

user manual



Joomla!™
Template

HOSTPAD

Hostpad v1.0 - Manual v1.0

bonusthemes.com

EXTREME JOOMLA TEMPLATING

Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction** 3
- 2. General information** 3
 - 2.1. Required software 3
 - 2.2. Browser compatibility 3
- 3. Template installation** 4
- 4. Layout** 5
 - 4.1. Template map 6
 - 4.2. CSS structure 7
 - 4.3. Module Suffixes 8
- 5. Template setup** 9
 - 5.1. Logo setup 9
 - 5.2. Banner setup 9
 - 5.3. How to show/hide the BonusThemes logo 9
 - 5.4. Exporting PNG slices 9
 - 5.5. How to change the template width 10
 - 5.6. How to manage the social links for articles 10
 - 5.7. How to set the width of any position 10
 - 5.8. How to enable/disable the SEOCP feature 11
 - 5.9. How to enable/disable the styling for the first word of the module and article titles 11
 - 5.10. How to set the format of article dates 11
 - 5.11. Hidden module positions 11
 - 5.12. How to set up DMenu 12
 - 5.13. Custom menu styling 12
 - 5.14. How to set up the Social Bar module 12
 - 5.15. How to set up the photo gallery module in the top positions 13
 - 5.16. How to set up the Domain Finder module 13
 - 5.17. How to set up the Multi Search module 14
 - 5.18. How to set up the Font Set module 14
- Appendix A – How to install a template** 15
- Appendix B – How to setup a module** 18

1. Introduction

HostPad is the June 2010 Joomla! template from BonusThemes.com.

HostPad is a web hosting template with an amazing number of innovations and technologies that make it friendly to smartphones, tablets or other touch screen devices. Amongst many new modules, HostPad features DMenu, a menu that is designed to work with tablets, and technologies that make it really simple to connect to social networks. Its design is clean and simple and it is ideal for any kind of business or e-commerce use.

The template features a 3 column layout, plenty of module positions, a menu designed to work smoothly with tablets, native or blog styled date tag for articles, content optimization settings for search engines and lots of configuration options for demanding webmasters

Read the following sections to find detailed information and illustrated examples that explain the ways you can use the template.

2. General information

2.1. Required software

HostPad works with Joomla! 1.5.x and it is recommended to use the latest version available.

Visit <http://www.joomla.org> to find which is the latest available version for Joomla!. If you are not sure which version you are using at the moment, login to the administrator control panel and locate the version number on the top right corner of the page.

2.2. Browser compatibility

HostPad is compatible with:

- Firefox 4
- Firefox 3.6
- Chrome 10
- Safari 5
- MS Internet Explorer 9
- MS Internet Explorer 8
- MS Internet Explorer 7

3. *Template installation*

To install the template you can use the Joomla! installation mechanism:

`Extensions > Install/Uninstall`

Alternatively, you may unpack the template in the /template directory.

To activate the template go to

`Extensions > Template Manager`

select the template and click the “Default” button.

Read Appendix A for illustrated examples on how to install and activate a template.

4. *Layout*

The layout of HostPad provides 48 regular module positions and 5 invisible positions for supplementary services.

This template uses a collapsible module technology. That makes some positions disappear if there are no published modules in them. This feature gives you the capability to make arrangements for wider space in your pages.

