



TEMPLATE CREATOR^{CK}

Template Creator CK Documentation

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<http://www.joomla.fr>
<http://www.template-creator.com>

Thanks

I want to thank everyone who helped and supported me in this project.

Thank you all !

Cédric KEIFLIN

My websites

<http://www.joomlack.fr>

Portail Joomlack with demos and download of extensions that I have developed for Joomla!

<http://tutoriels-joomla.joomlack.fr>

Site dedicated to tutorials (in french) for Joomla! with some documentaiton about how to make your own Joomla template

<http://www.template-creator.com>

Component Joomla that allows you to create your own template

<http://www.themes-ck.com>

Website that list many templates that have been created with Template Creator CK. You can download them and use them for your projects.

<http://www.wp-pluginsck.com>

Website dedicated to my Wordpress extensions.

Release notes

This documentation is written for the version 3 of Template Creator.

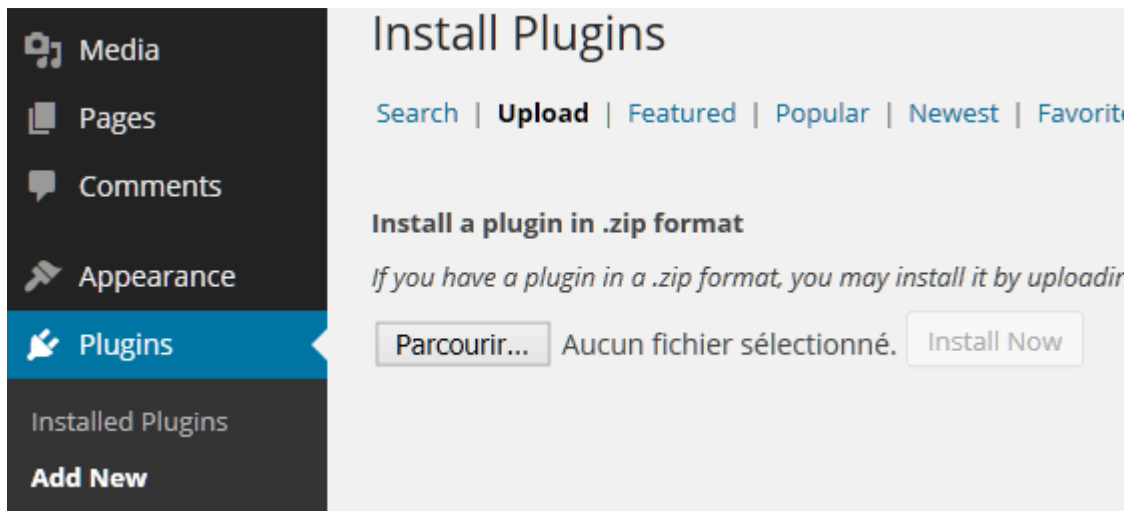
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I. Installation in Wordpress

A. In the interface

Go in the **admin >> Plugins >> Add new >>** and select the file to upload



Then click on the Install Now button. If your system does not allow more than 2Mo to be uploaded (typically on a localhost), then you can use the manual method.

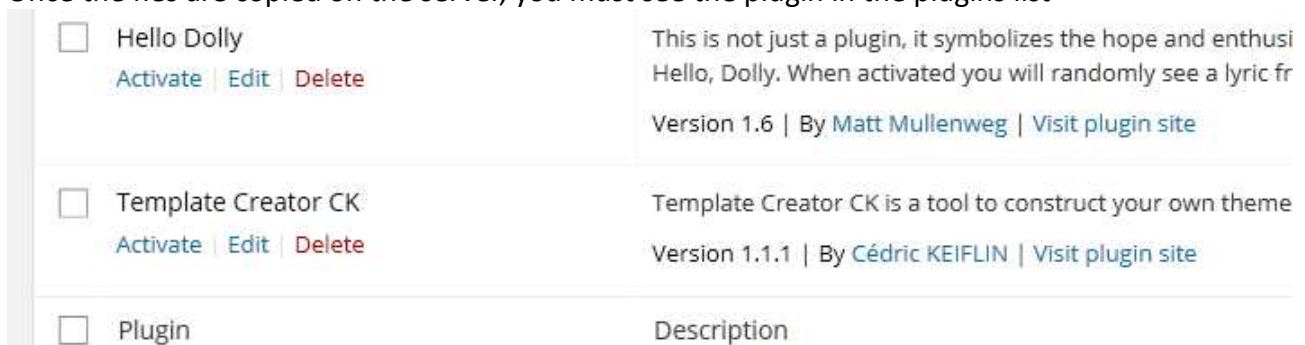
B. Manual method

Unzip the file `template-creator-ck.zip` that you have downloaded. Copy all the files that are in the folder to the folder on your website (you must create the folder name):

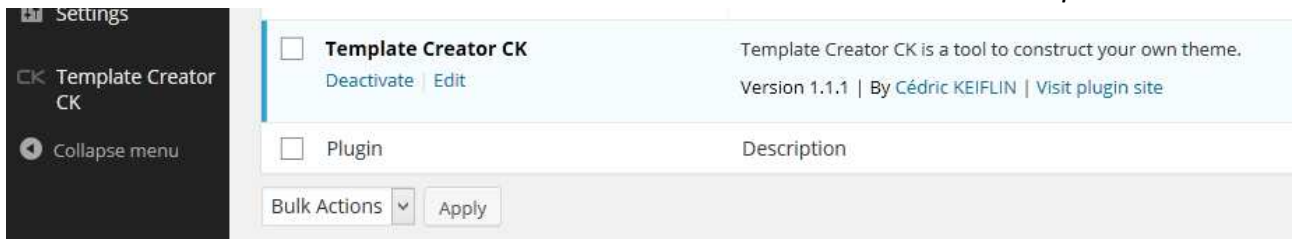
[ROOT]/wp-content/plugins/template-creator-ck

C. Activation

Once the files are copied on the server, you must see the plugin in the plugins list



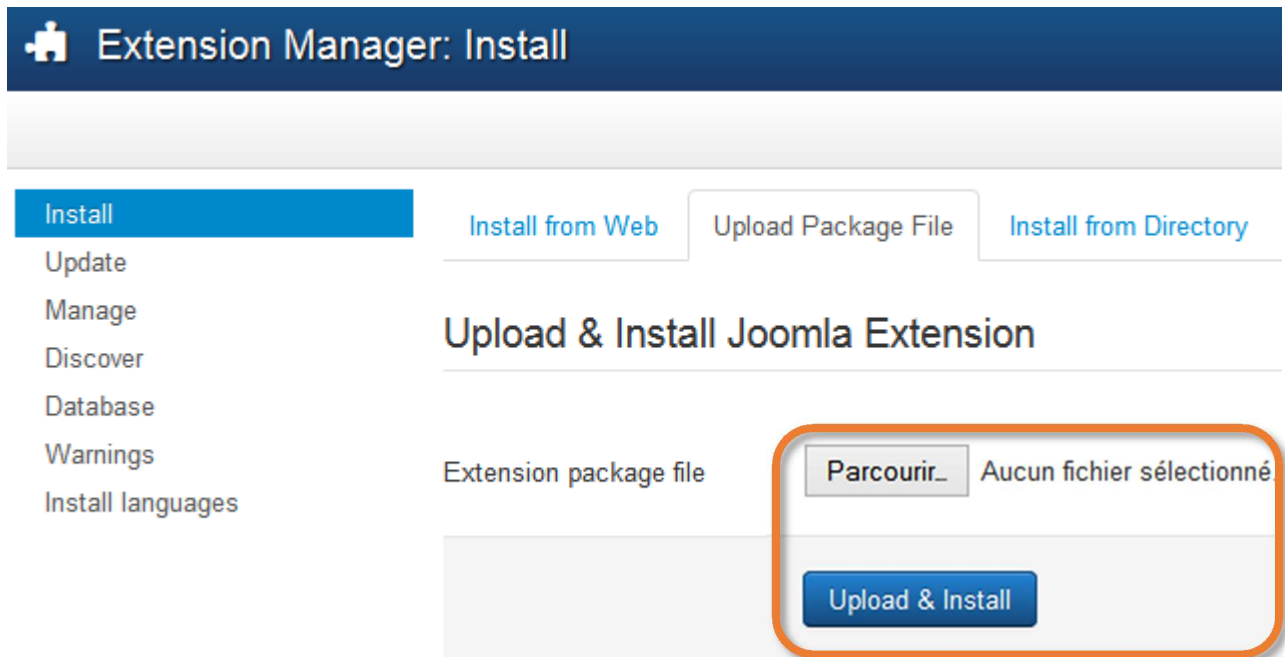
Click on the **Activate** button. Once this is done, you must see the Template Creator CK admin menu to go to the interface and start your theme



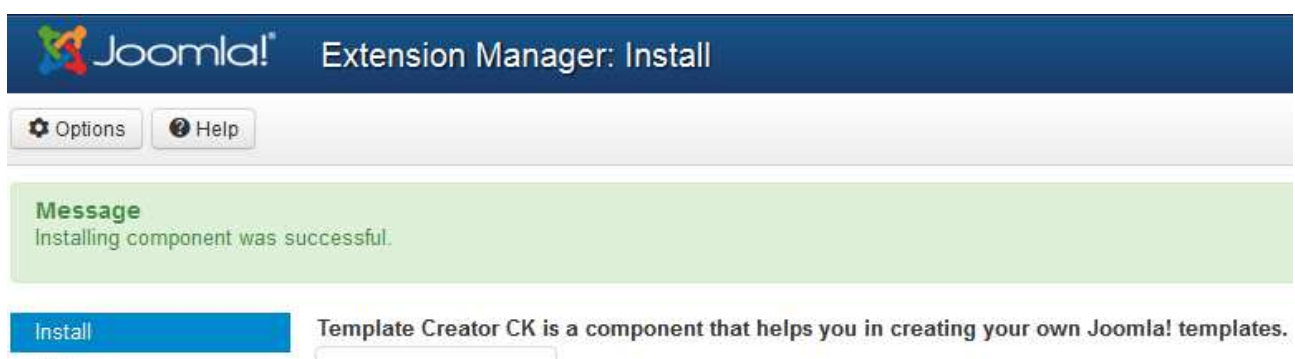
II. Installation in Joomla!

Template Creator can be installed into Joomla! 2.5 or Joomla! 3.x

First download the ZIP file that contains the component Template Creator. Go into your website administration in the **menu >> Extensions >> Extension manager >> Install**.



Click on the button to search for the archive that you just downloaded. Then click on **Upload & Install**. Joomla displays the success message.



