"Wisadmin Joomla Administrator Template"

Created: Dec/10/2015
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Thank you for purchasing my theme. If you have any questions that are beyond the scope of this help file, please feel free to email via my user page contact form here. Thanks so much!

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A) Basic Information on Joomla Templates-top

This introductory tutorial will give you an insight into the Joomla! templating system and what you can do with it.

Purpose of templates

A template controls the overall look and layout of a site. It provides the framework that brings together common elements, modules and components as well as providing the cascading style sheet for the site. Both the front-end and the back-end of the site have templates.

When Joomla! is first installed several templates are automatically included. You can find many more templates at other websites. Some are available without charge under various licenses, and some are for sale. In addition, there are many developers available who can make custom templates. You can also make your own template.

Templates are managed with the Template Manager, which is located on the Extensions menu in the back-end (administrator) area of your site.

Why does Joomla! use templates? [A real beginners guide!]

The way Joomla! is designed separates out the key tasks involved in producing a website for efficient maintenance of the software. One of these tasks is to create the aesthetic (the look, feel and layout) of the site. This includes making decisions such as which content elements (components, modules and plugins) you may want to place in any given page.

When producing a web page, the location of most elements will stay the same (menus, banner locations, sidebars etc.). Additionally, you will want to create the same look (fonts, header styles, colour scheme etc.) for every page. For some parts of the site you may want to alter the general feel to indicate a different purpose for those pages (such as a blog section). A little planning is required for this, but once you have settled on the overall layout for your site, you then have the task of producing each page of content.

And that's where the template comes in. You can either write all the code for each page separately, or use a template for each major section of your site so that when you want to create a new page you simply "fill in the blanks". Okay, perhaps it's not that simple, but this tutorial is designed to give you a step by step guide for effective template use, starting with how to use one and ending with how to create one for yourself.

- 1. Use one of the templates supplied with Joomla!
- 2. Download one of the many free offerings from the Internet.
- 3. Pay for one to be modified or produced from scratch if your needs cannot be met any other way.

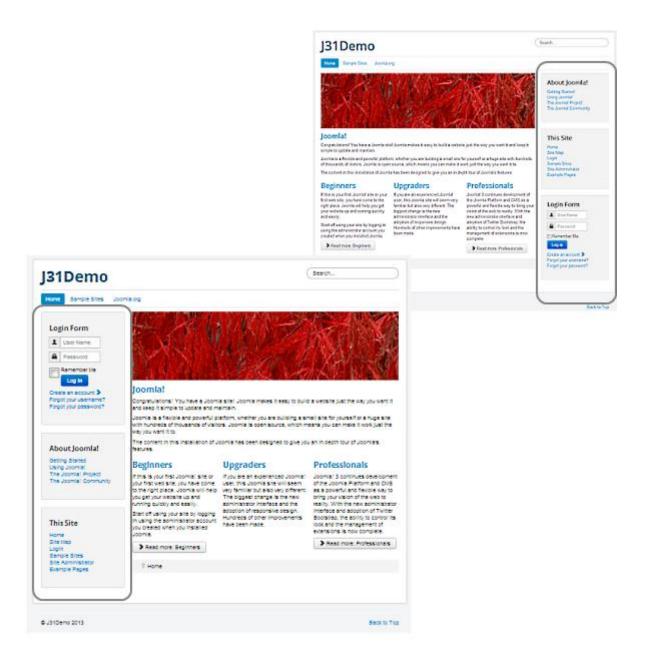
Summary – a template controls the look of your site and at the same time allows the website administrator focus more on the actual content.

What can you do

A template is used to manipulate the way content is delivered to a web browser or screen reader. Here are some ways you can employ this on your Joomla!-powered site.

Layout

The template is the place where the design of the main layout is set for your site. This includes where you place different elements (<u>modules</u>). For example: You can control the placement of menus, a log in form, advertising banners, polls, etc.



Note the changes in content layout!

The main body(<u>article</u>) of the page can be altered in style(you can select from different styles of display such as typical blog layout, a news article, etc) depending on the templates layout. *See the example image. Note the differences in layout, but how the look is consistent. The sidebar of modules has been moved from left to right and its order rearranged.

If the template is designed to provide choices, you can also "dynamically" alter the content placement on your site, perhaps putting the main menu on the right or left side of the screen.

Color Scheme

Using CSS within the template design, you can change the colors of your backgrounds, text, links or just about anything that you could within your ordinary HTML code. Some templates

provide a method to change the color in template management, others require you to modify the template's .css file(s).

Images and Effects

You can also control the way images are displayed on the page, and even create flash-like effects or include <u>AJAX</u> applications such as drop-down menus.

