ChronoForms v3.0 Tutorials

#4 Create a Joomla Registration Form using ChronoForms

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Building a registration form using ChronoForms

The following instructions will guide you through using Chrono Forms to create a registration page that mimics the functionality of the Joomla registration page. This allows you to bring added security into the registration process on your website whilst only needing to edit one Joomla file to make your final site more secure.

This tutorial assumes that: you are running **Joomla 1.5**, and that you have installed **Chrono Forms version 3.0 Stable** or a later Release Candidate
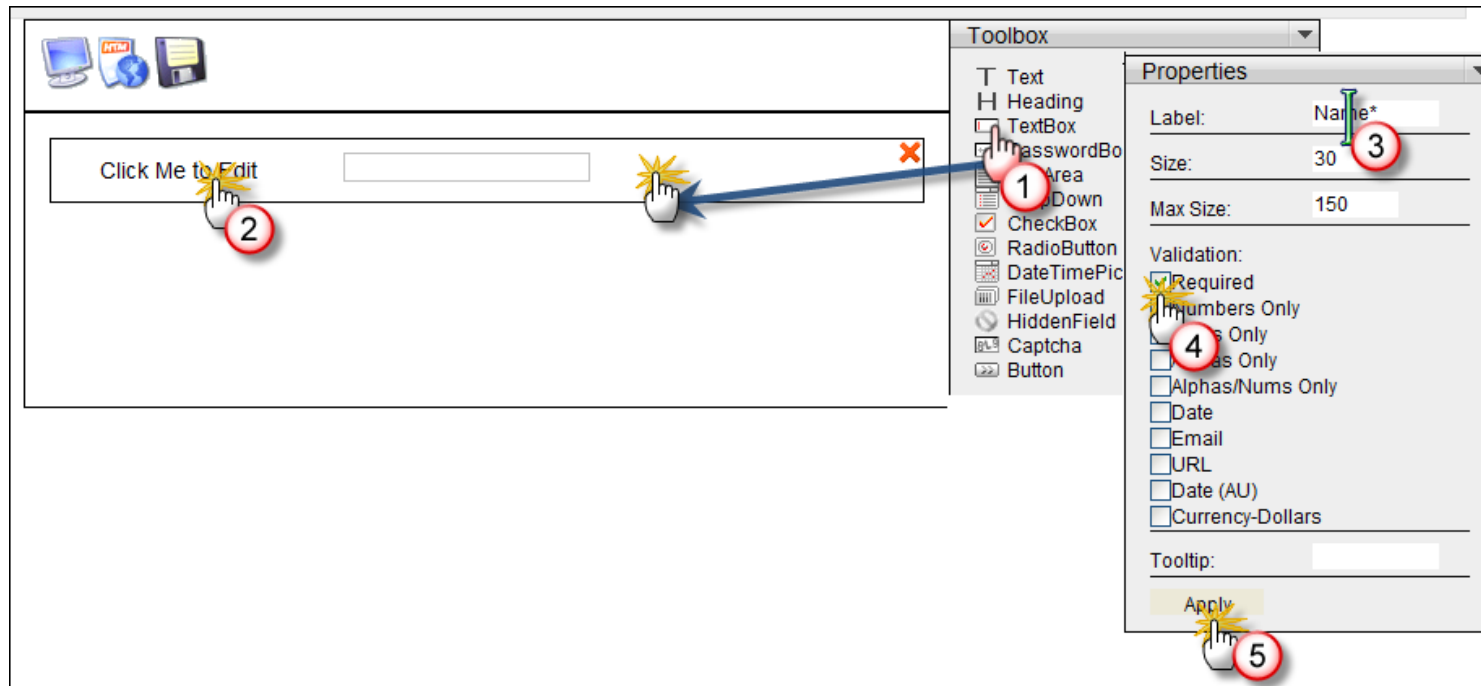
This Tutorial was created by Philip Roy and edited by GreyHead