Now the component is installed and ready to be used. You can find it in the **menu >> Components >> Template Creator CK**.

The Template Creator CK installation will install a PACKAGE (which is a specific extension type) which contains the component and the system template called "templatecreatorck"

So if you want to uninstall it you must uninstall the whole package.

III. Overview in Wordpress

When you are in the Template Creator admin page, you can see the themes list.



1/ Toolbar

You can find here all actions to perform in the component, to create a new theme, edit

Export a gabarit : What is a gabarit ? it is a file that contains all the theme informations so that you can save it into a format that you can import into Template Creator. Export the gabarit and you will generate a file .TCK3Z.

This is very useful to share or save the theme.

Note that you can import and export your .tck3z file between Joomla! and Wordpress websites

Import a gabarit : Import the TCK3Z file so that you can retrieve the theme structure with all modules and styles, also the images and the custom css.

2/ Left menu

Here you can go to each page :

All themes : The list of all your themes to manage

KEIFLIN Cédric

<http://www.template-creator.com>

All fonts : you can add some Google Font or FontSquirrel here, so that you can select them directly into your theme edition interface

About : it gives you the information about the software version and the release notes

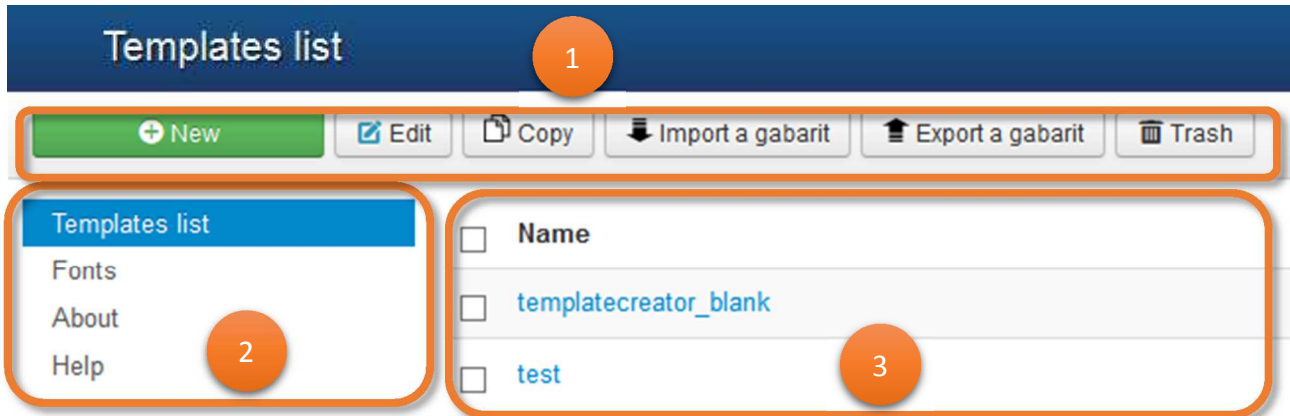
Help : it shows some videos to help you in managing some tasks, like editing the custom.css file

3/ Themes list

You can see all your themes creation here. Click on the one you want to enter in the edition mode.

IV. Overview in Joomla!

When you are in the Template Creator admin page, you can see the templates list.



1/ Toolbar

You can find here all actions to perform in the component, to create a new template, edit it (edit the informations like the name, date, author ..).

Export a gabarit : What is a gabarit ? it is a file that contains all the template informations so that you can save it into a format that you can import into Template Creator. Export the gabarit and you will generate a file .TCK3Z.

This is very useful to share or save the template.

Import a gabarit : Import the TCK3Z file so that you can retrieve the template structure with all modules and styles, also the images and the custom css.

2/ Left menu

Here you can go to each page :

Templates list : The list of all your templates to manage

Fonts : you can add some Google Font or Fontsqirrel here, so that you can select them directly into your template edition interface

About : it gives you the information about the software version and the release notes

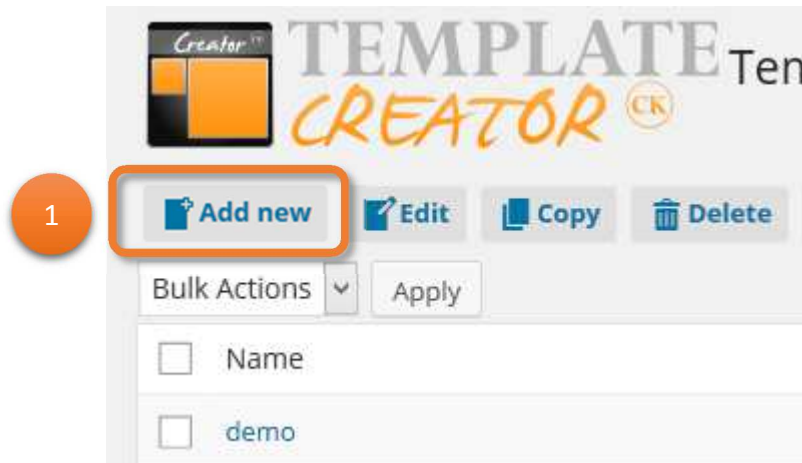
Help : it shows some videos to help you in managing some tasks, like editing the custom.css file

3/ Templates list

You can see all your templates creation here. Click on the one you want to enter in the edition mode.

V. Creating a new theme in Wordpress

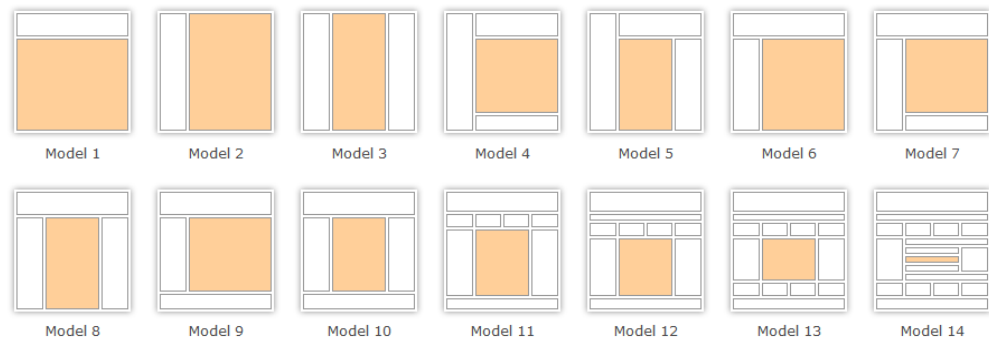
Click on the **New** button.



You will arrive on the page where you can choose a layout to start your theme with a structure that is like you want :

LAYOUTS

Choose a layout that suit the best your needs. Then you can modify it and style it like you want by playing with the CSS styles



Click on one of the 14 models to start the theme. Now you can style it.

Note that these models are made to save your time and make it easier for you to create the theme. You can add, remove, or move a module block in any layout after the selection.

Then you come directly into the edition interface.

Give the name of the theme (required) and fill the informations you want to store into the theme. Then **Save**.

The screenshot shows the 'Template Creator CK' interface. At the top, there is a dark navigation bar with the logo on the left and several menu items: 'Informations' (highlighted with an orange box), 'Parameters', 'Responsive design', 'Actions', and 'Widgets'. Below the navigation bar, there is a light gray bar with the text 'Add a block'. The main content area is titled 'Theme informations' and contains a form with the following fields:

Name of the theme :	demo
Creation date :	
Author name :	
Author email :	
Author url :	
Copyright :	
License :	
Version :	
Description :	

The theme name must be simple without space, uppercase or special character :

foobar >> OK

FooBar >> BAD

foo bar >> BAD

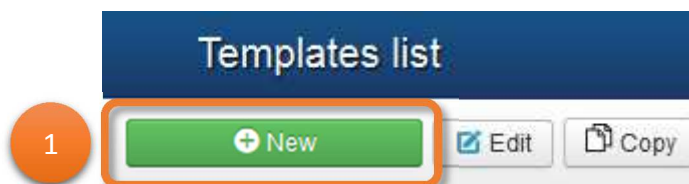
foobariscool >> BAD

After save and close, you will see your theme name in the list. Click on it and you will enter in the edition area to create it.

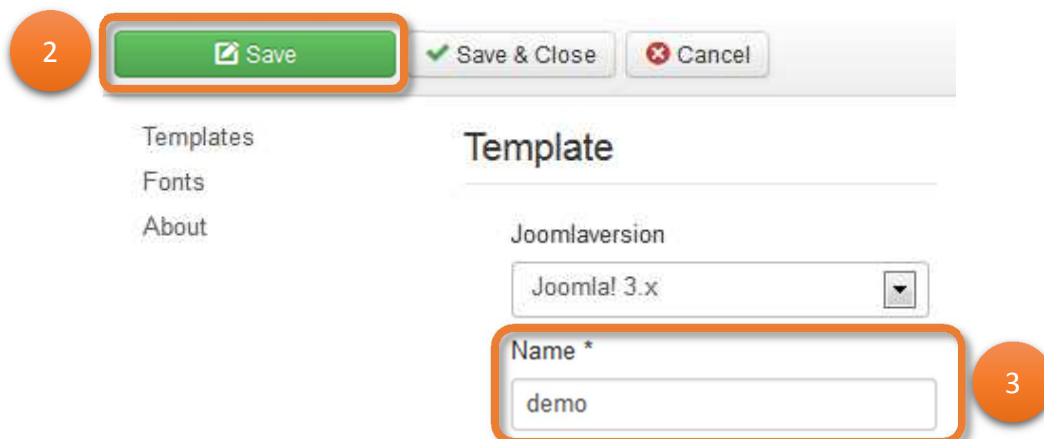
Now you have a blank template where you can move, add or remove blocks, but also style them.

VI. Creating a new template in Joomla!

Click on the **New** button.



Give the name of the template (required) and fill the information you want to store into the XML file. Then **Save**.



The template name must be simple without space, uppercase or special character :

foobar >> OK

Foobar >> BAD

foo bar >> BAD

foobar-is-cool >> OK

After saving and close, you will see your template name in the list. Click on it and you will enter in the edition area to create it.

You will arrive on the page where you can choose a layout to start your template with a structure that is like you want :

LAYOUTS

Choose a layout that suit the best your needs. Then you can modify it and style it like you want by playing with the CSS styles



Click on one of the 14 models to start the template. Now you can style it.

Note that these models are made to save your time and make it easier for you to create the template. You can add, remove, or move a module block in any layout after the selection.

Now you have a blank template where you can move, add or remove blocks, but also style them.

