Menus

Organizing Your Articles Using Menus

If you have a set of articles that you would like to group together, you can use *Joomla!* menus to organize those articles in an easy-to-navigate fashion.

An example of this can be found on the default hub under the About (http://yourhub.org/about) section (see also below).

- 1. To begin, find the URLs of the articles that you're interested in grouping together
 - Note: If you can't find, or don't know the URL, it comes from the article alias, the section and the category (see below and view these documentation pages: <u>Managing Articles</u>, <u>URLs</u>).
- 2. With your article pages created, you'll need to make the menu structure
- 3. Navigate to Menus -> Menu Manager on the Joomla! backend and select New.
- 4. Give your new menu a unique name and title, then click Save
- 5. Now you will see your new menu in the list.
- 6. Click the icon indicated below to start adding menu items to your new menu.
 - 1. **Note:** It is important to realize, for clarity's sake, that there is a different between "Menu" and "Menu Item". "Menu Item" represents an instance, or individual menu link, while "Menu" represents the entity as a whole.
- 7. Now click the **New** button to add new menu items to your menu.
- 8. After clicking **New**, scroll down and select **External Link**.
- 9. Next, fill in the necessary information:
 - This is where you'll need to remember the URLs for the articles that you've created (you'll add the URL to the "Link" field)
 - After creating this menu item, you'll be able to access this article page via the URL for the article, or the Alias of the menu item
 - For example: according the screenshot below, both http://yourhub.org/example/examplearticle1 & http://yourhub.org/article1 will work when trying to access this page via the browser (See <u>URL</u> <u>Redirects</u> for more details). For the navigational menus to display properly, though, you'll want to use the menu item alias when trying to access your article page.
- 10. Click **Save** in the upper right-hand corner.
- 11. If you switch over to the front-end and navigate to your article page (via the menu item URL), you should see a page similar to this one:
- 12. At this point, simply repeat the previous steps to create menu items for all of the articles that you want to use together
- 13. The final step in this process is to assign the menu items that you've created to display on the article pages.
- 14. To do this, navigate to **Extensions -> Module Manager** on the backend *Joomla!* interface
- 15. Next, select New.

16. Scroll down and select **Menu** from the list (either click on the link, or select the radio button then scroll back up and click "Next").

Now fill in the correct information...make sure to:??

- Give it a Title
- Be sure **Enabled** is set to **Yes**
- Give it the position **Left**
- Set it to display on the correct pages
 - Under menu assignment, control click the menus items that we made in the preceding steps. This is what tells *Joomla!* which pages to display our new menu on.
- Under **Module Parameters**, **Menu Name** should be the title of the menu that we created earlier (**example** in this case)
- Menu Style should be List?
- 17. When all of this has been done, click **Save**.