available settings in its Parameters tab:

- 1. Show Summary (Yes/No)
- 2. Entries shown in Summary (default 4)
- 3. Enable Paging (Yes/No)
- 4. Max entries shown or per page (default 10)

These parameters are self-explanatory and the tooltips are there if something is not that clear.

The Connection Paths tab has no parameters but it still needs to be published if you want the connection path to be displayed when visiting other profiles.

In Figure 58 you can see the Connections tab on a user profile page. If you hover your mouse over a connection image you will see a popup containing relevant data of the connection.

You will also notice that you can visit a connection's profile page by clicking on the image and you can also send an email or a private message to your connection by clicking on the envelope or chat icons.

Finally, you can also quickly drop a connection by clicking on the X icon above the connection's name.

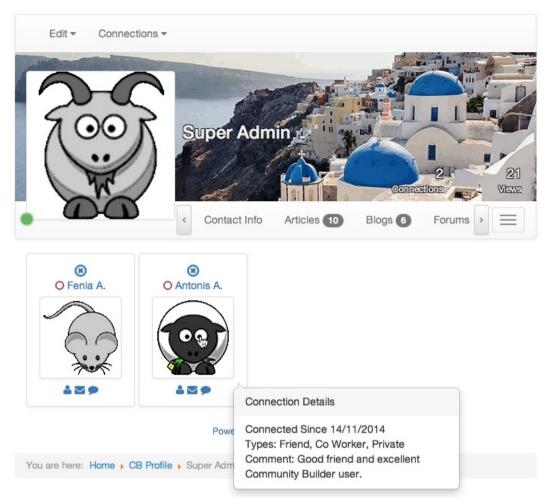


Figure 58: Connections tab on user profile page

# **Managing Connections**

To reach the Manage Connections page you select the relevant menu item from your Connections menu on your CB profile page. This will bring you to the management page that is shown in Figure 59.

On this page you will see 2 tabs:

- 1. the Manage Actions tab where you can accept or reject any new connection requests
- 2. the Manage Connections tab where you can edit connection types and comments pertaining to your existing connections

Tip

To select more than one connection type you need to press your Control/Command key while you click on the different types.

#### **Manage Connections**

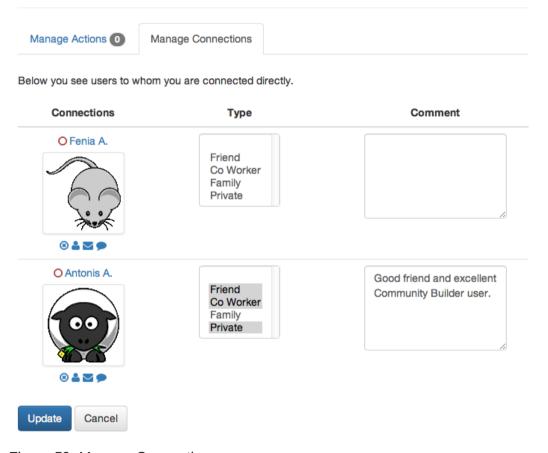


Figure 59: Manage Connections page

Tip

If you need extra help you can visit the video tutorials on the Youtube Joomlapolis channel as it has some very relevant sessions on CB Connections configuration and usage.

**Note** 

At the moment Connections are just an easy way to quickly contact and communicate with your relevant connected users. There are other add-ons that build upon the connections and offer more functionality. E.g., the CB Privacy plugin (paid membership) lets you configure CB fields or entire CB tabs to be accessible only by specific Connection Types.



# Chapter 10 Language plugins

CB can speak your language

### **Introduction to CB Language plugins**

Community Builder labels, tooltips, descriptions, field names and more or less everything you see in frontend or administrative (backend) pages can be customized or translated.

This is accomplished with the use of language stings that are stored in CB Language plugins. For various reasons<sup>5</sup> Community Builder does not use the INI files method that Joomla uses.