Fonts

The same applies to fonts. The designs for these are all set within the template's CSS file(s) to create a uniform look across your entire site, which makes it fantastically easy to change the whole look just by altering one or two files rather than every single page.

Browser Specific Solutions

A template can be designed to alter how it displays on different web browsers, allowing you to take full advantage of the latest developments without making your site inaccessible to those who are not able to run "up-to-the-minute" system upgrades (such as certain companies who limit what software their employees can use).

Templates Supplied

The following templates are supplied with a default installation of Joomla! 3.x

Site Templates

- Protostar (Default template)
- Beez 3

Administrator Templates

- ISIS (Default template)
- Hathor

Switching Templates

To change the default Template for the Site (Front-end) or Administrator (Back-end), follow these steps:

Access the template manager

- Log in to the Administrator (Backend). If you are not sure how to do this see: <u>To log in to the Administrator (Backend)</u>
- Click on: Extensions → Templates



You will now see the Template Manager screen.

Note: If you do not see **Templates** listed as an option on the **Extensions** menu, then it is most likely because you are not logged in as a Super Administrator. Only Super Administrators will see this menu item.

Managing default template

From here you manage your templates for Front-end and Back-end. The default view shows your installed Front-end templates styles. The default style for the Front-end is marked with a star; in the image below it is protostar - Default.

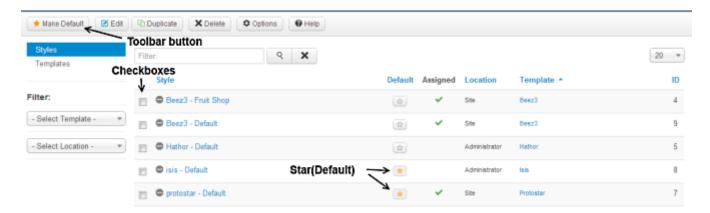
To change the default style to beez3:

- click the checkbox left from the style name to select it;
- click "Default" on the toolbar;

the star changes from protostar to beez3 and you are done. Alternatively, you can click on the shadow of a template's default star to quickly set the template as default.

You can use the filter drop downs on the left or the filter search to limit the number of templates shown in the list of templates. Other options are:

- edit edit the pages a template is shown on (see below)
- delete delete a template (must not be default template)
- options set options for templates



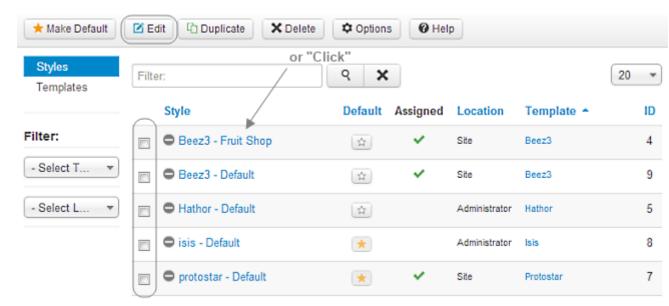
Assigning more than one template for the Front-end

Joomla! gives you the option of switching between two or more styles on the Front-end. This is done with "Menu Assignment", so you can set different styles for each menu or only a menu item. This allows specific "pages" that are defined by menu links to set for a "specific" style. Styles can be of different templates.

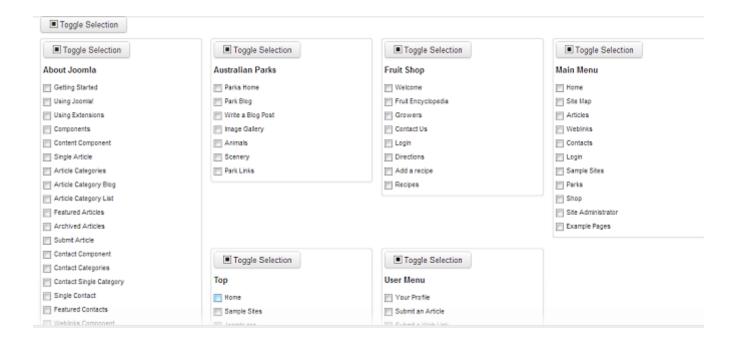
Template manager method

Click on: Extensions → Template Manager

• You will see your installed template styles, now choose a style which is **not** set as your default one. Yellow star indicates the style is a default.



