Pintastic 1.0.6 (and later) installation and setup guide

Includes Facebook and Twitter app setup guide and Amazon S3 CDN service connection tutorial

1. Creating the database.

Before you can actually start installing your Pintastic script you will need to create a database on your server. Pintastic is PHP/MySQL-based script and it requires a MySQL database to keep all the records about users, pins, etc.

First thing to do is log in to your server's cPanel and look for this icon:



Click that, and you will be directed to a new page. Find the **Create New Database** box and fill in the name of your new database:

Create New Database



When done please click the **Create Database** button.

The following information will appear on a new page.



Please copy the full name of your database (including the prefix and the underscore) to a separate text file on your computer, as you will need it later on. Click the **Go Back** button.

Creating . Look for this interface and fill in the details – username and password (reenter password to confirm):



Click Create User.

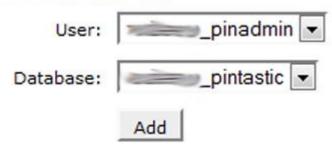
The confirmation screen should appear shortly.



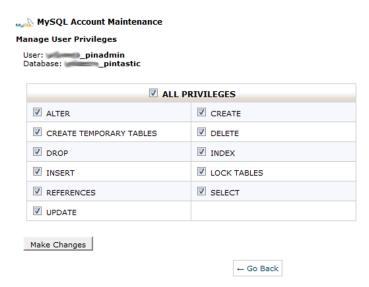
Select Go Back.

Find the Add User To Database section, select the newly created user and database and click Add:

Add User To Database



You will be directed to a page that looks like this:



Check the **ALL PRIVILEGES** box and then click the **Make Changes** button.

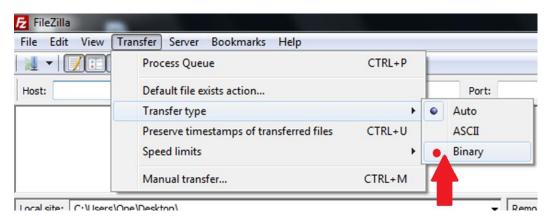
When the action is complete the confirmation screen will appear.



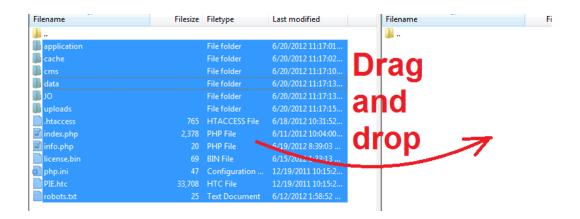
2. Uploading and configuring the files

After you've downloaded the installation package you need to open the archive, select all files and extract them to a folder on your computer.

The next thing to do is open the FTP client program. We recommend FileZilla, as it is free and easy to use. Start the program, and then go to the **Transfer** menu. Select **Transfer type**, and then set that to **Binary**.



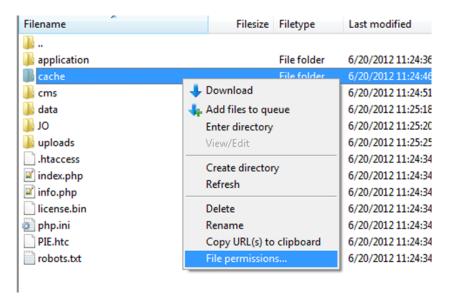
Next – connect to your server using the FTP credentials your host provided you with. Go to the folder you'd like to install **Pintastic** to – it will show up in the right pane. In the left one locate the folder with the installation files. Select all files, drag them to the right panel and drop them there. The upload should start automatically.



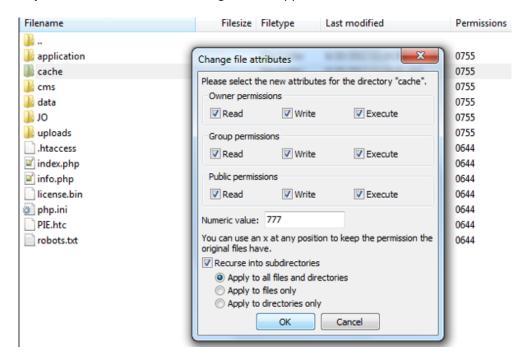
Please wait until the transfer is complete. After the entire Pinastic installation is uploaded to your server, please change the permissions to 777 for the following:

- the cache folder;
- the **uploads** folder;
- the **config_db.ini** file, located in the **/application/config/** folder.

Here's how to do it: select the folder you will be changing the permissions of and right click on it. This menu will appear:



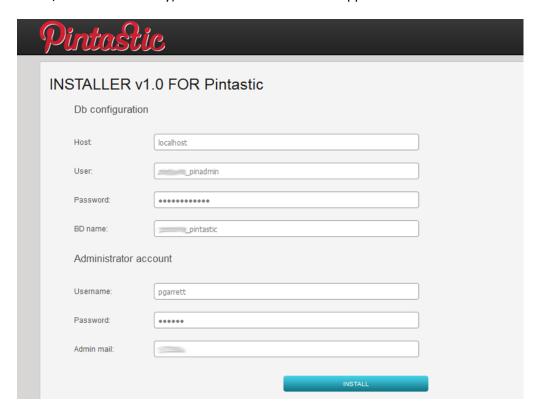
Select **File permissions...** and the following box will appear:



Type in 777 in the **Numeric value** field. Please make sure you check the **Recurse into subdirectories** box when updating permissions for both folders, as this will allow all the files and subfolders to be configurable. Click **OK** once done.

3. Configuring the installer

Open your browser and type the full address where you uploaded the Pintastic script to (domain and folder/subdomain – if any). The installer interface will appear.



Type **localhost** in the Host field. The rest of the fields are your **database user**, his **password** and the **database name** itself.

In the **Administrator account** fields fill in the details of the admin user – his **username**, **password** and **e-mail**. Click **Install** to complete. If the installation is successful you will see the following:



You will need to delete the **install** folder, which is located in the **/application/modules** folder of your installation. After this is done – you can again type in the domain name for your installation to see the home page of your Pintastic script.

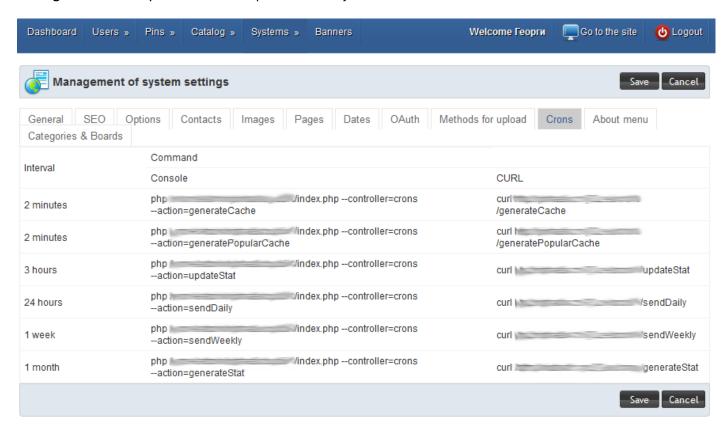


4. Setting up the Cron Jobs

In order for your Pintastic website to show regular updates and send digests to your users you will need to set up several **Cron Jobs**. Go to your website's admin panel, e.g.

http://mypintasticsite.com/admin

and log in using the administrator username and password you filled in during the installation. Go to **System -> Settings -> Crons** and you will see a sample list of cron jobs.