Community Builder has its own built-in default\_language plugin (pre-installed in CB Plugin Management page that cannot be deleted) with translated language strings that fall back to a default English language interpretation. So if something is missing in your language plugin you will see the default language (English) content instead of a cryptic language string key.

In fact every Community Builder add-on you install as a CB plugin has its own default\_language folder with default language string files (one for frontend and one for backend).

The default\_language folders should never be tampered with as they are part of the core code and will be overwritten when you upgrade the relevant (CB or CB plugin) package in the future.

#### What does a CB Language plugin look like?

A CB Language plugin is comprised of a specific set of files. To explore this further let's take a look at the CB English (en-GB) Language plugin that contains:

- 1. en-GB.xml (manifest xml file)
- 2. admin language.php (backend translation strings in PHP array format)
- 3. language.php (frontend translation strings)
- 4. index.html (dummy file to prevent direct folder parsing)
- 5. cbplugin folder (containing frontend and backend translation files for extra CB plugin addons)

You can grab the latest CB English Language plugin from the Joomlapolis Language resources page listings at the URL:

https://www.joomlapolis.com/cb-solutions/languages

Just download it and unzip it locally to explore its contents. You can view (or edit) any file by opening it in your favorite text editor.

5 Mainly performance related

#### How to find your CB Language plugin

The Joomlapolis language resources page (URL given previously) contains links to download the most complete (>70% translated) language plugin packages.

The language plugin packages naming convention follows this example:

As you can see the package name contains:

- 1. the prefix plug\_language\_ to denote the fact that this is a CB Language PLugin that needs to be installed using the CB Plugin Management page installer
- 2. the name of the language (e.g., dutch)
- 3. the locale code of the language (e.g., nl-NL)
- 4. the CB version number this plugin is for (e.g., 2.0.7)
- 5. the version number of the plugin (e.g., 1.0.1)
- 6. the hash code of the packages

### Installing a CB Language plugin

Once you have located and downloaded your CB Language plugin, you install it just like any other CB Plugin using the CB Plugin Management page installer.

If the CB version of the language plugin is newer than the CB version you have installed you will get a failed to install message. In this case you should upgrade your CB installation to the latest CB release (preferred) or find an earlier version of the relevant language plugin.

Upon successful installation of a Joomlapolis downloaded CB Language plugin you will see a successful installation message along with a very detailed language contents description. The same details can be seen by visiting your CB Plugin Management page and finding the language plugin you just installed (should be the one named as the locale code of the language you installed, e.g., en-GB).

In Figure 60 you can see what the CB Plugin Management page looks like with various installed language plugins. As you can see the Default Language (English) is the preinstalled fall-back plugin we mentioned earlier and the other installed language plugins are named: de\_DE, el-GR, en-GB, fr-FR, nl-NL and ru-RU.

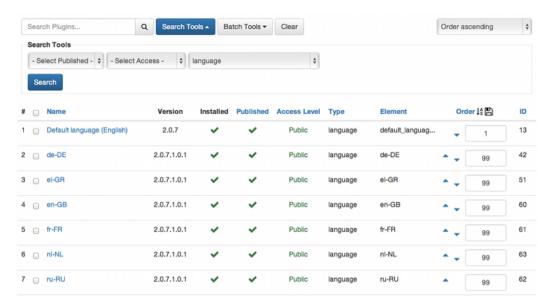


Figure 60: CB Language plugins listed in Plugin Management page

Let's inspect the nl-NL (Dutch language) plugin by clicking on its name in the CB Plugin Management page. You will see the Translation Credits paragraph and the Completion level section that contains a very detailed table as shown in Figure 61.