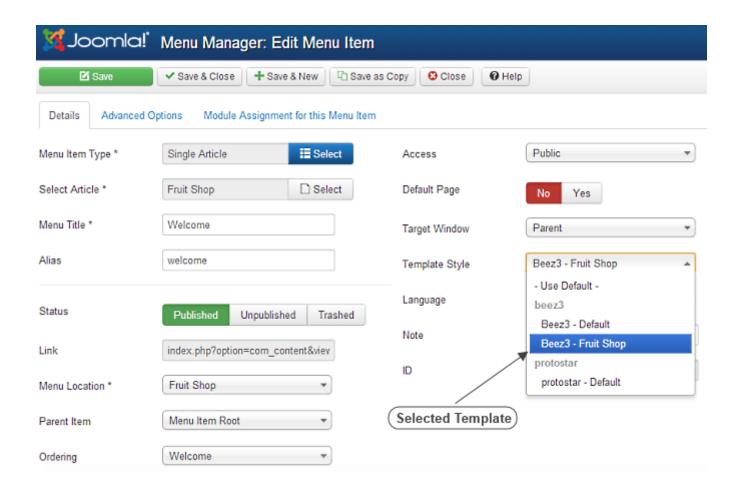
- Click on the style name or hit the checkbox to the left of the style name, and click
 "Edit" on the toolbar.
- You now see the page "Template: [Edit style] ", and go to the section "Menu Assignment" block and choose the menu items on which the style should be shown.



- Click "Save" on the toolbar and you're done. The menu item will now show the selected template.
- Go to the front-end of your website and refresh the page to view the modifications.

Menu manager method

- Access menu item Menus → Menu Name
- Choose a menu item by checking the box to the left of its name and then click on the **Edit** toolbar button. Alternatively, simply click the name of the menu item to edit it.
- On the **Edit Menu Item** screen, in **Template Style**, choose the desired template style and click on the **Save** button.



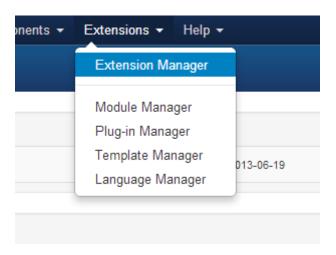
• Go to the frontend of your website and refresh the page to view the modifications.

Installing a template

Install via Admin Panel (packed template file)

Log into the back-end of your site (www.your-site.com/administrator/)

Click on: Extensions -> Extension Manager



You see the page "Extension Manager"

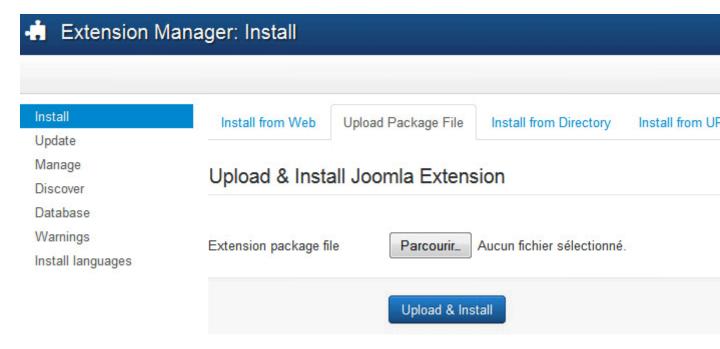
From here you can install your Templates, Plugins, Modules, Components and Languages. You have three options:

- 1. Install from Web (select an extension listed on the Joomla! Extension Directory)
- 2. Upload Package File (select a package from your PC, upload and install it)
- 3. Install from Directory (enter the path where the package is located on your webserver)
- 4. Install from URL (enter the URL to the package)

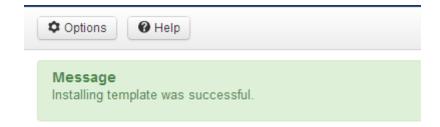
Option 4 does everything for you, your environment needs to be properly configured to allow this. Option 2 requires you to download the extension to your PC. Option 3 requires you to unzip and move the folders/files to your webserver. All options require the webserver to have write access to the webspace.

Here, we choose the second method: Upload Package File

Select the package from your PC and click the button "Upload File & Install"



If the package contains no errors you are done and get a success message like the one below.



Verify installation

Go from tab 'Install' to tab 'Manage', set the 'Type' filter to 'Template'. The installed template should appear in the list. If it does, the template is properly installed. Now you can assign one of styles to a menu item or set the style as default. For administrator templates make sure you have two windows of the template manager. Activate the new template in one of them and reset it in the other one if something went wrong.