VII.Adding a block

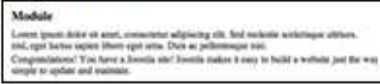
You can add a block in any layout. Here are the different blocks :

Drag and drop the block that you want to add into your template

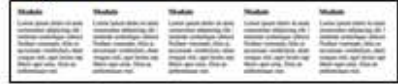
Wrapper



Single module



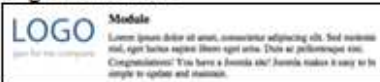
Aligned modules



Horizontal menu



Logo and module



Custom block



Wrapper

this is a main container that can make separations into your page to give multiple page background for example

Single module

this is a block that will contain only one module

Aligned modules

this block contains from 2 to 5 modules. You can choose how many modules you want by clicking on the “layout” icon in the control bar (you must hover the block to see the control bar)

Horizontal menu

this is a specific block where you can publish a menu module. The CSS will be generated to make a dropdown menu that you can style in the Template Creator interface

Logo and module

This is is like a banner block, it will show your logo (that you can define into template creator and also in the template options once installed into the website) and a module and a menu.

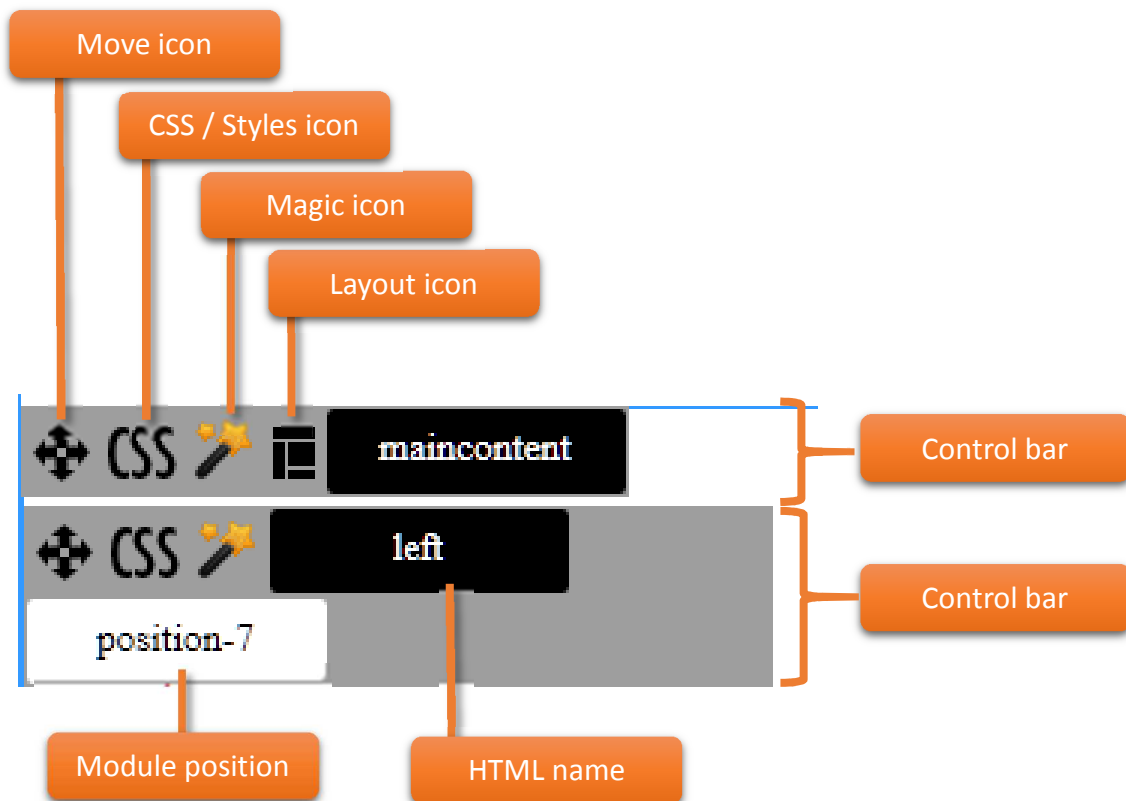
You can choose if you want to show the module and menu block inside this block by clicking on the “layout” icon in the control bar

Custom block

this is a specifi block type. It has nothing in it, but you can write any code you want. For example some PHP, HTML or else, if you want to add something special into your template.

Take the block you want and drag it into the template, where you want it to take place. Then you can move any block in the same way by using the “move” icon in the control bar.

The new block will automatically receive a name and a module position. You can change them by clicking on each of them.



HTML Name of the block

This is the ID which will be used into the HTML code of your template. If you don't know what to do with it, just let the default value


Warning : don't put special character or spaces into the name. Just use simple words

Module position

This is the name that you will use in the Modules Manager to put your modules in the page.

Example of a module edition screen with the "position-7" :

Module Manager: Module Menu



Save

Save & Close

Save & New

Save as Copy

Close

Help

Title *
Menu principal

Module

Menu Assignment

Module Permissions

Advanced

Menu

Site

This module displays a menu on the frontend.

Select Menu

Menu Principal

Base Item

Current

Show Title

Show

Hide

Position

position-7

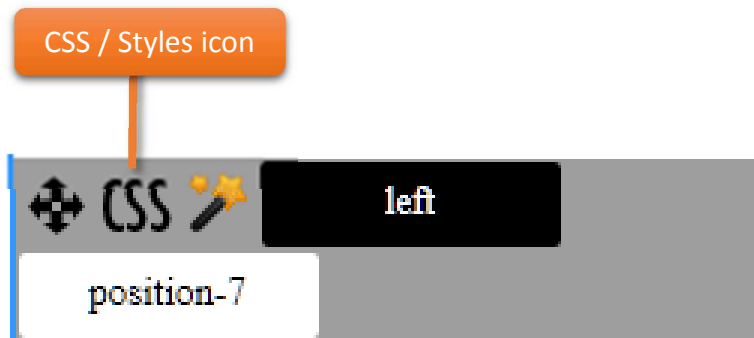
x

Status

Published

VIII. Adding the styles

You can set the styles like the background, the color, text, on each block.
Click on the CSS button in the control bar :



The new window appears and you can set the values you want. Then click on the Save button and the styles will be applied directly in the Template Creator interface.

In each field you can set your own unit by adding it to the value. By default the unit is the px (pixel).

50 → means 50px

50px → unit in px (idem as above)

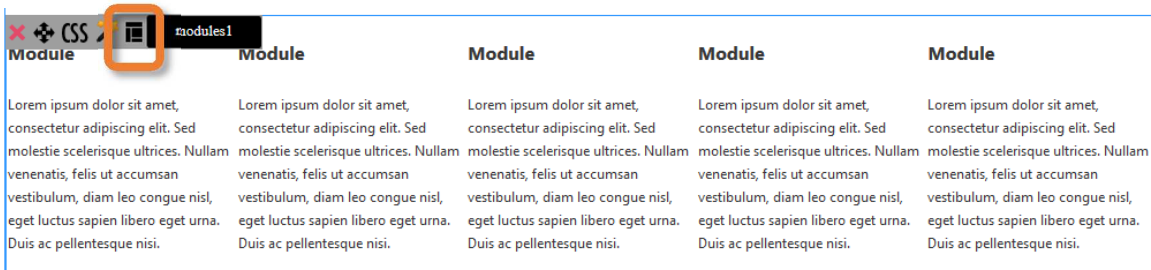
50em → unit forced in em

50% → unit forced in %

The styles are applied into the Template Creator interface with a real rendering. But the system needs some specific margins and borders to work, then to have the real preview of the template you need to click on the Preview button in the top menu.

IX. Managing the aligned modules width

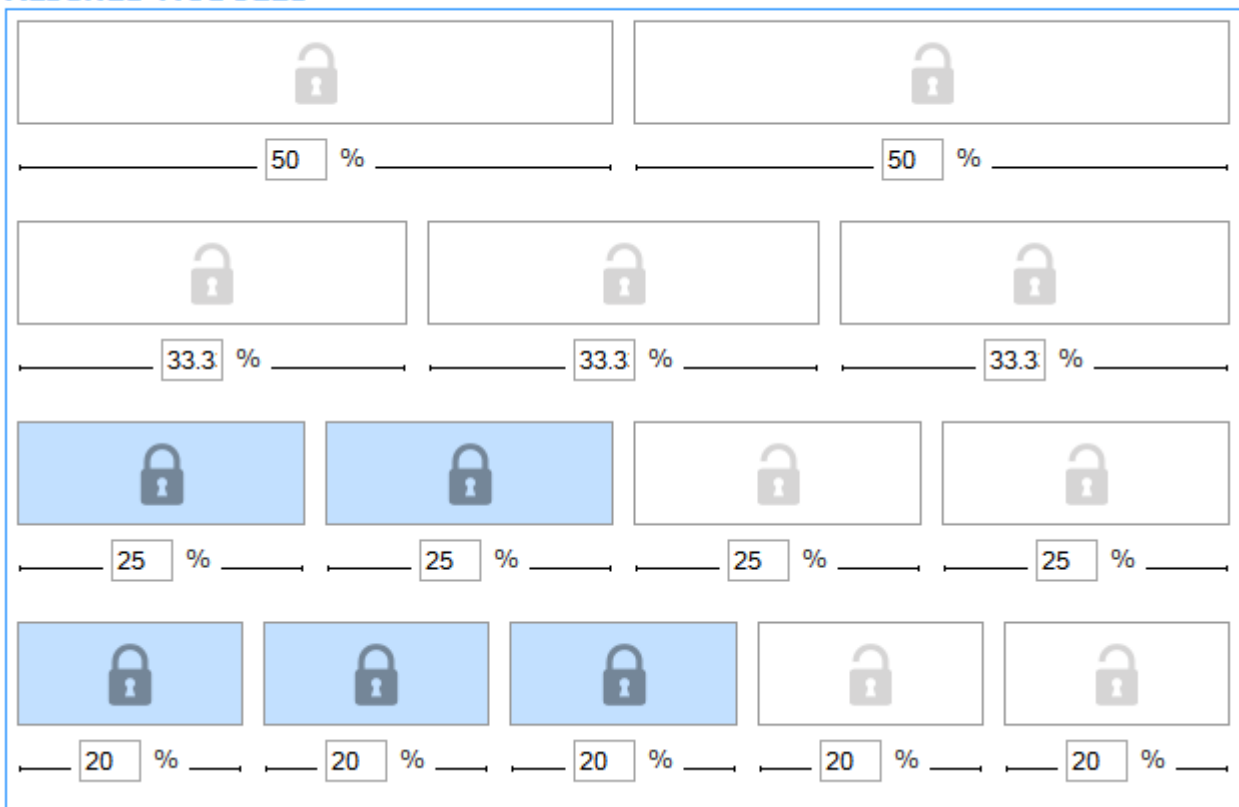
When you add a row of modules, you can choose to give a specific width for each of these modules. Hover over the container and click on the following icon :



This will open a popup that let you manage the arrangement of your modules.