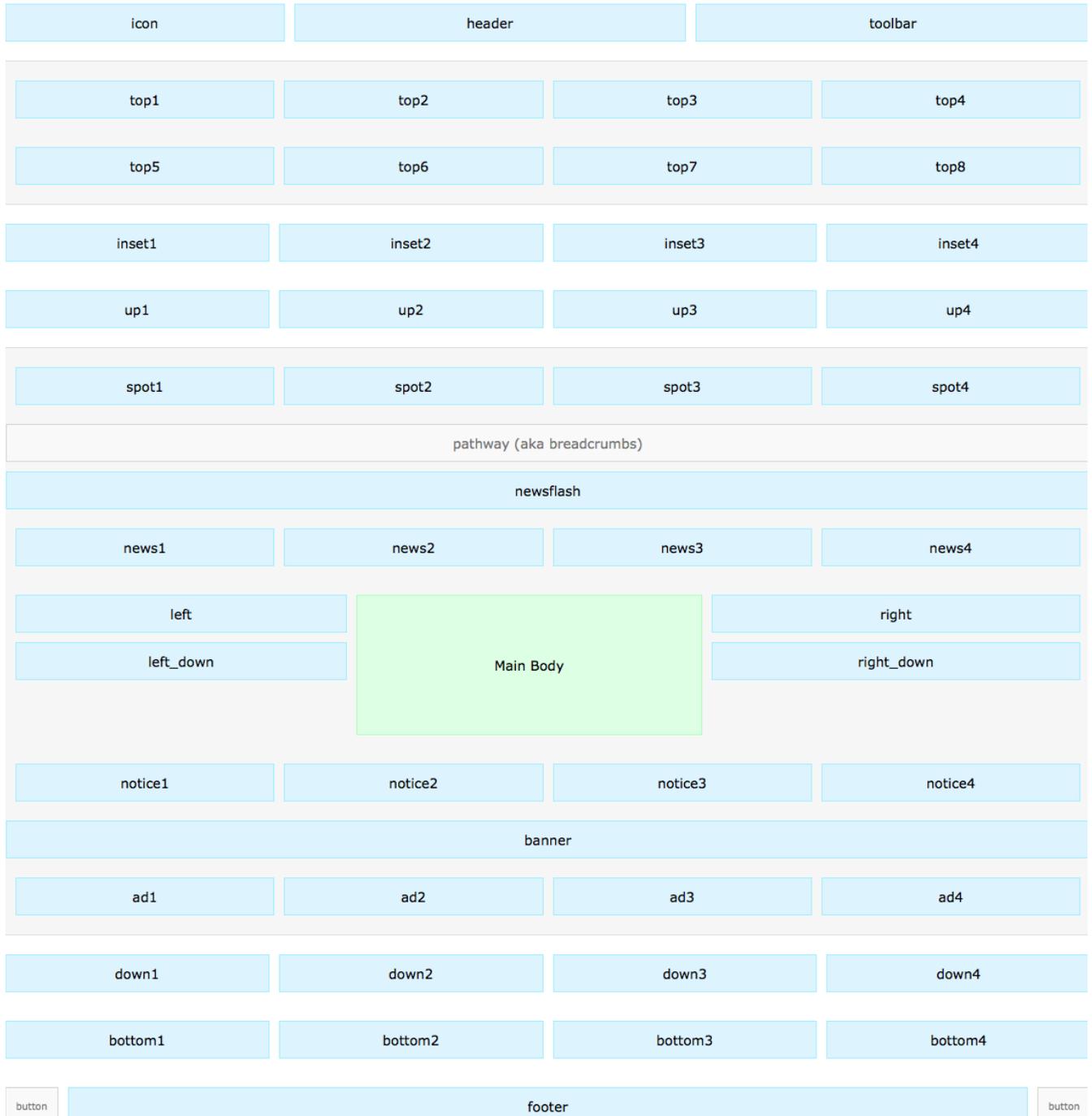
On the top of its layout, HostPad uses DMenu, a menu system that works with touch screen devices (smart phones, tablets etc) as well as with standard computers, that shows regular Joomla! menus, custom text or even modules as menu items. Read section 5.12 for more information.

The template supports a number of useful parameters accessible from the template manager. With these parameters you can set the total width of the template, enable/disable links to social networks in your articles, set the width of any position, enable/disable the SEOCP service, enable/disable the styling of the first words of module and article titles, set the date format for articles, and more. Read section 5 for more details on these features.

HostPad is accompanied by several external modules that add functionality. Social Bar makes all your pages able to connect to social networks, Domain Finder makes this template visually fit for web hosting companies, Multi Search makes it easier for your users to instantly search through many different search systems, Font Set allows users to increase/decrease the font size. Read section 5 for more details on these modules.

Finally, HostPad's release contains a specially made viewer for the image gallery component Photo Spot. Read section 5.15 for more information.

4.1. Template map



Map of regular module positions for the template HostPad.

HostPad also supports 5 hidden positions for supplementary services. Read section 5.11 for more information.

An alternative way to see this map on your website is to use the URI parameter tp=1. For example, if your website is "example.com" you can see the template positions by typing <http://www.example.com/?tp=1>

4.2. CSS structure

HostPad uses the main Joomla template CSS file for typography and other general styling. That main file is `/templates/bt_hostpad/css/template.css`

The file `/templates/bt_hostpad/css/layout.css` contains CSS definitions that control the layout.