Install via FTP (unpacked template file)

Templates can also be installed via FTP without packaging them. Simply select the template folder on your PC and upload it to your server, using your favourite FTP software. Be sure you upload the template folder to the directory: <code>/path_to_joomla/templates/-where/path_to_joomla/</code> is the location of your Joomla! installation on the server. This method is mostly used when you have created a template yourself, and do not want to have to package it to install the template, or if you want to upload more than one template at once. You must then go into extension manager and click on <code>Discover</code> in the sub menu. Click on "Discover" in the toolbar if your template doesn't immediately appear. A list of uninstalled items in the FTP should then appear. Click the checkbox to the left of your template and click on the button 'Install'.

Note: Do not try to use FTP to install Components, Modules and Plugins if you are a beginner/novice. These items need database entries which have to be inserted manually if you bypass the package installer.

Modifying a Joomla! Template

Templates are just a group of XML, PHP, HTML and image files that are stored in the *templates* directory of your site. You can edit these files directly or use the Template Manager.

Before You Begin

Before you start hacking away at a default installed template or any other template you may have installed, remember that any updates of the Joomla core files may contain new copies of the default Joomla templates. Similarly, editing an installed template means you may have to re-install it to reset it to the original state at installation.

Unless you take steps to protect your work, modifications could be lost when upgrading Joomla. Likewise, you may want to preserve an installed template in case you have any problems with modifications to it.

There are options in the <u>Template Manager</u> to Duplicate and Copy an existing template style or the **actual template and template files**. This page refers to the methods available to make a full copy of your template. This includes the style and all the template files of a template.

A Tip!

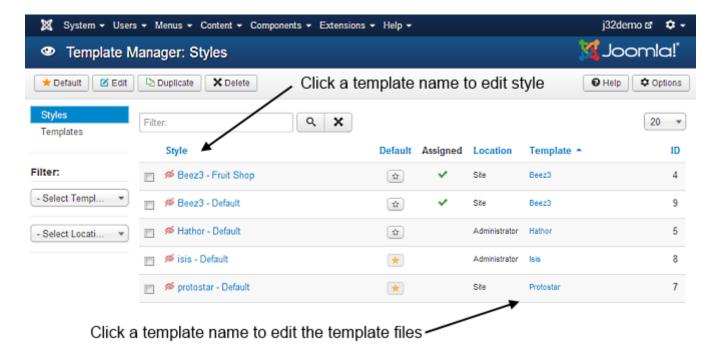
Template Style and Template copying are not the same. You can make a copy of the template style but you are **not** protected from overwriting the actual template files. Style copying simply adds another entry made in the <u>_template_styles</u> table of the database. This is useful is you want to check a web site design with different fonts, colors, widths or logos if these template style parameters exist. The template files are **not** duplicated into another uniquely-named directory and they will be overwritten during an upgrade.

Copy the Template

To preserve your changes you need to Copy the template with all its files and styles. This procedure makes references to creating a full copy (an exact duplicate) of the template including all the files. In order to make a copy, you must be on the **Customise Template** view.

There are two methods available for accessing the <u>Template Manager: Customise Template</u>. The **Customise Template** interface allows for editing the actual code found in the template files, creating template overrides and template file manipulation.

One-Click or Switch to Template View

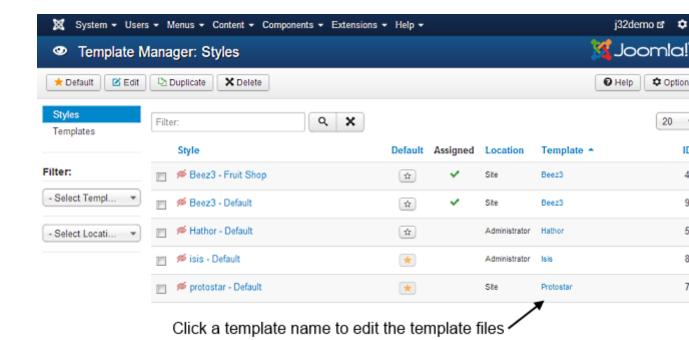


A Tip!

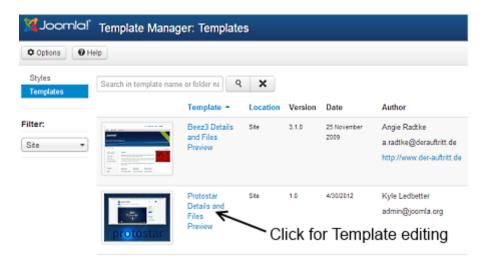
Styles column refers to changing the available parameters of a template, such as color, font-color, logo, etc. These are dependent on the parameters a template maker made available and are a convenience for quick changes. **Template** - column refers to editing the actual template files.