Number of active modules : 2 3 4 5

ALIGNED MODULES



Here you can give the width you want for each module in %.

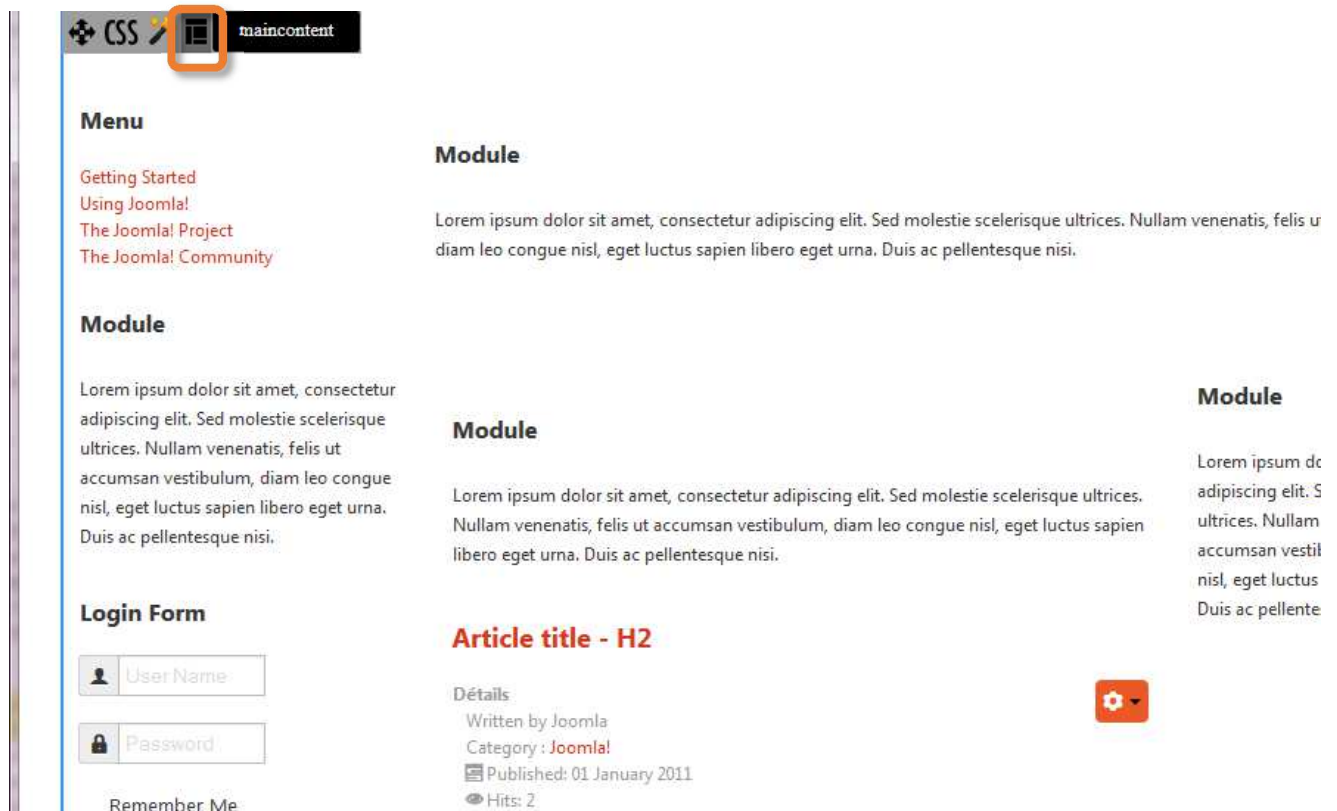
Note that you can do it for each situation depending on the number of modules that you want to include into your template. For example, you can decide to have a row of 5 available module, but on some specific pages of your website you only use 3 of the 5 modules. Then for the case of 3 modules in the row you can choose how they will adjust.

Click on each block to lock its value (it becomes blue with a locked icon). Then you can control exactly which value to give to each block.

X. Managing the columns

Into Template Creator there is one block that you can not delete, this is the “maincontent” block. This is because you must have a main content block to show your component (like article, contact, or else).

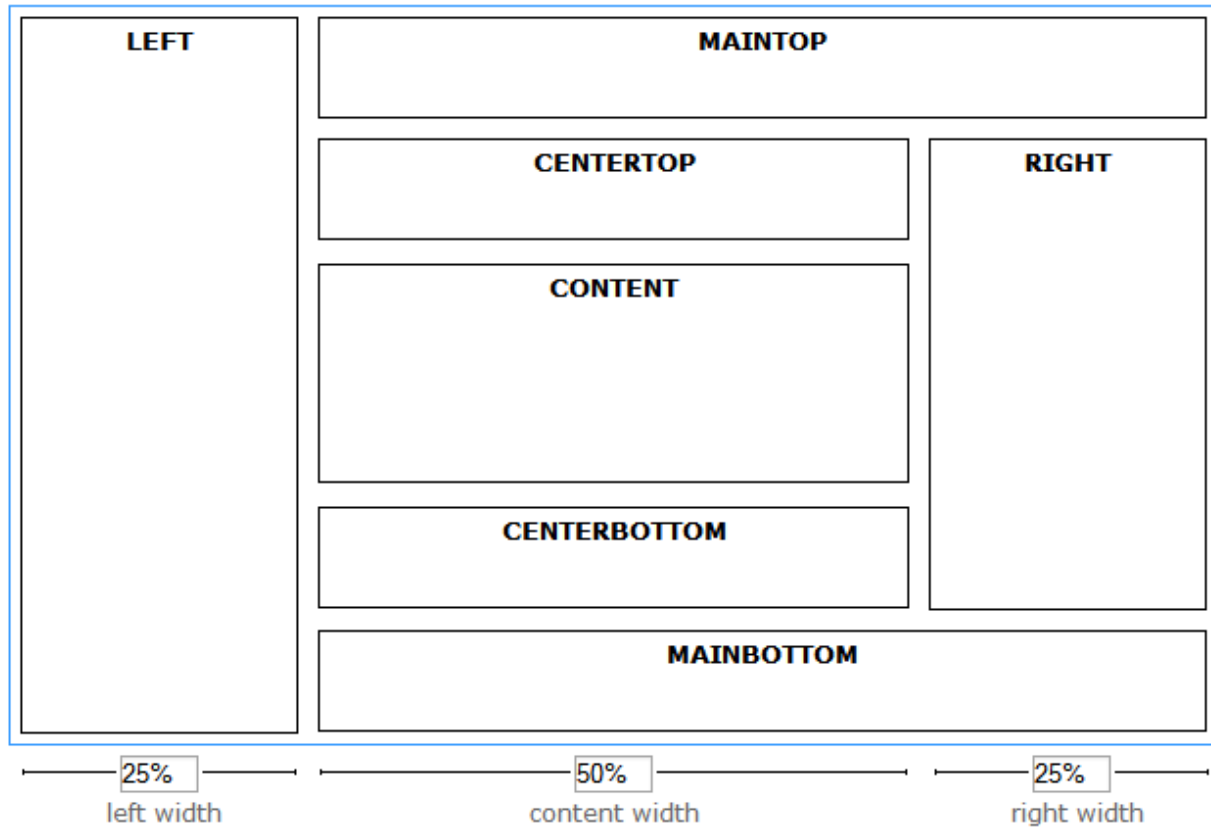
But you can manage into this block which block to show. You can then have no column at all on the sides, or have more module on top and bottom of the content. Click on the layout icon in the control bar to show the main block edition popup :



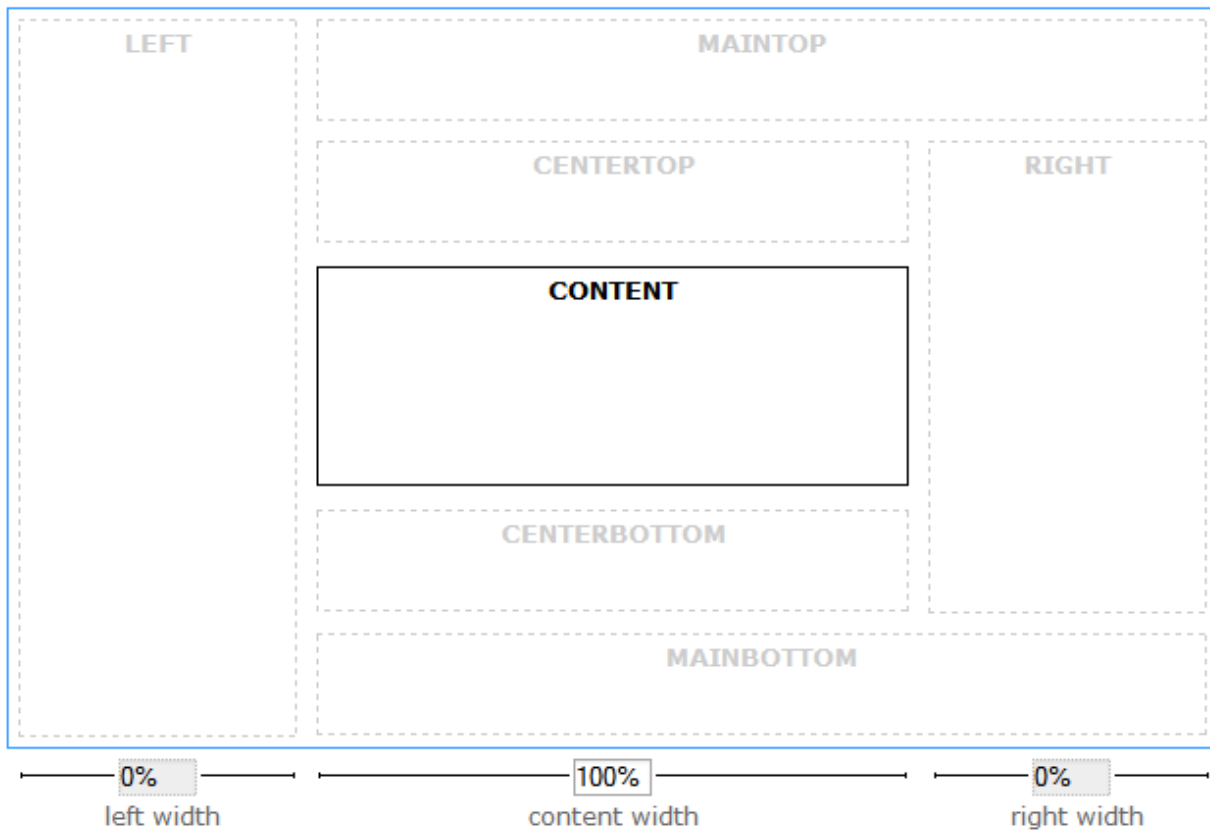
This will show you the popup where you can click on each block to select if you want to use it or not into your template.

