

SimpleCalendar

by Fabrizio Albonico

Release 0.6b - 2009-03-22

Important informations and instructions

Hello and thank you for downloading SimpleCalendar. I hope you enjoy using this component as much as I had (and still have!) fun creating it.

As version 0.6b is an important milestone towards the first-ever stable release of SimpleCalendar, here are some instructions that should help you during installation and upgrade.

How to proceed

First of all, uninstall the component com_simplecal and the module mod_simplecal from your installation using Joomla's backend Install/Uninstall tool. Both uninstalls should end without problems.

Fresh install

I strongly recommend to remove all previous versions of SimpleCalendar and start off with a fresh install.

In this package you'll find the "com_simplecalendar_0.6b_20090322_fresh.zip" file: upload it to your site in order to delete all previous database tables and get a fresh installation of SimpleCalendar. You will lose all of your SimpleCalendar data (events, groups, categories, settings) in the process.

Upgrade from v.0.5b and v.0.5.1b

If you installed versions 0.5b and 0.5.1b of SimpleCalendar as a fresh install without upgrading from a previous version, chances are that your database is already complete.

Uninstall the currently installed version of SimpleCalendar and use the provided "com_simplecalendar_0.6b_20090322_upgrade.zip" file to install the latest files and upgrade your DB tables in the process.

Should the installation fail somewhere, it is likely that your DB has still references to older versions of SimpleCalendar, which are not supported anymore. You can install the "fresh" file (losing your data), or manually upgrade the DB with information provided near the end of this document.

Upgrade from versions before 0.5b

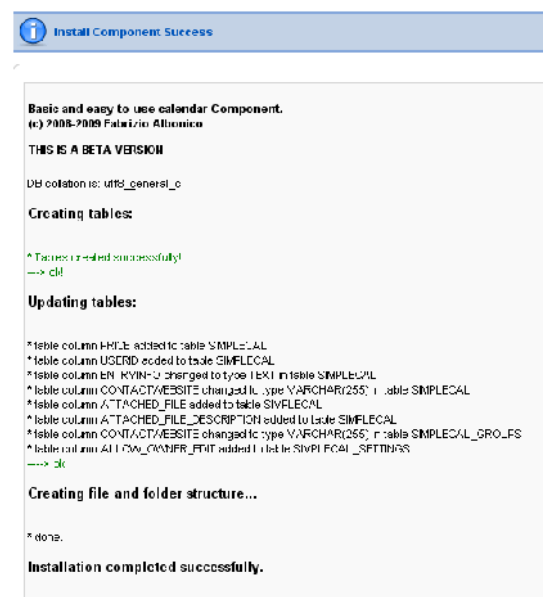
For a number of reasons too long to list here, upgrade from any installation previous to 0.5b (that is: 0.5b was installed from scratch, no previous install) is not supported. Please uninstall the currently installed version of Simplecall and use the "fresh" package to install. Your SimpleCalendar data will be lost in the process. Alternatively you can update your DB tables manually (see below). Sorry for the inconvenience.

I installed the upgrade, but now none of my previous links to SimpleCalendar works!

The component's name was changed from SimpleCal to SimpleCalendar (which I like better); this had the sad side-effect that all links (for example: menu items) previously created point to a now-renamed "simplecal" component.

I posted some background information on [this forum page](#), here's how to recreate your links with the new naming conventions:

- Delete all static links pointing to SimpleCalendar pages like menu items: "Calendar", "Event Detail", or "Add Event", for example. Names may vary depending on your own installation. SimpleCalendar-



A fresh install should look like this.

- own links will be changed automatically (e.g. from list to detail view), no need to do anything there.
- Re-create the links to the pages.

If you feel comfortable with working with menu items, you can also force change the “menu type” in Joomla's backend admin site. Select the appropriate “SimpleCalendar” menu item and select “change menu type”. Again, sorry for any inconvenience.

Will this happen again?? Noooo way!

While I won't go into the discussion that “beta” quality software is inherently unstable and subject to changes, rest assured: the new installation procedure that is rolled out with this version will take care of all DB creation and upgrades in future, without you having to do anything. This “breaking” change is needed to uniform all installations that spread unchecked while I was trying to figure out how to handle updates, a matter that like no other divides Joomla coders. I think I have found a decent solution, but I had to determine a “common configuration” and went with v.0.5b as the lowest common version. I hope you approve of my choice.

What if I would like to manually upgrade my SimpleCalendar tables?