Here's what these are needed for one by one (listed in the same order as in the image above):

- 1. This cron updates the random pins that are displayed on the home page when it is visited by a non-logged user every two minutes (as per Pinterest, please feel free to change the setting to your preference).
- 2. This one is the same, but displays a random selection of pins in the Popular category. Again, you could set a time interval to your preference instead the two minutes.
- 3. Updates your dashboard every 3 hours.
- 4. Some of your users will elect to have a daily digest sent to them via e-mail this is the cron that takes care of the digests being sent.
- 5. This cron job mails the weekly digests to your users.
- 6. This cron job is admin oriented it updates the statistics on your admin panel's dashboard. You can have a shorter or a longer period.

Please continue reading on the next page, where we show you how to create the cron jobs yourself.

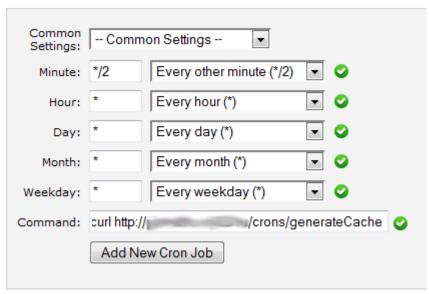
Note: these are only templates intended to help you set the cron jobs up by yourself. The cron jobs are **NOT** created automatically, and adding the crons yourself will **NOT** change this list.

If you are assisted by a third party (e.g. a hosting provider's support rep), please copy each row from the admin into text file and provide them with that.

Creating a cron job

Log in to your hosting account's **cPanel** and look for the **Cron jobs** link. Go to the **Add New Cron Job** section. To set up the first cron job please select the following options:

Add New Cron Job



Please copy the CURL command for the particular cron from the Pintastic admin panel and paste it in the **Command** field. When finished – click the **Add New Cron Job** button to create the cron. You should be able to notice the effects of the cron within 2 minutes on your Pintastic home page.

Note: please make sure that all the fields in the cron set up are filled in. Feel free to use the options from the dropnown select to the right. If not sure – please contact your hosting support. If you missed any field – an error message would appear until all the fields are properly formatted.

When the cron has been added successfully you will see the following:



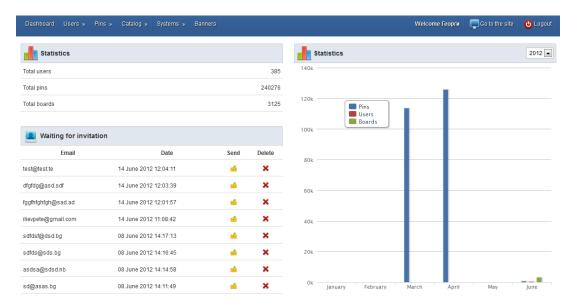
Note: in case the cron has been added successfully, but you do not see any results from the cron commands – please contact your hosting support. The result might be due to different PHP path, so you can inquire about that and edit the command if needed.

Important: Please perform the setup **for all cron jobs** that are listed in the **System -> Settings -> Crons tab**, so your Pintastic website can function properly. If you encounter a problem – contact your hosting provider.

To administer your new Pintastic website you must log in to the admin panel.

Administering Pintastic

The **Dashboard** is the administrator's home page, which looks like this:



You can see statistical information:

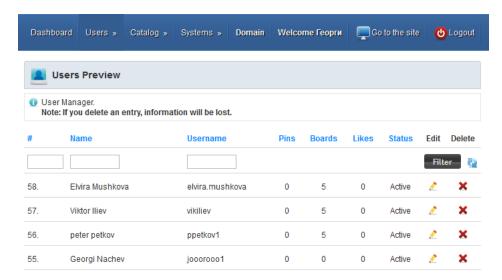
- Number of users, pins and boards;
- List of people waiting for invitation;
- Number of users, pins and boards per month.

Managing users

As an administrator you must be able to update user details, activate or remove user accounts. The options in this menu are your user management tools.

User manager

There are multiple submenus for each menu that you can see on the top row. The first thing you can do is managing your users. This is how the user listing looks:



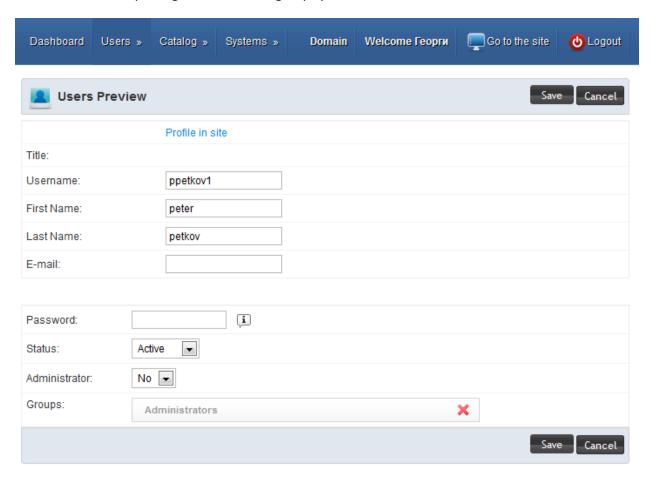
Each user has the following attributes:

- User ID
- Name
- User name
- Number of pins made
- Number of boards
- Number of likes
- Status (Active or Inactive).

The administrator can also edit each user's details.

He can also delete one or more users. Please note deletion cannot be undone!

Editing the user allows you to update his names (including his username), the e-mail and password (if you do not wish to update the password please leave the field blank). You can also activate or deactivate user accounts, give them administrator privileges, add them to groups you define.



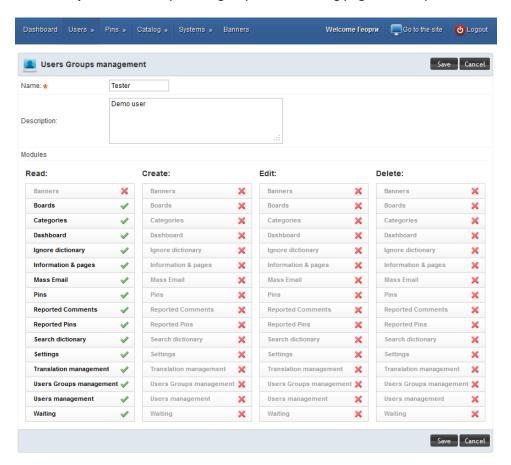
Please click the **Save** button when done, or use **Cancel** to drop the changes made.

Managing user groups

The users can be organized into groups with various privileges. This is done via the **User Group Manager**. You can see the list of groups available, their names and general description, change their privileges or delete the groups altogether if you so wished.



Select the **pencil** icon to update a group. The following page would open:



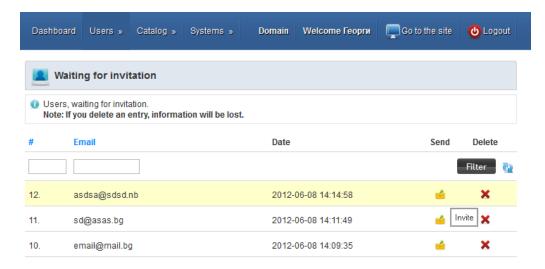
The group has a name and a description you need to type in, and a list of privileges. Click on a privilege to allow (green check symbol) or disallow (red X icon) the group access to the functionality.

