

This is organized in a set of questions (a road map) that assist you in function of your specific case or context.

Step
Description

0
Joomla Multiple Site concepts

Is a video that present:

- the principle of an HTTP Server,
- how apache or IIS server are working,
- what must be changed in this server to share the same Joomla instance,
- how JMS analyse the URL and how it associate each URL to a specific Joomla configuration and

1
Do you want to install JMS on an existing website ?

If yes, go step 3 to install JMS on an existing website.

Else continue step 2 to install a fresh Joomla

2
How to install a fresh joomla with a specific table prefix

is a video where we show:

- The transfer of Joomla 1.5.9 on a Unix machine using FTP
 - The deployment of Joomla using a SSH connection (gunzip and tar -xvf commands)
 - The installation of Joomla and in particular where to specify the table prefix in the DB Configuration
- In our sample, we have replace "jos_" table prefix by "main_"

3
how to install Joomla Multi Sites on a w

is a video that show:

- the usage of Joomla extensions install/uninstall
- the registration of Joomla Multi Sites
- the installation of the patches

Troubleshooting:

- During the installation of JMS
- "JFolder::create: Could not create directory"
This message is the symptom of a permission problem.
You may have to consider the usage of FTP Layer to increase your rights.
See step 15
- "ERROR: Could not find a Joomla! XML setup file in the package"
This is the symptom that you have a size limit to upload the file into Joomla.
JMS has a size of more 1MB and if the file can not be uploaded completely, this may result in a corruption.
Consider in this case to "unzip" the file into a temporary directory on your server and use the alternative method.
- While installing the patches
- "Unable to write entry"
Error during installation of the file "administrator/includes/defines.php"
"Copy failed"
All those messages are the symptom of a problem of permission.
To increase your rights, a simple method on Unix consists to use the FTP Layer.
See step 15

4 **What is a Symbolic Link ?**

"symbolic link" is the unix equivalent of the windows shortcut.
This allow to create a link between folders and create a bridge (a link) between different folders.
"Symbolic Links" may be used by JMS to redirect a slave sites directory to the master website directory.
This may be usefull when you have difficulties to setup the domain or the sub-domain to share the same content.

- Video " [How to create a shortcut on windows and how it works](#) " show:
- Copy a directory
- Paste shortcut

- Video "[How to create a symbolic link manually on unix](#)" show:
- the usage of unix "ln -s" command
ln -s "target_dir" linked_name

The equivalent of Shortcut in PHP language does not exist but the equivalent of the Unix Symbolic Link

5 [How to know if Symbolic Link is allowed by your hosting pro](#)

The first condition is to be hosted on a Unix machine.

When you are hosted on a Windows platform, by definition the Symbolic Link is not allowed

If you are on a Unix machine, all the hosting provider does not necessarily accept to use the Symbolic Link.
If you want to know if your hosting provider accepts the Symbolic Link, you can either :

- checked that with Joomla Multi Sites. Go to next step (step 6).
- or if JMS is not installed, you can use our "hello.zip" procedure that tests this feature. See step 7

6 [How to know if Symbolic Link is allowed with JMS](#)

is a video that shows:

- The setting menu where you can find the "symbolic link" allowed value
- The impact on the "slave site detail" that gives access to the "deployed directory" parameter

If JMS answers that Symbolic Link is forbidden, also retry with the "Hello World" procedure in the next step.
If the "Hello World" replies that Symbolic Link is present, then you have to check in your Global Configuration.
Perhaps those temporary and log directories do not exist or correspond to a path that does not have

- Go in Joomla / Site / Global Configuration
- Check the tmp and log path.
Enter full path to a directory where you have permissions.

In general, this is the root directory of your Joomla followed by /tmp (see server panel) and /log (see

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[How to know if Symbolic Link is allowed by your hosting provider with Hello Worl procedure](#)

This video show:

- Unzip of hello.zip file;
- FTP transfer of hello.txt and hello.php
- Show the result of hello.txt
- Show the result of hello.php when Symbolic Link is present

You can also see also [the FAQ test the hosting configuration](#)

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How to create a slave sites ?