Naming system for module positions:

The IDs of the `<div>` tags that wrap the template positions always start with “pos_”. For example the module position “left” takes the id “pos_left”.

4.3. Module Suffixes

There are 4 module styles (or module suffixes) that match the styling of the template.

Sample Title

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.



mstyle0

Adds a gap at the bottom of the module

Sample Title

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.

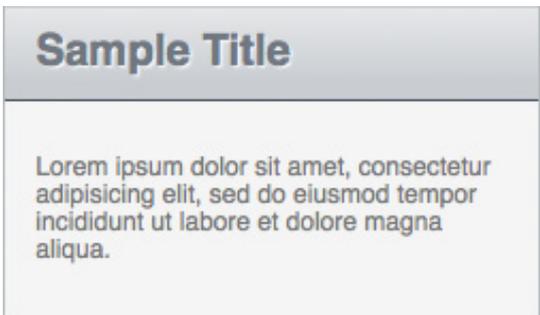


mstyle1

Adds a gap at the bottom and the sides of the module



mstyle2



mstyle3

Use it for the main area module positions (newsflash, news1-4, left, left_down, right, right_down, notice1-4, banner).

5. Template setup

5.1. Logo setup

To setup your logo, publish a “Custom HTML” module with an uploaded image in any template position.

Example:

1. Upload your logo on your website
2. Create a new “Custom HTML” module that contains the URL of the image you just uploaded
3. Publish that module in a suitable position

For additional help with illustrated examples, visit <http://www.bonusthemes.com> and open the tutorial “How to upload your logo” from the tutorials section.

You can publish your logo in any position, but the recommended one for logos is “icon”. In the position “icon” your logo does not have restrictions for its width or height. However, if you want to match the preset styling it is recommended to set the height of your logo to 35 pixels.

5.2. Banner setup

To setup a banner, publish a banner module in any template position.

5.3. How to show/hide the BonusThemes logo

You can show or hide the BonusThemes logo from

`Extensions > Template Manager > bt_hostpad`

5.4. Exporting PNG slices

If you ever need to customize the images with Adobe Photoshop you may notice that the produced images have slightly different colors than the ones you would expect.

This happens when you use the utility File > Save for Web & Devices. The problem is caused from the difference of the color profiles between Photoshop, your operating system (MS Windows, Mac OS X etc) and the browser. Fortunately, there is a color profile used by most of the browsers called sRGB (standard RGB).

In order to export your slices with the correct colors remember to click the “Convert to sRGB” checkbox from the “Save for Web & Devices” utility from Photoshop.

5.5. How to change the template width

If you want to change the total page width of the template you can use the option “Total width” from

`Extensions > Template Manager > bt_hostpad`

Special notice for setting the total width for HostPad:

Under the positions top1-8, HostPad has a background image with a color gradient. This image is not expandable or shrinkable. So, if you decide to change the default width (963 pixels) you must use a graphics tool to adjust the background image. The file name of this image is

`/templates/bt_hostpad/images/layout/r2_back.png`

5.6. How to manage the social links for articles

You can enable/disable the links to social networks in your articles by the option “Social Links” from

`Extensions > Template Manager > bt_hostpad`

You may also add, remove or modify the links. There are numerous social networks and their frameworks change fast. For this reason, this template has a simple and straight forward way to allow you to adjust. You will need to know HTML and have some basic knowledge of PHP.

To edit the social links, edit the file `/templates/bt_hostpad/inc/content.social.php`

The format is an HTML table. If you wish to add a new link, follow the examples in that file and don't forget to include the cell's TD tag. Depending on the format of the link, you may need the page title and URL. Use the PHP variables `$title` for the article's title and `$link` for the article's URL.

5.7. How to set the width of any position

To set the width of a module position in the template use the “Position widths” option from

`Extensions > Template Manager > bt_hostpad`

You can simply type the name of the template, a colon (:) and a width in pixels. Each line should have one setting.

Example:

```
left: 160
```

```
right: 200
```

To set the width of the main body use the keyword: “mainbody”.

Example:

```
mainbody: 700
```

5.8. How to enable/disable the SEOCP feature

SEOCP (Search Engine Optimization Content Positioning) is a feature that controls the position of the main content of the pages.

When SEOCP is enabled the content is internally positioned on the top of the HTML code and this helps search engines find and analyze the content easier. When the page loads, a JavaScript script moves the content to the proper position so that the visual structures can display it in the way the human eye can understand better.

