

EE Help Chat — Wednesday, January 21

Jan 21	8:20 PM
Ryan I.	has entered the room
	8:50 PM
Ryan I.	turned on guest access
Sean S.	has entered the room
	8:55 PM
Nicholas T.	has entered the room
	9:00 PM
Sean S.	greetings
Nicholas T.	Hey.
	Evening, Ryan.
Sean S.	Quick question – I like to use flat files to build my site as do many people. If I build the template structure outside of EE is there a module somewehre that will import the files/folders into the database?
Ryan I.	Hi Sean and Nicholas.
Nicholas T.	Not that I know of.
Sean S.	Ryan – I bought 5 screencasts yesterday, will watch them on the weekend when I go the in-laws (no internet or tv for 4 days)
Tom J.	has entered the room
Tom J.	Hi all
Ryan I.	Great, thanks!
Sean S.	nicholas that's too bad – would be very helpful
Deron S.	has entered the room
Ryan I.	Sean, do you save your templates as files when building the site?
Nicholas T.	I agree.
Deron S.	Hello
Nicholas T.	has left the room

Leevi G.	has entered the room
Patrick C.	has entered the room
Nicholas T.	has entered the room
Leevi G.	Hey guys
Ryan I.	good morning, leevi
	hey deron
Nicholas T.	Hey, Leevi.
Tom J.	Hey
Leevi G.	1:04PM ;D
Ryan I.	hi patrick
Nicholas T.	Hey Deron. (It's me, @jtnt)
Sean S.	right now the process is rather cumbersome – you have to create the template group, then create the template, then open it and save it so you get the flat file would be so much easier if you could just import to the database from flat files you've already created.
Casey R.	has entered the room
	9:05 PM
Sean S.	Ryan, yes
Nicholas T.	Just a "save all templates to files" that actually did that would be a time-saver.
	2.0, maybe...
Deron S.	Hey Nicholas, nice to see you here!
Patrick C.	Hi everyone.
Anton P.	has entered the room
Nicholas T.	Yeah, did you know I was an EE guy too
	?
Ryan I.	Leevi, it's already 1 PM?
Leevi G.	yeah
Sean S.	Nicholas – the import from precreated templates would be much better, I have a default set that I use every time.
Ryan I.	hmm, I thought you were 12 or 13 hours ahead. :/

Leevi G.	been a long day so far
Patrick C.	Ryan, did you survive the snow storm we had yesterday?
Leevi G.	just doing some extension tweaks
Deron S.	Yep, I knew that, just only knew you by jtnt. ;)
Leevi G.	11 at the moment
	DST
Ryan I.	Patrick, I did. THE joys of working from home. :)
Sean S.	11am here
Patrick C.	I know the feeling!
5pieces	has entered the room
Casey R.	@L how are you generating the % meter for the bar graph on your LG Polls Docs page?
Deron S.	OK, I've got a question for all the experts here. I've messed with this for what seems like forever with no resolution. So, here's the thread on EE forums: http://expressionengine.com/forums/viewthr...
Casey R.	Leevi: my last question was meant for you
Leevi G.	http://leevigraham.com/cms-customisation/e...
	Using the {answer_percentage} variable inside the {results_answers} tag
	then using a bit of css with inline styles
Casey R.	Leevi: Does that make the bar shade to the %
Leevi G.	style="width:{answer_percentage}%"
	nested div I think
Casey R.	ah. gotcha
Deron S.	On my new logo site, on the single entry page for each logo I'm showing the single entry logo and then below that, I'm showing all entries by the designer of the single entry logo. In those entries by the designer, I want to hide the current logo being shown on the single entry page (don't want a duplicate). All of that works fine, but I'm using reverse_related_entries and by default, any future dated entries will show in a reverse_related_entries tag and I don't want to show future dated entries in this group... that's what I cannot figure out.
Casey R.	very nice

	thanks
	Leevi: I'll look at the CSS styles a little closer on that page for further reference
	9:10 PM
Patrick C.	Thank you Deron, I've been having a similar issue and was going to ask about it.
Leevi G.	Feel free to reuse them.
Nicholas T.	has left the room
Timo K.	has entered the room
Tom J.	Is there a limited # of users for the chat?
Deron S.	Patrick, glad someone else is having the problem. The problem seems easy enough to fix per the comments section at the bottom of the reverse_related_entries page: http://expressionengine.com/docs/modules/w... but I think with the embeds I'm using and conditionals, it's getting confused
Sean S.	Tom 15
Ryan I.	Tom: 12
Sean S.	woops my mistake
Ryan I.	:)
5pieces	has left the room
Sean S.	now that we have a full house I'm going to ask my question one more time
	Quick question – I like to use flat files to build my site as do many people. If I build the template structure outside of EE is there a module somewhere that will import the files/folders into the database?
Tom J.	ok, I'll jet if it fills up Thanks :)
Deron S.	Don't know that answer Sean. I generally just build everything in the CP
Sean S.	it's pretty quiet in here – I jsut finished a new site – comments welcome (design is commercial template with modifications by me) http://cooperwrightreeds.com
Patrick C.	Deron– That's exactly the problem I was running into, especially when I tried to embed variables with the embed tag and it passes the actual tags.
	9:15 PM

