

EE Help Chat — Today, January 14

Jan 14	8:00 PM
Ryan I.	has entered the room
	8:45 PM
Ryan I.	turned on guest access
	8:55 PM
Ian C.	has entered the room
Ian C.	Heya Ryan
Sean S.	has entered the room
Sean S.	Greetings
Ian C.	Hello
Kevin T.	has entered the room
Jason H.	has entered the room
Jason H.	hello everyone
Sean S.	Hi jason
Kevin T.	Hello
Ian C.	Hi hi
Jason H.	how is everyone tonight?
Sean S.	it's 11am for me and I'm fully caffeinated
Ian C.	doing good... perplexed w/ a problem atm .. :P
Kevin T.	Great aside from the fact that I've been obsessing over ExpressionEngine all day and neglecting a client project. :)
Jason H.	lol
Sean S.	Ian – problem?
Brandon R.	has entered the room
Ian C.	yeah i cant get the allow ee code plugin to work
	ive got a forum thread on it here: http://expressionengine.com/forums/viewthr...
Sean S.	Ian, I think i saw your thread – told you about the plugin
Ryan I.	Hey everyone.
	9:00 PM
Ian C.	yep, found it, doesnt work.. very strange
Sean S.	I've never used it – hopefully someone else will be able to help
Jason H.	I thought that was a template preference?
Oli S.	has entered the room
Sean S.	jQuery 1.3 is out http://blog.jquery.com/2009/01/14/jquery-1...
Ian C.	seems like im using it appropriately.. but, nada. it just outputs the tags as it would with no plugin at all.

Oli S.	hey all
Ian C.	ill check there
Ryan I.	hey oli
Jason H.	Ian check the template > template preferences manager
	it says allow PHP
Ian C.	php in my templates work, but php code in my entries does not. there's a plugin called Allow EE Code that will allow ee tags in entries, but that's not working either.
Ryan I.	PHP shouldn't work in your entry, afaik.
Ian C.	correct, it does not.
Jason H.	you can also use this tag to get the current date for an entry, just set the value {current_time format=""}
Ian C.	all im trying to do is output a date inside an entry :P
	9:05 PM
Ian C.	yep, im trying that, but i cant use the tag inside the entry body itself
	UNLESS, theoretically, im using the allow ee code plugin
Jason H.	{current_time format="%l %F %j%S, %Y"}
Ian C.	which im attempting to do, but which isnt working at all
Jason H.	is it a SAEF?
Ian C.	i think so, but how can i be sure
Jason H.	are you inside the control panel?
Ian C.	im editing my articles in the control panel
	im viewing my articles on my site
Ryan I.	Ian, which EE tags are you putting in the {articlebody} ?
Jason H.	oh ok, I'm not sure how you would fix that then... Try uninstalling the plugin and upload it using FTP and try install that way?
Ian C.	Last update: {current_time} 1st, {current_time format="%Y"}
Jason H.	can we get a sample code also?
Ian C.	that wouldnt exactly output the format i want, im just trying it with and without formatting options
	thats how it looks in my entry field, and thats also how it looks on output
Jason H.	so what is the purpose? to show the last time the entry was edited?
Ian C.	here's the entirety of the template, which ive stripped to the bare minimum for troubleshooting
	View paste

	<pre>{exp:weblog:entries weblog='sen'} {exp:allow_eecode}{articlebody}{/exp:allow_eecode} {/exp:weblog:entries}</pre>

	the purpose is to output the current month and current year to indicate that the article was updated in the current month

	9:10 PM
Ian C.	rather than have to update it every month, i just want it to be current all the time
Jason H.	that can be hard coded
	View paste <pre>{exp:weblog:entries weblog='sen'} {exp:allow_eecode}{articlebody}{/exp:allow_eecode} {/exp:weblog:entries}</pre>
Sean S.	isn't there a last revised tag
Ian C.	what can be hard coded?
Ryan I.	Ian, so that's the code you have in your template?
Ian C.	thats all of the code
	it was initially more complex, but for troubleshooting ive pared it down to just that
Jason H.	crap sorry, inside the {exp:weblog:entries} tag place {current_time format="%M, %Y"}
Ian C.	the only thing i can think of is maybe the plugin doesnt work on custom entry fields?
Ryan I.	And which tags are you putting in your entry that won't render properly?
Ian C.	here is the string of text that appears in the entry: Last update: {current_time} 1st, {current_time format="%Y"}
	i can see the plugin listed in the plugin manager, btw.. :P
Jason H.	Sean: {edit_date}
Ian C.	if i were using the last revised date, then i may as well just be updating the article manually.
Sean S.	yeah that's the one
Jason H.	try this: View paste <pre>{exp:weblog:entries weblog='sen'} {articlebody} Last Edited: {current_time format="%M, %Y"} {/exp:weblog:entries}</pre>
	9:15 PM
Ian C.	i guess i'll just fallback to my other solution.. i'll put a token string like %%CURRENT_MONTH%% in the entry and then use php to replace the string with a date output
	jason, im sure that would work, but it doesnt allow me to place the content inside the article body
Richard L.	has entered the room
Ian C.	just seems odd that the plugin doesnt work.. ;)
Jason H.	it would place it right below... are you trying to make it {current_time} like this?
Ryan I.	that's perplexing :)

