

ZOOM Media Gallery – QuickStart Guide

Get zOOM Media Gallery up and running in 10 easy steps!

Introduction

You probably just downloaded a copy of zOOM Media Gallery and this manual for this one, simple purpose: get it installed and working properly!

Well then, I guess I'll help you on your way – as the creator of zOOM – by giving you ten easy to follow steps which will guide you all the way from a Mambo installation WITHOUT zOOM Media Gallery installed to one with zOOM fully functional and your first gallery.

In this guide I will try to clarify each step with a number of screen shots. These are taken from a clean Mambo installation (version 4.5.2) with FCKEditor 2.0 RC2 installed as HTML editor and zOOM Media Gallery 2.5 Beta 3.

Get the latest versions/ downloads at <http://www.zoomfactory.org>

1. Login

Open your web browser and go to the back end of the Mambo installation you want zOOM installed on: <http://{yoursite.com}/administrator>

You will see this screen. Fill in your credentials and press the login button.



Illustration 1: Mambo login screen

2. Installation

Then, click 'Components --> Install/Uninstall' in the main menu. (See illustration 2.) After this a new screen appears which lists the currently installed components and gives you the options to install and/ or deinstall a component. You'll notice that zOOM isn't on the list yet, but it will be soon!

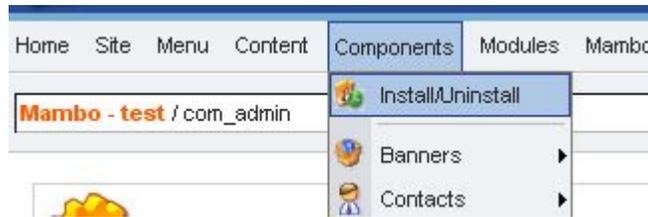


Illustration 2: Components menu

Now click the button 'Browse...' to select the package to upload. The screenshot shows me selecting the package 'com_zoom_25b3.zip', but it can be any file of course as long as it contains the file 'zoom.xml' with the installation instructions.

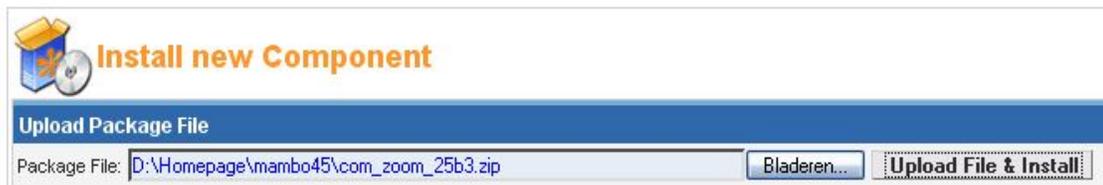


Illustration 3: Package selection

The only thing you have left to do is clicking the 'Upload File & Install' button and the package will be uploaded, unpacked, database entries will be made and the '{mamboroot}/images/zoom' directory will be created. If all went well, you will see some variation of the following screen shot:

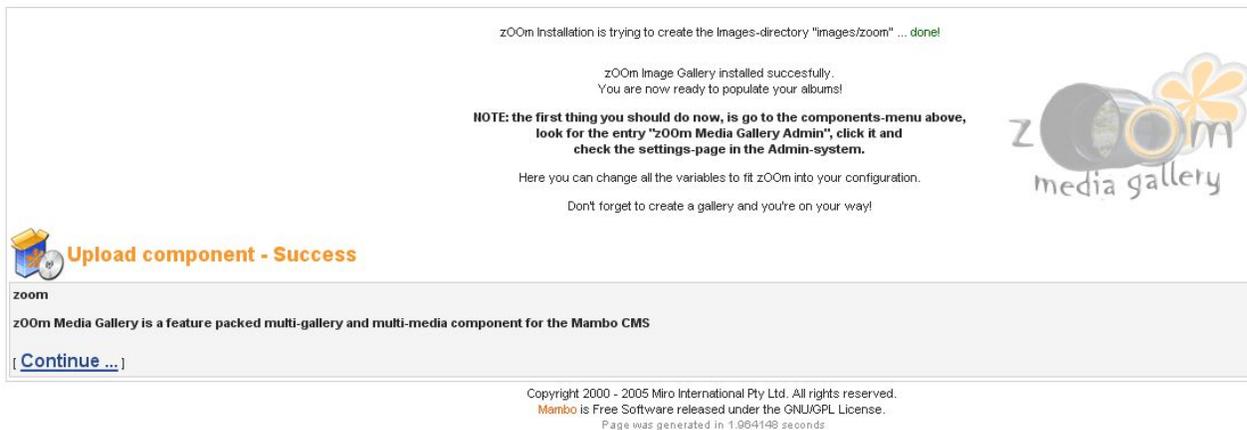


Illustration 4: Installation completed

3. Change basic settings

You just successfully installed zOOm Media Gallery, so you should be able to see a listing of the new component in the 'Installed Components' list. (See Illustration 5.)

Before zOOm Media Gallery is able to function properly, it needs to be configured correctly and before you start uploading your media to it!

Click from the main menu on 'Components --> zOOm Media Gallery' and the following screen will appear:



Illustration 5: Detail of Installed Components list

Media Gallery Admin System

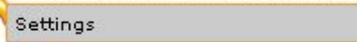
-  **1** » create new galleries for your new media; create, edit and delete them here in the Gallery Manager.
-  **2** » move, edit, delete, scan for media automatically or upload (multiple) new media manually.
-  **3** » Compute your Zoom Thumb codes easily
-  **4** » change and view all the available configuration settings here.

-  **5** » zOOm Media Gallery uses its tables a lot and thus creates overhead data, ie. 'junk data'. Click here to remove this junk.
-  **6** » add new features, solve problems and resolve bugs! Check www.zoomfactory.org for the latest update!

Illustration 6: Admin screen overview

- 1** Gallery Manager
- 2** Media Manager
- 3** zOOm Thumb mosBot helper
- 4** Settings

- 5
- 6

Optimize tables
Update zOOM Media Gallery

This being said, the first thing you should do is click on **4** and change the basic settings that are needed for zOOM Media Gallery to work.

These settings are: gallery title, basic display settings, the path to where your media are going to be stored, define the software you want to use for creating thumbnails, set (maximum) sizes of resized images, ordering of galleries and media and the features - that zOOM Media Gallery offers - you want to use on your website.

i: Before you can change any settings, make sure that the files to where the configuration is stored in are writable! These files are located in {mamboroot}/components/com_zoom/etc. On a linux box, please set the permissions (CHMOD) to 777 or 'Writable' on a Windows NT system.

- **Gallery Title**



Illustration 7: Settings screen overview

In the first field you can set the title of your gallery (currently set to 'zOOM Gallery'). Change it to whatever you like, e.g. 'John family pictures'.

- **No. of (sub)gallery columns**
Second, the number of galleries and sub-level galleries that will be displayed on one row can be set. A value of '2' means a maximum of two galleries next to each other.
- **No. of thumbnail columns**
Third, the number of thumbnails that will be displayed on one row can be set. A value of '3' means a maximum of two thumbnails next to each other.
- **Thumbs per page**
Fourth, the number of thumbnail that will be displayed on one page can be set. A value of '9' means a maximum of nine thumbnails on one page. If

there are more that the maximum number of thumbnails in a gallery, multiple pages will be created, for easy navigation.

