

# Debugging

## Joomla's Debugging Mode

To turn on Joomla!'s Debug mode:

- Login to the Joomla administration e.g. <http://YOURSITE/administrator/>
- At the top under the **Site** menu click **Global Configuration**.
- Click the **System** tab.
- Under the **Debug Settings** section change **Debug System** to Yes.
- Click the **Save** button.

Debug mode will output a list of all queries that were executed in order to generate the page. This will also turn on a stack trace output for error and warning pages. Hubzero components will also have PHP error reporting turned on, allowing one to see any PHP errors that may be present.

**Note:** Turning on debugging mode for production (live) sites is strongly discouraged and it is recommended to be avoided if at all possible.

## Illegal variable ... passed to script.

One encounters the following error:

Illegal variable `_files` or `_env` or `_get` or `_post` or `_cookie` or `_server` or `_session` or `globals` passed to script.

This error is generated when the key of a key-value pair is numeric in one of the following variables: `_files` or `_env` or `_get` or `_post` or `_cookie` or `_server` or `_session` or `globals`. An example of this would be `$_POST[5] = 'value'`. This is most often generated by having form elements with numeric values as names. For example:

```
<input type="text" name="5" />
```

As the error indicates, this is not allowed. Element names must include at least one non-numeric character. Examples:

```
<input type="text" name="n5" />
```

```
<input type="text" name="n_5" />
```