	yeah, that is very odd
Ian C.	ideally the output would be Last update: January 1st, 2008
	which would of course be Last update: {current_time format='%f'} 1st, {current_time format='%Y'}
Richard L.	Hello everyone. First timer here.
Ian C.	thanks for the suggestions everyone
Oli S.	blame parse order, I say!
Leslie	has entered the room
Jason H.	no problem ;)
Ian C.	supposedly current_time is parsed very very early.. according to the docs. but, yes, blame!
Oli S.	hi Richard
Sean S.	I actually came prepared with a question this time – it's rather general though
Jason H.	ok I have the simple commerce questions
Ryan I.	go for it, sean
Jason H.	go ahead sean
Leslie	Evening, won't be on long tonight just dropping by to say hi for a few.
Sean S.	When developing a site and you have all the client infor infront of you, how do you approach a build?
	more details coming
Jason H.	hey Leslie!
Ryan I.	Hiya Les
Sean S.	how do you determine how many weblogs? should you use categories, related (reverse) entries, plugins modules etec
	There are so many plugins, extensions, & modules available it's almost impossible to keep track of them and to know if there is one available that will make your job easier.
	9:20 PM
Ian C.	doh, i bet leslie might have had suggestions for me.. :/ (quick recap, having trouble getting Allow EE Code plugin to work: http://expressionengine.com/forums/viewthr...)
Oli S.	@ian that may be the problem—maybe current_time doesn't get re-parsed after the plugin is run or something. have you tried adding an embedded template to the article body?
Jason H.	it depends on what information you want them to be able to edit
Sean S.	I know my question is somewhat vague and rambling – but I'm not sure how to make it more concise
Oli S.	(I don't know if the plugin allows embedded templates, but that's normally my garlic when parse order vampires attack)
Leslie	Sorry Ian, I've never tried that plugin
Ian C.	hm, havent tried embedding a template in the article body.. so i'd have a template that just had {current_time} and embed that in the article body? ill give it a shot
Jason H.	sean: news could be a channel, so could company information
Richard L.	What's a "Channel"?
Oli S.	Ian Cook: yep
Jason H.	weblog sorry, 2.0 term

Sean S.	Richard – the new word for weblog when 2.0 comes out
Richard L.	oh. ok. Thanks
Oli S.	Richard Lomas: weblog == section == channel
Leslie	Sean, generally I start by identifying what data is discreet, meaning what should be separate from everything else. Then I look at what Custom Fields would be appropriate, move to categories, and then relationships.
Richard L.	Got it. Thanks
Jason H.	sean, what is the client business/site related too?
Sean S.	Jason any client any business – I have the same problem each time I start a site (I'm terribly inefficient)
	Leslie, that makes sense
Leslie	Also, I'll generally build with just a skeleton UI with sample data first as I'm better working with something concrete then detailing everything out first
Sean S.	I used relationships (reverse) for the first time on my last site, but I still don't really understand it (solution to use relationships came from Boyink)
Jason H.	i try to keep it all one channel for ease of use, then separate it by categories
Richard L.	If you need different custom fields for some areas, go with different sections
	9:25 PM
Leslie	Typically for me discreet info = 1 Channel and I build around that. Depending on the complexity of the site (or lack there of) I bend the rule as necessary
Sean S.	Jason – Have you successfully kept a large site to 1 channel?
Jason H.	define big? ;)
Sean S.	leslie – so discrete being stuff that is completely unrelated
Jim W.	has entered the room
Jason H.	on my website I redesigning/re-eeing (I made that up now) I use 2
Deron S.	has entered the room
Jason H.	hello deron
Richard L.	Are there drawbacks to having multiple channels? Does it slow down EE?
Deron S.	Ah, this looks like the right room. I thought the other room I was in had a lot less people than normal. lol
Jason H.	you wont notice...
Leslie	Right. It provides more room to grow should that become a need.
Sean S.	My last site that I completed has 7 sections with some of them having multiple categories
Ian C.	Oli, you're a genius. That did it.
Jim W.	Evening all
Leslie	Ok, got to run. Time to put the daughter to bed! Have fun
Sean S.	g'night leslie
Leslie	has left the room
Jason H.	night
Ryan I.	Later, Les.
Oli S.	Ian Cook: BLAME PARSE ORDER!!!!

