
What is Joomla Extension?

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In a Zen statement: Basically a Joomla extension is any program or application that extends the core functionality of the Joomla! CMS. Think forum, directory, comments, galleries, so on and so on, something you could blow on… sorry, just flexing my rap skillz.

So then what are these components, modules, mambots/plugins I read about?

Components, modules, mambots/plugins are the three types of extensions available for Joomla. Most extensions you download from the JED or other Joomla download sites will fall under these categories.

Need more details…

What is a Joomla component?

A component is an extension that enhances the core functionality of your Joomla CMS. This is usually displayed in the “main content” section of your website. Think forum, image gallery, contacts. So on and so on.

What is a Joomla mambot/plugin

This is usually a trigger that is used to immediately extend the functionality of your “main content”. Think gallery inside of content. Think comments; think automatic thumbnails, editor, so on and so on. Plugins is simply the term that will replace the Mambot. Long story there; you will have to research “mambo community split”.

What is a Joomla module?

A module, for the most part, is a program to create content that surrounds your “main content” section. These are mainly displayed in the different module positions: top, left, right, etc. Joomla modules usually go hand-in-hand to display certain information from other installed components. Ex: display latest forum post made on your forum component, display random images from your image gallery component, display latest news, most popular articles, so on and so on. Even the menus are modules. Note: You can display modules in “main content”, but that’s another how-to.

So on and so on…. Reference: http://help.joomla.org/component?option,com_easyfaq/task,view/id,87/Itemid,268/