Creating the basic form using the Form Wizard
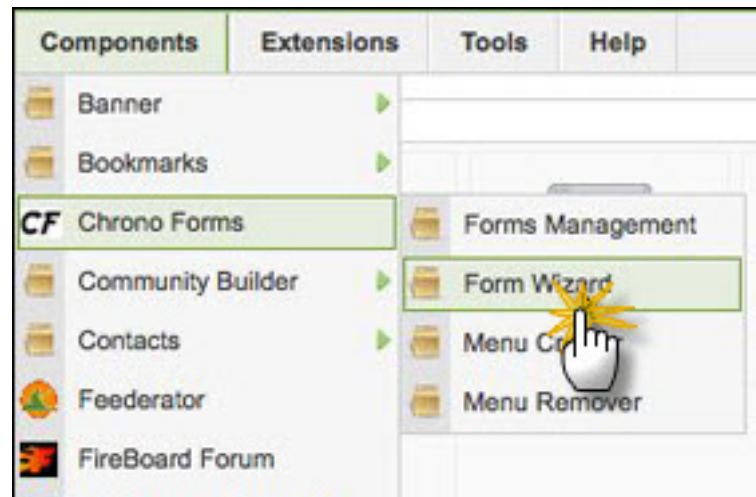
Login to the administration area of your Joomla website. From the "Components" menu, choose "Chrono Forms" and "Form Wizard" . . .

Add fields to your form

You are now going to use the Form Wizard to develop the various portions of your form.

First, click on the **TextBox** and drag it into the Form box. **Click it to edit,** then in the Properties box set the **Label** to 'Name' and the **Validation** to 'Required'. Click **Apply** in the Properties box to accept these changes.
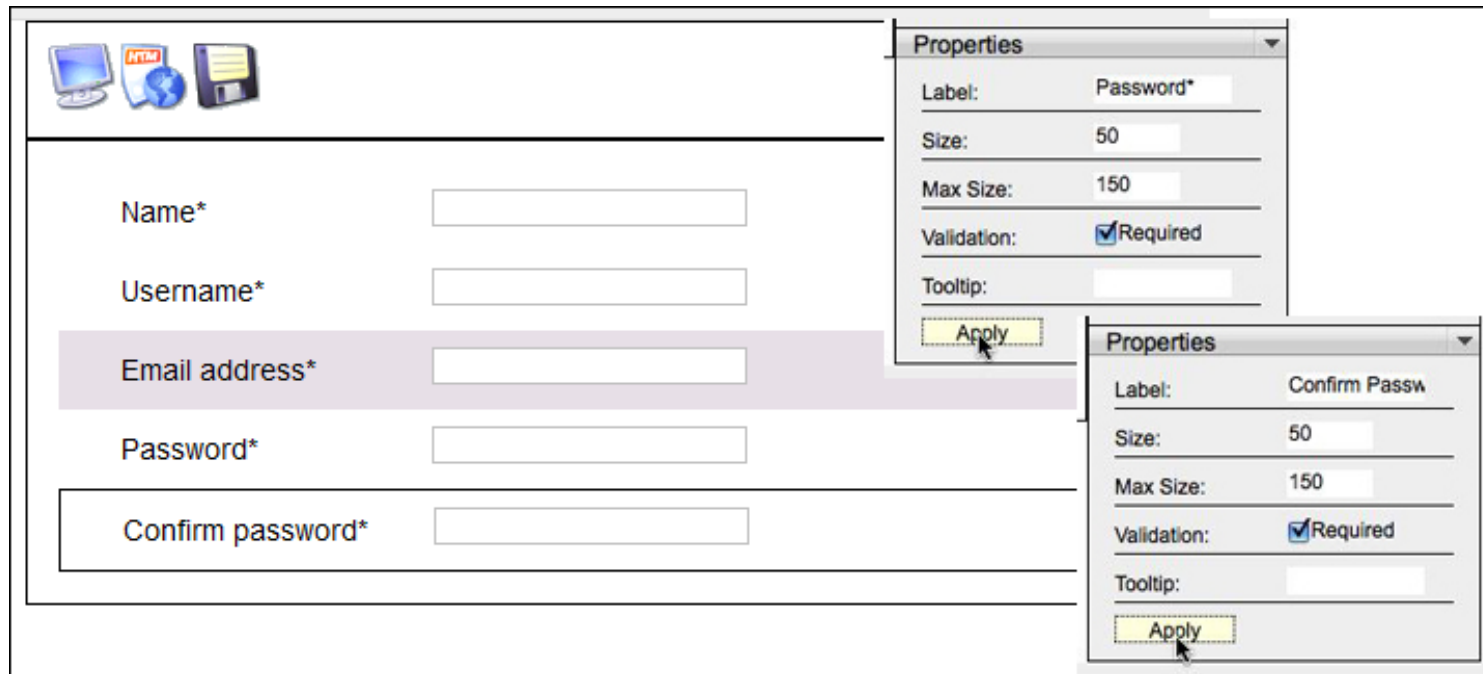
Add two more fields . . .