SEOCP needs JavaScript to work. This means that users with JavaScript disabled will not be able to read the content of the page.

By default, SEOCP is disabled. To enable SEOCP go to

`Extensions > Template Manager > bt_hostpad`

and use the option "SEOCP".

5.9. How to enable/disable the styling for the first word of the module and article titles

The default version of this template does not use this feature, but its functionality continues to exist in case the webmaster wants to enable it in his/her implementation.

You can enable/disable the styling for the first word by using the option "Module word" from

`Extensions > Template Manager > bt_hostpad`

5.10. How to set the format of article dates

You can edit the format of the article dates by the option "Date format" from

`Extensions > Template Manager > bt_hostpad`

The variable names are straight from the PHP environment. You can learn more about them at

<http://www.php.net/strftime>

5.11. Hidden module positions

HostPad features 5 hidden positions for supplementary functionality. The names of these positions are "aux1", "aux2", "aux3", "aux4", "aux5".

The IDs of the container HTML elements for these positions are "pos_aux1", "pos_aux2", "pos_aux3", "pos_aux4" and "pos_aux5" respectively.

5.12. How to set up DMenu

DMenu is an advanced menu module compatible to websites and touch screen devices (smart phones, tablets etc).

In addition to the module, you may also install the DMenu administrator component which adds functionality to the module. With the DMenu component you can present modules and custom text as menu items.

You can download this module and component either from the [Downloads Area > Joomla! Addons](#) section of the Bonus Themes website <http://www.bonusthemes.com> or from <http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/dmenu/>.

Publish this module in the position "header", set a menu source from the parameter "Menu Name" and set the parameter "Layout" to "Custom 1". Read this module and component's documentation for more details on its parameters.

<http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/dmenu/docs/>

5.13. Custom menu styling

The HostPad template has a default way of laying out regular Joomla menus. It uses a specific set of CSS rules that may not appear nice in exception cases. One such exception is a horizontal menu.

To make the template ignore the default layout for menus you can use a custom "Menu Class Suffix". This should not be confused with "Module Class Suffix". From the administrator's control panel go to

[Extensions > Module Manager](#)

open the menu module that needs to have a different layout, open the "Advanced Parameters" panel on the right side of the page and set the "Menu Class Suffix" to any value (type for example "mystyle") and click the "Save" button.

HostPad also contains a secondary styling for menus. To use it follow the instructions above and type "menu1" in the "Menu Class Suffix" input box.

5.14. How to set up the Social Bar module

The Social Bar module is a module that appears on the top left corner of the page and links the website to social networks.

You can download this module either from the [Downloads Area > Joomla! Addons](#) section of the Bonus Themes website <http://www.bonusthemes.com> or from <http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/socialbar/>.

Publish this module in one of the hidden module positions (aux1-aux5), and read its documentation for more details on its parameters.

<http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/socialbar/docs/>

5.15. How to set up the photo gallery module in the top positions

HostPad supports a gallery module for its top positions. The module works with the photo gallery component "Photo Spot".

To re-create the gallery in the demo of HostPad follow these instructions:

Download the required extensions:

Visit <http://www.bonusthemes.com> and go to the "Downloads Area".

- Download the Photo Spot Component and the Photo Spot Module from the "Joomla! Addons" section.
- Download the "PhotoSpot Viewer - BT HostPad Top Module" archive from the "Joomla! Club templates > HostPad" section.

Installation steps:

1. Install the Photo Spot component
2. Install the Photo Spot module
3. Install the viewer plugin "PhotoSpot Viewer - BT HostPad Top Module"
4. Go to [Extensions > Plugin Manager](#) and enable the "PhotoSpot Viewer - BT HostPad Top Module" plugin
5. Go to [Components > Photo Spot](#) and create a new gallery. For your new gallery use a convenient data source, for example Directory (picks images from a directory). Ensure you use "PhotoSpot Viewer - BT HostPad Top Module" as your viewer. Remember the name you used for your new gallery.
6. Go to [Extensions > Module Manager](#) and publish the module mod_photospot anywhere in the template. If you want to make it exactly like the demo, publish it in "top1". In the parameter "Gallery name" use the name of your new gallery from the previous step.

You may want to go back to the settings in the Photo Spot component to fine tune the data source and viewer parameters of your new gallery.