Project	Resource	Completeness
Community Builder	admin_language.php	100%
Community Builder	language.php	100%
CB Activity	cbactivity-language.php	0%
CR Antioners	cbantispam-admin_language.php	0%
CB Antispam	cbantispam-language.php	0%
CB Auto Actions	cbautoactions-admin_language.php	7%
CB Auto Actions	cbautoactions-language.php	25%
CB Auto Welcome	cb.autowelcome-admin_language.php	0%
CB Auto welcome	cb.autowelcome-language.php	0%
CB Conditional	cbconditional-language.php	0%
CB Connect	cbconnect-admin_language.php	95%
CB Connect	cbconnect-language.php	4%
CB Core Fields Ajax	cbcorefieldsajax-language.php	100%
CB Gallery	cbgallery-admin_language.php	0%
CB Gallery	cbgallery-language.php	0%
CB Coogle Translate	cbgoogletranslate-admin_language.php	100%
CB Google Translate	cbgoogletranslate-language.php	100%
CB Gravatar Field	cbgravatarfield-language.php	100%
CB Invites	cbinvites-admin_language.php	100%
	cbinvites-language.php	100%
CB Lastviews Tab	cb.lastviews-admin_language.php	0%
CB Lastriews Tab	cb.lastviews-language.php	0%
CB Privacy	cbprivacy-admin_language.php	100%
CB Privacy	cbprivacy-language.php	23%
CB Profile Book	cb.profilebook-admin_language.php	0%
CB Profile Book	cb.profilebook-language.php	0%
CB Profile Update Logger	cb.pulog-language.php	21%
CB Progress Field	cbprogressfield-language.php	100%
OD Over Field	cbqueryfield-admin_language.php	100%
CB Query Field	cbqueryfield-language.php	92%
CB Reconfirm Email	cbreconfirmemail-admin_language.php	100%
OD Neconiimi Emaii	cbreconfirmemail-language.php	100%
CB Template Changer	cbtemplatechanger-language.php	100%

Figure 61: Language Completion statistics

Each translation resource is listed along with its completion percentage status. As you can see there are some add-on projects that are totally missing (e.g., CB Profile Book, CB Gallery, etc.) and many that are in progress but incomplete (e.g., CB Profile Update Logger, CB Connect, CB Privacy, etc.).

### **Helping with CB Language Translations**

You are encouraged to sign-up on the Transifex site (https://www.transifex.com) and join a translation team to assist with the completion of the translation. You can just click on the left column project listing and be taken directly to the relevant project on Transifex and once there just select the language you want and request to join.

You can also join a 100% ready project and propose improvements. If your language is not present at all on Transifex you can create it and once approved (by the Joomlapolis team) you can start translating on the very friendly Transifex environment.

Joomlapolis periodically (at least once a week) scans the Transifex projects for updated translations and pushes new releases to its Languages resources page. However it only does this for projects that have the main Community Builder resources translated to at least a 70% completion level.

If you are a loner and want to do this on your own and not share :-(, then you can follow the instructions given in the CB Language FAQ article that is referenced on the Joomlapolis Language resources page.

# **Language Overrides**

Currently there is no user interface in Community Builder to manage language string overrides (like Joomla has). This is planned for the next point release (CB 2.1).

Until that time you can use the CB Language override plugin method as described in the:

CB 2.0 Tutorials - 36 - CB Language Override plugin and how to use it

and the supported forum post here:

http://www.joomlapolis.com/forum/6-news-and-publicity/227556-cb-language-override-video-tutorial-resources

Tip

If you want to change the Join Us! Message on your registration form (see Figure 3), you need to find and change the relevant language string in your CB language plugin language.php file. The string you need to find and change looks like:

'REGISTER\_TITLE' => 'Join us!',



# Chapter 11 Configuration Elements

Yup, we have them

#### Why now?

As you can see this chapter discussing the Community Builder Configuration page is purposely placed at almost the very end of this Primer Book.

The intention has been to gradually introduce various configuration elements and implications throughout other discussions on a need to know basis. It's much easier to understand this way and hopefully reading this book was an enjoyable experience.