In exactly the same way add two more TextBoxes.

Change the Label of the first to 'Username*' with Validation 'required; apply the changes.

Change the Label of the second to 'Email address' with Validation both 'Required' and 'Email'; apply the changes.

Add password fields

Add two PasswordBoxes. Label the first 'Password*' and the second 'Confirm password*'. Make both required and Apply the changes.
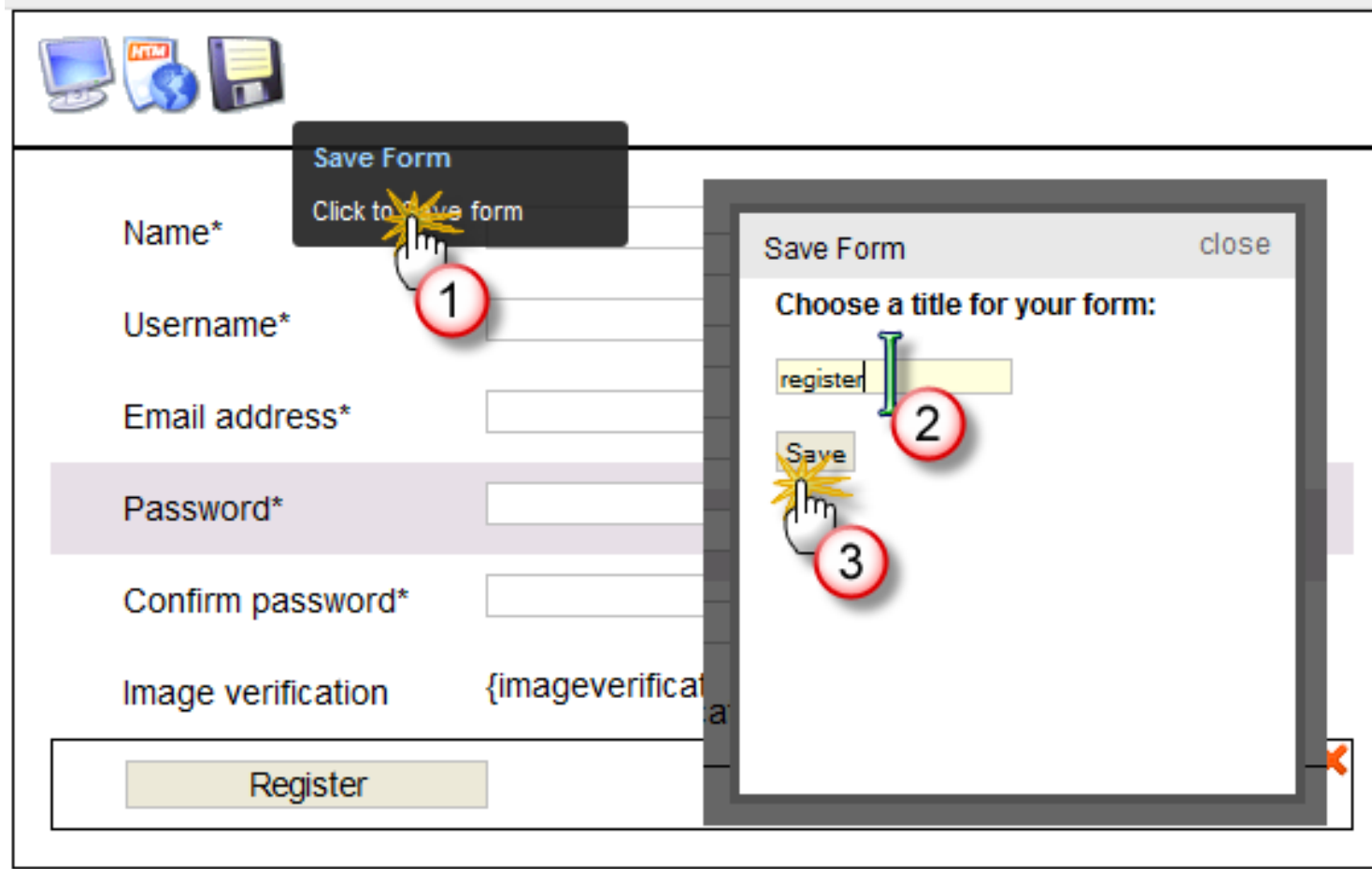
Add image verification and a submit button