	:)
Ian C.	/blame /blame
Ryan I.	Glad you got it working, Ian.
Jim W.	I'm doing a site that may easily have 100+ sections (mid size university)
Ian C.	gonna post this new info to the forum thread.. hopefully someone else will come across it. thanks again
Jason H.	I have a channel for clients and blogs (and a test channel for weird things I am trying out)
Sean S.	Jim, that sounds like a huge job
Oli S.	Honestly, I'd happily take a noticeable performance hit for my code to just be processed in the order it's written
Deron S.	I'm curious to know the answer to a question posed in the comments over at EE Insider: http://eeinsider.com/blog/ee-in-the-wild-logogala/
Ian C.	yeah thatd take some of the confusion away can make up for it w/ caching in any case
	9:30 PM
Jim W.	One of those ones you roll out in phases
Sean S.	Jim - no doubt
	thanks for the advice guys
Oli S.	Ian Cook: precisely
Deron S.	Does the using the weblog:entries parameter cause the site to be resource intensive than it normally would be without?
Jason H.	no problem as compared to straight HTML? Yes.
Oli S.	actually does anyone know what the deal with parse order is? surely there's some amazing benefit we're getting for all the tying in knots it inflicts on us... right?
Ryan I.	Deron, enable debugging output and try without certain parameters. You'll get all of the queries listed out and numbered
Deron S.	Oh ok, cool. So the numbers, what will they tell me? Load time?
Jim W.	DS Don't believe so, it's designed to operate that way. Comapre the load times, your probably only talking miliseconds difference
Jonathan M.	has entered the room
Ryan I.	i think it displays the time it takes to render the page my guess is that you won't see much difference
Deron S.	Jim: Yeah, kinda what I was thinking. It's nothing out of the ordinary of what EE is capable of doing so wouldn't think it would slow things down any noticeable amount
Jim W.	The debugging features have been very helpful for me
Jason H.	what about {elapsed_time}? Won't that show the query load time?
Oli S.	Deron Sizemore: http://expressionengine.com/wiki/Optimize_EE/
Deron S.	Ok, thanks Ryan and Jim. I'll give that a shot and see. The debugging features never crossed my mind (obviously) ;)
Kevin T.	has left the room
Deron S.	thanks Oli. Yeah I had that URL bookmarked the other day to go through and optimize as

	much as I could. Thanks for the reminder
Jason H.	I have a simple commerce question
Jim W.	shoot, I haven't really used it though
	9:35 PM
Jason H.	I need to create a registration form.
Deron S.	One thing I've never quite got was the template caching in EE. Should you only cache those templates that will be displaying static information that seldom changes? Or are there times when you were cache a dynamic template?
Ryan I.	Deron, I also cover this in the 11th screencast of the series. :-)
	Deron, you can cache any template
Jason H.	the form will have some advanced options. like type of registration, number of shirts and qty and I need to capture all information in the purchases area, not just the total
Sean S.	has left the room
Ryan I.	When you add a new entry, EE automatically empties the cache for the template
Oli S.	Deron Sizemore: I think that wiki article links to something about caching. Basically cache everything, with shorter refresh times for frequently updated content
Jason H.	so what is the best practice to make a form of this nature? Should I just use the paypal site? or the module?
Jim W.	That's the catch with simple commerce. It's very simple. Does it work with the user module? If so there's your registration form
Jason H.	well the registration is for an event, not the website
	I haven't thought about that actually.
Jim W.	I've played around with integrating eCart. Nothing in production.
	9:40 PM
Jim W.	Wouldn't you put the event in as a product?
Oli S.	has anyone found a way to implement PHP or a plugin truly on output? ie after advanced conditionals and embeds?
Deron S.	Oli & Ryan: Thanks! didn't know that. Really need to do this. So far, I've never enabled any template caching. I'll give your screecast a look see Ryan
Jason H.	maybe custom fields for the member profiles? but the paypal requires a channel entry
	anybody have a suggestion?
Richard L.	Gotta' go. Thanks all.
Jim W.	"channel" are we early adopting 2.0 terminology?
Richard L.	has left the room
Ryan I.	:)
Jason H.	yes, trying to get used to it ;)
	I almost typed weblog... then backspaced!
Oli S.	Jim Wyse: hold on, we're not talking about the tellie?
	/ponders is that telly? Yeah I think it should be
Jim W.	Some on my staff call everything a "blog" even though I changed the name to "section". drives me nuts
	9:45 PM