# **Configuration Tabs**

The Community Builder Configuration page can be reached using the CB menu (you know this by now). Once on this page you will see, as shown in Figure 62, the following 7 tabs:

- 1. General
- 2. Registration
- 3. User Profile
- 4. Images
- 5. Moderation
- 6. Connections
- 7. Integrations

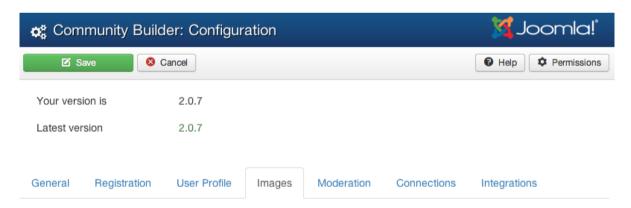


Figure 62: CB Configuration page tabs

Many of the parameters on these tabs have been mentioned in previous chapters of this book. We will not be giving detailed explanations about each parameter as you can access the relevant tooltip to learn more. The actual parameter labels will be listed so your can get a feeling of what is available and get perhaps motivate to explore something in more depth.

#### **General Configuration**

This tab has the following parameters:

1	Name	C+7	71 A
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2. Name Format

3. Date Format

4. Time Format

5. Calendar Type

6. Email Handling

7. Public Email Form

- 8. Emails Sent From
- 9. Email Links

10. Website Links

11. Online Status

12. Field Icons

13. Login Method

As you can see from the parameter labels this tab is used to set some general guidelines for various CB elements that will be used in many different CB pages.

Each parameter has its tooltip, so if something above triggers your imagination and you want to further explore its purpose you know where to start.

#### **Registration Configuration**

The Registration tab has the following parameters:

- 1. Allow User Registration
- 2. Generate Registration Passwords
- 3. Admin Approval
- 4. Email Confirmation
- 5. Ajax Username Checker
- 6. Login on Registration
- 7. Registration Email Name
- 8. Registration Email Address
- 9. Registration Reply-To Email Address
- 10. Registration Email HTML

- 11. Pending Email Subject
- 12. Pending Email Body
- 13. Welcome Email Subject
- 14. Welcome Email Body
- 15. Registration Layout
- 16. Registration Icon Layout
- 17. Registration Title Image
- 18. Registration Header
- 19. Registration Footer
- 20. First Login Redirect

Once again most of these parameters are self-explanatory and their tooltips will also help clarify when needed.

Here is a list of important implications and concepts that will steer you in the right direction:

1. The Allow User Registration setting needs to be configured in parallel with the Joomla > Users > User Manager > Options > Allow User Registration parameter.

- 2. The Generate Registration Passwords setting is useful when creating users from CB User Management page and also when registration Password field is empty or not even shown<sup>6</sup> on the CB Registration page.
- 3. The Admin Approval and Email Confirmation parameters control the frontend user registration workflow process.
- 4. The Email Subject and Body fields are configured to CB Language plugin strings. You can configure them directly in their parameter areas but this will kill the ability to send language specific messages on multi-language sites. They should be kept intact and translated/modified appropriately in the relevant CB Language plugin files.
- 5. The Registration Layout parameter is used to produce registration forms like the ones shown in Figure 3, Figure 4 and Figure 5.
- 6. The Registration Title Image field takes its options from the Joomla Root ➤ components ➤ com\_comprofiler ➤ plugin ➤ templates ➤ default ➤ images ➤ title folder and the Joomla Root ➤ images folder.
- 7. The First Login Redirect parameter has a default value of: index.php?option=com\_comprofiler&view=userprofile that will redirect user to the CB User Profile page.

Tip

The Registration Title Image parameter lets you change the splash image of your registration form (see Figure 3). You would need to first upload your new image to your website Joomla Root > images folder.

