

user manual



Joomla!  
Template

**P&L** play&learn

Play&learn v1.0 - Manual v1.0

**bonus**themes.com

EXTREME JOOMLA TEMPLATING



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## 1. Introduction

Play & Learn is the March 2009 Joomla! template from BonusThemes.com.

Play & Learn is a joyful Joomla! template primarily designed for content related to schools or other e-learning venues. This template promises a wonderful user experience because apart from the beautiful graphics it offers several built-in animation and display capabilities like module positions with tabs and sliders. Play & Learn can easily be used for many other types of content like blogs, presentations, even e-commerce sites or portals.

It features a 3 column layout, animation effects and a menu system with built-in support for VirtueMart 1.1. That makes it easier for you to achieve an e-commerce content integration.

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

Play & Learn 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

Play & Learn is compatible with:

- Firefox 3
- Safari 3
- MS Internet Explorer 7
- MS Internet Explorer 6



### 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 Play & Learn provides 27 regular module positions and 5 invisible positions for supplementary services.

Play & Learn implements a technology that makes it really easy to set the width of any position or the main body. Read section 5.10 for more information.

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, Play & Learn uses CMenu, a menu script that uses a regular Joomla menu as a data source. You have the option of disabling this menu and have a regular module position in its place. This can be set from the Template Manager and the name of the position that replaces CMenu is "header". Read sections 5.5 and 5.6 for more information.

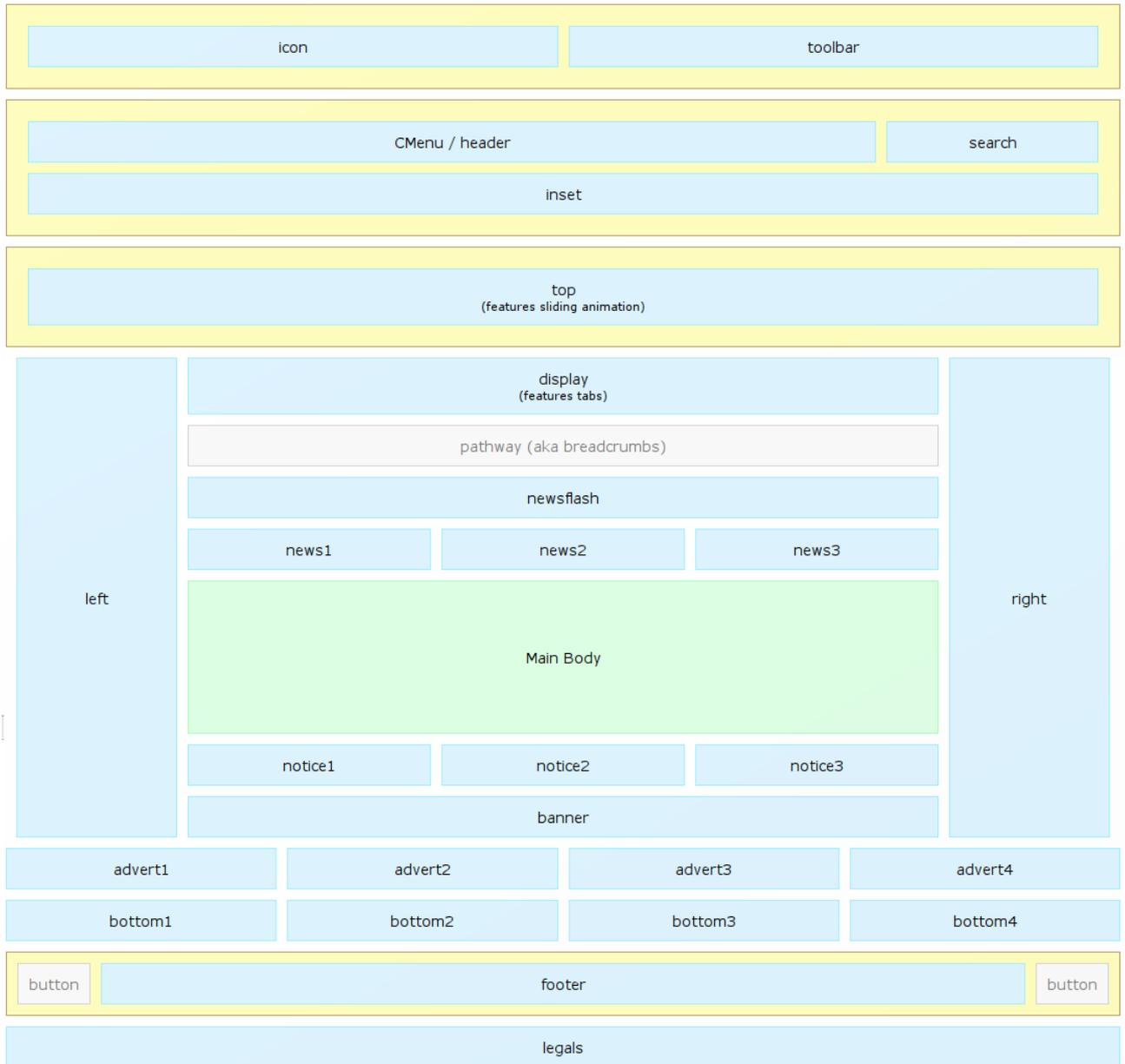
CMenu can also be easily connected with VirtueMart's products and categories. Read section 5.11 and appendix C for more details.