Select **Save** to confirm changes or **Cancel** to drop them.

Waiting list management

As we're aware creating an account in your Pintastic website requires either an invite from a user that is already a member of your community, or registering on the waiting list.

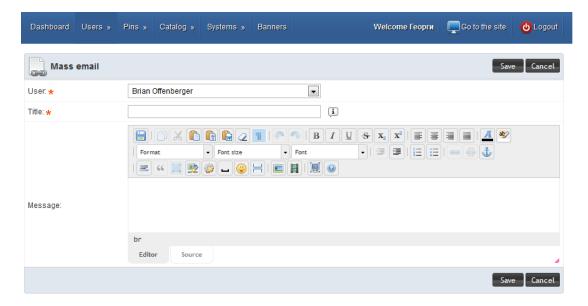
Here is where you manage the queue:



As you can see the waiting people are only identified by their e-mail, and the date and time they filled in the request. You can invite them to join the community by clicking the envelope icon on the respective row, or remove them from the waiting list by deleting them.

Mass email

This function allows you to send messages to all of your users or a particular member of the community.



You can select the user you want to message from the **User** dropdown at the top. Enter a message subject in the **Title** field, and then type in your message in the **Message** box. As it is a WYSIWYG editor you can format the message, insert images, etc.

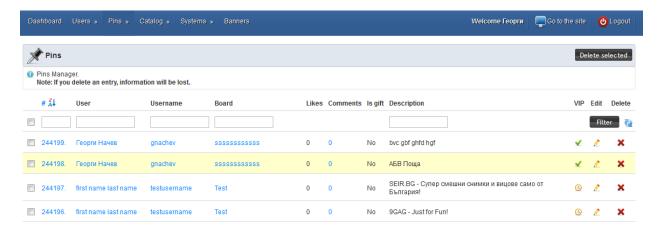
Click **Save** to send the messages to the users selected, or hit **Cancel** to drop the draft.

The Pins

This menu allows you to see and manage all the boards, pins, comments, and reports on them.

Pins

A list of all the pins in your Pintastic website, shown in descending order (latest first).

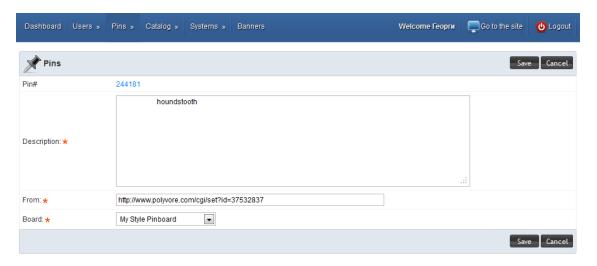


Each pin is shown with

- its **number** (also a link to the pin itself on the website),
- the name of the user who posted it (link to the public profile on the website),
- his username (a link to the profile in the admin panel),
- the **board** the post is pinned on (link to the board details in the admin panel),
- number of likes,
- number of comments (a link to the list of comments for the pin in the admin panel),
- a flag showing whether the pin is a gift or not,
- pin's description,
- a VIP flag.

You can also **Edit** and **Delete** individual pins, search for them using the **filter** above the list, as well as **delete multiple pins** after checking the boxes at the very front of each row. Please note deletion cannot be undone!

Click the **pencil** icon to edit the pin properties. The following interface will appear:

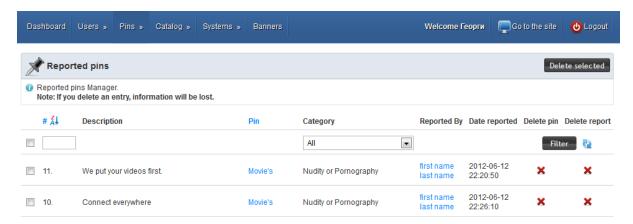


You can see the **pin ID** (which is a link to the pin's view page), the **Description** field, the **From** field (showing the source's URL), as well as a dropdown with the user's **boards** – so you actually move the pin.

Click **Save** to confirm the changes made, or **Cancel** to drop them.

Reported pins

This shows a list of the pins that have been reported by users as inappropriate. The reports are shown in descending order (latest first).

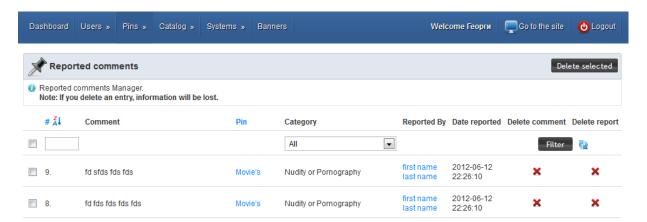


Each report is represented with **the pin's description**, **the pin's name** (which is also a link to the pin itself), **the reason** why it has been reported, **by whom**, as well as **the date of the report**.

After viewing the pin you can decide whether to **delete the pin**, **discard the report** itself, or change nothing.

Reported comments

Similarly to the **Reported pins** this interface allows you to manage the comments flagged as inappropriate by the user community.

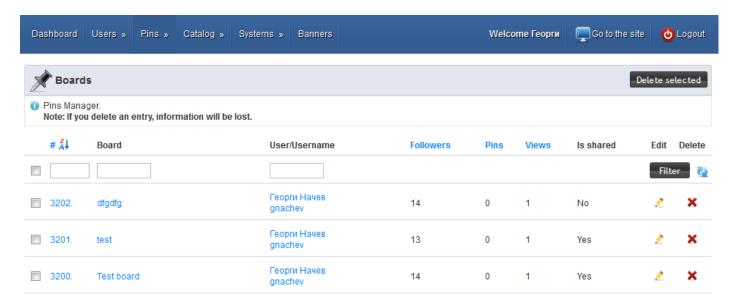


The list shows the latest report first. You can see **the comment** itself, the **pin name** (also a link to the pint in the website), the **reason** for the report, the **username** of the person who reported it, and the report date.

Again, whether to delete the pin, drop the report, or leave everything as is will be up to you.

Boards

This is where you can view and manage every board in your Pintastic website. The boards are listed in descending order (latest is first).

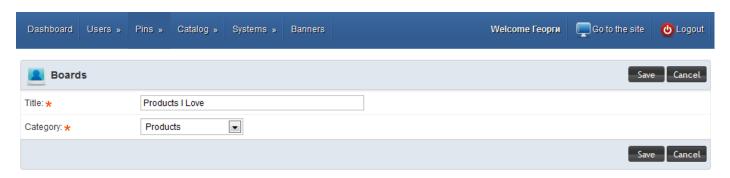


You can search the boards by typing in the fields at the top of the list and clicking the **Filter** button, or **sort** them by clicking the **column labels**.

Each board is represented by

- its consecutive **number** and **name** (links to the board in the website),
- the username of the board owner (link to the user's profile in the admin panel),
- number of followers, pins in the board and board views,
- a flag showing whether it's **shared** or not.

As an admin you can delete the board – please consider the fact that it cannot be undeleted. If you want to edit the board properties please click the **pencil** icon – the following page would load:



You can update the board's name and category (by selecting from the dropdown), then Save or Cancel the changes.