You can find more documentation about Photo Spot at

<http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/photospot/docs/>

5.16. How to set up the Domain Finder module

The Domain Finder module searches for domain availability and information.

You can download this module either from the [Downloads Area > Joomla! Addons](#) section of the Bonus Themes website <http://www.bonusthemes.com> or from <http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/domainfinder/>.

Publish this module in one of the "inset" positions (inset1-inset4), set the "TLDs" parameter and the parameter "Layout" to "Custom 1". Read this module's documentation for more details on its parameters.

<http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/domainfinder/docs/>

IMPORTANT:

This module has a mechanism to protect you from abuse from external sources. To accomplish that, it uses a file as a user authorization registry. You must make sure the web server has write permissions to that file. In case you are not very familiar with this kind of work, ask your webmaster to give full read and write permissions to the file `/modules/mod_domainfinder/data.php`. You can read more information about this in the documentation URL provided above.

5.17. How to set up the Multi Search module

The Multi Search module allows the webmaster to set up multiple ways of search for the users. These ways use existing search facilities, such as the Joomla! native search system, VirtueMart's search system, Google, Bing or Yahoo.

You can download this module either from the [Downloads Area > Joomla! Addons](#) section of the Bonus Themes website <http://www.bonusthemes.com> or from <http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/msearch/>.

Publish this module in one of the "inset" positions (inset1-inset4), set the "Options" parameter and the parameter "Layout" to "Custom 1". Read this module's documentation for more details on its parameters.

<http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/msearch/docs/>

5.18. How to set up the Font Set module

The Font Set module allows the users to increase or decrease the font size of the page.

You can download this module either from the [Downloads Area > Joomla! Addons](#) section of the Bonus Themes website <http://www.bonusthemes.com> or from <http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/fontset/>.

Publish this module in the position "toolbar" and set the parameter "Layout" to "Buttons". Read this module's documentation for more details on its parameters.

<http://www.creativepulse.eu/products/fontset/docs/>

Appendix A – How to install a template

To install a template in Joomla! 1.5.x follow the next 6 steps:

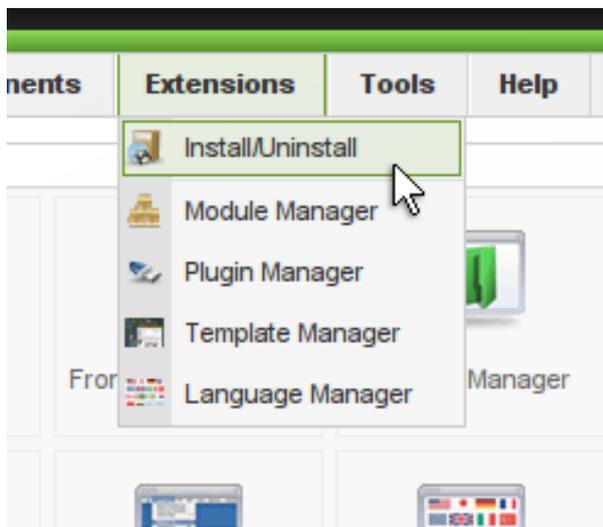
Step 1

Get into the administrator's control panel with your browser.