Here you find the actual DB structure of SimpleCalendar. This is from version 0.6b. Please change the “#_” prefix below with the table prefix used by your site (usually “jos_”). Field names and data types must match the example below for SimpleCalendar to work correctly. Use a MySQL management tool like [phpMyAdmin](#), most hosts provide it for you. Remember: do this at your own risk – I cannot be held responsible for any damage / data loss. Be sure to know what you are doing. In case of doubt, use the “fresh” install.

```
TABLE `#__simplecal`:
  `id` int(11) unsigned NOT NULL auto_increment, {Primary key}
  `categoryID` int(11) default NULL,
  `date1` date NOT NULL default '0000-00-00',
  `date2` date default '0000-00-00',
  `date3` date default '0000-00-00',
  `from_time` time default '00:00:00',
  `to_time` time default '00:00:00',
  `entryName` varchar(64) NOT NULL default '',
  `entryPlace` varchar(128) default NULL,
  `entryLatLon` varchar(64) default NULL,
  `entryGroupID` int(11) NOT NULL,
  `entryInfo` text default NULL,
  `entryIsPrivate` int(1) default '0',
  `contactName` varchar(64) default NULL,
  `contactEmail` varchar(64) default NULL,
  `contactWebSite` varchar(255) default NULL,
  `contactTelephone` varchar(32) default NULL,
  `data` date default NULL,
  `published` int(1) default '1',
  `price` varchar(32) default '',
  `userid` int(11) default '0',
  `attached_file` varchar(64) default '',
  `attached_file_description` varchar(256) default ''
```

```
TABLE `#__simplecal_categories`:
  `categoryID` int(11) NOT NULL auto_increment, {Primary key}
  `categoryName` varchar(32) NOT NULL default '',
  `catid` int(11) NOT NULL default 0,
  `ordering` int(11) NOT NULL default 0
```

```
TABLE `#__simplecal_groups`:
  `groupID` int(11) NOT NULL auto_increment, {Primary key}
  `groupAbbr` varchar(6) default NULL,
  `groupName` varchar(64) default NULL,
  `groupLatLon` varchar(64) default NULL,
  `groupLogo` varchar(32) default NULL,
  `contactName` varchar(64) default NULL,
  `contactEmail` varchar(64) default NULL,
  `contactWebSite` varchar(255) default NULL,
  `contactTelephone` varchar(32) default NULL,
```

```
`imageFile` varchar(64) default '',
`showAlways` int(1) default '0',
`catid` int(11) NOT NULL default 0,
`ordering` int(11) NOT NULL default 0
```

TABLE `#_simplecal_settings`:

```
`id` int(11) NOT NULL default '1', {Primary key}
`use_gmap` int(1) default '0',
`gmap_api_key` varchar(255) default '- set google api key here -',
`show_donation_line` int(1) default '1',
`date_long_format` varchar(64) default '%a %d.%m.%Y',
`date_short_format` varchar(64) default '%a %d.%m',
`time_format` varchar(64) default '%H:%M',
`frontend_link_color` varchar(16) default 'B8CDDC',
`default_ordering` varchar(16) default 'date',
`show_search_bar` int(1) default '1',
`show_only_future_events` int(1) default '1',
`frontend_add_gid` int(11) default '18',
`frontend_edit_gid` int(11) default '18',
`gmap_std_latlon` varchar(32) default '46,8',
`currency` varchar(32) default '',
`allow_owner_edit` int(1) default '1'
```

I messed with my DB, what should I do now?

My only advice here: remove your SimpleCalendar version and install the “fresh” package – this deletes all tables and restores everything. You will lose your SimpleCalendar data in the process.

Did you thoroughly test the upgrade feature?

Yes, the upgrade feature has undergone extensive testing on both the demo website, as well as live sites using SimpleCalendar, and everything went smoothly without data loss. If the upgrade procedure fails it might be because of the presence of an older version of SimpleCal that is not supported anymore.

Where can I get support?

You can use the support forum located at <http://software.albonico.ch/phpBB> for general questions about SimpleCalendar and its functions, to report bugs or provide ideas for future developments. Please do not post “I tried to upgrade from v.0.x (where x is less than '5') and it failed”, because my only advice will be “use the fresh install”.

I like your products - what can I do to help you?

I thank you for using my products and appreciate every kind word expressed in the forum or by e-mail. If you would like to show gratitude, why not sending a small donation (a couple of euros, or the equivalent in your currency) through the [donations box on my homepage](#)? I bow myself and thank you very much in advance.

Final thoughts

Please keep in mind that this beta quality software is released to the best of my knowledge. While I can affirm it is working on most configurations, there are no guarantees, whether explicit or implicit, about this software. I assume no responsibility whatsoever for any data loss due to use (or misuse) of this product. It is “beta” and thus subject to any imaginable change in future, with no guarantee that previous versions will be compatible.

Best regards,

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on march 20th, 2009