Reported pins categories and Reported pins categories

These two control the categories of reasons pins and comments get reported for in your Pintastic website. Here's an example with a few categories already set up:



Really quite simple – all you need to do is name the category. You can also delete a category (or multiple categories), add new ones or edit existing entries. When creating a category, or editing an existing one you will be seeing this interface:



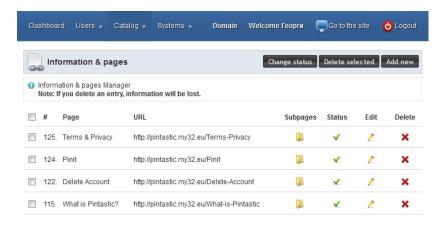
Just type in the **title**, click **Save** and you're all done!

The Catalog

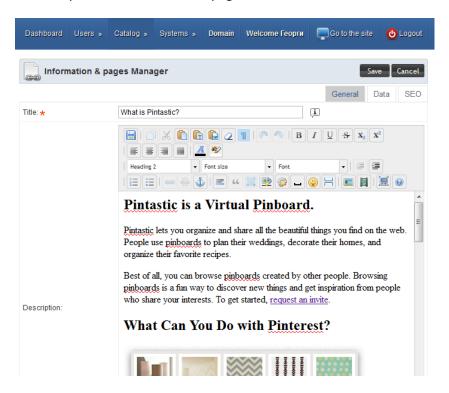
This is the place where you manage the informational pages on your website, as well as set and manage the categories pins can be posted in.

Information and pages

This is a list of the pages your users will get information from. You can see their ID, title, URL, a link to the list of subpages (if any), their status, as well as the icons for editing and deletion.



Click the pencil icon to enter the page editor.

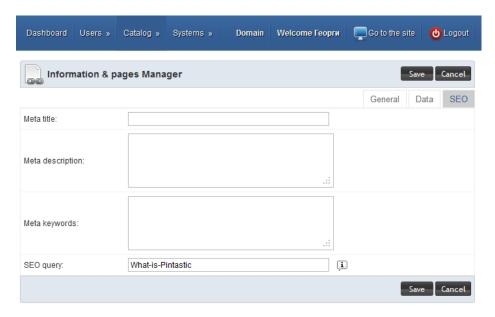


There are three tabs. In the first one you can update the page title and the page content.

The second tab (Data) allows you to publish or hide the page:



The third tab is named SEO and is used to update the metadata that will help your website grow popular with the search engines. The **SEO query** field is used to add the actual page name within the URL. In this example the page URL would be http://yourpintasticsite.com/What-is-Pintastic

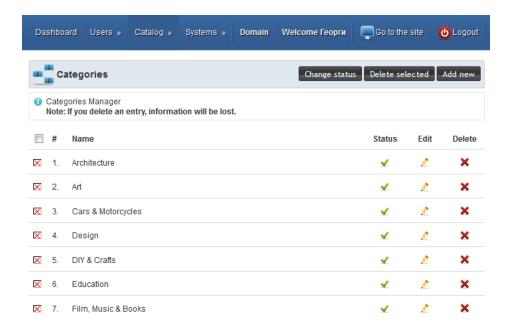


As usual click **Save** to update the page, or **Cancel** to revert.

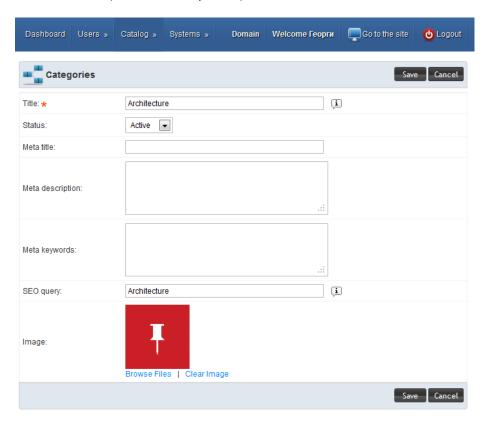
To edit a subpage click the **folder icon** on the respective row in the list. The subpages will appear (if there are any) and you will be able to edit them the same way you did the pages.

Categories

These are the categories the virtual pinboards are organized within. Each of them has a name, a status, an **edit** and **delete** button.



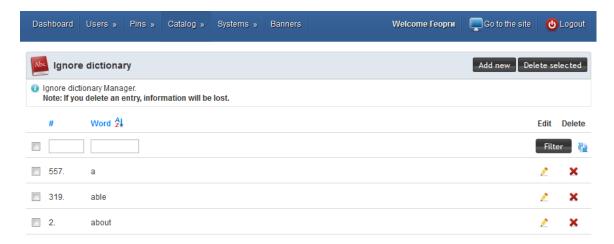
To update a category – click the **pencil** icon. You can change its title, description, meta data, URL and image, activate or deactivate it (the **Status** dropdown).



Clicking **Save** will update the category, and **Cancel** would leave it as it was before you made any changes.

Ignore dictionary

This is a list of words that will be ignored by the search engine. Include words in the list like "a", "and", "of", etc. to allow for more relevant search results for both you and your users. Here's how the list looks:



As usual the words are listed in alphabetical order, and you can **filter** (search) the ones you need, edit or delete them using the respective buttons. **Adding new words** or **editing** existing ones is done via this simple interface:

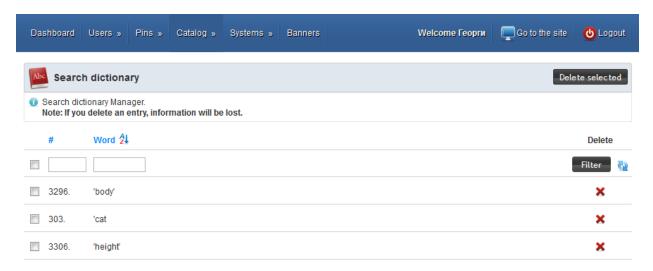


Simply type in the word and click **Save** to add it to the dictionary. Select **Cancel** if you want to drop the changes.

Please note that **deleting** an entry from the dictionary cannot be undone!

Search dictionary

This dictionary is an integral part of the technology that speeds the system up. Pintastic parses all the posts and comments and adds the words to this dictionary to make searching for pins and comments super-fast. What you can see here is the list of words in the dictionary.



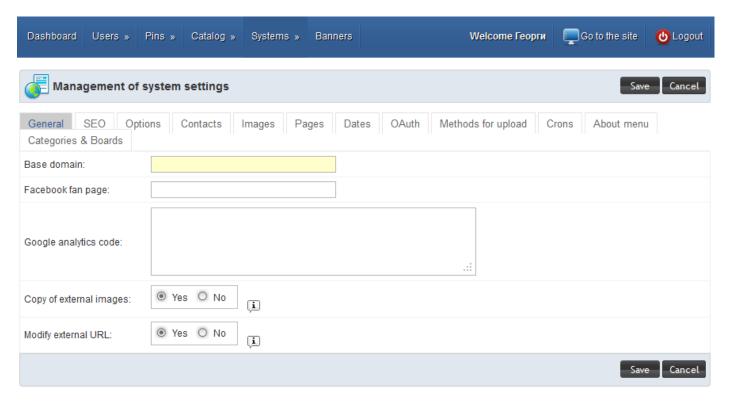
You can only **search** for or **remove** words from the dictionary – note deletion cannot be undone.

System

Settings

This is where you manage the website's script itself. The settings are logically spread over several tabs.

The first one is the **General** tab. This is the data you can enter:



Base domain – the URL of your Pintastic website.