Casey R.	Sean: There is a new module in the works that may do what you need. Its by http://twitter.com/designchuchi I actually have a beta copy to test but havent installed yet
Sean S.	Casey – thanks, now following on twitter. Required Category extension by them is staple for me. How did you get your hands on the beta?
Deron S.	Patrick – Yeah I assume it's some sort of parsing order problem but I'm not well versed in that area. My whole problem started when I wanted to display entries by "designer" on a "logo" single entry page. With no designer name in the URL, had to pipe it in via the embeds, and that's where I'm at now. lol
Patrick C.	Deron– And I'd like to avoid opening these templates to php and pass variables that way, which seems like the easy way out.
Casey R.	Sean: Send him a DM or message to see if he will let you test. I dont know how many people he was letting. Just installed and it lets you sync all template files to DB, or vice-versa and sync DB to files
	9:20 PM
Deron S.	Patrick – Well, for me, since I know zero PHP, not sure that's the "easy" way out. haha.
Casey R.	Deron: What does your embed look like?
Deron S.	That template manager module sounds cool! Might start saving templates as files then.
	View paste
	Casey: this is the embed code:
	View paste (5 more lines)
	<pre> {exp:weblog:entries weblog="designer" url_title="{embed: reverse_related_entries weblog="gallery" limit="8"} {if '{entry_date format="%U"}' <= '{current_time for {if count == 1 AND count != total_results} {embed="gallery/.embed_designerName"} <ul id="detailsDesignerGallery"> {/if} {if url_title != "{segment_3}"} <a href="{url_title_path=" title="{title </pre>

{/if}

...



Sean S.	Casey - I'll send a message via contact page on the web site - thanks for the poitner
Patrick C.	Deron- If you dig around with some of the cp.*/mod.* files long enough you can pick it up.
Deron S.	Also here: http://expressionengine.com/forums/viewthr...
	Casey, that embed works like I want, it just shows future dated entries in the reverse_related_entries tags. I just am trying to hide future dated entries in that embed
Tom J.	have to step away, Thanks for hosting the chat!
Casey R.	Deron: and the {if '{entry_date format="%U"}' <= '{current_time format="%U"}'} didnt work?
Ryan I.	Take it easy, Tom. Thanks for stopping in.
	9:25 PM
Deron S.	Casey: No, doesn't work. I assume because of embedding code like I am.
Sean S.	In case you missed it dEEploy Helper http://www.hopstudios.com/software/deeploy_helper/ is a really great module for development and especially when moving servers.
Casey R.	Deron: Whats in this embed: {embed="gallery/.embed_designerName"}
Deron S.	View paste
	Casey: Just the designer's name. Wouldn't work without t <h2>More Designs From {related_entries id="gallery_desig {/exp:weblog:entries}
Casey R.	Deron: Why are there Future Dated Entries?
Patrick C.	Deron- By future dated entries, do you mean entries posted after the current entry OR the entry date is in the future?
	9:30 PM
Tom J.	has entered the room

Deron S.	Casey: Entries which I've set the entry_date to post in the future. I'd just like to be able to upload like twenty entries at a time, set the entry_date to do the work for me and forget about it. I can't do that right now because future dated entries show on this page right now but when you click on them, they spit out a 404 page because the entry isn't live yet
Victor G.	has entered the room
Ryan I.	Hi Victor.
Casey R.	Deron: Gotcha
Timo K.	quick question: i built this static site, and would like to convert it into a EE powered site: http://dkuhn.com one problem, i had to add a custom width to every page to maintain the horizontal scrolling. for example, http://dkuhn.com/01/ is 9280px wide, and http://dkuhn.com/02/ is 6080px wide... do you guys think there is a way of doing this in EE? (like adding all the width of the pictures + space in between)...?
Deron S.	Patrick: Yeah, entry date is in the future.
Sean S.	I'm outta here.
Ryan I.	Hey Anton. I didn't see you come in. How's it going?
Sean S.	see you guys next week.
Ryan I.	Take it easy, Sean.
Sean S.	has left the room
Victor G.	Ola
5pieces	has entered the room
Victor G.	First time here...
Deron S.	Timo: If I understand what you're asking yes. EE allows you to easily manage your HTML/CSS just like you would on a "static" site, but with dynamic functionality
Ryan I.	Timo, you can do that in the CSS. It shouldn't matter to EE.
	As Deron said.
Victor G.	i see Leevi is here! Dude!
Leevi G.	hey victor
	whats up
	I'm just observing :D
Timo K.	but could i "calculate" the custom width dynamic? so that i don't have to change it manually, when ever i add a new picture?