To access the Template Customise feature:

• **Directly** - Click the template name in the column **Template**



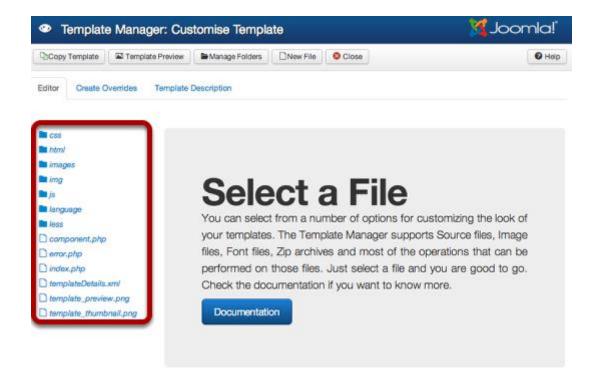
• **Indirectly** - Styles will be highlighted, click on **Templates** below it which will turn the view to **Template Manager:Templates**, see image below.



Select the template you wish to modify which will change the view to
 Template Manager: Customise Template view

Customisation View

You should now be looking at the image below, <u>Template Manager: Customise Template</u>.



Copy an Existing Template

The Easy Way

Create a new template by copying an existing template:

• Click on Copy Template in Toolbar in <u>Template Manager: Customise Template</u> view.



Provide a new name and click on Copy Template



• The template is completely copied. This includes styles and all the template files.

Manually

- Create a new /templates/my template directory.
- Copy the contents of the original *template* directory to the *my_template* directory.
- Go to the root /language/en-GB directory.
 - Copy /language/en-GB/en-GB.tpl_original_template.ini to en-GB.tpl my template.ini
 - Copy /language/en-GB/en-GB.tpl_original_template.sys.ini to en-GB.tpl my template.sys.ini
- Go to the /language/en-GB directory in the template's directory, if it exists.
 - Copy /language/en-GB/en-GB.tpl_original_template.ini to en-GB.tpl my template.ini
 - Copy /language/en-GB/en-GB.tpl_original_template.sys.ini to en-GB.tpl_my_template.sys.ini
- Open the templateDetails.xml file in the my_template directory and change all
 references, if they exist, for the original template directory to the new directory
 my template.

```
<name>My_Template</name>
<language tag="en-GB">en-GB.tpl_my_template.ini</language>
<language tag="en-GB">en-GB.tpl_my_template.sys.ini</language>
<language tag="en-GB">en-GB.tpl_my_template.sys.ini</language>
<param name="template_header" type="folderlist"
directory="templates/my_template/styles/header" default="" label="Header Templates"
description="HEADER TEMPLATES DESCRIPTION" />
<param name="template_background" type="folderlist"
directory="templates/my_template/styles/background" default="" label="Background
Templates" description="BACKGROUND TEMPLATES DESCRIPTION" />
<param name="template_elements" type="folderlist"
directory="templates/my_template/styles/elements" default="" label="Primary Elements" description="PRIMARY ELEMENTS DESCRIPTION" />
```

Discover the New Template

When manually copying a template, the new template must be introduced to your Joomla site through the discovery process.

- Go to Administrator → Extensions → Extension Manager → Discover
- Click the Discover icon.
- Select your new template.
- Click Install.

If successful, the new template will now be available in

$\textbf{Administrator} \rightarrow \textbf{Extensions} \rightarrow \textbf{Template Manager}$

- Make the new template the default template.
- View the site to verify it.

Finding Errors

You might have problems as a result of copying an existing template to a new template. Because of the way that Joomla handles file names, you might be tripped up by a capitalization error, for example.

Joomla contains some useful debugging tools. To see what is happening while working on a site, there are three settings that you should change.

- 1. Administration > Site > Global Configuration > System > Debug Settings > Debug System > Yes (Default = No)
- 2. Administration > Site > Global Configuration > System > Debug Settings > Debug Language > Yes (Default = No)
- 3. Administration > Site > Global Configuration > Server > Server Settings > Error Reporting > Maximum (Default = System Default)

With the Debug Language set to *Yes*, for instance, you will see the success or failure of language file loading on each page of the Administrator. Open the *Joomla Debug Console > Language Files Loaded* panel to view the report.

(Note: The information above is taken From Joomla! Documentation)

(Note: The information above is taken From Joomla! Documentation)

B) Wisadmin Template Files Structure - top

Wisadmin Template (Zipped package) consists of the folders and files below:

- -CSS files within css folder
- -Html folder
- -Images folder
- -Js folder containing jquery.js and other Javascript files
- -Language files within Language folder
- -component.php
- -cpanel.php
- -favicon.ico
- -index.php
- -login.php
- -Template_preview.png
- -Template thumbnail.png
- -TemplateDetails.xml

Attention: You need not to work on this files unless customizing module core files needed. You should upload and install the zipped package as mentioned below.