Different possibilities exists to create a slave site

If you want create a website from the "back-end, different scenario are possible

- How to create a slave sites into a sub-directory when Symbolic Link is allowed. Go to next step (step 10)
- How to create a slave sites for a domain or sub-domain (see step 10)
- When "Symbolic Link" is forbidden (Not allowed)
- Share the same master directory
- When "Symbolic Link" is allowed
- Share the same master directory
- Redirect the slave sites specific directory to the master directory using the Symbolic Link feature

- How to create a websites from a "websites template"
- How to create a "website template"
- How to create a slave sites based on a "websites template"

If you want create a website from the "front-end", go to step x

- How to propose a free website creation from the front-end
- How to propose a "billable website" creation from the front-end

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How to create a slave sites into a sub-directory of your main site ?

" [How to create slave site into a sub-directory when Symbolic Links feature is allowed](#) " is a video that show:

- The check that that "symbolic links" is allowed
- Because we use sub-directory, this avoid the setup of the hosting provider domain or sub-domain
- Create an entry into Joomla Multi Sites
- Install the slave site using the Joomla Installation
- How to provide a specific table prefix into Joomla Installation

Sample values:

- Site ID = slave1
- Domain name = {site_url}/multisites/{site_id}
- Deploy directory = {site_dir}

This will create a slave site that will request a fresh Joomla installation.
Be careful to enter a new table prefix in the DB configuration using the advanced panel.

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How to create a slave site for a domain or a sub-domain ?

- Case where "Symbolic Links" is forbidden.
In this case, all the domain and sub-domain must be assigned to the same directory than the master website.
- How to setup your hosting provider to assign the same directory than your master website.
See FAQ [how to configure the hosting provider](#)
- How to install the "hello.zip" tool to check the hosting provider configuration. (See step 7)
- How to check the hosting provider configuration

- How to create a slave sites with a domain or a sub-domain with the same directory path

- Case where "Symbolic Links" is allowed.
In this case, you can either:
 - use the procedure to share the same directory than the master as defined just before;
 - Deploy the slave site into a specific directory.
 - Define the domain or sub-domain with your "hosting provider" as you do usually.
 - If you are not sure of the path of the slave sites, install the "hello.zip" into the directory proposed by your hosting provider.
 - Define the slave sites into JMS and deploy it into the specific directory like when you deploy a slave site.

11 **How to check the domain and sub-domain hosting provider configuration**
See FAQ [how to configure the hosting provider](#)

How to create a slave site with a domain of sub-domain using the same directory path

This video shows:

- A presentation of the architecture chosen
- How to check the pre-requisite
- How to check that both master domain and slave domain have the same directory path

When the domain or sub-domain share the same directory, the "deployed directory" field must stay empty.
This "deployed directory" field is only used when the directory path of the slave domain is not equal to the master domain.

So in case where all the domain share the same directory, this field must stay empty.

Therefore, the minimum parameters that must be given are:

- A site Identifier
- The domain URL

12 **How to create a "website template" ?**

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" [How to propose a service to create a website from the FRONT-END](#) "

This video show:

- *How to create a template to define the rule that will be used by the front-end when a website will be created.*
- *How to create a menu for the front-end*
- *How to create a website using the menu create and the template created.*

14 How to propose a "billable websites" creation from the front-end

15 **How to setup the FTP Layer to increase the permission level**

The FTP Layer is a Joomla feature only available for Unix platform.

The FTP Configuration is available when you install Joomla or after the installation into the Global Configuration.
When using the FTP Layer, this use the privilege of the user that you chosen for the FTP.
The FTP Layer is used to create folders, delete folders, create and delete files, write content into the files.

[This Video highlight the point](#) :

- The setup of the FTP root path during the Joomla Installation: This is the relative path to the JMS site
- The modification of the Joomla Global Configuration FTP to restore the master website FTP root path

17 [Sample demo JMS 1.1.x that show how to use cPanel on HostGator](#)

This video:

- Present the creation of 3 subdomain (master, slave1 and slave2) using the cPanel sub-domain control panel. The sub-domain have specific directories for each sub-domain
- Show how to create a DB into the cPanel. Database that will be used by the master website and also by the slave 1 and slave 2 websites.
- Present the installation of Joomla in the master website
- Present how to install Joomla Multi Sites version 1.1.x in the master website
- Show the definition of slave 1 and slave 2 into Joomla Multi Sites and how to declare the domain aliases
- Show the fresh Joomla installation of the slave 1 and slave 2 websites