Victor G.	Trying to find Entry Gallery "bugs" which i can never recreate :)
Deron S.	Timo: yeah I suppose you could create a "custom field" in which you were enter the width each time you update.
Patrick C.	Timo- on each page, would the images all be the same width?
Leevi G.	Victor Gutierrez: I'm knee deep in code as well :(
Timo K.	no, they're all different...
Tom J.	Timo, i've never tried to make a horizontally scrolling site, is there a css property to do auto horizontal scrolling, or perhaps javascript?
	9:35 PM
Casey R.	Timo: Why does the width need to be hardcoded?
Timo K.	there is a "don't wrap" function... but it doesn't work properly cross-browser...
	(the "don't wrap" functions is in css)
Tom J.	has left the room
Timo K.	that's why i need to enter the width of every page manually... (or at least, that was the only way i got it to work across all major browsers)
Victor G.	We Love IE~!
Patrick C.	OK, I have a quick question: I'm getting ready to write my first add-on and was wonder if you have any advice for building one for the first time?
Victor G.	which type? extension/plugin/module
Patrick C.	Most likely extension.
Leevi G.	Patrick Clarke: what is it going to do>
	?
Victor G.	Extension: Keep it clean, Keep It fast (especially fast), And Keep it Simple. Or i won't use it :P
Patrick C.	I'd like to add different, perhaps external (outside EE), content to the CP Home page.
Victor G.	Regex time then..
	9:40 PM
Leevi G.	avoid the display class

Victor G.	avoid sessions_start
	since that will run on every page hit. (even front-end)
Patrick C.	Those are some good ones. Thanks!!
Leevi G.	buy you can check the page request type?
	on session_start
	isn't there a cp homepage hook?
Victor G.	yap
Leevi G.	http://expressionengine.com/developers/ext...
	maybe even show_full_control_panel_end
Victor G.	but sometimes you need to do exotic things, and sessions_start comes to mind... Dont!
Patrick C.	OK, great! I've been looking for a hook and hadn't found it yet.
Timo K.	i guess i'm gonna go with a "custom field" and "manual calculating"... maybe i'll figure out a javascript way to do that...
Leevi G.	sessions_end ?
	lol
Patrick C.	Victor- Don't worry, I trying to avoid that at all cost.
5pieces	has left the room
Ryan I.	Leevi: "avoid the display class" haha
Patrick C.	Thanks guys!!!
	I have to head out to my hockey game, but I hope to let you all know how the process is going next week! Thanks again.
Ryan I.	Good luck, Patrick.
Patrick C.	Ryan- Enjoy the rest of the UNC game tonight.
	9:45 PM
Ryan I.	thanks!
Hyun L.	has entered the room
Victor G.	So what features are missing in EE? Maybe if i find it fun ill make it ..
Casey R.	View paste
 Timo: With jquery you could find the width of all images

```
$("#id_of_div img").each(function() {  
    TotalWidth = TotalWidth + $(this).width();  
});
```



Timo K.	does anybody know they're way around with the "file" http://docs.markhuot.com/ee/extensions/file (am I allowed to ask questions about 3rd party stuff)
Leevi G.	Sweet – just about to check in a cool new feature on NSM Publish Plus – Edit notes for drafts.. Create a new draft you'll be prompted to add a note that will be associated with it! http://www.quicksnapper.com/leevigraham/fu...
Timo K.	woah... casey, thanks...!
Casey R.	Timo: would need to modify based on your div class name. or add a class to your images and target it
Victor G.	Timo the file extension is really buggy Try not to use it
Casey R.	Victor: What so you use as an alternative?
Victor G.	Depends what you need
Timo K.	casey: thank you. so, that would basically be independent from ee, right?
Victor G.	Timo: yes.. it's javascript
Anton P.	has left the room
Timo K.	victor: yeah, alternatives? (for multiple image uploads)
Victor G.	Entry Gallery?
Casey R.	Timo: yes you'd then need to use the value of the width returned maybe as an inline style on your #content div Timo: or using jquery again set the #content div to the value of the width you get
Timo K.	yes, i think i understand. (at least in the concept)
	9:50 PM
Victor G.	Timo: http://www.trulyee.com/addons/entry_gallery/
Timo K.	i'll try to figure out the details on my own time... :)
Tom J.	My question, I am trying to write an extension to creating a comment wall on user profile pages. I think the best way to do this