#### **User Profile Configuration**

The User Profile configuration tab has the parameters:

- 1. Username Edit
- 2. Username Fallback
- 3. Fields Validation in User Management
- 4. Profile View Access Level
- 5. Maximum Emails per Hour
- 6. Maximum Hits Interval in Minutes
- 7. Template
- 8. Template Output
- 9. 2 Column Layout
  - Left

- Right
- 10.3 Column Layout
  - Left
  - Middle
  - Right
- 11. Show Empty Tabs
- 12. Show Empty Fields
- 13. Empty Field Text
- 14. Allow CMS User Parameters
- 15. Profile Edit Layout
- 16. Profile Edit Icon Legend
- 17. Exclude Tags from Filtering

<sup>6</sup> The Password field is also managed in the CB Field Management page and can be configured to not appear during registration.

This list is worth reading to understand some implications:

- 1. **Username Fallback** is useful is you want to hide the username field from the registration and login processes.
- 2. Profile View Access Level is useful if you want your profiles to be available only to specific view levels. E.g., you can set this to Public and set the tab view levels to registered for the tabs you do not want public.
- 3. Allow CMS User Parameters lets you show Joomla CMS parameters on your user profiles. Take a look at the params field in your CB Field Management page for more info.
- 4. Exclude Tags from Filtering lets you configure which HTML tags should not be stripped out when saving editor fields.

#### **Images**

The Images tab has the following configuration parameters:

- 1. Image Software
- 2. Always Resample Image Uploads
- 3. Default Maximum Image Height
- 4. Default Maximum Image Width
- 5. Default Maximum Image Filesize
- 6. Default Maximum Thumbnail Height
- 7. Default Maximum Thumbnail Width
- 8. Maintain Aspect Ratio

Most of these parameters have been explored in Chapter 4.

Here is a list of important implications regarding some of these parameters:

- The <u>Image Software</u> parameter automatically detects which image libraries are available on your server. In most cases this parameter will be automatically set to <u>GD2</u> (represents the PHP GD library). Some servers may also have the ImageMagick© library ( <a href="http://www.imagemagick.org/">http://www.imagemagick.org/</a>).
- 2. Keeping the Always Resample Image Uploads setting to Yes is a good security measure as resampling will help cleanup any malicious code that might have infected the image file.

#### **Moderation Configuration**

The Moderation tab parameters are:

- 1. Moderators View Access Level
- 2. Moderator Approve Users
- 3. Send Moderator Email
- 4. Allow User Reports

- 5. Require Upload Image Approval
- 6. Allow Moderators to Edit User Profiles
- 7. Allow Profile Banning

Here is a list of items that you should keep in mind:

- 1. To take advantage of the Moderators View Access Level functionality you need to understand how the Joomla ACL Views work and how they differ from Joomla groups.
- 2. Moderator Approve Users should be left to Yes if you want to enable front-end approval of new registration applicants (if the CB Configuration ➤ Registration tab ➤ Admin Approval parameter is also set to Yes).
- 3. Send Moderator Email set to Yes will email all users in the Moderators View

  Access level to notify them of pending approval actions. You can turn on/off this notification for a specific use from the CB User Management ➤ Contact Info ➤ Receive Moderator Emails checkbox.
- 4. Allow User Reports and Allow Profile Banning let users report other users (for bad behavior) and allow moderators to manage these reports (via CB Workflows module) and also ban/unban specific user profiles.
- 5. Require Upload Image Approval is the default setting for all images. It can be overridden in each CB image type field (see relevant book chapter on images).

#### **Connections Configuration**

The Connections parameters have already been described and discussed in Chapter 9.

#### **Integrations Configuration**

The Integrations tab parameters are:

1. Translations Highlighting

Spoof Checking

3. Version Checking

4. Twitter Bootstrap

5. Fontawesome

6. jQuery

7. jQuery Migrate

8. Footer

These parameters should not really be tampered with (except maybe the last one) unless you are very confident with what they imply.

The **Spoof Checking** parameter can be turned off in cases where you have some third-party extension that is causing login issues or cookie errors.



# Chapter 12 Conclusions

That's all folks!

