**INTRODUCTION**

Joomla is a free and open source content management system (CMS) for publishing content on the World Wide Web and internets and a Web application framework that can also be used independently. Joomla is written in PHP, uses object-oriented programming (OOP) techniques and software design patterns, stores data in a MySQL database, and includes features such as page caching, RSS feeds, printable versions of pages, news flashes, blogs, polls, search, and support for language internationalization.

A content management system (CMS) is a system providing a collection of procedures used to manage work flow in a collaborative environment. These procedures can be manual or computer-based. In a CMS, data can be defined as nearly anything: documents, movies, text, pictures, phone numbers, scientific data, and so forth. CMSs are frequently used for storing, controlling, revising, semantically enriching, and publishing documentation. Serving as a central repository, the CMS increases the version level of new updates to an already existing file. Version control is one of the primary advantages of a CMS.

If you have a webpage that needs some working on all the time, Joomla! is your best friend. Download it and forget about coding, programming, designing. Sit back and let Joomla! do all the hard work. Be it updating your design template or setting up a forum on your website, you can do it all through a browser-based interface. Joomla! is easy to set up and operate. It also provides demo for various extensions helping you understand software better.

**Content Management System:**

In simple words, content management system is a system that manages content. Content is any type or unit of digital information. It can be text, images, graphics, video, sound, documents, records, etc. or anything that we would like to manage in an electronic format. A CMS is a tool that enables us to create, edit, delete and finally publish in a varying format a variety of content as well as site maintenance from a central page. It provides a collection of procedures used to manage workflow in a collaborative environment.

Various CMS products are Drupal (www.drupal.org), Word

press (www.wordpress.org),

**Joomla (**[**www.joomla.org**](http://www.joomla.org)**) etc..**

What is JOOMLA ?

The name Joomla is derived from the Swahili(East African Language) word "Jumla", which means "all together" or "as a whole".Joomla! is one of the most powerful Open Source Content Management Systems. It is used all over the world for everything from simple websites to complex corporate applications. Joomla! is easy to install, simple to manage, and reliable. It is a modular CMS. It enables you to build websites and powerful online applications with the minimal amount of instructions.It is highly extensible and thousands of extensions(Most for free) are available. Joomla runs on PHP/MySql.

Joomla is written in PHP. Uses object-oriented programming structure (OOPS) techniques and software design pattern. In Joomla stores data in a MySQL database and it also includes features such as page caching, RSS feeds, printable versions of pages, news flashes, blogs, polls, search, and support for language internationalization. It is based on a MODEL-VIEW-CONTROLLER (MVC) web application framework that can be used independently.

Why to Use Joomla! ?

1. Its FREE
2. One Click Installation
3. Cross Platform for client: LINUX and Windows for hosting
4. Pro-Active Support
   1. Joomla! Teams and Community members.
5. Simplicity
6. Flexibility
7. Robust
   1. Extremely stable core infrastructure
8. Extensible
   1. 3rd Party Extension and Plug-In capabilities
9. Dynamic Content
   1. MySQL database driven

Joomla is better than other CMS. It is designed to work perfectly in basic

shared web hosting environments, a package that is least expensive and most common. Installer is simple and just like any other common desktop software. It is supported by several extensions, add-on, and plug in. They are written in PHP, which is most widely used, general purpose scripting language and best suited for web development. Joomla probably has a pre built module to transform it in a social bookmarking website. Joomla's greatest advantage is availability of a large number of extensions that you can use to Plug-in extra features into your website and transform your website into anything you like.

**JOOMLA Installation**

Steps:

Install XAMPP

http://www.apachefriends.org/download.php?xampp-win32-1.7.3.exe

unzip joomla into your xampp's www folder (eg C:\xampp\htdocs\joomla

• start xampp

• Create database “joomla”

• open a browser window and go to

http://localhost/joomla

• follow the on screen prompts to install joomla

On screen prompts and what to enter in the boxes

Host Name = localhost

MySQL User Name = root

MySQL Password = your password or blank

MySQL Database Name = anyhting you like (eg joomladb)

MySQL Table Prefix = jos\_ (this is set as default but you can change it)

Make sure that install sample data is ticked

Click "next"

step 2:

Site name = your site name

step 3:

VERY IMPORTANT!! Change the admin password to something memorable (as this is

only for testing locally I'd suggest setting the password to admin or password or similar

step 4:

Remove or rename BOTH of the following: INSTALL.PHP and the installation folder (eg

C:\wamp\www\joomla\installation\)

step 5:

in your browser window click on either the "view site" button or the "Administration".

**Joomla Extensions**

Extensions are add-ons that expand the functionality of Joomla!.Extensions are used to add capabilities to Joomla! that do not exist in the standard package. Hundreds of Extensions are

available for Joomla!, with more being developed all of the time.Self-contained archived file (zip) that a non-programmer can install by simply using the Joomla menu driven install options. Components (additional functionality to site), Modules (mostly provide interface to components e.g menus, lists, forms). Plug-ins (additional functionality to core).

Templates In Joomla

A template is basically the design of your Joomla! Powered website. With a template you can change the look and feel of your website. Templates have certain fields in which components and modules will be shown. Templates are easy to build or customize and they provide maximum flexibility in how you style your site. There are many places that offer free templates (www.joomla24.com, www.siteground.com/joomlatemplates.html and many more……)

-Admin head menu > “Extensions” >”Template Manager”

**ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES**

ADVANTAGES

* No need to know new interface: Because everything is on browser.
* Multiple user can update website
* One change can be reflected through out the website.
* Support: Joomla.org has a huge selection of development tools and tutorials available

for users.

DISADVANTAGES

Beginner to Intermediate Usability: Joomla was designed mainly for simple websites and

blogs, and for people with only some knowledge of building. This means that it does not have

much advanced functionalities for those looking to truly customize complex sites.

Security: Every site in Joomla will use its own login details which makes the work easier but

the site less secure.

Resources: The system and sites can use a large amount of server resources comparable to

other CMS solutions

Costs: There are some plugins that come with a price tag for Joomla.

**CONCLUSION**

Joomla allows you creating Killer Content- Adding and Editing Articles, A New and Easy Way to Build Websites, Easy to Install, Creating a Site in an Hour, Small Sites,Big Sites: Organizing your Content Effectively, Creating Attractive Home Pages and Overview Pages,

Creating an Attractive Design: Working with Templates, Getting the Most out of Your Site: Extending Joomla, & Attracting Search Engine Traffic.Thus Joomla is highly Supported and used.

**REFERENCES**

1. XAMPP: http://www.apachefriends.org/en/xampp.html

2. CMS: http://Content management system - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.htm

3. Joomla: http://www.joomla.org/