With Play & Learn you can hide the entire area of the main body if that is suitable for your set up. Read section 5.12 for more information.

Play & Learn has a custom way to display menus in the position "toolbar". Read section 5.13 for more information.



## 4.1 Template map



Map of regular module positions for the template Play & Learn.

Play & Learn also supports 5 hidden positions for supplementary services. Read section 5.8 for more information.

The areas in the yellow background have a fixed height.



## 4.2 CSS structure

Play & Learn uses the main Joomla template CSS file for typography and other general styling. That main file is /templates/bt\_playlearn/css/template.css.

The file /templates/bt\_playlearn/css/layout.css contains CSS definitions that control the layout.

The file /templates/bt\_playlearn/css/cmenu.css contains CSS definitions that control the layout of CMenu, the script for the menu on the top area.

### 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 3 module styles (or module suffixes) that match the styling of the template.

#### mstyle1

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,  
consectetur adipiscing elit.  
Nulla sed velit. Mauris massa.  
Donec eu est. Donec pulvinar  
mollis elit.

mstyle1

#### mstyle2

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,  
consectetur adipiscing elit.  
Nulla sed velit. Mauris massa.  
Donec eu est. Donec pulvinar  
mollis elit.

mstyle2

#### mstyle3

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,  
consectetur adipiscing elit.  
Nulla sed velit. Mauris massa.  
Donec eu est. Donec pulvinar  
mollis elit.

mstyle3



## 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". If you want to use that position for your logo, the maximum height should be 98 pixels. If you want to use a shorter logo with a vertical middle alignment you can either create an image of 98 pixel height which contains transparent pixels, or alternatively you can define the top margin of the HTML div "pos\_icon" from the CSS file `/templates/bt_playlearn/css/template.css`.

Example:

```
#pos_icon {  
    margin-top: 10px;  
}
```

### 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 Manger



## 5.4 PNG fix

MS Internet Explorer 5 and 6 have trouble rendering the alpha levels (transparencies) of PNG images. The template is equipped with a script that fixes this problem. To enable transparencies in PNG files for MS Internet Explorer 5 and 6, use the CSS class "pngfix". In some cases images appear distorted. To avoid this distortion provide "width" and "height" attributes in your <img> HTML tags. Alternatively, you can try the CSS class "pngfix\_static".

HTML example that shows an image tag with pngfix enabled:

```

```

PNG fix's website:

<http://www.twinhelix.com>

## 5.5 How to enable/disable CMenu

CMenu (Classic Menu) is the menu that appears on the top of the page.