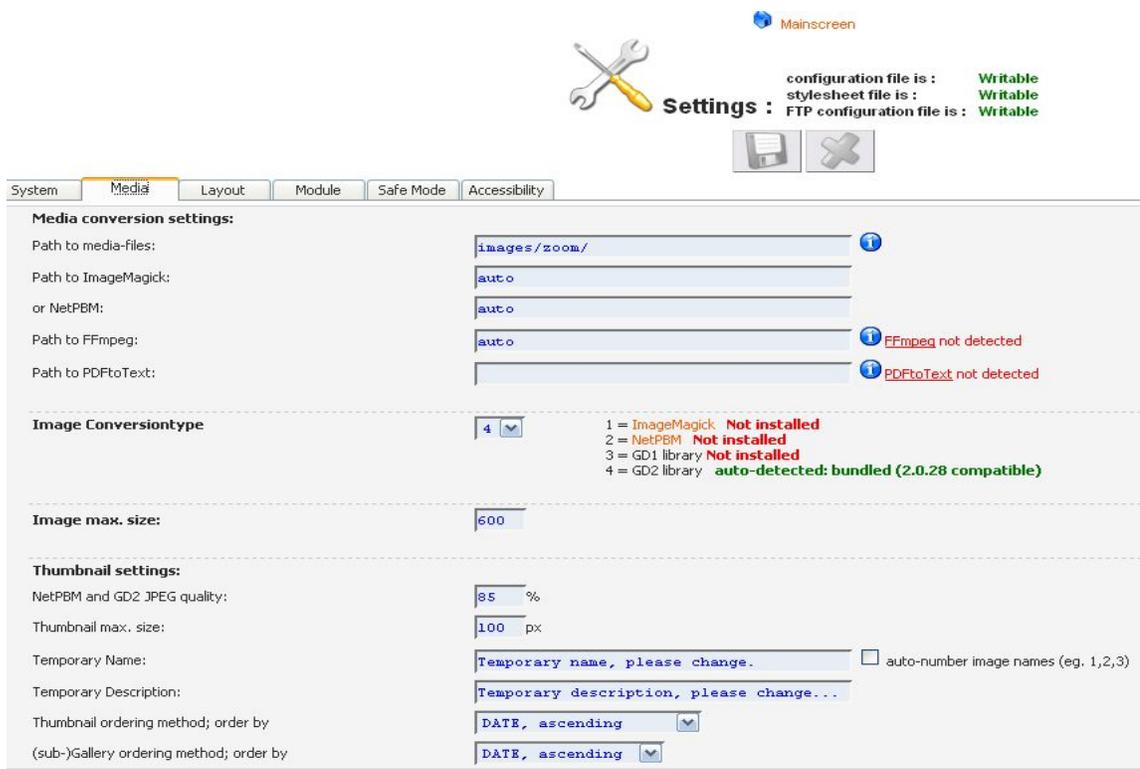
- **Comments length**

Fifth, the number of characters a comment may consist of can be set. *This requires the Comment feature to be ON.* A value of '200' means a maximum of two hundred characters per comment, which a user may enter.

- **Gallery-title prefix**

Sixth, the prefix of a gallery in the gallery overview can be set. A value of '::<' means that these character will be put in front of the gallery name. This can be used to distinct gallery titles better from the description, if this suits your Mambo template better. The default value is set to '' (i.e. Nothing!).

Now it's about time to set the environmental variables at the 'Media'-tab:



The screenshot shows the 'Settings' interface for Mambo CMS, specifically the 'Media' tab. At the top, there's a 'Mainscreen' link and a 'Settings' header with a wrench and screwdriver icon. Below the header, there are status indicators for configuration files: 'configuration file is : Writable', 'stylesheet file is : Writable', and 'FTP configuration file is : Writable'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Media conversion settings:** Includes input fields for 'Path to media-files' (images/zoom/), 'Path to ImageMagick' (auto), 'or NetPBM' (auto), 'Path to Ffmpeg' (auto), and 'Path to PDFtoText'. There are warning icons for Ffmpeg and PDFtoText, indicating they are not detected.
- Image Conversiontype:** A dropdown menu is set to '4'. To the right, a legend explains the options: 1 = ImageMagick (Not installed), 2 = NetPBM (Not installed), 3 = GD1 library (Not installed), and 4 = GD2 library (auto-detected: bundled (2.0.28 compatible)).
- Image max. size:** A text input field containing '600'.
- Thumbnail settings:** Includes 'NetPBM and GD2 JPEG quality' (85 %), 'Thumbnail max. size' (100 px), 'Temporary Name' (Temporary name, please change.) with an 'auto-number image names' checkbox, 'Temporary Description' (Temporary description, please change...), and two dropdown menus for 'Thumbnail ordering method' and '(sub-)Gallery ordering method', both set to 'DATE, ascending'.

Illustration 8: Media settings overview

- **Path to media-files**

This path refers to the location where you (wish to) store your media. The default path – 'images/zoom' is set-up by the zOOM Installer, but you can set a different path on your server just the same.

⚠ The path is *relative* to the Mambo root directory!

- **Paths to ImageMagick, NetPBM, Ffmpeg and Pdftotext (Xpdf)**

These paths refer to the *absolute* locations of each library. What each library does and is used for by zOOM can be read in Appendix A.