All blocks activated :

MAINCONTENT



No block and no column activated :

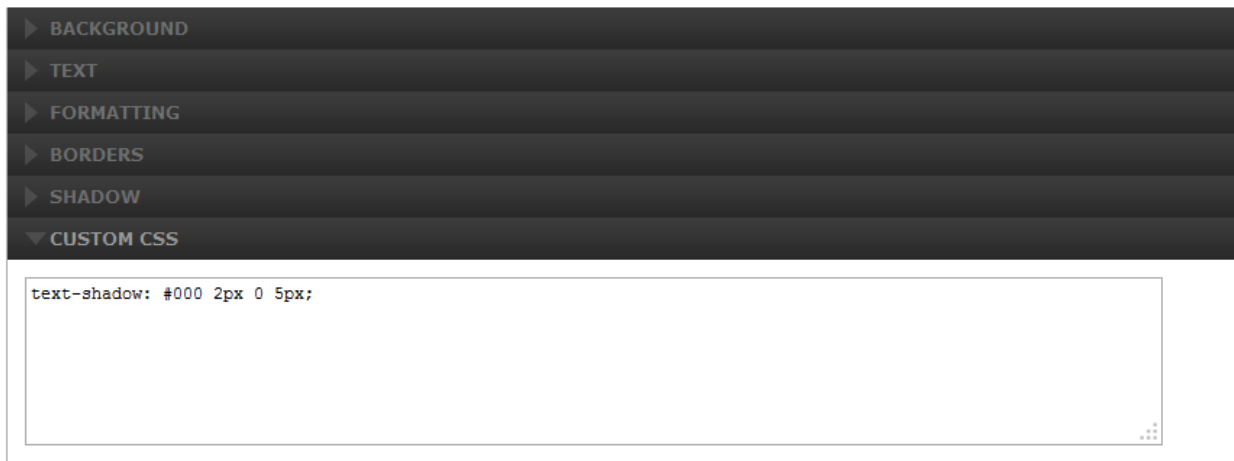
MAINCONTENT

You can use the bottom fields to set the width for the columns if you use them.

XI. Add some custom CSS

A. Directly in the interface

Here you can write all css styles that you want, they will be added to the selected element.



Example for a block that is called "left", the code is added between the brackets :

```
#left {
...code standard from template creator...
text-shadow : #000 2px 0 5px ;
}
```

In the same way you can add multiple styles on multiple elements by playing with the brackets. This is an advanced technique that allows you to put any CSS code.



Example of the rendered CSS with the block "left" :


```
#left {
...code standard from template creator...
}
#left a {
text-shadow: #000 2px 0 5px;
}
```

You can see that the code is inserted inside #left {...}. Then to add another CSS identifier (#left a) **you must first close the bracket** from #left and then add your code. **Don't close the last bracket** because it will automatically be added by Template Creator.

To avoid problems it is better to put your specific css (that will not apply directly on the element) in the custom css area (see after).

NEVER ADD A POSITIONING CSS HERE like 'float', or 'position', this will break your interface ! Use the following technique in parameters to do that.

B. In a specific stylesheet

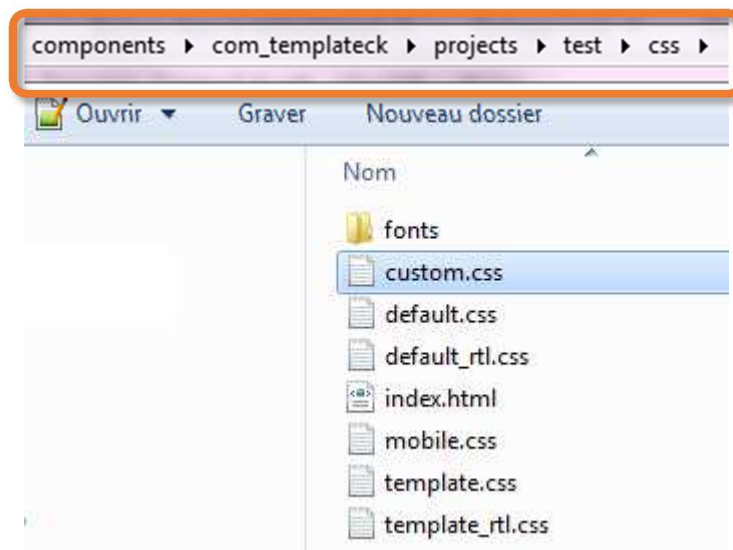
1. Using local file (or FTP)

You can create a file called "custom.css" and include it in the template. You can put in it any css you want and it will be included in the template during the preview, package, or copy steps.

You must create the file there

[joomla]/components/com_templateck/projects/[yourtemplate]/css/custom.css

Then you must click on the preview button, or the package button, or the copy button to recreate the template and this file will be included and called in the template.

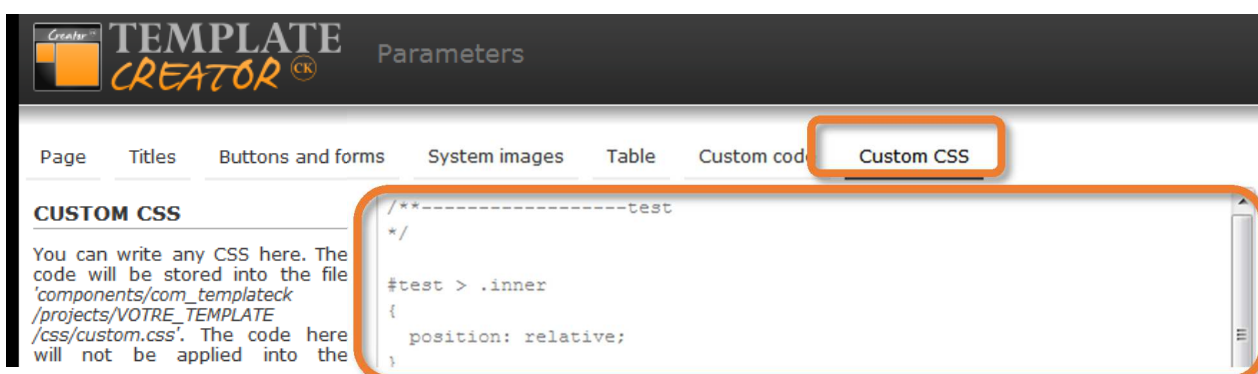
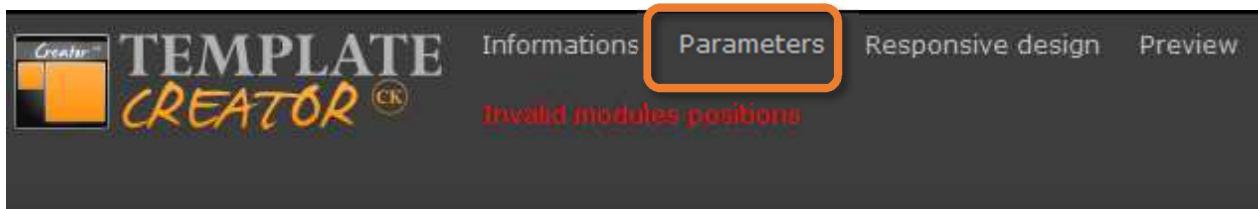


2. Using the interface

This method do the same as before, writing in the file

`[joomla]/components/com_templateck/projects/[yourtemplate]/css/custom.css`

But instead of editing the file you can just go in **Parameters >> Custom CSS** and Template Creator will write in this file for you.



XII. Add some custom code in <head>

The custom code file that you can edit is located in

`[joomla]/components/com_templateck/projects/[yourtemplate]/customheader.php`

Go in **Parameters >> Custom code** and Template Creator will write in this file for you. The code that you put here will be added just before the closing tag of the HEAD : `</head>`.

You can write any code, like a PHP code as in the example above :

```
1 <?php
2 echo 'test';
3 ?>
```

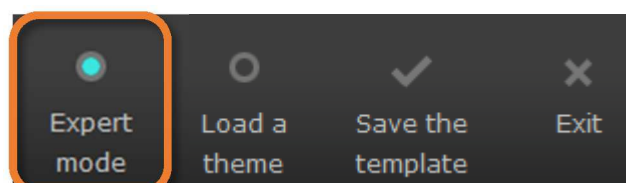
XIII. Add some custom javascript

The custom javascript file that you can edit is located in

`[joomla]/components/com_templateck/projects/[yourtemplate]/js/custom.js`

If this file does not exist, you must create it. It will be then used automatically by Template Creator CK and copied into the template folder.

XIV. Expert mode



You can activate the expert mode in the top menu and it will offer more options when you go to edit the CSS.

Here's a screenshot to show you what is each element :



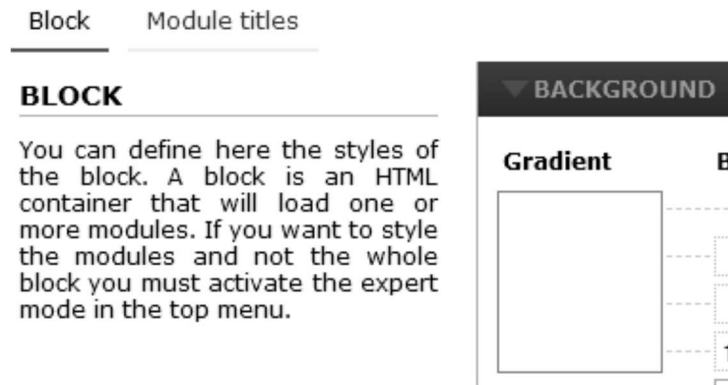
BLOCK : this is the whole column

MODULE : represents each module that is published in the column

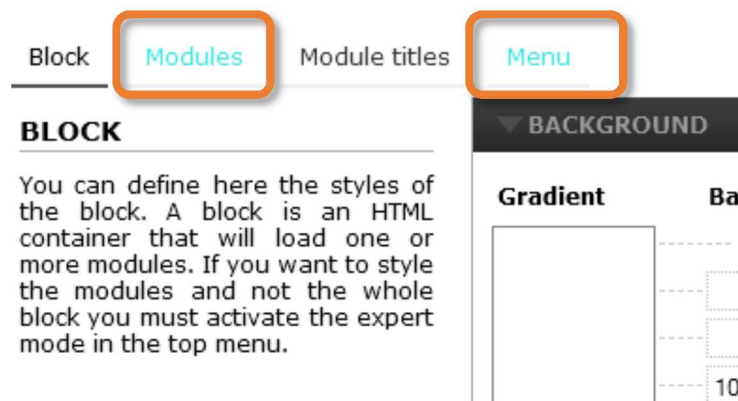
MODULE TITLE : the title of each module

1. Modules and Menu

By default when editing the CSS of a block you get the two tabs "block" and "module title".