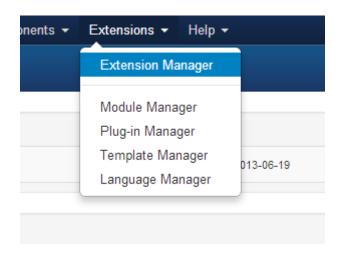
C) Installation Guide and Template Parameters - top

Installing a template

Install via Admin Panel (packed template file)

Log into the back-end of your site (www.your-site.com/administrator/)

Click on: Extensions -> Extension Manager



You see the page "Extension Manager"

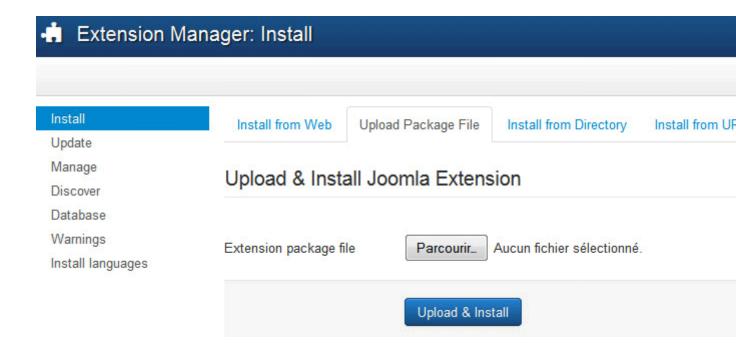
From here you can install your Templates, Plugins, Modules, Components and Languages. You have three options:

- 5. Install from Web (select an extension listed on the Joomla! Extension Directory)
- 6. Upload Package File (select a package from your PC, upload and install it)
- 7. Install from Directory (enter the path where the package is located on your webserver)
- 8. Install from URL (enter the URL to the package)

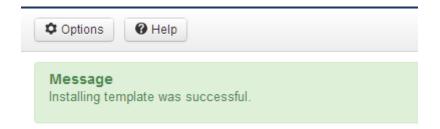
Option 4 does everything for you, your environment needs to be properly configured to allow this. Option 2 requires you to download the extension to your PC. Option 3 requires you to unzip and move the folders/files to your webserver. All options require the webserver to have write access to the webspace.

Here, we choose the second method: Upload Package File

Select the zipped wisadmin template package from your PC and click the button "Upload File & Install" (Please Note that you should Unzip whole package first and then select the zipped template file)



If the package contains no errors you are done and get a success message like the one below.



Verify installation

Go from tab 'Install' to tab 'Manage', set the 'Type' filter to 'Template'. The installed template should appear in the list. If it does, the template is properly installed. Now you can assign one of styles to a menu item or set the style as default. For administrator templates make sure you have two windows of the template manager. Activate the new template in one of them and reset it in the other one if something went wrong.

Install via FTP (unpacked template file)

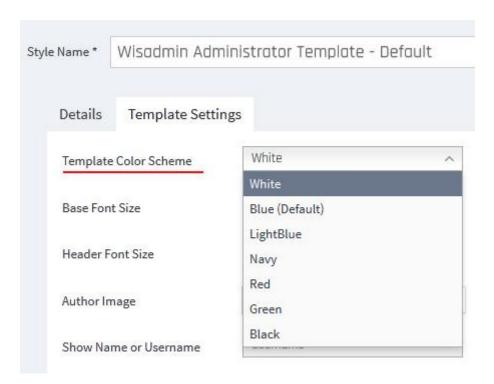
Templates can also be installed via FTP without packaging them. Simply select the template folder on your PC and upload it to your server, using your favourite FTP software. Be sure you upload the template folder to the directory: <code>/path_to_joomla/templates/-where/path_to_joomla/</code> is the location of your Joomla! installation on the server. This method is mostly used when you have created a template yourself, and do not want to have to package it to install the template, or if you want to upload more than one template at once. You must then go into extension manager and click on <code>Discover</code> in the sub menu. Click on "Discover" in the toolbar if your template doesn't immediately appear. A list of uninstalled

items in the FTP should then appear. Click the checkbox to the left of your template and click on the button 'Install'.