Facebook fan page – self-explanatory.

Google Analytics code – the code segment Google provides you to allow statistics to be collected for your website.

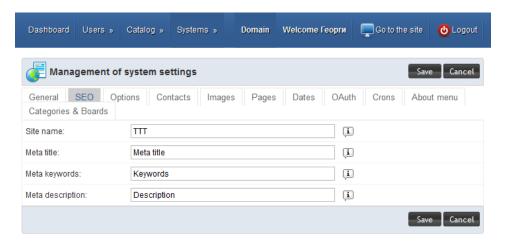
Copy of external images – selecting **Yes** makes the script copy whatever images are present in the pin to your hosting.

Modify external URL – select Yes to turn all the links into "nofollow" – they will open in a new tab instead of the same tab as your Pintastic website.

Please click **Save** for the changes to take effect.

SEO tab

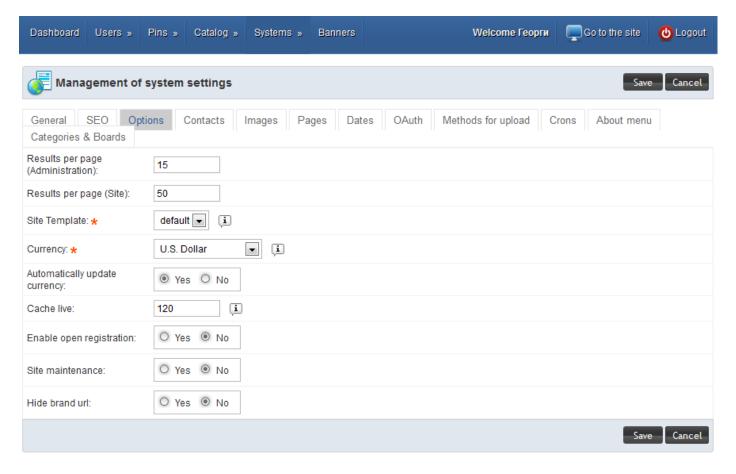
This is where you write the site's name – the one that appears at the title bar of the users' browser – as well as the metadata for your Pintastic website.



Please click Save for the changes to take effect.

Options

The settings here take effect on how the website appears to both users and the administrators.



Results per page – the two settings will change the number of search results both users and administrators see per page.

Site Template – if you have more than one template installed – you can change the active one from this dropdown.

Currency – as we all know the **Gifts** section displays the prices of the products pinned. This is where you set the default currency in which the price is displayed.

Note: in case you will be changing the default currency we highly recommend that you add your currency and make it default before proceeding to add any gift pins.

Automatically update currency – this connects to a remote server, which updates the exchange ratio daily. This way even if your currency is different from the one of the shop you will have an up-to-date price on each gift.

Cache live – measured in seconds. This is the time after which the cache is updated with the latest pins.

Enable open registration – allow your users to register freely, without the need of invitations or approval.

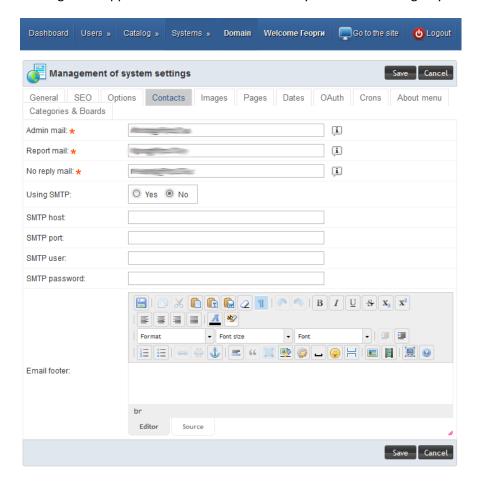
Site maintenance – selecting **Yes** turns the maintenance message on for your website and hide the user view for all users/visitors. The administration would still be accessible.

Hide brand url – this option is only available to users that have purchased **Brand removal** for their website. Selecting **Yes** will hide the "Powered by Pintastic.com" link next to the logo of your website.

Please click Save for the changes to take effect.

Contacts

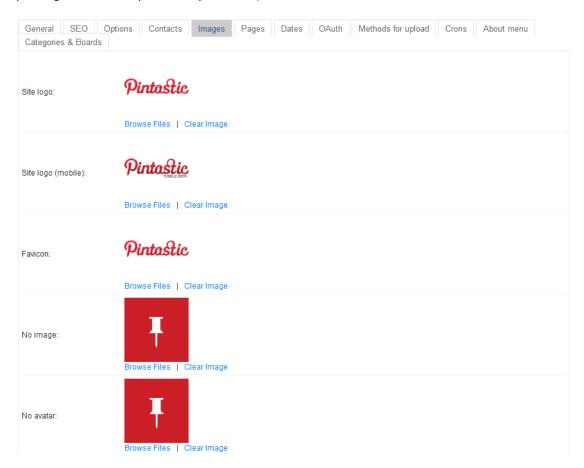
Here you can update all the administrative contacts (first three fields). If you're using an SMTP server to send e-mails and newsletter – this is where you update the details. The **e-mail footer section** at the bottom allows you to edit the message that appears at the end of the e-mails you will be sending to your users.



Please click **Save** for the changes to take effect.

Images

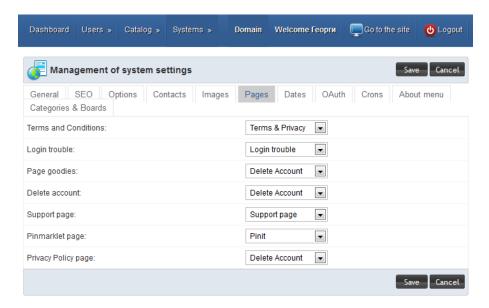
The logo and general image settings are managed in this tab. You can update **your website's logos** (for the full and the mobile version), the favicon, as well as set a **default image** and **user avatar** (in case these are not retrieved when pinning, or are not uploaded by the user).



Please click Save for the changes to take effect.

Pages

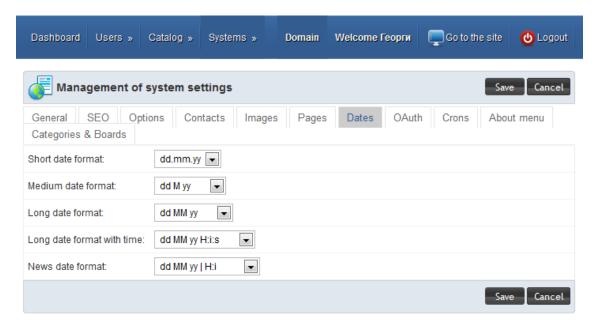
These are the pages that give information about the most important events to your users. Select the page you want to show from the dropdown on the corresponding row.



Please click Save for the changes to take effect.

Dates

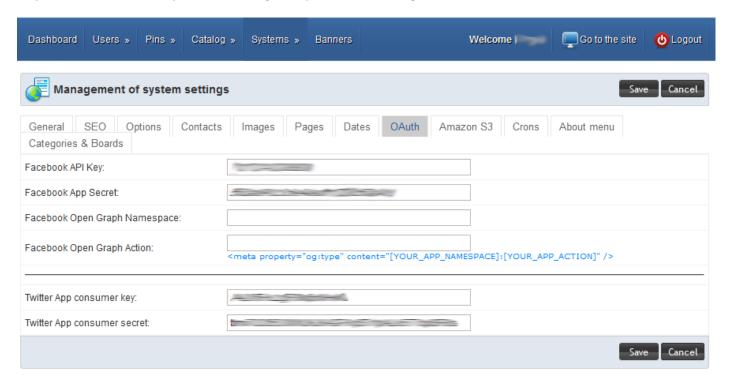
In this tab the date format is set up – there are several available options for each occasion.