If you want to use a module instead of CMenu you can disable it from  
Extensions > Template Manger

locate the option "Header Menu Type" and set it to "Position Header". You can now publish your module in the position "header".

## 5.6 How to set the Joomla menu for CMenu

CMenu by default shows the contents of the Joomla menu "topmenu".

In order to change the source of CMenu, go to  
Extensions > Template Manager

and use the option "Header Menu Name".

## 5.7 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 and use the option "SEOCP".



## 5.8 Hidden module positions

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

## 5.9 Custom menu styling

The Play & Learn template has a default way of laying out 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.

## 5.10 How to set the width of any position

To set the width of a module position in the template go to Extensions > Template Manager

click the bt\_playlearn template and use the "Position widths" text box.

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
```



### 5.11 How to connect CMenu with VirtueMart 1.1

CMenu is the menu that appears by default as the main template menu. As explained in previous sections its data source is a regular Joomla! menu of your choice.

The connection of CMenu with VirtueMart 1.1 is a very simple task. All you have to do is create an "External Link" menu item and use the "Link" text box to define the type of connection you want. The system will convert your link to VirtueMart data if it starts with ":vm:". After that keyword, you should enter a type of connection and optional parameters.



Here is an example of what the Link should look like if you want to show all the VirtueMart categories under a menu item:

:vm:category

And here is a more complex example that connects a menu item with the sub-categories of the category 5.

:vm:category:id=5

Depending on the command you use ("category" in this case) you have optional parameters to filter your connection. For example, you may want to show only one level of sub-categories. To do that, you should use the parameter "depth":

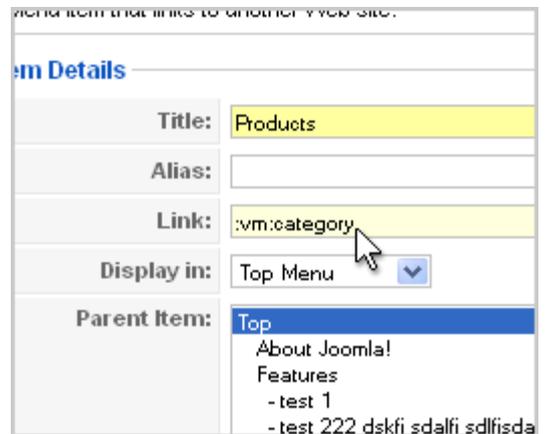
:vm:category:id=5:depth=1

The colon (:) symbol is a delimiter for your parameters. If you want to use parameters, you should separate them with a colon (:).

Here is a list with all the available commands:

- category : Displays VirtueMart product categories.
- featured : Displays featured products.
- latest : Displays latest products.
- random : Displays random products.
- selected : Displays selected products.
- topten : Displays best selling products.

Read Appendix C for a detailed reference on the commands and their parameters.