#### Thank you for reading

The authors hope this reading journey was an enjoyable learning experience for you. We are always open to any suggestions for improvements or needed corrections you noticed in this book. Just drop us an email at documentation@joomlapolis.com and we will take it from there.

As stated throughout this book, our intention is not to provide a reference manual nor a user's guide. Instead we took the Primer approach that motivates and helps you help yourself taking advantage of the many available resources that exist within Community Builder itself and also on the Joomlapolis website.

If this approach was successful you now understand that Community Builder is an extremely powerful and flexible tool that can be cleanly (no hacks) out-of-the-box manipulated to satisfy hundreds of use cases. Plus, it can be extended by installing more CB plugins that are available for paid members on Joomlapolis or by other third-party developers elsewhere.

Community Builder currently has 41 language project on Transifex with over 300 translators helping out.

From a technical perspective, Community Builder is built over a ground-breaking and innovative XML MVS AhaWow engine technology that helps us produce extremely stable and secure results.

The CB community is very large (over 500,000 registered users on Joomlapolis) and the actual software is powering millions of websites worldwide. CB has been around for over 10 years and its future is even brighter than ever.

Once again – we thank you for reading and supporting this free GPL project.



Figure 63: CB Team members



# Appendix A More Resources and help

How and where to look for and get more

#### **Resource List**

This CB Primer book makes reference to many online resources that are freely available to assist you. You can also become a paid member and get more add-ons and also support forum posting privileges where CB Team members are available to help you.

Once again here is a list of free resources you can search and study:

- 1. This book and its future updates
- 2. Getting started articles www.joomlapolis.com/documentation/community-builder/getting-started
- 3. Help button on each CB Administrative page
- 4. Tooltip on each parameter
- 5. FAQ articles www.joomlapolis.com/support/faq
- 6. Tutorial articles www.joomlapolis.com/support/tutorials
- 7. Youtube Joomlapolis channel videos www.youtube.com/Joomlapolis
  - CB 2.0 Tutorials playlist www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLp0puRITgC7PuyzPsMUECDI46VE7IFSAX
  - GroupJive 3.0 Tutorials playlist www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLp0puRITgC7NgllEH-tkUHQc7rRqDw-Pn
  - 3. CB Auto Actions playlist www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLp0puRITgC7McQcw0Sli1qfSUQGwmflzi
  - 4. CB Query playlist www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLp0puRITgC7MM9iP9FooKB1qk8f5MLWVp
  - 5. CB Privacy playlist www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLp0puRITgC7PyiMVKzL-3WKX9Z1iNIyah
  - CB Activity playlist www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLp0puRITgC7Nd1zDCB-fJFvR10H5mTgEF
  - CB Conditional playlist www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLp0puRITgC7PxD6MvmDwNNIi2HNcYxs7u
- 8. Joomlapolis forums
  - 1. Community Support forums www.joomlapolis.com/forum/145-community-builder
  - 2. Potential Bug reporting forum (must read-before-posting!) www.joomlapolis.com/forum/147-potential-bug
  - 3. Language forums www.joomlapolis.com/forum/162-languages
  - 4. Professional Support forum www.joomlapolis.com/forum/153-professional-member-support
  - Developer support forum www.joomlapolis.com/forum/255-developer-members-support

- CBSubs GPL support forum www.joomlapolis.com/forum/277-cbsubs-gpl-support
- 7. Templates support forum www.joomlapolis.com/forum/template-support
- 9. Google search

If you cannot find the answer to your question and you have searched thoroughly, then you can post on the free community driven forums where other community members may offer to assist you.

If you want assistance from CB Team members then you should consider becoming a paid member in order to post on the Professional Support forums and get more add-ons also in the process.

# **Guidelines for Posting on Any Forum**

One of our FAQ articles that you should **read and follow before posting** on the forums is the Help Us Help You FAQ article:

www.joomlapolis.com/support/faq/101-support/18234-help-us-help-you

#### **Reporting Potential Bugs**

There is a specific free forum area where you can report a potential bug you think you found. Before posting you should first follow the Help Us Help You article as it might resolve your issue.

