Setup: Independent Templates

Posted by bonfiresalomon - 2012/06/19 21:44

Hello,

I'd like to set up slave sites to be able to install templates independently of the master site. I do not see any documentation as to how to configure JMS to do so.

It seems images and media on a given slave site can be managed independently of the master site (separate, non-symlink folder). Why can't site templates be installed independently of the master site when the slave site does not share a database with any other site? (master, slave or otherwise)

Summary: I want to install a given template into the templates folder (non-symlink) of a given slave site (with its own database, not shared) and have the template and template style added to the slave database.

Why? Because I want to install duplicate templates (or allow others to) on slave sites and be able to edit css, files, styles, etc locally within the templates file of the slave site irrespective of the master site.

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Re:Setup: Independent Templates

Posted by bonfiresalomon - 2012/06/19 22:47

Also:

Can I override JMS with regard to template installations by copying a given template into the slave site's templates folder, using the Joomla 'discover' function to 'install' the template and then adding a theme entry for the template into the template_styles table of the Joomla slave database?

If so, are you *positive* this does not cause some unseen issue within JMS (...asking you because you're the 'JMS expert'). Is there an easier way?

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Re:Setup: Independent Templates

Posted by edwin2win - 2012/06/21 11:59

See the tutorial video CP-05 that show how to create slave site with specific "/templates" directory.
http://www.jms2win.com/en/tutorial#jms12x-CP-05

You have to setup the JMS template rule with "templates" action = "special copy" or "copy" AND the "templates folder" = {deploy_dir}/templates

The "discover" function that exists in Joomla 2.5 can be used to install templates into a slave site based on the one present in the master.
In Joomla 1.5, this is not required as joomla automatically detect templates present in the /templates

directory. That were modified in Joomla 1.6 or higher that now require a "discover" manual action.

So if you want to be able install specific joomla template directly from a slave site, apply the procedure shown in tutorial video CP-05.

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Re:Setup: Independent Templates
Posted by bonfiresalomon - 2012/06/21 17:56

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It should have been clear from my question posited that I've created a slave site with the 'templates', 'images' and 'media' folders as outlined by the instructional video:

As per the instructions, the above folders are set as follows:

{deploy_dir}/templates
{rel_site_dir}/images
{rel_site_dir}/media

Yet my templates (from the slave site) are still being installed in the master site's 'templates' folder. I want my templates to install to the *local* templates folder of my slave site. Why aren't they being installed there? (eg. public_html/multisites/slave1/templates/)
http://jms2win.com/images/fbfiles/images/multisites_settings.png

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Re:Setup: Independent Templates
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/06/21 18:17

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The parameter {deploy_dir}/templates allows the slave site installing its own templates.

This create a physical "/templates" directory where the content is either a copy or symbolic link to the website that is used as template.
This depends on the "action" that you have associated to the "/templates" directory.
When using the action = "copy", you get a copy.
If you use the action = "special copy", you get symbolic links.

Becarefull that once a website is createf and that the directory structure is created, JMS will NOT change the ways that the "/templates" directory was created the first time.

If you want to modify the way that a "/templates" directory is created, you have to deleted it manually before re-applying the slave site definition.

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Re:Setup: Independent Templates
Posted by bonfiresalomon - 2012/06/21 23:14

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Sure, I assumed as much.

After creating the slave site, with the templates directory as a physical folder - I always confirm not a symlink, {deploy_dir}/templates - I cannot install a new, original template (never installed on the master site) onto the slave site. Why not?

I get a 'template installed successfully' message when attempting to install a new template on the slave site, but I don't see the template or it's associated database associated table entries (_extensions, _template_style).

Is this supported with JMS?

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Re:Setup: Independent Templates
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/06/22 09:12

To allow me retesting the functionality can you confirm that you had setup your environment with following setting.

JMS templates / files and folders / templates action = "copy"
JMS templates / common / templates folder = {deploy_dir}/templates
Deploy folder = ????? give me the value (ie. {site_dir})
Domain = ???? give me the value. (ie {site_url}/multisites/{site_id})

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Re:Setup: Independent Templates
Posted by bonfiresalomon - 2012/06/25 17:00

First off, I apologize. My last post to this topic got posted incorrectly here:

http://jms2win.com/en/forum/26-bugs-errors-reporting/9663-issue-with-widgetkit-on-slave-sites?limit=6&start=12

Yes, thank you. The instructional videos have been very helpful.