Please click **Save** for the changes to take effect.

OAuth

This is where you connect your Pintastic website to the social media. Insert the keys and secret codes in the respective boxes to allow your users to log in to your website using their **Facebook** and **Twitter** accounts.



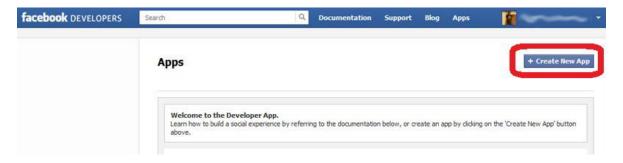
Please click **Save** for the changes to take effect.

Note: a separate section on how to set up the Facebook and Twitter apps is available below.

Setting up Facebook connect (creating Facebook app)

To setup Facebook connect for your website (allow the users to log in using their Facebook accounts) you will need to create a Facebook application first. You must have a Facebook account AND install the Facebook developer application to be able to build the app. This is done at the following address: https://developers.facebook.com/apps

At the top right of the page you will see the + Create New App button – click it to continue.



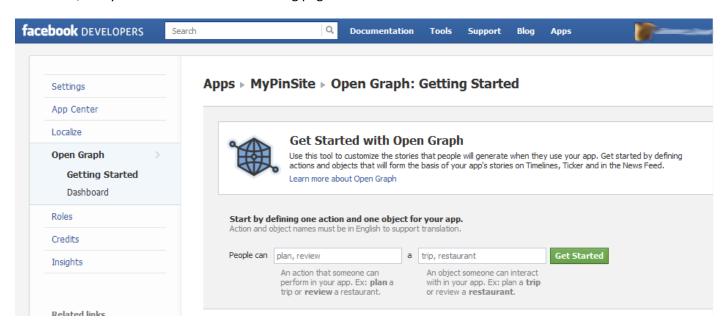
A pop-up window will appear, prompting you to enter the app name – pick something meaningful and descriptive. The namespace is where the app page will be located – usually same as your app name, just in lowercase letters **only**. Read the fine print and the Facebook rules before continuing.



You will then be redirected to your **Applications Basic Info** page. Please make sure to fill in the details in all the first 4 boxes of the form that will appear.



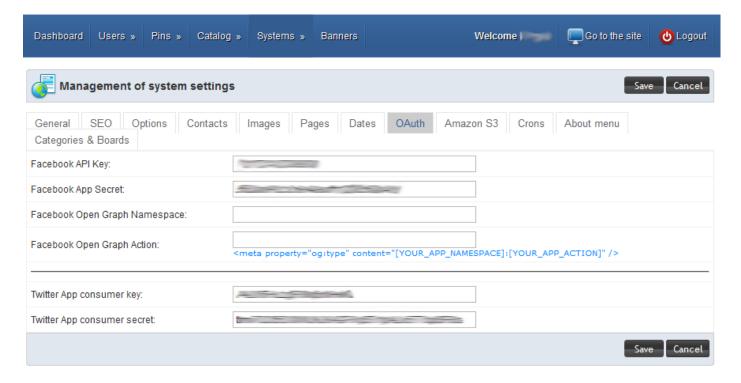
Save the changes. To set up a custom action for your app (a different action from **Like** or **Share**) select **Open Graph** on the left, and you will be shown the following page:



Enter the action you want your users to perform in the first box, e.g. **cook**, and the object you want the action to be performed on (for example **dinner**). Click the **Get started** button – Facebook will guide you through the setup process.

Log in to your Pintastic website's admin panel, select **System -> Settings** and paste the **Facebook API Key** and the **Facebook App Secret** in the respective boxes in the **OAuth** tab.

You can also add the **namespace** that you entered while setting up your app (for example we used **mypinsite** in step 1), as well as the **action** you entered in the previous step. Please only enter the word for the specific action (e.g. **cook** in the example above).



Well done! Facebook Connect is now set up for your Pintastic website!

Note: It may take anywhere between a few minutes and an hour for your application to be active on all Facebook servers.

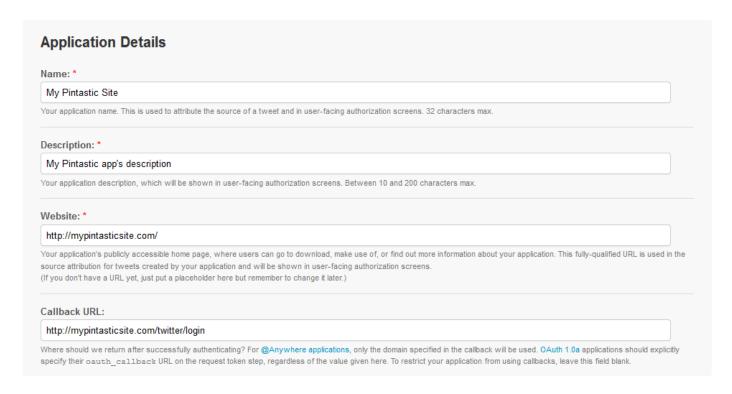
Creating a Twitter app

To allow your users to log in using their Twitter accounts you will need to create a Twitter app.

Please visit https://dev.twitter.com/apps and log in with your Twitter account. In the main page select **Create an app**. The following page will open:



Create an application



The name and the description are up to you – use words that will hint of your website and what it is about.

The **Website** field must contain the address of your website, including **http://** and **the domain name the Pintastic script is licensed for**.

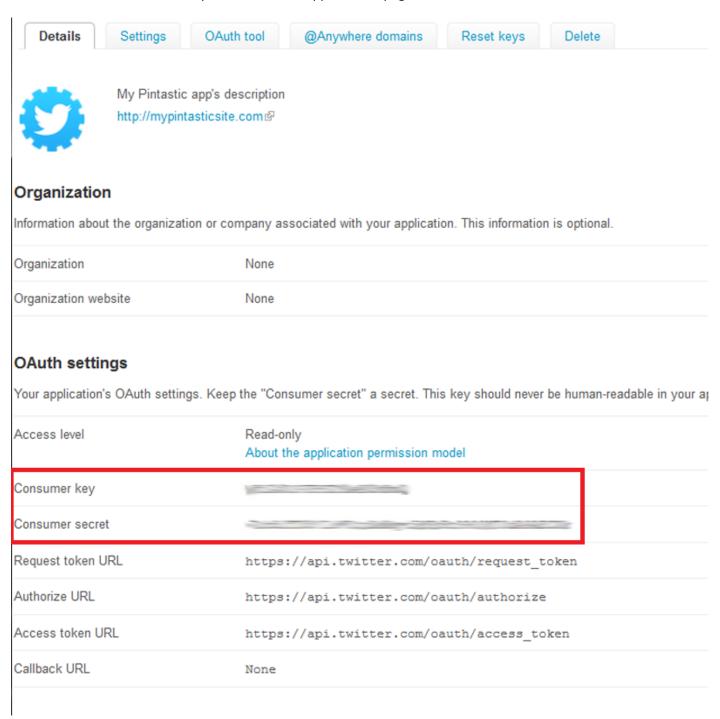
In the Callback URL filed please copy the Callback URL from the System -> Settings -> OAuth tab in your admin panel - it is located just under the boxes that contain the two Twitter keys:

Twitter App consumer key:	
Twitter App consumer secret:	
Twitter Callback URL:	http://mypintasticsite.com/twitter/login

Note: please replace **mypintasticsite.com** in the URL above with your own domain name. The URL here is just an example.

