

JoomlaCode.org Introduction

This is a brief introduction to using the JoomlaCode.org, which is the new repository for the Joomla! project and is available to host projects related to Joomla! and Joomla! extensions. For more extensive documentation on the Gforge system, see http://gforge.org/docman/view.php/1/34/gforge_manual.pdf.

Registering Your Project

Once you have registered and confirmed your user account, you can register a project with the system. To do this, click on 'My Stuff'. This will load a page that allows you to access your tracker items, the projects you are a part of, the forums/trackers/packages you are monitoring, as well as other charts, activity lists, and other information.

On the right, there is a list of user account activities that allow you to manage your account and password. At the bottom of this menu is the '**Register Project**' link. This link allows you to register a project.

This will bring up a form asking you to provide details about the project that you would like to register. This information is made available to other users so that they can browse projects and find out what people in the Joomla! world are working on. You increase the usefulness of the project search functionality by providing a accurate and concise information about your project.

Once you submit your project details, your request will be reviewed by the administrators and if all goes well, it will be approved.

Accessing Your Project Control Panel

To access your project control panel, go to your 'My Stuff' page. You will see a blue menu bar with three options. The options on the right is 'Projects'. Clicking on this button will allow you to see a list of the projects that you are a part of and will allow you to leave those projects if desired. To open up your project, click on its name.

Your Project Home Page

When you first open your project, you will be presented with your project home page. Your default home page will include the listing of recent project news and project summary information. The home page can be fully customized to display any text that you want. There are also three special markers that include special features in your home page: %%NEWS%% (displays the latest project news), %%ACTIVITY%% (displays the latest project activity), and %%CLASSIC%% (displays classic summary information – a break down of forum posts and tracker items). The home page editor is accessed via a link at the bottom of the project home page.

The Admin Section

When you open your project, you will see a line of tabs across the top. The first is Summary and links to your home page. The second is Admin. This provides access to some of the administration section.

On this page, you can select which facilities you need for your project (Forum, Tracker, Document Manager, News, File Release System, Mailing Lists, Wiki, CruiseControl, and SVN repository). These can be turned on and off using checkboxes for the first eight, and radio buttons for the SVN.

There is a list of Admin options which allow you to edit permissions related to your project and also the information that others see about your project.

Adding Users to Your Projects and Assigning Roles

Users can be added to and removed from your project by clicking on the Manage Members and Roles link. On this page you can assign roles to the users that a part of the project by selecting the roles from the list box or you can remove them by clicking on the 'Remove' button. There is a search facility that allows you to search for users to add to your project.

Editing Roles

Although there is a basic set of roles defined by default (Admin, Developer, Quality & Testing), it is possible to define new roles and to modify the permissions that these roles have. Roles are managed by clicking on 'Edit Roll' in the Admin section of your project.

Controlling Access by Outsiders

You can specify which areas of your projects can be accessed by non-members of your project. You can make your project private, meaning that non-members cannot access it at all, or you can restrict access to only certain areas of your project, such as forums or trackers. You may want to have a forum that is only for project members. This can be setup by selecting 'Edit Observer Permissions'.

Forums

Your project forums can be accessed via the 'Forums' tab. There is an Admin link on the right which displays links to Add New Forums, or to Edit or Delete existing forums. Forum options that can be specified are the name and description. You can also specify a list of email addresses that posts get sent to.

Access control to the forums are specified by Editing Roles (which can be accessed from the admin panel).

Trackers

Task lists and trackers are all grouped together under trackers in the new site. Although they are both in the same spot, it is possible to create two different kinds of trackers. The first type is a bug tracker, which provides means of providing information about the bug and the environment it was observed in.

The second is a task tracker, which is geared more toward task management, and provides such facilities as the ability to specify a start and end date.

If individual items are opened up and moved, there are options presented to move, delete, clone and merge them to other places or with other items.

If you open up one of the trackers, you have the option to browse a tracker, create queries which search the trackers in specific ways, turn tracker monitoring on or off, and to view workflow rules. There is also an Admin link on the bottom of the list which allows you to edit and delete trackers. There is also an option to edit the fields of a tracker, to edit auto assign properties, and to edit work flow rules.

Editing fields is useful if you want to edit the options that are specified in tracker items. As an example, it is possible to expand the Status field to include more options rather than simply Open/Close. You can also add additional fields with a variety of form element types.

Docs

The docs tab allows you to upload documents that are related to your project. These could be user manuals, or white papers, or specification sheets, etc. These documents are then available for download by users. You can create folders and subfolders inside the main doc section. For each folder you can specify a name and whether or not it is publicly viewable, and for each file you can specify a folder, whether it is locked, and a description. You can also add new versions, and the system will keep track of the versions for you.

News

The news section allows you to create news releases related to your project. These may be file release announcements, version announcements, or bug announcements, etc. The admin link allows you to add new news items and to delete existing items. Clicking on the summary will take you to a page where you can make changes to the news item.

Files

The files section allows you to upload and host release files on the JoomlaCode.org site. To add or remove releases, click on the Admin link on the right.

Files are listed in two levels: the top level is packages. Your project may have different packages – you may have different extensions grouped together into one project, so each of these extensions would have its own package. Inside of each of these packages you can have separate releases. So you may have had four or five releases of your project so far. You can add each of these as a release inside of the specific package. For each package you can specify whether it is publicly accessible and whether a login is required to download it. For each release you can provide release notes, change notes, and set a release date.

Lists

The lists functionality allows you to have lists related to your project which behave in a manner similar to Google Groups or similar applications. This can be used for email discussion groups.

Wikis

Gforge has built in wiki support so your project can have its own wiki style information resource.

SVN

The SVN section allows you to browse the files that are in your repository. Files can be added/removed/updated using an SVN client.

See <http://subversion.tigris.org/> for more information on SVN. Through the Admin section of the SVN tab you can specify options such as whether a tracker item ID is required for a commit (this can be useful to tie commits closely to tasks or bugs) and whether to send commit emails to a mailing list. You can also provide custom access instructions and custom browse instructions to people who are viewing your project.

There is also an interface here that allows you to edit repository permissions. This allows you to specify which project members have read access and which project members have write access to various directories within your repository. This can be useful if you have different areas of your repository that are intended to be used by different groups of people. Path names are relative to the root of your repository, so if you had three directories in your repository root dir1, dir2 and dir3, the paths would be /dir1, /dir2 and /dir3.

You can checkout the files in your repository to the current directory by using:

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svn co http://joomlancode.org/svn/<your project name>/ .
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