	is to use the member register hook and make it publish a single weblog entry for the user when they join the site, and then embed this on their profile pages. However, I'm currently doing this using some SQL inserts but didn't know if there was an EE way of doing it, like a function I could access?
Timo K.	victor: thanks! have you used that? do you happen to know if i can add a custom "title" entry to the images...? (used by another javascript i'm using to add captions)
Deron S.	has left the room
Victor G.	Timo: I made that, and yes you can add Title's and Description
	Tom J.. A comment wall is what?
Tom J.	Im using solspaces user module to create front end user profile pages. So like on facebook or myspace, you go to someones profile page and you can leave a comment
Timo K.	oh, sorry bout that... didn't realize... (embarrassed) :)
	9:55 PM
Victor G.	You could create a module that accepts comments..
	and stores them
	and displays them with a EE tag
joann	has entered the room
Victor G.	Which is a much "cleaner" was of doing what you want..
Tom J.	I thought about that, but unfortunately I think that is a bit beyond my understanding of PHP and EE sourcecode.
Victor G.	What you want to do is even more complicated.
Timo K.	one last question, victor: can i an image twice (once big, and once in a list of thumbnals)?
	(because that was the problem i had with the "file" extension)
Patrick C.	has left the room
Hyun L.	has left the room
Victor G.	Features: Automatically create thumbnails and resized images (Small, Medium, Large)
Casey R.	Timo: with the file extension you could upload one larger file and then use the imgsizer plugin to shrink it down for your thumbnails
	Timo: Victors module is great though and would handle all that for you

Victor G.	I personally never got that file extension to work :/
Timo K.	yes, looks like it does everything i need...
	10:00 PM
Tom J.	Victor: I would be surprised if it's more complicated, since all the commenting would be handled by EEs native weblogs. All i want to do is to publish an entry when a user registers (under their user id). Then use the normal weblog entires tag on their profile page to display the comments and comment form...
	A module would be cleaner though
Victor G.	Casey: Imsizer needs a lot of memory if you want to resize 4mb+ images. (You probally would never do it, but i got stumpled by it once)
Casey R.	Victor: great point
	Anyone have suggestions for dealing with large file uploads for clients (60MB+). Video in most cases
	thinking just giving them FTP access and then having them include the file name inside the EE CP
Victor G.	FTP..
	HTTP can never do it
Ryan I.	heh, yeah FTP :)
Victor G.	unless you use flash
	and even that tends to break
Casey R.	a flash uploaded?
Timo K.	i sort of used the method described here...: http://www.darrenhoyt.com/2008/10/22/creat...
Ryan I.	you could do it with HTTP, but it can be painful
Victor G.	a flash uploader (which actually still "Posts" to a php file, so your PHP limit would also need to raised)
Ryan I.	make sure PHP is set up to allow large uploads
Casey R.	is there a php function for ftp_connect or something. so you can pass things via FTP instead of HTTP..>
Victor G.	no, HTTP can only "POST" aka SEND to HTTP
Timo K.	there they use the "TimThumb" function for resizing... any opinions about that?

Victor G.	Never used it, can't comment about it
Timo K.	well, thank you very much for all your help!
Casey R.	thinking FTP will be the way to go. For some reason they are resisting just using a hosted video service Vimeo Plus would be perfect. Clients :)
joann	has left the room
Victor G.	I think Entry Gallery does everything you need, give it a shot.
	10:05 PM
Timo K.	i will definitely do that. thanks.
Ryan I.	Going to shut it down in a few. Thanks to everyone for coming out to gEEk out. ;)
Casey R.	Thanks Ryan. See you all next time
Ryan I.	Don't forget there's a 24/7 chatroom: http://eescreencasts.com/ee-chat
Timo K.	thanks ryan for doing this.
Casey R.	has left the room
Ryan I.	Glad to do it!
Leevi G.	has left the room
Timo K.	has left the room
Tom J.	has left the room
Victor G.	has left the room
Timo K.	has left the room
Ryan I.	turned off guest access
	10:20 PM
Ryan I.	has left the room