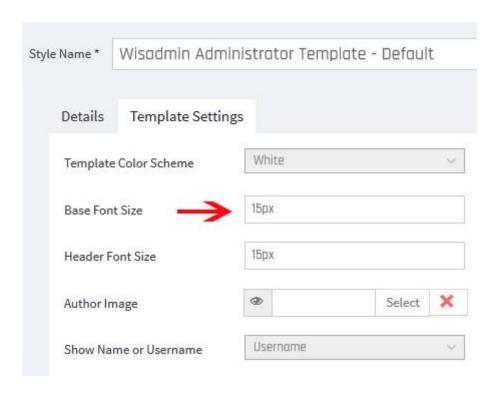
Note: Do not try to use FTP to install Components, Modules and Plugins if you are a beginner/novice. These items need database entries which have to be inserted manually if you bypass the package installer.

Wisadmin Template Parameters

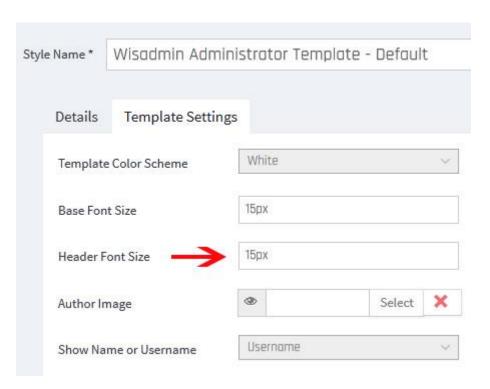
Template Color Scheme: Select Template Color Scheme. Default color style is Blue. You can choose one of 7 colors.



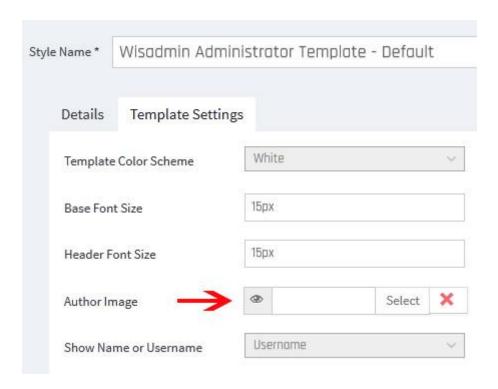
Base Font Size: Select Base Font Size for administration area and then click save button.



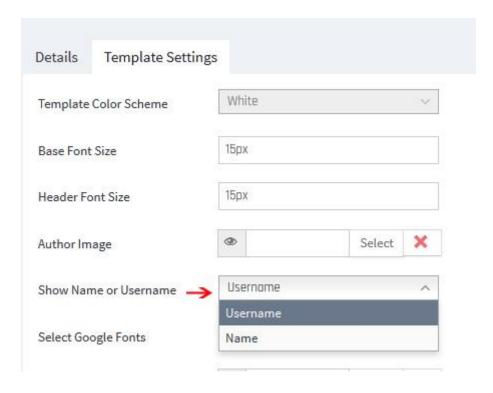
Header Font Size: Select Font Size for Headers on admin area.



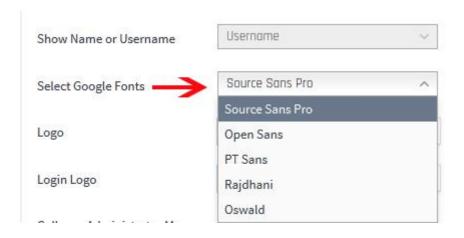
Author Image: Select Author Image to be displayed. It should be in images files of main site. If no image selected the default author image in wisadmin/images file will be displayed.



Show Name or Username: Show author's real Name or Username on top right.



Select Google Fonts: Select Google Fonts for admin area.



Logo: Upload a custom logo for the administrator template.

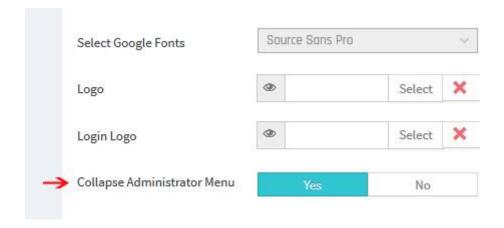


Login Logo: Select or upload a custom logo for the login area of administrator template.

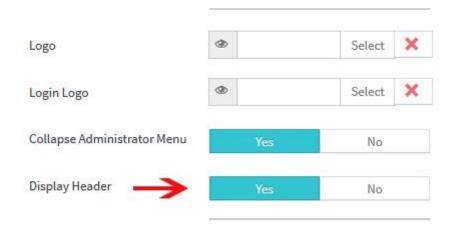




Collapse Administrator Menu: If you intend to use Joomla Administrator on a monitor, set this to 'No'. It will prevent the collapse of the Administrator menus when reducing the width of the window. Default is 'Yes'.