The URL usually looks like

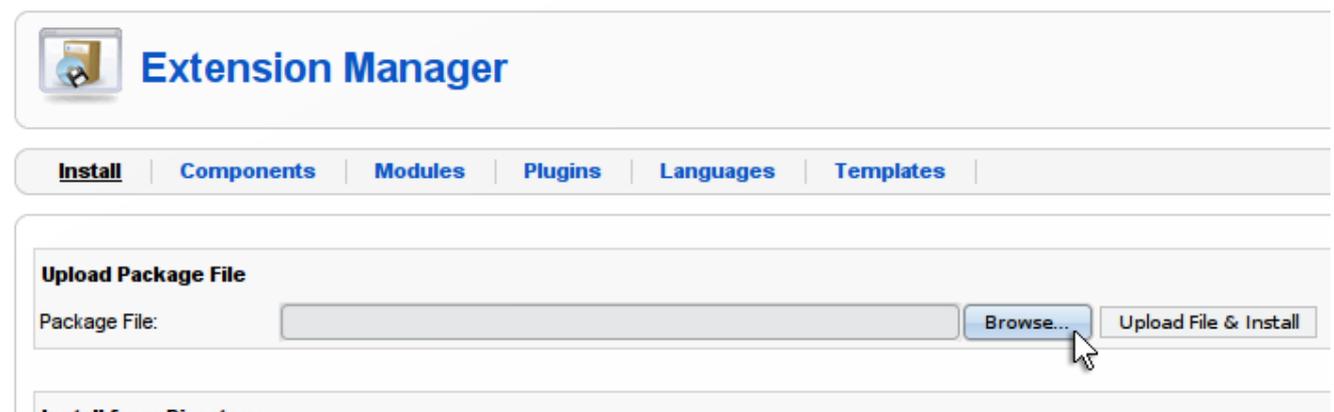
<http://www.example.com/administrator/>

Step 2



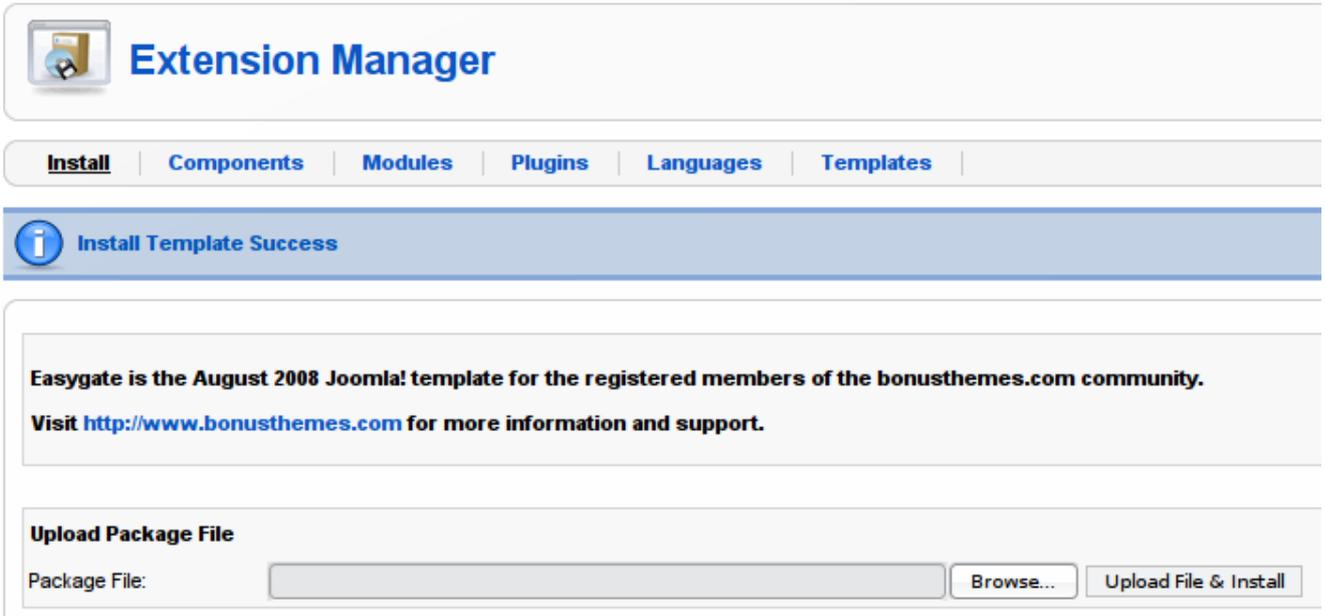
Go to the menu `Extensions > Install/Uninstall`

Step 3



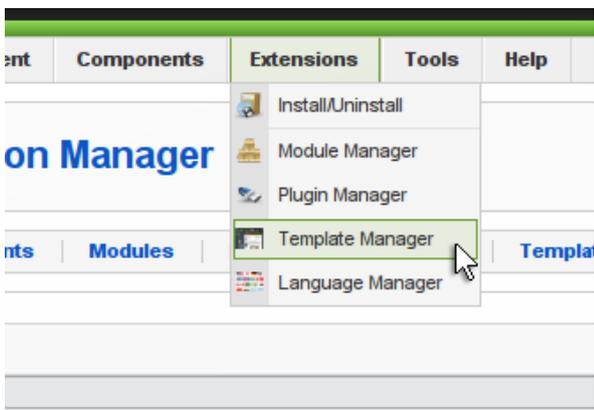
Click the Browse button to find the archive of the template, and then click Upload File & Install to perform the installation procedure.

Step 4



If the installation was successful you will be able to see a success message like the one in the image.

