

# My Album Component

Version 1.4, Released July 2008, Joomla! V1.0.x and v1.5.x (legacy) supported

Another fine Joomla! Component by Remco Edens. For information, comments or any contribution of code or documentation feel free to contact me at [remco.edens@gmail.com](mailto:remco.edens@gmail.com). Feedback is always welcome!

My Album Component is a lightweight and easy to use album component for Joomla!

Features:

- Support for JPG / JPEG (*preferred*), GIF en PNG image formats.
- Thumbnail navigation incl. automated thumbnail generation & scaling
- Fast page generation using server-sided caching
- Easy to use front-end management interface
- Supports resizing of master images
- Basic captioning system included
- Upload individual images or a complete zip archive

## Installation / Administrator notes

The component uses a layered album tree (folders). The first layer is the category or year, for instance '2008' (the component automatically defaults to the current year if it exists and don't include the target in your menu path. The second layer is the album, for instance 'summer holiday'.

Note that the component expects the root folder for the album to exist. Either create the root folder via FTP or navigate to the components back-end to auto create the root folder.



There are a couple of settings that influence the maximum file size for the upload. There are settings on your web server, PHP installation and component configuration. For example, a default Apache / PHP installation will constrain your maximum upload to 8 Mb.

Editor permissions are by default limited to website administrators. On the components configuration page (back-end) the administrator can select (multiple) editor groups to give out editor permissions to users in these groups. Parent groups automatically inherit permissions from child groups. i.e. if 'Editors' given editor permissions then users in the 'Publisher' group will also be editors for the Album component.

My Album component works with and without JACLplus installed on your website.



The component only generates thumbnails for images uploaded via the album front-end. Login on the front-end with editor permissions for the album component and you should get a toggle button view / edit which unleashes the editor functions.

In order for the image manipulation functions (i.e. thumbnail generation) to work, this component is dependent on the GD library, use `gd_info()` or `phpinfo()` to check which version you are running. To do this, create a php-file (i.e. `test.php`) containing the following three lines in your website root folder:

```
<?php
  phpinfo();
?>
```

Look for the result as displayed on the right.

gd	
GD Support	enabled
GD Version	bundled (2.0.28 compatible)
FreeType Support	enabled
FreeType Linkage	with freetype
FreeType Version	2.1.9
GIF Read Support	enabled
GIF Create Support	enabled
JPG Support	enabled
PNG Support	enabled
WBMP Support	enabled
XBM Support	enabled

It's relatively simple to change the layout of the My Album component via CSS, just add the text below to your template CSS and tweak it to your liking:

```
.com_myalbum td {
  font-size:      11px;
  font-weight:    bold;
  text-align:     center;
}

.com_myalbum input, .com_myalbum select {
  margin-top:     3px;
  border:         1px solid #cccccc;
  font-size:      11px;
  background-color: #f1f1f1;
  color:          #444444;
}

.com_myalbum input.btn {
  margin:         0px;
  padding:        0px;
  background-color: #f1f1f1;
}
```

## Usage

Before uploading images to your website, make sure the names (the component sorts the files on alphabetical order) are correct. File names cannot be changed once images are uploaded to your website. For instance, your images could be named 'ImageXX' where XX is the sequence number of the image in your album. XX can be 2 (less than 100) or 3 (more than 100) digits, zero padding.

Using an image editor application it is possible to reduce file sizes (and image quality) for your images and speed up the upload process and minimise web space required. It is possible to set a maximum image size for your album (default set to 1280x960). This feature will automatically reduce file sizes when uploading images.

To upload images to your website perform the following steps:

**Step 1.** Login to your website and navigate to the album on your website (usually positioned in the main menu).

**Step 2.** Click the Edit button to switch the front-end interface to edit mode.



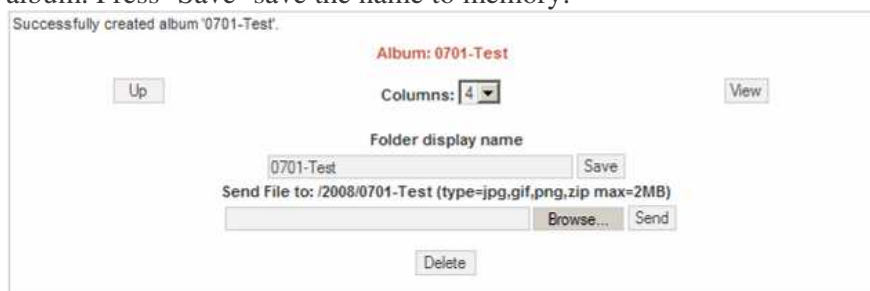
**Step 3.** Browse to the correct category or year. By default, the starting point for the Album is the current year (if years are used as categories).

**Step 4.** Inside the category, create your album by entering its name and then select 'New Album'. This is the actual directory name in the file system, also used to sort the albums. The sorting is done alphabetical, to sort chronologically, use an encoded date as the first part of the file name. i.e. 'MMDD-<name>', where MM is the 2-digit month number, DD the 2-digit day of the month and <name> can optionally be replaced by a short description for the album.

A screenshot of a form for creating a new album. It has a "Folder display name" field with the value "2008" and a "Save" button. Below that is a "Category (or Year): /2008" field and a "New Album" button.

The 'New Album' button will take you to the new album. To correct a mistake in the album name, press 'Delete' to remove the album and recreate it with the correct name.

**Step 5.** Once the album has been created, it is possible to change the display name of the album. Press 'Save' save the name to memory.



**Step 6.** To upload images, select the ‘browse...’ button to select a file from your computer to upload to the website. Note the maximum upload size for your website. When you’ve selected the correct file, press ‘Send’ to start the upload. Dependant on the size of the file uploaded and connection to the server, this may take a while.

*Repeat this step until all images are uploaded to the server.*

**Step 7.** Change your album back to view-mode. To do this, press the ‘View’ button in the top-right.

## **Change log**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Changes</b>
1.0	Initial Version
1.1	Added back end Album functions & display Added functionality to update configuration from back end Some bugs fixed
1.2	Minor bugs fixed
1.3	Fixed issues with special characters in file and album names Added parameters for folder permissions and debugging Improved album error handling and (upload) file management Fixed columns parameters and added auto columns option Added a download button to download Added support for Joomla! 1.5 (Legacy) A lot of minor bugs fixed and some improvements
1.4	Revised file upload, with enhanced security <i>(Sites that allow all registered users to upload are encouraged to upgrade!)</i>

## **TODO (Bugs & Bright Idea’s)**

(in random order)

- slimbox.js / mootools.js functionality for full size picture viewing.
- Registration of Hits
- Customizable folder thumbnails (user to select specific images, 1 or 4)
- Add backend function to resize all images > max image size
- Allow multi-select & delete
- Portrait-size images get scaled to landscape for folder-preview.