Scroll down the page to **read the terms** and **agree with them**. You will also need to fill in a Capcha field. Finally – click the **Create your Twitter application** button.

You will be directed to the newly created Twitter app's details page – should look like this one:



Copy the long strings that are the **Consumer key** and the **Consumer secret** (in the red rectangle) and paste them in the respective fields in the admin section of your Pintastic website – you can find them in **System -> Settings -> the OAuth tab** (see the image on the previous page).

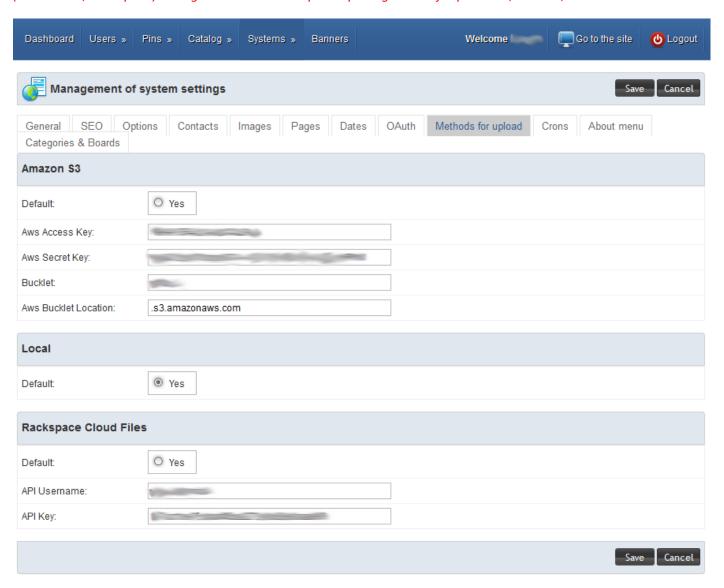
Storage

This tab is where you setup the storage location for the image files in your Pintastic website. There are three options: local storage (on your hosting account), using you Amazon S3 AWS account, or Rackspace cloud account.

Pick any of the three methods by selecting the respective radio button. This will turn the option ON after you **Save** the changes.

Note: After the change ANY new previews, avatars, etc. will be stored on the selected option/account. Any previous image data will remain connected to the respected pins. You will not need to move or re-pin anything.

Note: we recommend installing the **ImageMagick** library webhosting servers whether you use local or remote (Amazon S3, Rackspace) storage or not. This will speed up image resize for previews, avatars, etc.



The default option is **Local** – this stores all previews, avatars, etc. on your webhosting account, using the available disk space.

Configuring Pintastic to use your Amazon S3 account

In order to enable the Amazon S3 account after selecting this option you will need to adjust the following settings:

- Insert the AWS Access Key and AWS Secret key which you can take from your Amazon account page (see below).
- Type in the **Bucklet** name in order the media and previews from your Pintastic website to be stored in the proper bucklet.
- Add the **AWS Bucklet Location** this depends on the location you've chosen for the bucklet. These are the standard addresses:

Location fo the bucklet	What to paste in the AWS Buclket Location box
US Standard	s3.amazonaws.com
Ireland	s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com
Northern California	s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com
Singapore	s3-ap-southeast-1.amazonaws.com
Tokyo	s3-ap-northeast-1.amazonaws.com

To get the keys you need to log in to your Amazon AWS account, and then select **Security credentials** from the **My Account/Console** menu in the upper right. Go to the **Access Credentials** section, and you will see the first key in the **Access Keys** tab.



You will need to click on **Show** (2) for the second key to be displayed. A small pop-up window will appear:



Note: both keys in this example are fictional. You will have to insert the keys from your account.

If you've entered the keys correctly, and have selected an existing bucket all multimedia on your website (images, video previews, avatars, etc.) will from this moment on reside in your Amazon S3 account.

Please click **Save** for the changes to take effect.

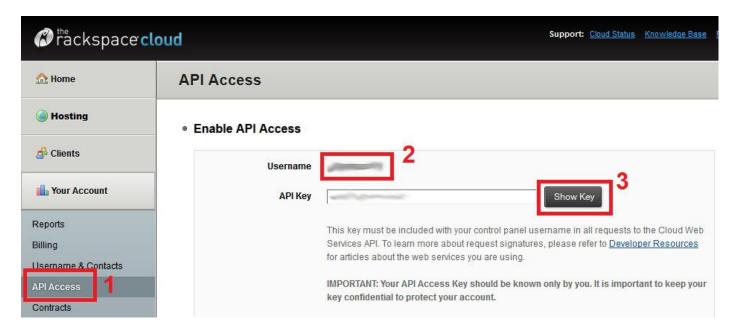
Configuring Pintastic to use Rackspace Cloud account

After selecting the Rackspace Cloud as a default storage for your media previews you will need to fill in 2 settings:

- API username,
- API Key.

You can get both from your Rackspace account.

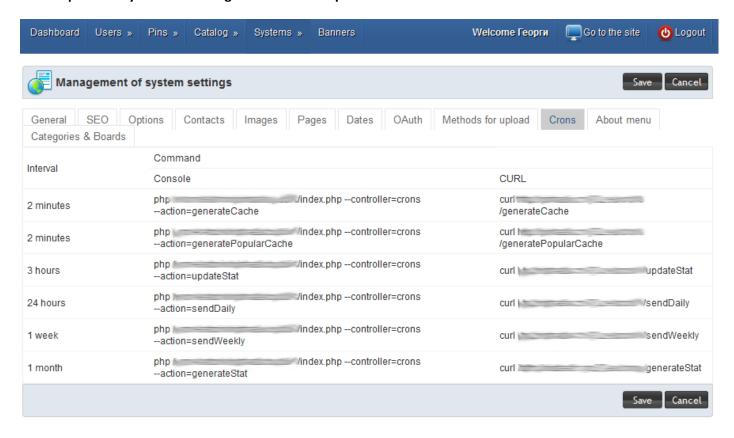
- 1. After logging in select **Your Account** from the left menu, then select the **API Access**.
- 2. Copy your **Username** and insert in in the respective box.
- 3. Click the **Show Key** button to display the actual key. Copy the entire key and paste it in the respective box in the Pintastic admin.



As always to activate the option click **Save** when done adding the settings in order to activate the new storage option.

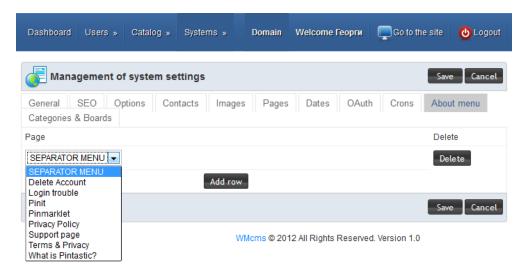
Crons

This is a list of the cron jobs that keep the content up to date. These are only templates, the actual cron jobs must be set up manually when installing the Pintastic script.