This does not allow you to set the styles for the module, for example if you want to add a color to the modules and not the column itself. Click on the Expert mode and then two new tabs appear in the styles edition : Modules and Menu



Modules : allow you to set the styles for the modules in the block

Menu : here you can set the menu links, for example if you publish a menu module in the left column you can style it here.

2. Height and Width

FORMATTING

Outside margins (margin)

top ☐

right ☐

bottom ☐ 10

left ☐

Inside margins (padding)

☐

☐

☐

☐

Dimensions

Height

Width 450px

Diagram: A dashed rectangle represents the container. Inside it, a solid rectangle represents the content. The space between the container and content is labeled 'margin'. The space between the content and the container's border is labeled 'padding'. The overall width and height of the container are labeled 'WIDTH' and 'HEIGHT' respectively.

In Expert mode, each block you will have some new fields in a light blue color : height and width.

WARNING : don't use these fields unless you know exactly what you do. If you set a width and/or height your template will not be responsive anymore and you can get some layout issues. In most situations the module dimensions can be managed with margins and paddings.

3. Page background for each wrapper

Container **Page background**

MAIN CONTAINER

The main container is a block that contains all other blocks in the page. Mostly called the wrapper, this is the block that will take the template width (to be defined in the page parameters). You can define the container width but also the page background which is under the wrapper to create some

BACKGROUND

Gradient **Background**

10

Editing the CSS of a wrapper (container) in expert mode will give you new tab 'Page background'. This allows you to set the style for the full width of the page behind the selected wrapper. This is very useful for a multi-background designs.

B. Internet Explorer compatibility

How can I use all the CSS3 techniques in Template Creator for old versions of IE?

You need do nothing - the software do it automatically for you .It adds a script (CSSPIE) that emulates the functions for IE 7 + 8.

However, the script can cause some conflict that's why you will find an option in the template administration (after package and install on your website) to disable this compatibility for IE :

Use CSS PIE ☒ yes ☐ no

XV. Videos tutorials

You can find these video tutorials directly from the component in the "Help" tab.

- A. [Overview, create your template in 8 minutes](#)
- B. [Adding your own font](#)
- C. [Adding a custom CSS stylesheet](#)
- D. [How to set up the logo](#)
- E. [How to fix the collapsing margins issue](#)
- F. [Create a dropdown menu](#)

XVI. Edit the menu styles

For any block you can style its menu, for example in the horizontal menu or in the left and right columns. You must click on the button **Menu** in the styles manager.

To activate the Menu tab you must activate the Expert Mode, only the horizontal menu has it active by default

MENU

You can define here the styles for the menu..
 Level 1 contains all root items that are the main items of the menu.
 The submenu shows all links that are displayed under a root item if you use a multilevel menu structure (for dropdown menus for example).

BACKGROUND

Gradient

Background color(s)

0 % Color 1 % Opacity

% Color 2

% Color 3

100 % Color 4

Background i

scroll x

Select

Repeat

The popup contains :

Link : menu link that can have 3 states : normal, on hover, or active (for the current page)

Level 1 : first level elements that are always shown

Sublevel 1 : they are in a sublevel, they generally display when hovering the parent item for a dropdown horizontal menu

Sublevel 2 : for the block in the second sublevel

For each element you can style it as you want.

If you are using a horizontal menu block, then the CSS will offer you a css dropdown menu. Note that it will also give you the css that are compatible with the [Maximenu](#) module so that you can create your own megamenu (multicolumns, descriptions, module insertion...).

XVII. Invalid modules positions in Joomla!



This is not an error, just a message to inform you

In the top menu you may see an information message about the module positions. This tells you if you have added some positions in your template where you have no module published in it : in this case you will see nothing in this place in the preview!

You can click on this message to show the positions popup.

MODULES CHECKING

You can see here the module positions that are created into your template and that have no module published in it. To see the modules into your template you must publish some content in each module position.

> Click on the button at the bottom of the list to automatically publish some sample data in the missing positions

position-0 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-1 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-8 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-9 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-10 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-11 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-12 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-7 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-6 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-13 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-14 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-15 :Success : some modules are published in this position
position-16 :Warning : no module published in this position
position-17 :Warning : no module published in this position
position-3 :Success : some modules are published in this position

Auto publish sample data

You can see which positions are in cause, then you have two solutions:

1/ manually publish the module you want in this position

or

2/ let Template Creator do it for you with some sample data by clicking on the button **Auto publish sample data**.

Then the message becomes green.

Note that you must publish some module in each position that you create in your template else you won't see it in the template preview

XVIII. Import / export a gabarit

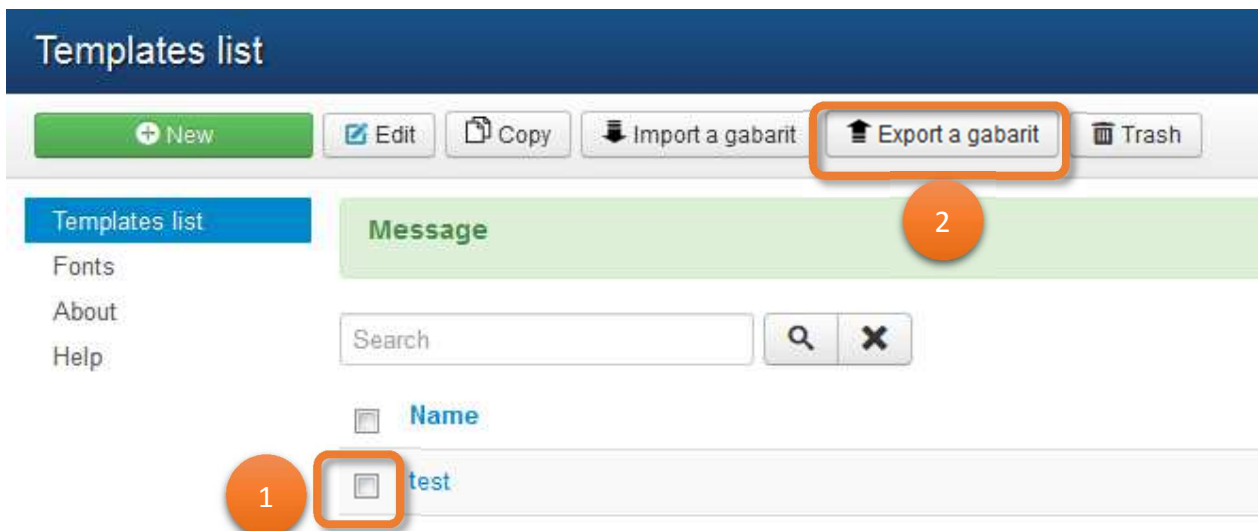
The first question you may ask is, what is a gabarit ?

Template / Theme : used by Joomla / Wordpress, a template/theme is a package of folders and files that you can install in any Joomla / Wordpress website (the archive created in the last step)

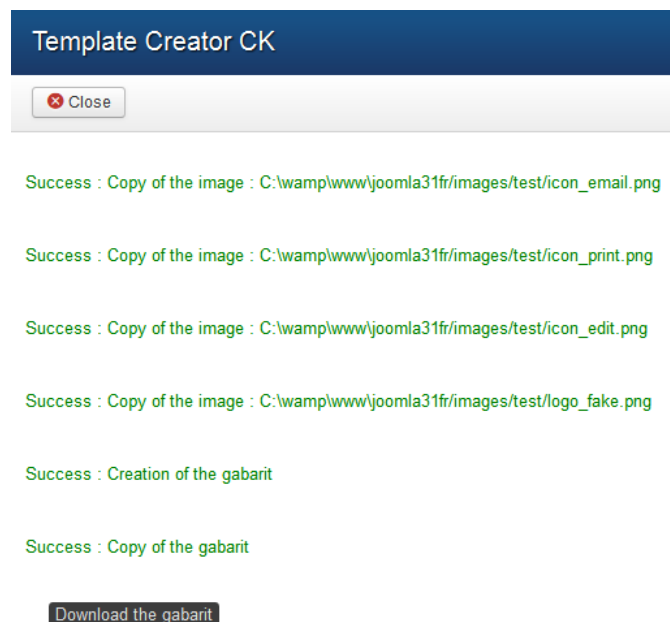
Gabarit : This is the version of a template that is understandable by Template Creator. You can not import a Joomla template / Wordpress theme into Template Creator. You must export the template / theme made with Template Creator as a gabarit in order to import it in another site where the software is installed.

A. Exporting a gabarit

On the main page of the component where you see the list of all templates you can see some icons on the top right of the page. One of them is used to export a gabarit.



To export a gabarit you must first select it in the list and then click on the icon above. Then you come to a page that lets you download it.



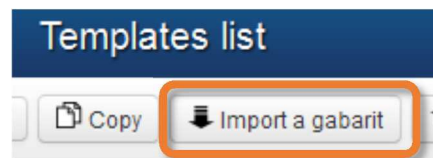
You can now store the file .tck3z where you want.