Add the last two fields to your form - you need to be careful to drag the fields into the grey border of the Form box or they will be put in the wrong sequence. If that happens, delete the misplaced field and try again. Add a Captch field and Label it 'Image Verification' and then a Button and Label it 'Register'.

Save your form

This is all you have to do in the Form Wizard area, so click on the "Save Form" option . . . Save your form with an obvious name, like "registration". Note: Once you have saved the form in the wizard you can't use the wizard to edit it; you have to edit the form directly using the other tabs in the editor.

Adding changes to make the form work as a registration form

You should be back in the main Chrono Forms management area of the component now. If not, go to the "Components" menu, choose "Chrono Forms" and "Forms Management". On the page that appears, the registration form you made should be listed. Click directly on the name of the form...

Turn the email on

First, in the section under the "General" tab, you need to set "Email the results ?" to "Yes" via the pop-up menu...

Enable Anti-Spam image verification

Under the "Anti Spam" tab, you need to set "Use Image Verification;" to "Yes" and "What type of image to show ?" to "With Fonts"...

Enable field validation

Under the "Validation" tab, set "Enable Validation ?" to "Yes" and "Validation Library" to "mootools"...

Enable Joomla Registration

Under the "Plugins" tab, make sure that the "Joomla Registration" option is ticked....

Find the Input Field ids

```
<div class="form_item"><div class="form_element cf_textbox"><label
class="cf_label">Name*</label><input class="cf_inputbox required"
maxlength="150" size="30" id="text_0" name="text_0" type="text"></div><div
class="clear"> </div></div><div class="form_item"><div class="form_element
cf_textbox"><label class="cf_label">Username*</label><input class="cf_inputbox
required" maxlength="150" size="30" id="text_1" name="text_1" type="text">
</div><div class="clear"> </div></div><div class="form_item"><div
class="form_element cf_textbox"><label class="cf_label">Email address*</label>
<input class="cf_inputbox required validate-email" maxlength="150" size="30"
id="text_2" name="text_2" type="text"></div><div class="clear"> </div>
</div><div class="form_item"><div class="form_element cf_password"><label
class="cf_label">Password*</label><input class="cf_inputbox required"
maxlength="150" size="30" id="text_3" name="text_3" type="password"></div><div
class="clear"> </div></div><div class="form_item"><div class="form_element
cf_password"><label class="cf_label">Confirm password*</label><input
class="cf_inputbox required" maxlength="150" size="30" id="text_4" name="text_4"
type="password"></div><div class="clear"> </div></div><div
class="form_item"><div class="form_element cf_captcha"><label
class="cf_label">Image verification</label><span>{imageverification}</span>
</div><div class="clear"> </div></div><div class="form_item"><div
class="form_element cf_button"><input value="Register" name="undefined"
type="submit"></div><div class="clear"> </div></div>
```
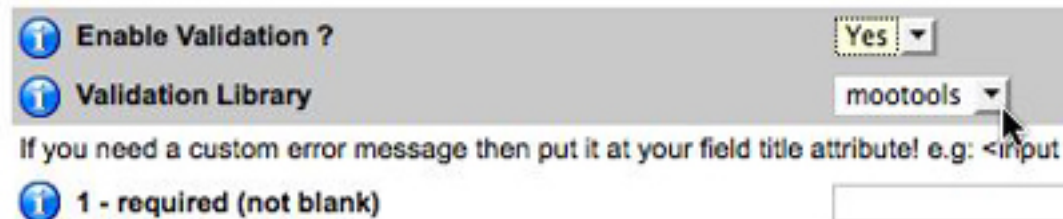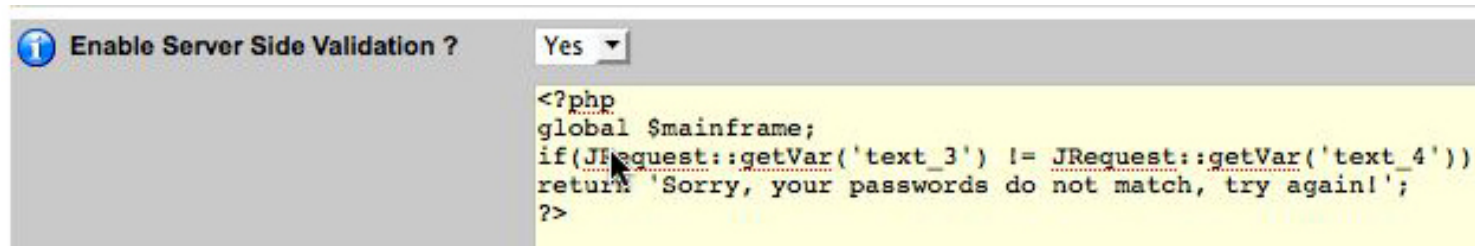
Form HTML:
(may contain PHP code with tags)   [+/-]