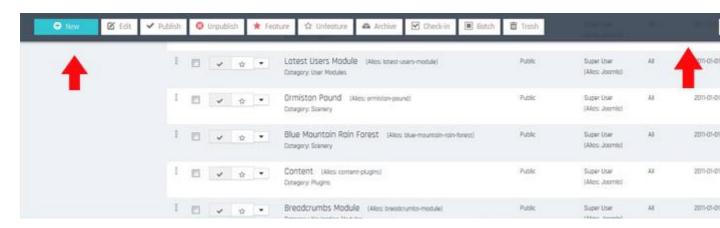
Display Header: Optional display of header.



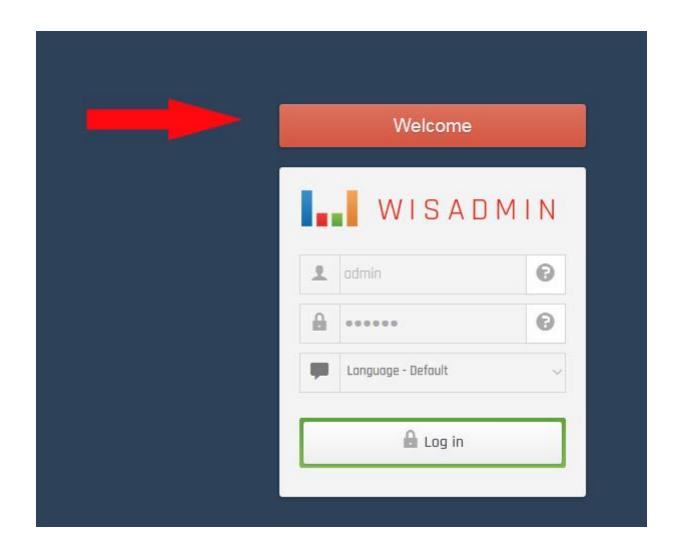
Show Status Module: Show / Hide the status module at the bottom.



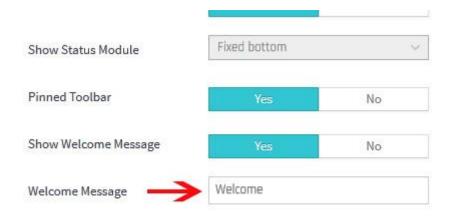
Pinned Toolbar: Optionally set the menu toolbar to a fixed (pinned) location when scrolled down.



Show Welcome Message : Show or Hide Welcome Message on login page above username and password area.



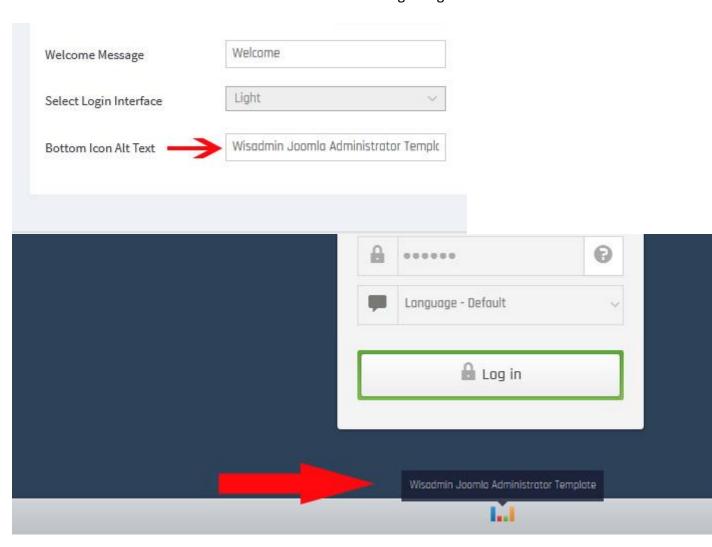
Welcome Message : Enter a Welcome Message on login page above username and password area.



Select Login Interface: Select Login Interface there are 5 login interfaces



Bottom Icon Alt Text: Alt Text for little Bottom Icon on Login Page when mouse over



Thankyou for choosing us. You can use our support forum for further information.

http://www.JoomlaTema.Net/forum.html

E) Sources and Credits - top

I've used the following images, icons or other files as listed.

- Icons from iconfinder.com
- Images from freegreatpictures.com
- Tutorials from docs.joomla.org

Once again, thank you so much for purchasing this theme. As I said at the beginning, I'd be glad to help you if you have any questions relating to this theme. No guarantees, but I'll do my best to assist. If you have a more general question relating to the themes on ThemeForest, you might consider visiting the forums and asking your question in the "Item Discussion" section.

WisdomTheme

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