KEIFLIN Cédric

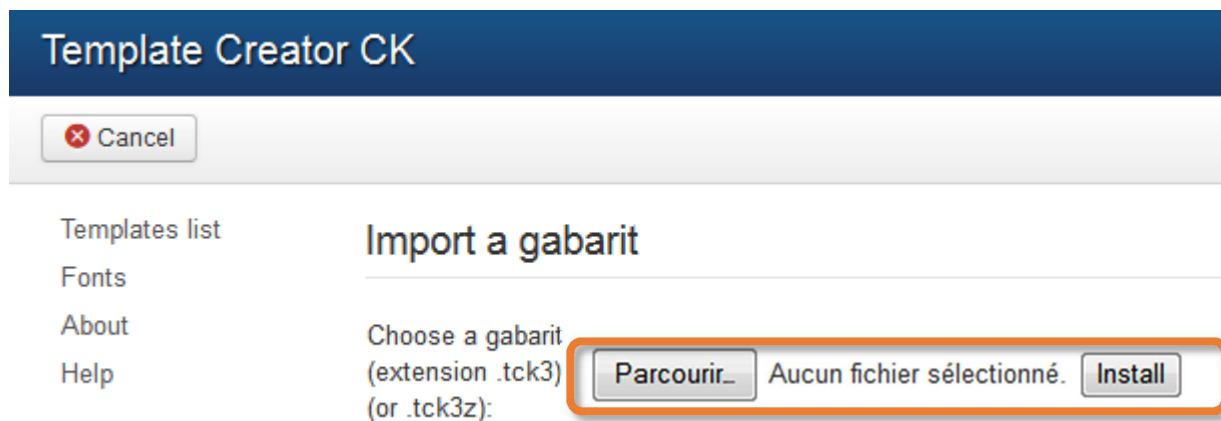
<http://www.template-creator.com>

B. Importing a gabarit

The import method allows you to reinstall a template made with Template Creator and previously exported. Click on the icon **Import a gabarit**



You come to a page asking you to search for the .tck3z file to import.

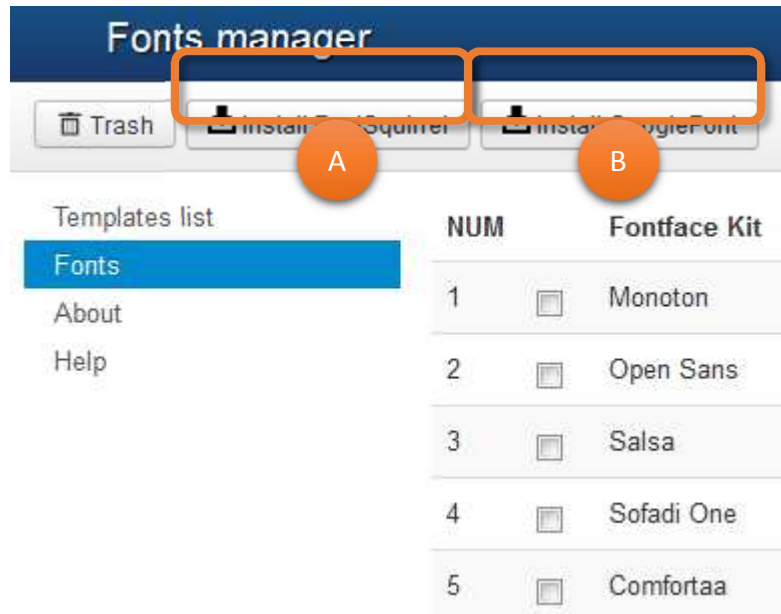


Select the file and click **Install**, the gabarit will be installed and is now shown in the list of templates in the main page of the component.

You can not import a gabarit from version 2 into version 3 of Template Creator

XIX. Fonts

The main page of the component also allows you to install fonts from FontSquirrel or Google Fonts.



A. Install a Fontsquirrel

Once in the installation page of the Fontsquirrel, you must select the ZIP file. This file must be a font KIT that you can generate for free on the fontsquirrel website. You can also watch the help video to see how to do:

<http://youtu.be/RXNlVevvKHY>

B. Install a Googlefont

To install a googlefont, just give the url to the font that is given by Google, example : <http://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Open+Sans:300>

Then click the install button

XX.Responsive Design

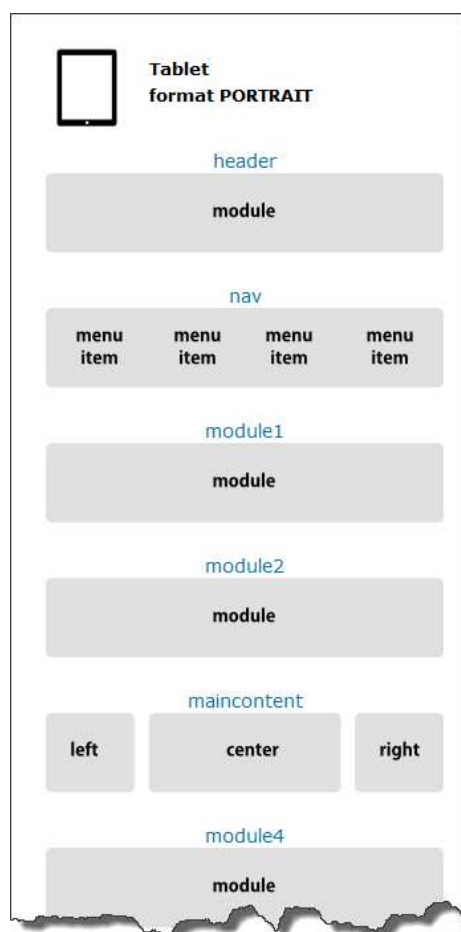
A. Main options

Template Creator also allows you to create a responsive design that will adapt to different devices. This is accessed from the 'Responsive design' link on the top menu.



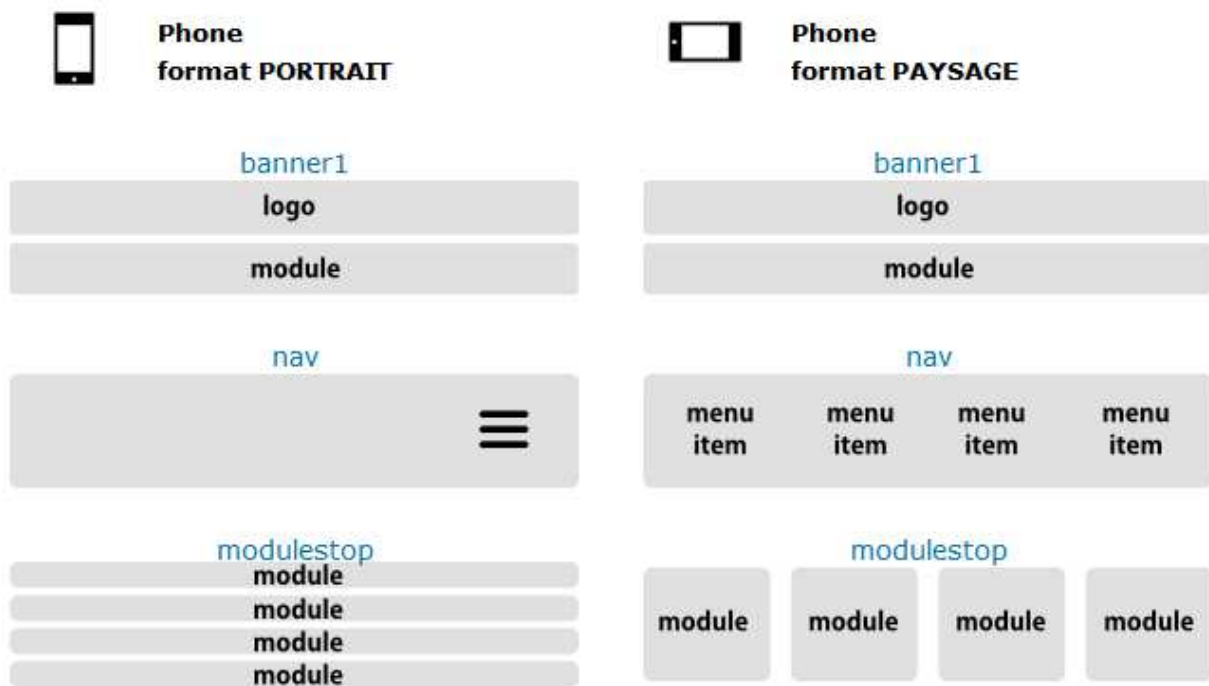
Five different layout are available for phone (portrait and landscape), tablet (portrait and landscape) and larger screens.

This section will show you the basic layout of your modules. For example....



Clicking on each module position will cycle through all the available options for that position.






These vary depending on the type of module but may include hiding the module, changing the content layout, changing the module order or creating collapsed menus.



B. Specific CSS classes

More than using the above options, you can choose to hide only one module in your template for a given resolution. To do that you must use a CSS class that is defined into Template Creator CK

List of the available CSS classes from Template Creator CK

	Mobile format PORTRAIT	Mobile Portrait : hidemobile1
	Mobile format PAYSAGE	Mobile Landscape : hidemobile2
	Tablette format PORTRAIT	Tablet Portrait : hidemobile3
	Tablette format PAYSAGE	Tablet Landscape : hidemobile4
	Ordinateur Autres résolutions	Computer : hidemobile5

How to set the css class to the module ?

Edit your module options, in the advanced parameters, add the css in the “Module class suffix” area :

Module Manager: Module Custom HTML

Title *

[Module](#)
[Menu Assignment](#)
[Module Permissions](#)
[Options](#)
[Advanced](#)

Alternative Layout

Module Class Suffix


XXI. Create a full width module

Template Creator CK allows you to add many wrappers in your page. For each of these wrappers you can choose if you want it to be the same width than the template parameters, or to be fullwidth.

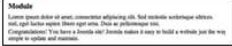
For example, add a new wrapper in your page and add a single module in it.

Drag and drop the block that you want to add into your template


Wrapper




Single module



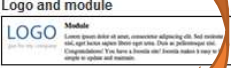
Aligned modules




Horizontal menu




Logo and module



Custom block





Module

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Sed molestie scelerisque ultrices. Nullam venenatis, felis ut accumsan vestibulum, diam leo congue nisl, eget luctus sapien libero eget urna. Duis ac pellentesque nisl.