I have been using the copy dropdown menu item selection for the /templates folder (on the 'folders' tab of the template settings). I've FTP'ed to the folder to confirm the /template folder is a physical folder and the templates have been copied over. This step seems to work flawlessly. But, when I install a new template on the slave site, the template's files get copied to the master site's /templates folder instead of the slave site's /templates folder and the template's new database table entries are not being created on either the master site's DB or the slave site's DB.

I would have expected the template to be copied to the slave site's /templates folder and new database table entries for the new template created on the slave site's database. Thoughts?

Kind Regards,

http://jms2win.com/images/fbfiles/images/ms_settings.png

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Re:Setup: Independent Templates
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/06/27 17:17

If the "/templates" directory is a physical one and that the sub-folder are physical one as expect (that seems the case with the /templates action=copy) then verify that you have setup your cPanel (or other admin tool) with the correct "document root" path.

Perhaps that you have setup your apache to the directory of the master.

You can also put a "hello.php" file into the directory of the slave site to verify the path that is displayed. You should have the "deployed forder" path and not the master one. If you see the master path, verify your cpanel (or equivalent).

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Re:Setup: Independent Templates
Posted by saltmedia - 2012/06/28 06:31

I'm having the same issue.
I've deployed a slave site from a template site sharing the database but with it's own theme in {deploy_dir}/templates

The slave site uses its own theme files for images and css such as /public_html/multisites/slavesite/templates/theme123/images, however if I modify /public_html/multisites/slavesite/templates/theme123/index.php it has no effect. Subsites only use the theme index.php from the template (master) site.

Please help.

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Solved: Setup: Independent Templates
Posted by bonfiresalomon - 2012/06/28 20:57

For Those Who Follow

The issue was with the path the subdomain/addon domain is mapped to.

It seems that, for slave sites that repeat/trigger the install process (eg fresh slave sites), the addon/subdomain must be mapped to the master site's /public_html folder.

With sites that do not require this (template/non- 'fresh slave site's), the addon domain (or subdomain depending on your setup) needs to be mapped to the actual deployed directory (eg

/public_html/multisites/yourslavesite/), as correctly instructed in the confirmation message after creating a new slave site.

FYI, if you try to create a fresh slave site with a domain that is not mapped to the master site's /public_html folder, you will get the WSOD blank screen of death ...search the forum, often the subject of forum posts.

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Re: Solved: Setup: Independent Templates

Posted by saltmedia - 2012/06/28 22:27

Thanks for the follow-up. However, in my case, the subdomain is correctly mapped to the actual deployed directory. Should I start a new thread for this Edwin?

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Re: Solved: Setup: Independent Templates

Posted by edwin2win - 2012/07/02 10:49

If you create a website for a domain using cPanel, as recommended in the totrial video 0.d, the cPanel Addon Domain should be defined as following
Domain = mysite.com
Document root = domains/mysite.com/public_html

Based on this cPanel definition, in JMS, you need to create the slave site using
Site ID = mysite.com
Domain = www.{site_id} , {site_id}
Deploy folder = /home/ACCOUNT/domains/{site_id}/public_html
Where the /home/ACCOUNT is the value of your primary domain that you can find in the "Addon Domain". This is the value associated to your home icon.

In the template folder, you have to put the {deploy_dir}/templates
because you have specified a "deploy folder".

Don't forget in the JMS Templates rule to specify that the action = "copy" for the /templates directory. Otherwise, you will get a symbolic link and you will share the /templates.

You can verify the structure of the /templates directory.
When using "special copy", the subdirectory of the /templates directory are symbolic link.
When using "copy", the subdirectory are a physical copy.

Concerning the "blank screen", perhaps this is due to a wrong directory path that you provided in your cPanel. You can use the "hello.php" (video 7) to verify the cPanel setting. This will also display you the value that must be provided in the JMS "deploy folder".
If the hello.php can be executed and that you have correct symbolic links deployed in your website directory, you can repeat the operation with a hello.php inside the "administrator" directory to verify that your sever follow the symbolic link.
If you get an error to execute the "hello.php" inside the "administrator" directory, you have to check your

server configuration to verify that "Options +FollowSymLinks" is active.

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