About menu

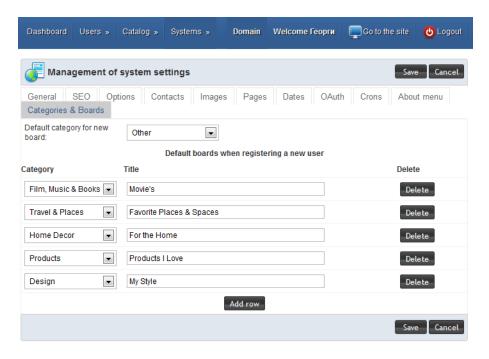
To arrange and structure your about menu you can use the built-in functionality here. Use **Add row** to insert each page you'd like to show up in the menu. If you prefer you can also insert separators in order to better organize the menu visually.



Feel free to **delete** a row whenever you think it's irrelevant. Click **Save** to activate the changes made.

Categories and boards

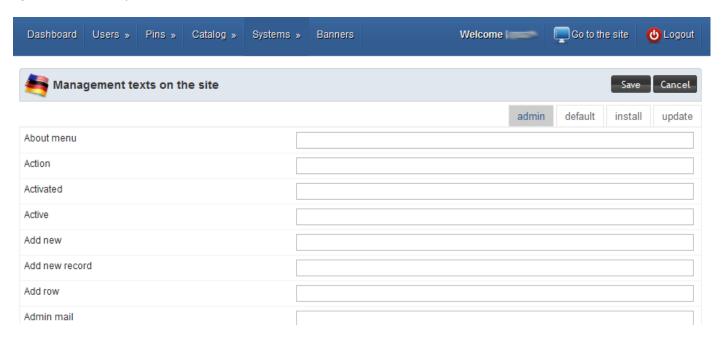
Whenever a new user has registered he will automatically receive 5 default boards – this is where you select what they should be. Also the default category of every new board created can be set from the top option.



Please click Save for the changes to take effect.

Translation

Pintastic allows you to change all the labels around the website, and you can use the same language, or a different one – both Left-To-Right and Right-To-Left languages are supported. Just select **Translation management** from the **System** menu and you will be directed to this screen:

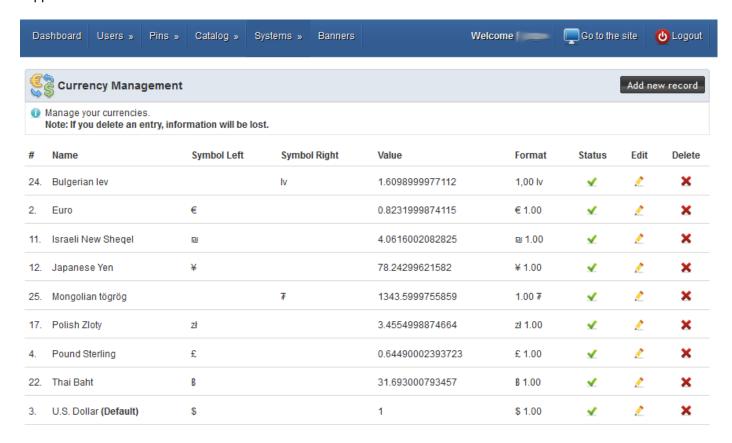


The default tab is the **admin** tab – it allows you to change the filed labels in the administration panel. The **default** tab contains the texts for the front end/user section.

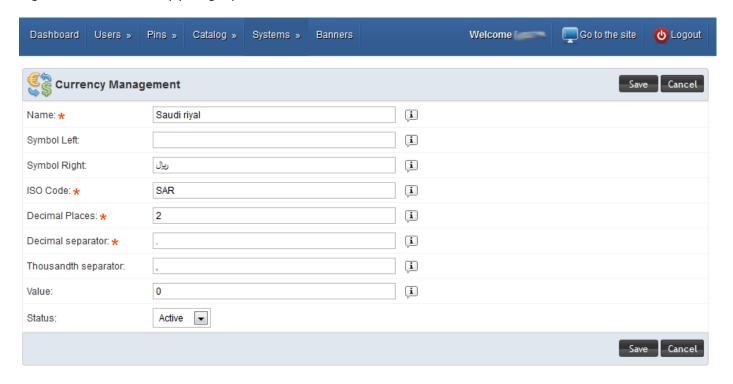
To prevent data loss please make sure you are saving your changes every few minutes as you go, as the admin session has a limited duration. The changes will be effective immediately.

Currencies

From version 1.0.5 onwards Pintastic is a multi-currency system. You can add as many currencies as you need through the **Currency Manager** at the bottom of the **System** menu. Both left- and right-side symbol currencies are supported.



You can see the list of currencies added in our sample website. As denoted by the label after its name the default currency is now the US dollar – this means that all prices on the website are recalculated and shown in US dollars, regardless of the currency your gift pins are retrieved in.



The **Name** is what your new currency's called. The **Symbol Left** and **Symbol Right** are used to paste the symbol you'll be using e.g. it will be عبال for the Saudi riyal we're inserting right now.

The ISO code is a two- or three-letter code for your new currency – for our example it will be SAR. The rest of the fields are auto-filled for you, yet you can still update them manually if need be. Leave the **Value** field at zero if you have enabled automatic currency updates from the **System -> Settings -> Options tab**. Please only change this field to 1 if you are going to use the new currency as a default one.

Banners

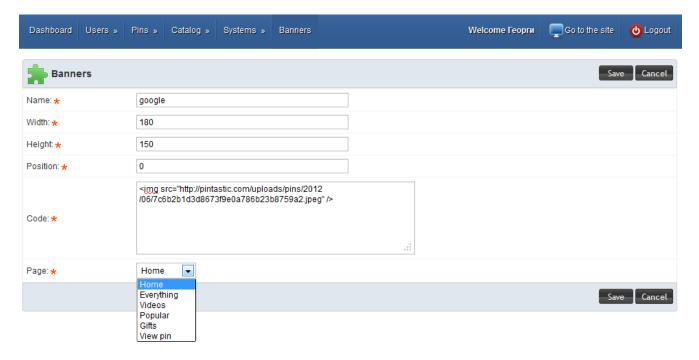
As you've read on the website Pintastic allows you to earn money from the visits made to your website through adding banners and text ads. Banners is the place where you can create and manage these.

The interface is rather simple the first thing you see is the list of existing positions (if there are any).



Each ad position has a **name**, **size** (in pixels), a **position** in the layout, and a **page** it will be displayed on. You can **edit** the ad's properties, or **delete** the ad altogether.

To add a new banner or editing existing one click the respective button and the following page will appear:



Name – label your add so it's easily discernible in the list.

Width and Height are the dimension of the ad in pixels.

Position – the number you type here determines where in the layout the banner would appear. The smaller the number – the closer to the top it will be visualized.

Code – paste your code snippet here. The banner could be an image, a code for Google text ad, etc.

Page – determines the page the ad is displayed on. You can only select one of these.

- Home the banner will appear on the home page of your Pintastic website.
- Everything, Videos, Popular and Gifts are the categories at the top of the website.
- View pin the page for individual review of the pin.

Click **Save** to retain the changes, or **Cancel** to discard.