New rapper

My LOGO

This is the slogan for my company

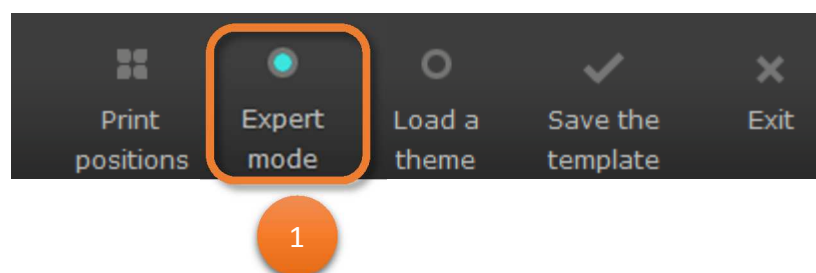
Module

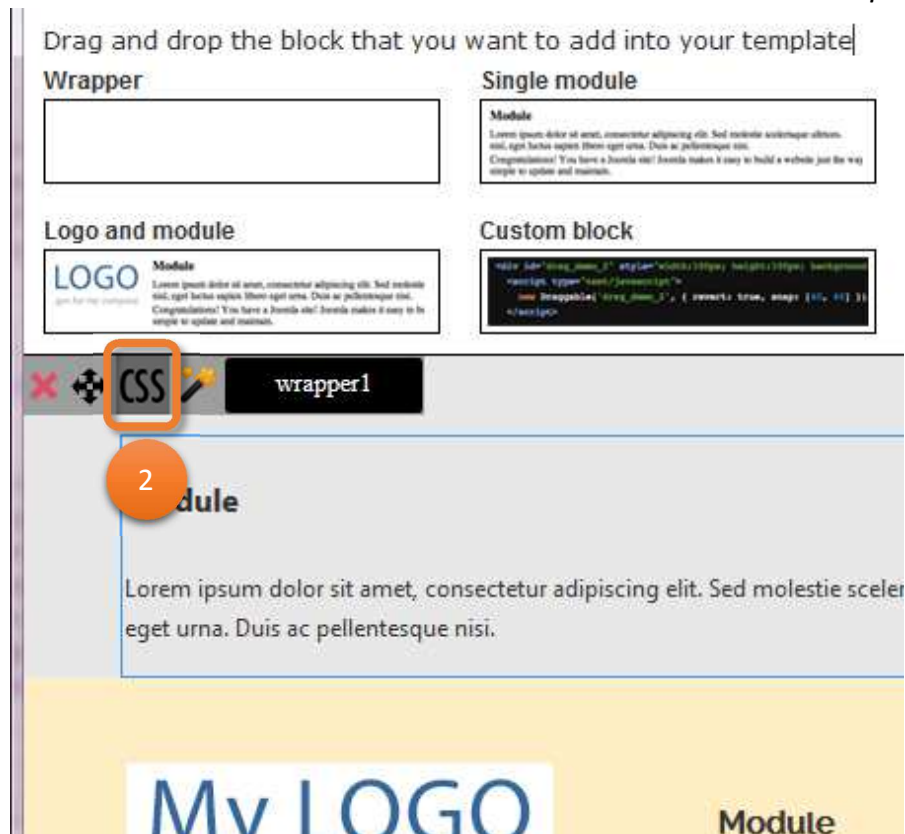
Nullam luctus Vestibulum et neque Etiam feugiat Donec

Main rapper

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Sed molestie scelerisque ultrices. Nullam venenatis, felis ut accumsan vestibulum, diam leo congue nisl, eget luctus sapien libero eget urna. Duis ac pellentesque nisl.

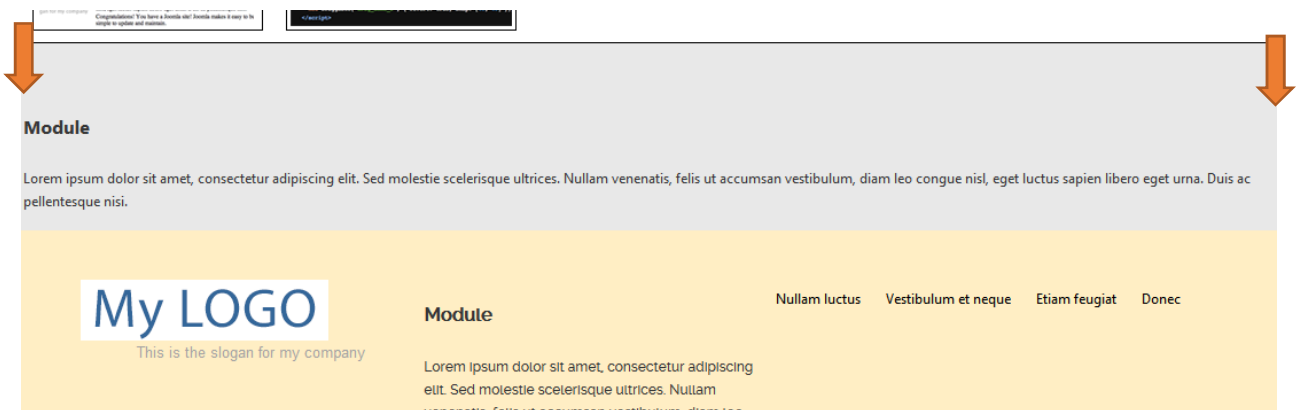
To give the full width background color you must enable the expert mode, then edit the CSS of the wrapper and go in the tab "Page background".



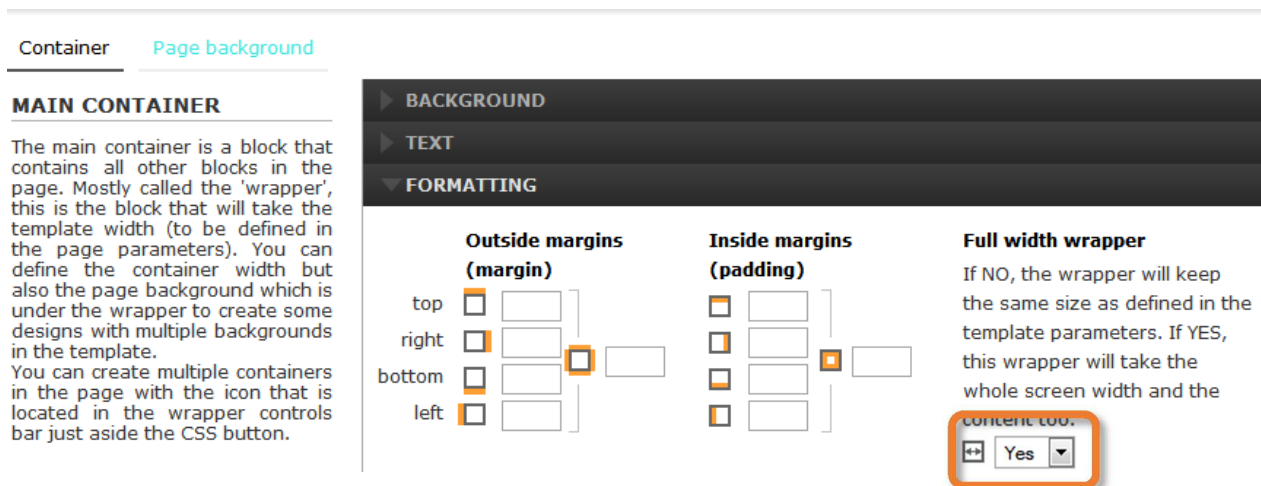


Now you can do more, you can tell the wrapper to be fullwidth too, so that your modules inside will be as large as the page (useful for slideshow for example).

No more space on the left and right side :



Edit the CSS of the wrapper, in Formatting set the option “Full width wrapper” to YES.



XXII. Modules management

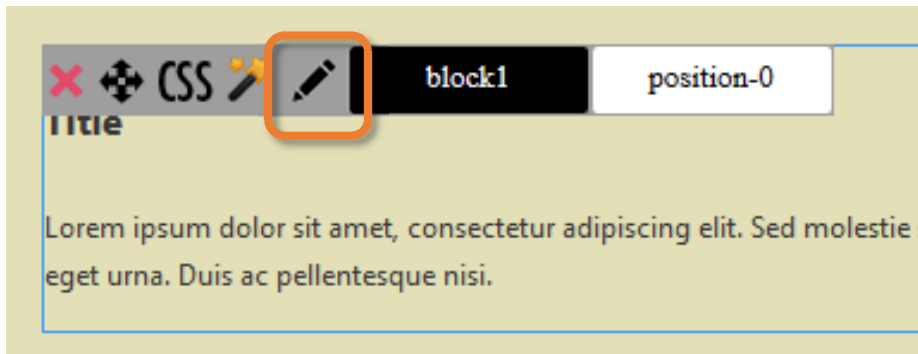
A. Generic modules (single module block)

Directly from the interface you can manage your modules to have more control on your content without having to have to go in the modules manager.

You can

- Create any new module from a module block
- Show the list of modules from the position of the block
- Publish / unpublish the modules

To edit a module, click on the pencil icon in the toolbar



When you click on the pencil, you will see a new popup that opens. It lists all modules that are in the position of the block (here **position-0**).

Modules list

Here is the list of the modules available in the position : **position-0**. You can edit and publish / unpublish the modules, or click on the New button to create a totally new module that will be automatically published in this position.

[+ Create new](#)

ID	Title	Action	State
63	Module de Recherche	Edit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

[×](#)

Here you can click on the **Edit** button to open the edition page of the module, or on the state button to change the publish state.

If you click on the **Create new** button, it will open the list of all available module types

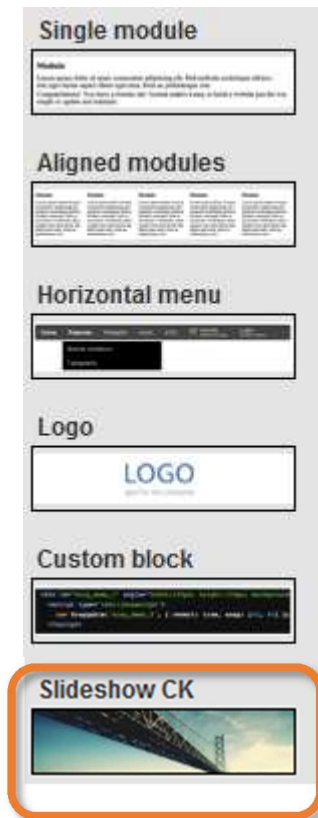
Select a module

Choose which type of module do you want to create and click on the button to create it.

Type	Description	Action
Articles - Archived	This module shows a list of the calendar months containing Archived Articles. After you have changed the status of an Article to Archived, this list will be automatically generated.	<div>+ Create</div>
Articles - Categories	This module displays a list of categories from one parent category.	<div>+ Create</div>
Articles - Category	This module displays a list of articles from one or more categories.	<div>+ Create</div>
Articles - Latest	This module shows a list of the most recently published and current Articles. Some that are shown may have expired even though they are the most recent.	<div>+ Create</div>

Very quickly you can create any module type, and it will automatically publish the new module in the position (**position-0**).

B. Specific modules (like Slideshow CK)



There are some specific modules type, that are predefined to work with only one type of module.

For example, in the left panel you can see a Slideshow CK element type.

If you drag and drop this block into your template, it will insert an image to simulate a slideshow into the interface (to have a better representation of your template). Then it will show the popup of the modules list, with only the modules of type Slideshow CK. If you click on the **Create new** button, it will automatically create a new Slideshow CK module.

This way, you can create a slideshow immediately by inserting it in the interface.