## ***5.12 How to hide the main body area***

With Play & Learn you can hide the entire area of the main body and the positions that surround it (breadcrumb, newsflash, news1, news2, news3, notice1, notice2, notice3, banner).

To do that, download and install the component "com\_nb" (stands for No Body). You can download this component from the Downloads Area of the BonusThemes.com website.

Assign "com\_nb" to the menu items you want the main body area to be hidden.

## ***5.13 How to set up the menu in the "toolbar" position***

Publish a mod\_mainmenu module in the position "toolbar".

Edit the module and make sure you have the "Menu Style" option set to "List". While you edit the module, open the "Advanced Parameters" panel and set "Menu Class Suffix" to "toolbar".

## ***5.14 How to set up the modules in the position "top"***

Publish modules the position "top".

The left/right buttons will appear if you have two or more published modules in that position.

## ***5.15 How to set up the modules in the position "display"***

Publish modules the position "display".

Make sure you have the "Show Title" option set to "Yes". The title will be used as a caption for the tabs.



## Appendix A - How to install a template

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

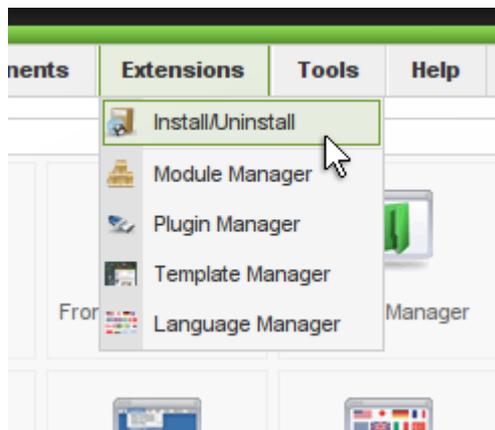
### Step 1

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

The URL usually looks like