If your issue is not resolved then post on the Potential Bug forum:

www.joomlapolis.com/forum/147-potential-bug

When you post here you should follow the Read before posting guidelines of the forum area:

www.joomlapolis.com/forum/147-potential-bug/226964-read-before-posting

If you post without following these guidelines your post will be moved to some other free forum and your karma might also be decreased for not following the process.

If your post has included all the information requested by the Read before posting article then a CB Team member will respond to your post with resolution or action taken.

# **Posting on the Language Forums**

If English is not your native language then you may find someone to help you on the various Language forums:

www.joomlapolis.com/forum/162-languages

#### **Posting on the Paid Forums**

The Developer and Professional support forums are write restricted for paid users only. However, anyone can read the threads and the discussions and learn – true open-source spirit.

If you are such a paid member you can start your own support thread if you followed the previously stated guidelines without reaching a resolution to your issue. When posting once again please follow that posting guidelines and in particular:

- 1. Always give exact versions of your Joomla, CB, etc. environment. Statements like: I have the latest of everything are not really helpful.
- 2. Provide a descriptive subject that helps everyone understand the issue. Subjects like: *Please Help* or *Doesn't Work* or *It broke my site* are not helpful.
- 3. When describing your issue be as clear as possible. Try and use CB terms and not your own. Give details and even screenshots of configurations if needed and results you are seeing. The clearer your post is the quicker your issue will be resolved. Try not to make people think to understand what you are writing let them focus their thought on helping you resolve your issue.
- 4. Be polite and courteous and also give a thank you to people who respond to help you.
- 5. Understand that sometimes the answer might be "No" and that some requests might be our of scope of the support forums. E.g., "Can you help me code this" or "Can you give me CSS code that does this", etc.

#### **Paid Add-ons**

The **Professional** add-ons that are described on this page:

#### www.joomlapolis.com/cb-solutions/add-ons

are available to all **Professional** and **Developer** members.

The list is continuously growing as new add-ons are released very often.

If you wish to start offering paid subscription memberships on your CB website you should look into the **CBSubs GPL solution** as described here:

#### www.joomlapolis.com/cb-solutions/cbsubs

CBSubs is not included in the Professional membership level and must be purchased in parallel. CBSubs is included in the Developer membership level.

Joomlapolis also has 4 very slick and light-weight Joomla Templates that fully support all CB pages. These GPL templates can be purchased separately or in bundles as described here:

#### www.joomlapolis.com/joomla-templates

All 4 templates are included in the Developer membership level which basically gives you access to everything Joomlapolis offers.

The rest of this Appendix has some teaser images regarding some of the 23 extra add-ons available for Download on Joomlapolis if you become a Professional member.			

# **CB** GroupJive package

The CB GroupJive package is available to Professional and Developer subscribers. It empowers your users to create their own mini-communities with wall and media sharing, events and invitations, and private forum discussions with it's built-in Kunena forum integration.

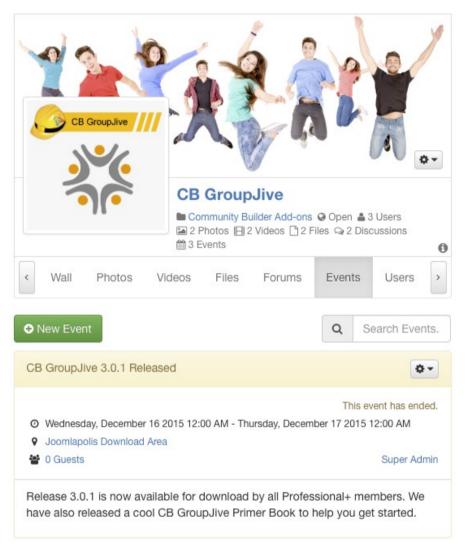


Figure 64: GroupJive Group page example

**Note** 

You can learn more about GroupJive by downloading the free GroupJive Primer Book from the following link (you need to be logged in on Joomlapolis to access): www.joomlapolis.com/component/docman/doc details/792-groupjive-primer-book