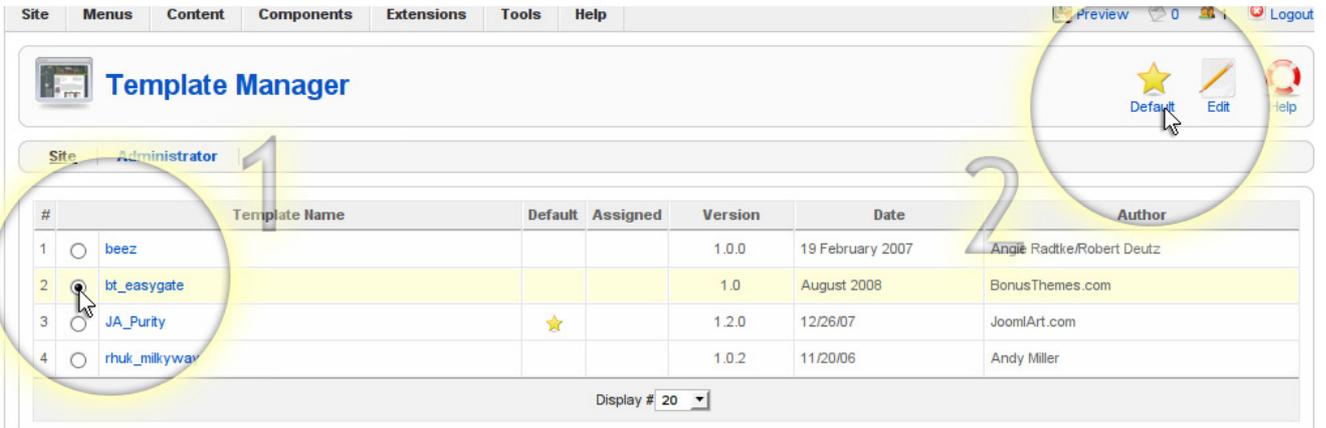
Step 5



The next thing to do is to activate the template.

Go to `Extensions > Template Manager`

Step 6



From the Template Manager page click on the template name you just installed and then click the Default button to make that template the default one.

Appendix B – How to setup a module

To setup a module in Joomla! 1.5.x follow the next 4 steps:

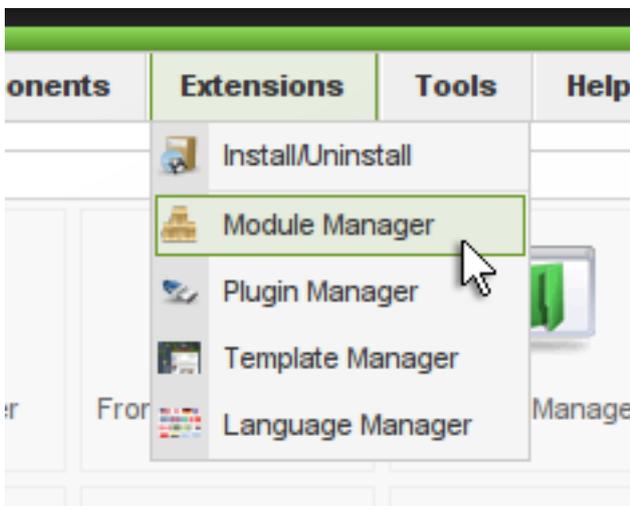
Step 1

Get into the administrator's control panel with your browser.

