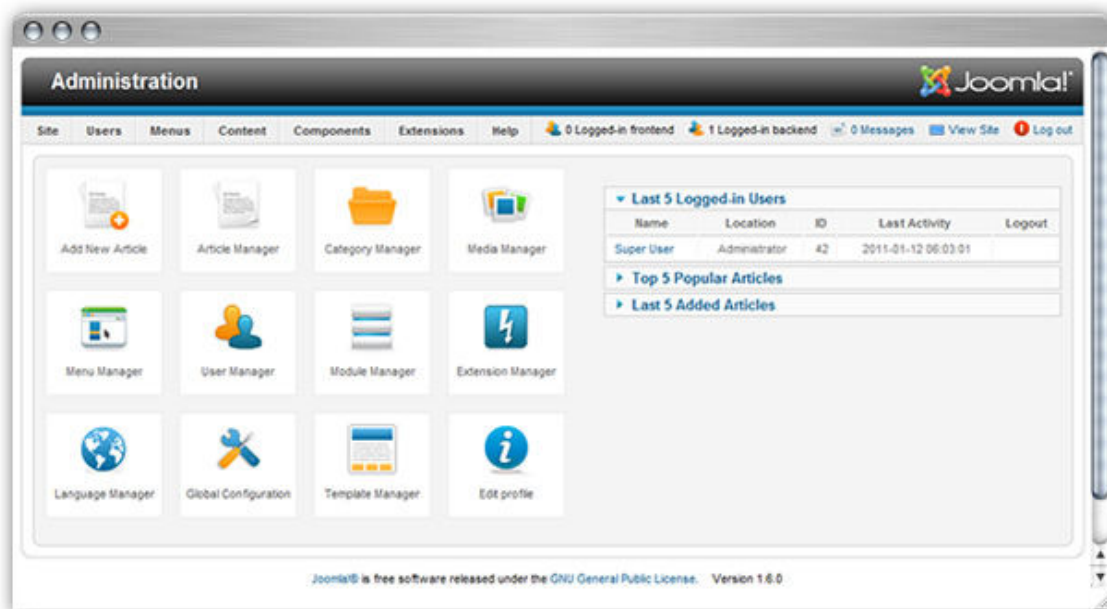


JOOMLA 1.6 OUTLINE

Recently the team at Joomla! released a new major version of their CMS - Joomla! 1.6. The new version is packed with new features and new front and back end templates. Other than the look and feel, there are a few notable improvements that we have outlined here. We also have a general Joomla! introduction outline for those who want to know the basics.



Joomla 1.6! is a significant re-write for Joomla! however there are 3 features which stand out as being the most significant steps forward.

1. Control over the browser titles
2. Nested Categories
3. User groups and article permissions

Control over the browser titles

A browser title is the text that appears in the browser bar of your web browser. These have a big impact on your website's SEO so being able to control them natively with Joomla! is a great feature. Previously you would have to use third-party extensions to get this functionality which creates extra considerations for security / maintenance / usability etc.

In the new version you can navigate to **Menus > [your menu]** and then select the menu item you want to edit. Here you are given a lot more control over what you can do with menu links. On the right hand side under the **Page Display Options** you are given the option to add a custom browser page title.

Nested Categories

This is another area of Joomla! that has been overhauled in the new release. They have removed the **Section Manager** and have changed the **Category Manager** quite a bit. Previously you were limited to a 2nd level category (by putting the category into a section). But now you can nest categories as far as you like (and you can control access to each category separately - more on this later).

So in Joomla! 1.5 you could have **Cars > Make** and that's as far as you could go.

But in Joomla! 1.6 you can have **Cars > Make > Year > Type** (etc).

User Groups and Article Permissions

In Joomla! 1.5 you were limited to the default user groups (Super Administrator, Administrator, Author, Registered and Public) you were also limited to which groups you could give access to. We were often asked by clients how they could create a specific page for one particular customer or group of customers that only they could access and the answer was you can't - unless you install a complex 3rd party extension.

However with Joomla! 1.6 you can create new user groups and can create new user access levels. This can be done from the new menus under the **Users** menu.

User groups allow you to group your users into meaningful categories which will help you maintain the users of your website.

You can change the user access level of an article while you are editing it. You can assign a newly created user access level to an article via the article manager.

Conclusion

There is a lot more to Joomla! 1.6 but this covers the basics, keep an eye on our small business [website design](#) blog [A Website Designer](#) for more updates.

About Web Circle

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