# **CB Gallery plugin**

The CB Gallery plugin is one of the paid add-ons available to Professional and Developer members. It adds multi-media galleries to your user profile pages. You can learn more about this add-on by reading its release announcement on Joomlapolis:

www.joomlapolis.com/news/18487-new-cb-gallery-supports-photos-files-videos-and-music

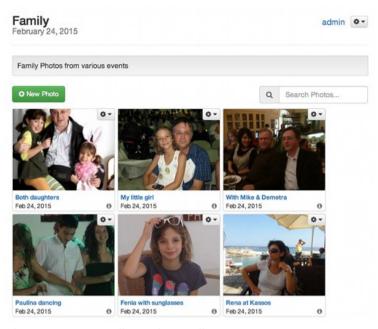


Figure 65: CB Gallery photo album

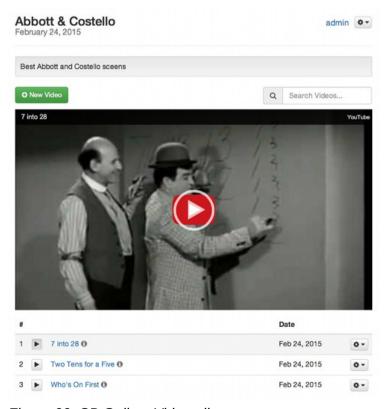


Figure 66: CB Gallery Video album

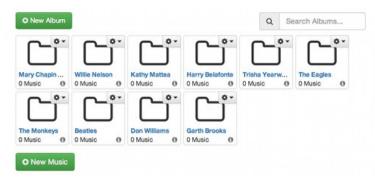


Figure 67: CB Gallery Music albums

# **CB Connect Plugin**

CB Connect 6.0 supports eleven (11) social networks and lets you authenticate your website users using their social networking credentials.

The 11 social networks supported are:

- 1. Facebook
- 2. Twitter
- 3. LinkedIn
- 4. Windows Live
- 5. Google
- 6. Instagram
- 7. Foursquare
- 8. GitHub
- 9. Vkontakte
- 10. Steam
- 11. Timblr

You can learn more about this Professional add-on from the latest release announcement:

www.joomlapolis.com/news/18472-eleven-social-networks-supported-with-cb-connect-600-

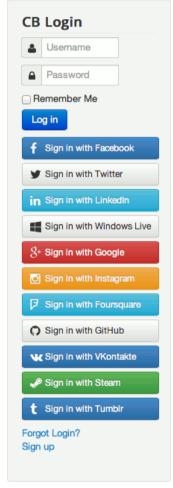


Figure 68: CB Connect

### **CB Privacy Plugin**

CB Privacy gives you full control to deploy your privacy strategy on your website for your user profiles and user lists. It is a paid add-on available to Professional members. To learn more about the CB Privacy plugin you can read the latest release announcement on Joomlapolis:

www.joomlapolis.com/news/18476-controlling-privacy-with-cb-privacy-40



Figure 69: CB Privacy setting for gender field

# **CB Invites Plugin**

CB Invites lets you **empower your members** to **invite their friends** to your website. With it you can also configure a closed by-invitation-only registration process. To learn more about this Professional add-on you can read the Joomlapolis article:

www.joomlapolis.com/news/18473-members-invite-friends-with-cb-invites-40

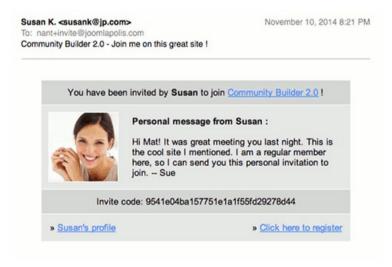


Figure 70: CB Invites email invitation sample

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