If the auto-detection system couldn't detect the library on your system, it probably hasn't been installed yet, or its path isn't in the global PATH

variable of your operating system. In this case, set it manually.

- **Image Conversiontype**
Choose the library which you want zOOM to use when it's manipulating your images. The available libraries and their corresponding numbers are listed on the right of this setting.
- **Image max. size**
The maximum number of pixels you want an image to be on display. This might be handy to modify when you have a template that goes completely wacko when the size of an image is too large. ZOOM will resize the images automatically when it's larger then this setting.
- **Thumbnail settings**
This array of settings is applied to newly uploaded images or function as default entries before uploading images.

The tabpane called 'Layout' is the place you want to customize the look and feel of zOOM. Most important are the user features that you can turn on and off as well as the stylesheets for the popup window and the gallery itself.

Next, another important tabpane that I will explain in more detail:

Settings : stylesheet files are : Writable
FTP configuration file is : Writable

System Media Layout Module Safe Mode Accessibility

You are able to change the privileges of each usergroup known in Mambo and hereby change the privileges of each user that is a member of that group!
A user may, in theory, do the following actions: upload file(s), edit/ delete media, create/ edit/ delete (shared) galleries.
What they can and cannot do in the real world is up to you.

Group	Upload file(s)	Edit Medium	Delete	New gallery	Edit gallery	Delete gallery
> Public Frontend						
-> Registered	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
-> Author	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
-> Editor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
-> Publisher	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
-> Public Backend						
-> Manager	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
-> Administrator	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
-> Super Administrator	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Show 'Upload Media'-link in User Menu
no

Illustration 9: Accessibility settings overview

The privileges system is fairly in ZMG and is a quite revolutionary feature in itself: it allows a system admin to assign rights to all of the user groups that have access to the zOOM Media Gallery backend, from the Mambo frontend as well the Mambo backend. Sounds complex, mayhap, but all this configuring can be done through this easy to use and revolutionary interface; click on a red cross or green ... and when you're done clicking, just press the 'Save' button to make the changes you made effective.

The <Show 'Upload Media'-link in User Menu> can be set to 'yes' if you want to show an 'Upload Media' hyperlink in the Mambo user menu in the frontend.

4. Create your first gallery

I assume you changed the settings correctly, completely matching your environment and desperately want to start off making practical use of zOOM Media Gallery!

Well, you can by creating a first gallery where you can store your media in.

Remember Illustration 6, the Admin screen overview with the yellow numbers in it? Click on **1** to enter the Gallery Manager and you'll see this screen:



Illustration 10: Gallery Manager overview

Click the 'New gallery' button in the top right corner, which will take you to following screen:

(see next page)

 Mainscreen |
  Go Back

 **New gallery**




Parent gallery:

Title:

Directory:

Password:

Keywords:

Description:

Properties
Members

Hide 'no media' text:

Published:

Share this gallery:

Illustration 11: New gallery screen

- **Parent gallery**
 Choose the gallery you want this new gallery to be a child of, i.e. choose if you want this new gallery to be top level or sub gallery.
- **Title**
 You may set the title of the new gallery here. You may choose to leave it as-is; the default caption is set to the value you set as 'Temporary Name' in the 'Media' tabpane in the Settings (see Illustration 8).
- **Directory**
 You may set the directory name of this gallery here. By default the directory name is generated automatically, 'FHUELB' in this case.
- **Password**
 All galleries can be protected by a password. If you choose not to use this feature for your first gallery, just leave it blank.
- **Keywords**
 Keywords make life easier for users who wish to search your gallery. You may set an unlimited number of keywords that refer to this gallery, seperated by a comma, dot-comma, etc. Every keyword that you enter will be shown in the dropdown select box on every zOOm Media Gallery page.
- **Description**
 You may set the description of the new gallery here. You may choose to leave it as-is; the default caption is set to the value you set as 'Temporary Description' in the 'Media' tabpane in the Settings (see Illustration 8).
- **Hide 'no media' text (Properties tabpane)**
 If you don't want to display the 'no media' text when this gallery is still empty, select this option. You might to do this if this gallery is going to be a

to prevent leechers to see the content of your gallery outside zOOM Media Gallery.