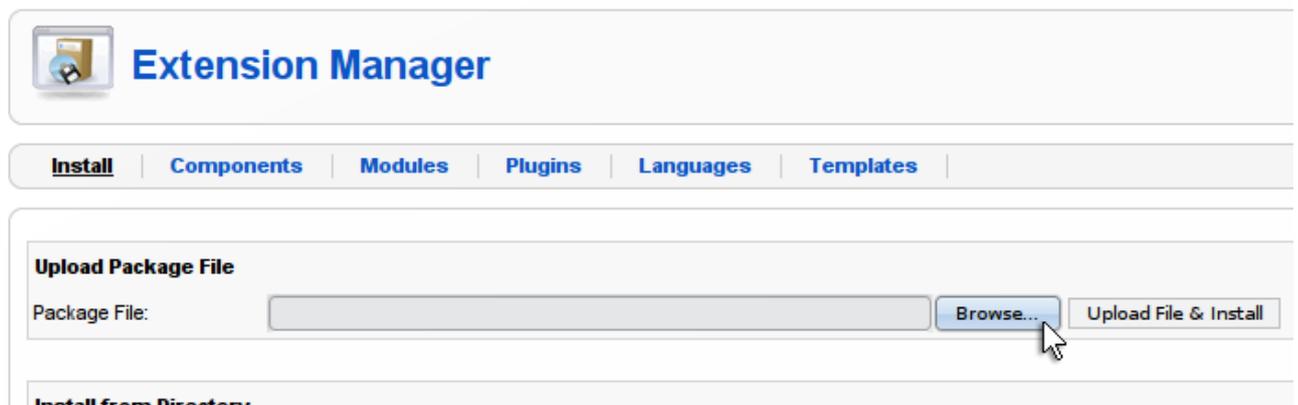
<http://www.example.com/administrator/>

### Step 2



Go to the menu *Extensions > Install/Uninstall*

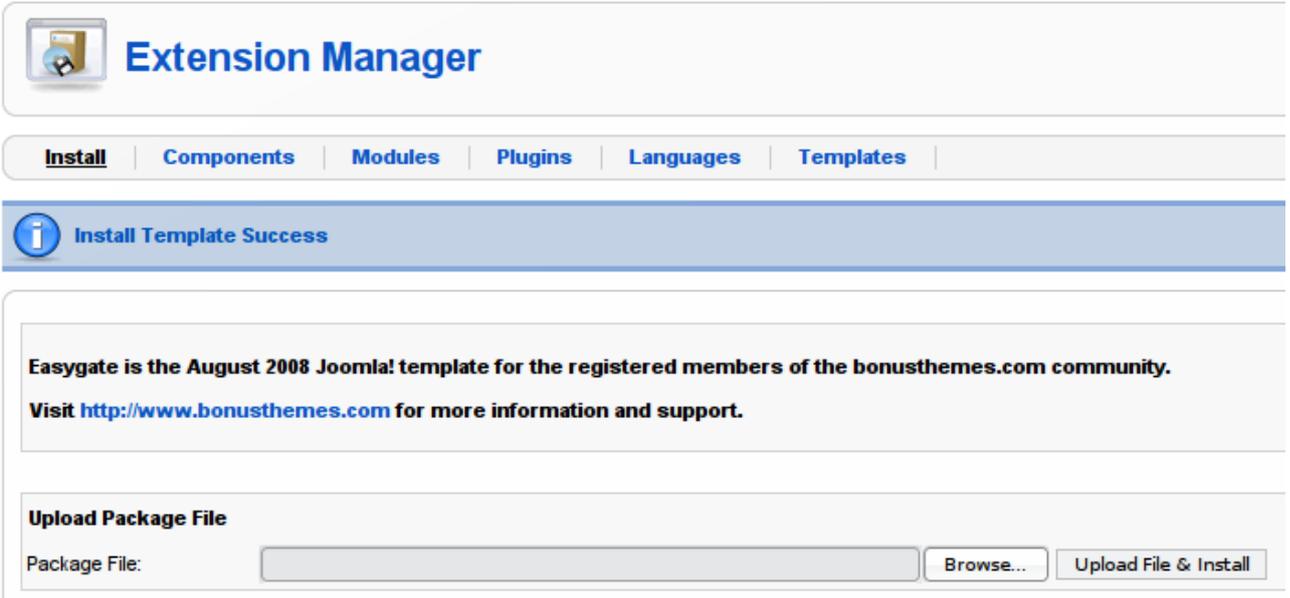
### Step 3



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

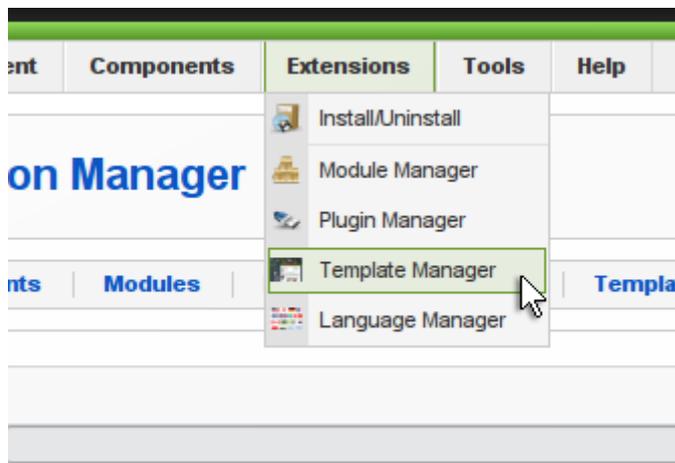


Step 4



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

#	Template Name	Default	Assigned	Version	Date	Author
1	beez			1.0.0	19 February 2007	Angie Radtke/Robert Deutz
2	bt_easygate			1.0	August 2008	BonusThemes.com
3	JA_Purity	★		1.2.0	12/26/07	JoomlaArt.com
4	rhuk_milkyway			1.0.2	11/20/06	Andy Miller

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:

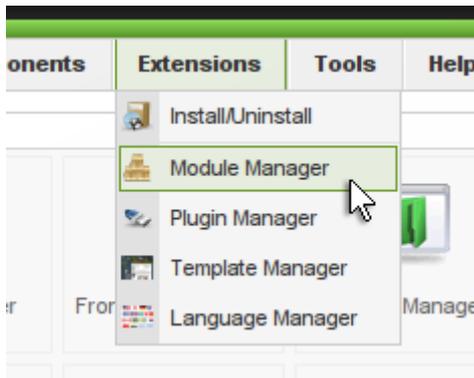
### Step 1

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

The URL usually looks like

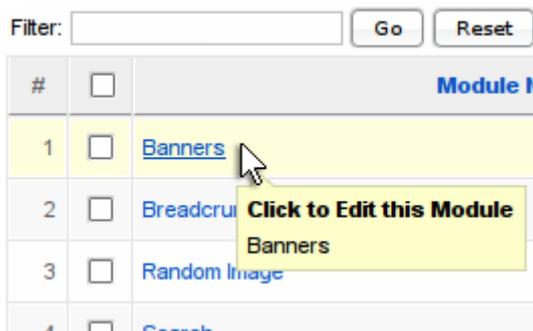
<http://www.example.com/administrator/>

### Step 2



Go to the menu *Extensions > Module Manager*

### Step 3

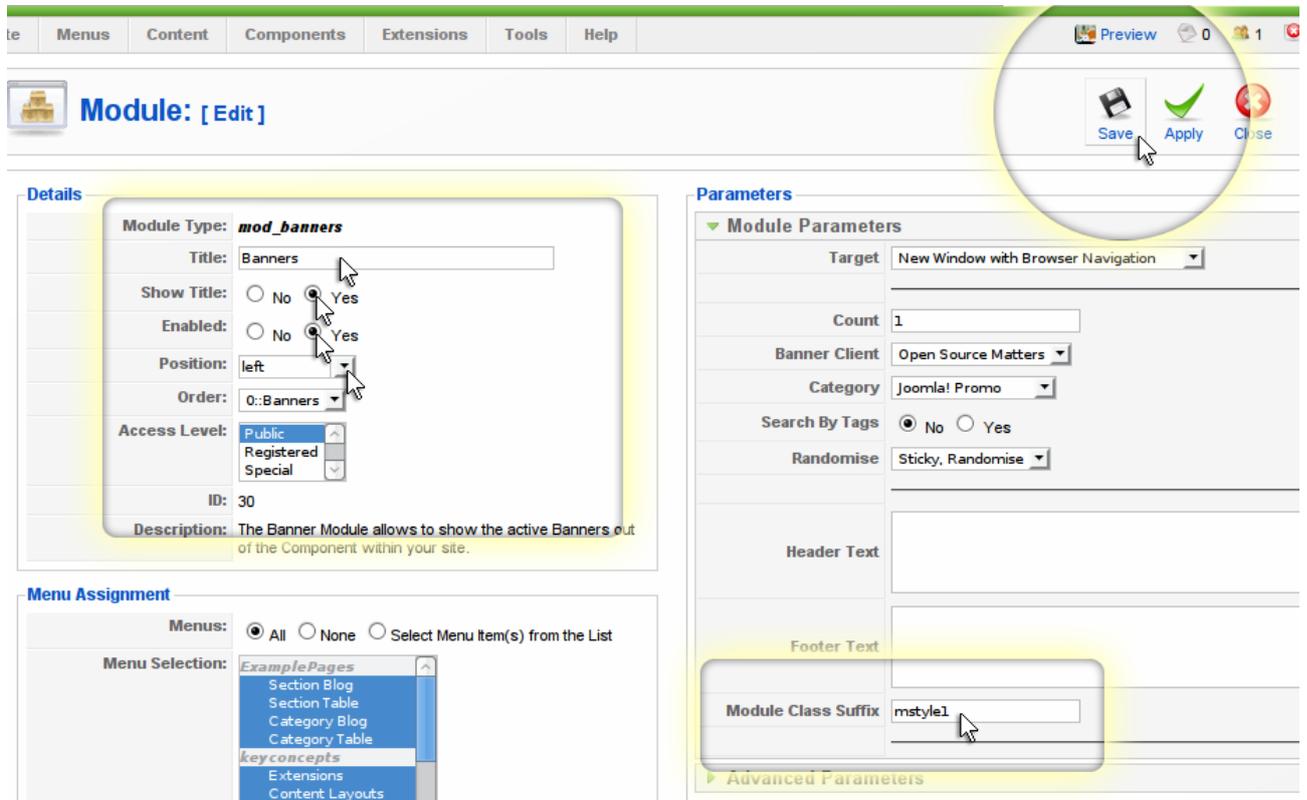


Find the module you want to edit and click it.

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.



## Appendix C - CMenu to VirtueMart 1.1 link reference

To connect CMenu with VirtueMart's data create an "External Link" menu item and use the "Link" text box to enter the connection command.

The following example will display all the product categories:

```
:vm:category
```

Commands can take parameters. Type the colon (:) symbol before each parameter. Here is an example that demonstrates how you can build a link with multiple parameters:

```
:vm:category:id=1:depth=1:published=1:cur_vendor=0
```

Available commands and their parameters:

### **C.1 category**

Displays product categories.

#### **id**

Valid values: Comma separated list of product category IDs.

Description: When used, only the sub-categories of the given IDs will appear.

Default: 0

Example: `:vm:category:id=1,2,3`

#### **depth**

Valid values: Zero or any positive integer number.

Description: Value 1 or larger sets the maximum level of depth of the categories to appear. Value 0 shows them all.

Default: 0

Example: `:vm:category:depth=1`

#### **published**

Valid values: 1 or 0 that represent published or all.

Description: Use value 1 if you want to list only the published categories, 0 if you want to list them all.

Default: 1

Example: `:vm:category:published=1`

#### **cur\_vendor**

Valid values: 1 or 0 that represent current vendor only, or all vendors.

Description: Use value 1 if you want to list the categories of the current vendor only, 0 if you want to list them all.

Default: 1

Example: `:vm:category:cur_vendor=1`

### **C.2 featured**

Displays featured products.

#### **max\_items**

Valid values: Any positive integer number.



Description: Maximum number of items to display.

Default: 10

Example: `:vm:featured:max_items=20`

**cat**

Valid values: Comma separated list of category IDs.

Description: When used, only the products under the given categories will appear.

Example: `:vm:featured:cat=1,2,3`

**cur\_vendor**

Valid values: 1 or 0 that represent current vendor only, or all vendors.

Description: Use value 1 if you want to list products of the current vendor only, 0 if you want to list them all.

Default: 1

Example: `:vm:featured:cur_vendor=1`

### ***C.3 latest***

Displays latest added products.

**max\_items**

Valid values: Any positive integer number.

Description: Maximum number of items to display.

Default: 10

Example: `:vm:latest:max_items=20`

**cat**

Valid values: Comma separated list of category IDs.

Description: When used, only the products under the given categories will appear.

Example: `:vm:latest:cat=1,2,3`

**cur\_vendor**

Valid values: 1 or 0 that represent current vendor only, or all vendors.

Description: Use value 1 if you want to list products of the current vendor only, 0 if you want to list them all.

Default: 1

Example: `:vm:latest:cur_vendor=1`

### ***C.4 random***

Displays randomly selected products.

**max\_items**

Valid values: Any positive integer number.

Description: Maximum number of items to display.

Default: 10

Example: `:vm:random:max_items=20`

**cat**

Valid values: Comma separated list of category IDs.

Description: When used, only the products under the given categories will appear.

Example: `:vm:random:cat=1,2,3`

**cur\_vendor**

Valid values: 1 or 0 that represent current vendor only, or all vendors.



Description: Use value 1 if you want to list products of the current vendor only, 0 if you want to list them all.

Default: 1

Example: `:vm:random:cur_vendor=1`

### ***C.5 selected***

Displays custom selected products.

**id**

Valid values: Comma separated list of product IDs.

Description: ID numbers of the products you want to show.

Example: `:vm:selected:id=1,2,3`

The usage of the parameter `id` is compulsory.

### ***C.6 topten***

Displays best selling products.

**max\_items**

Valid values: Any positive integer number.

Description: Maximum number of items to display.

Default: 10

Example: `:vm:topten:max_items=20`

**cat**

Valid values: Comma separated list of category IDs.

Description: When used, only the products under the given categories will appear.

Example: `:vm:topten:cat=1,2,3`

**cur\_vendor**

Valid values: 1 or 0 that represent current vendor only, or all vendors.

Description: Use value 1 if you want to list products of the current vendor only, 0 if you want to list them all.

Default: 1

Example: `:vm:topten:cur_vendor=1`



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EXTREME JOOMLA TEMPLATING

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

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