You now need to do some investigating for some things we are going to do later. Go to the "Form Code" tab and in that section click the "+/-" link next to "Form HTML" so that you can see all the code that is making up the form at the moment. You need to check the Names for each of the fields that are being placed within your form. In the example below, you can see the relevant Names are: Name = text_0; Username = text_1; Email Address = text_2; Password = text_3; Confirm Password = text_4 Make a note of these to refer to later.

Add validation for the password fields


```
Enable Server Side Validation ?          Yes ▾

<?php
global $mainframe;
if(JRequest::getVar('text_3') != JRequest::getVar('text_4'))
return 'Sorry, your passwords do not match, try again!';
?>
```

Go back to the "Validation" tab. We need to Enable Server Side Validation and add code that compares the two passwords to see if they are the same.

```php
<?php
global $mainframe;
if ( JRequest::getVar('text_3') != JRequest::getVar('text_4') )
return 'Sorry, your passwords do not match, please try again!';
?>
```

You can see that the code uses the Names of the Password and Confirm Password fields. Note that there is no apostrophe ("do not" instead of "don't") as that can cause problems.

You can now save the form as we are almost finished.

Linking the form to the Registration plugin within Chrono Forms

The final part is to tell Chrono Forms that you want this form linked to a Registration plugin within Chrono Forms. Basically this is saying to Chrono Forms to treat this form a little special in relation to other forms. It's very easy to do and ensures that the information entered by users into the form gets added into your database in the same way that all other registrations do.

Simply put a tick next to the name of your form in the Form Management area and then click on the words "Joomla Registration" in the "Plugins" column to the left of the list...

Linking the fields

Name Field:	text_0
UserName Field:	text_1
Email Field:	text_2
Password Field:	text_3
Verify Password Field:	text_4
Email user ?:	No
Email admins ?:	No
Run Before/After the Email ?:	After Email

On the page that appears, put the Input Names in that you noted earlier. Here is an example of how the Names need to be entered to match your fields with the ones expected by the Joomla registration process. Once you have entered the field names, click "Save" and you've got a working registration form!

A finishing touch - Directing users away from the regular registration page

Once you have created the new registration page and have tested it to ensure it is working properly*, you need to ensure that users don't end up at the old (regular) registration page. To do this, one file needs to be altered (ensure you've made a backup copy of this file first).

The file can be found at: components\com_user\views\register\tmpl\default.php

You need to alter the code at the very beginning of the file, so that....

```php
<?php // no direct access
defined('_JEXEC') or die('Restricted access'); ?>
```

Is changed to....

```php
<?php // no direct access
defined('_JEXEC') or die('Restricted access');
chr
?>
```

For example, if you want to move the users away from "http://www.yourdomain.com/index.php?option=com_user&task=register to http://www.yourdomain.com/register.html, the code would be....

```php
<?php // no direct access
defined('_JEXEC') or die('Restricted access');
$mainframe->redirect('register.html');
?>
```