The URL usually looks like

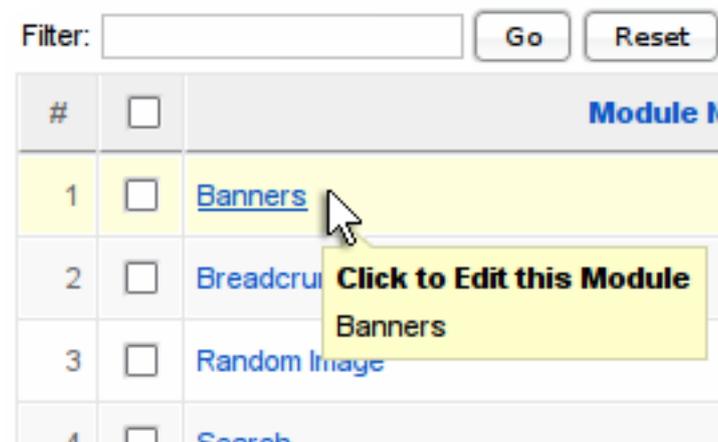
<http://www.example.com/administrator/>

Step 2



Go to the menu Extensions > Module Manager

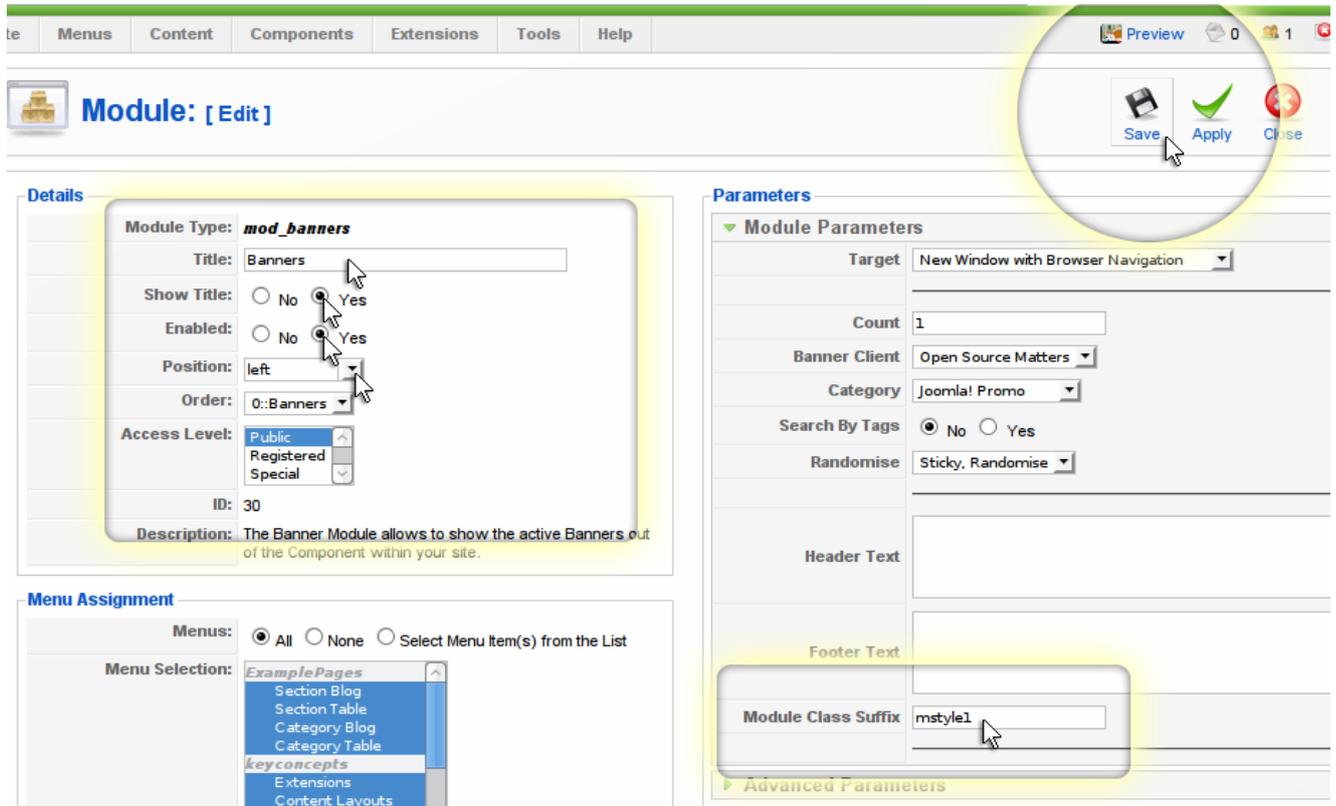
Step 3



Find the module you want to edit and click it.

Note: If you cannot find your module perhaps there are too many modules split in pages. Go through the pages to find your module, or use the filters to limit the list of modules on your screen.

Step 4



Now you are in the page that controls the module.

From the Details area you can control many features including:

- Set the title of the module
- Show or hide the title
- Publish or unpublish the module by checking the Enabled attribute
- Set the position of the module

From the Parameters area you can control other features including the ability to

- Set the Module Class Suffix

To save your changes click the Save button ton the top right corner.



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Graphics: Mediagrafix - <http://www.mediagrafix.gr>
Programming: Creative Pulse - <http://www.creativepulse.eu>

Distribution - Support: <http://www.bonusthemes.com>