Jason H.	ok, I guess I will drop the paypal question
Ryan I.	Jason, what about a SAEF they can fill out after the payment is processed?
Jim W.	JH What your asking isn't clear? Keep trying. I'm very familiar w/PP
Deron S.	Yeah, I don't know PHP or I'd love to be of help Jason. ;)
Jason H.	ok i will try again
	lol
Jim W.	You can also setup the IPN to post back and log all the payment info to db
Jason H.	I run a website for a breast cancer walk
	they have people they want to signup online using paypal
	they have a registration form & cost (i.e 30 for a family)
	they also want to offer the users the chance to pre-order t-shirts and sizes
	and other prizes
http://eescreencasts.com/go-chat	has entered the room
Jason H.	(sorry for one line, trying to make sense of it)
	now when they fill out this form, it sends it to paypal.
Jim W.	Sometimes writing it down gives you the answer
	9:50 PM
Jim W.	Which payment method?
http://eescreencasts.com/go-chat	has left the room
Jason H.	with the overall total, and the individual prices & items
	paypal
Jim W.	Payments pro or standard?
Jason H.	not sure what they use yet
	lets assume standard
Jim W.	Ya kinda have to ;~}
	If std, you could hard code add to cart buttons, with options for qty/size etc
Jason H.	have to know or assume, I assume because they are non-profit. I don't know if they have different options at sign up?
	if pro?
	is it different or the same?
Jim W.	If pro it's a bit more complicated. I service several NPs that use standard, and one that uses cybersource
	Is the site already in EE?
Jason H.	ok, so you can hardcode the shirt qty/price with the simple commerce?
	yes it is in EE
	9:55 PM
Jim W.	simple commerce only works with Payments Pro I believe, someone correct me
Jason H.	I didn't see where it said it required pro?

	I just double checked
	I think this is the only module that hasn't had a good tut/write up so far
Jim W.	Looking @ docs now, just a minute
	10:00 PM
Jason H.	thanks for the help. I guess I will have to install and fudge it until I figure it out
Ryan I.	I started writing/planning a screencast on the SCM but it quickly became very complex because of the PayPal side.
Jim W.	Your right it doesn't say, but I remmember reading somewhere that it req'd pp pro
Ian C.	does anyone have any experience creating single entry URLs like: http://example.com/template/YYYY/MM/entry-... ?
	entry-title.html -- that should read at the end
	with Y and M being year and month
Jim W.	JH do you need people to be a member/sign up?
Casey R.	has entered the room
Jason H.	nope, anyone basically
Deron S.	has left the room
Oli S.	Ian Cook: check the "migrating subtraction.com to EE" article: http://www.engaging.net/articles/convertin...
Ian C.	yes, was looking at that one.. havent quite decoded it however. was hoping to find additional resources
Oli S.	Ian Cook: it seems like it's a major endeavor to do, but it is possible
	10:05 PM
Jim W.	EE aside, I just did a very simple PP site where there were only a couple of products, using pp std, and I had the IPN do all the heavy lifting (send email receipts, fill out an orders table, etc)
Ian C.	thats the feeling i got.. which is a bummer. i have 12 years of archived URLs to deal with changing now... :(
Jim W.	buttons were hard coded
Jason H.	ok
	I guess I will use the IPN to make the form
Oli S.	wishes that EE didn't overload template group and template names to make the URL
Jim W.	I feel like I'm loosing you?
Jason H.	no I follow
Ian C.	/agree w/ oli
Timo K.	has entered the room
Jim W.	OK just checking
Jason H.	I just was hoping to use the module... but If I had to hard code it thats fine. It is an annual thing so not a biggy
Oli S.	The inability to easily do this completely scuppers any EE claims of smart URLs
Jim W.	Try it out and see what you get, it may work perfectly!
	What have you got to loose?

Ian C.	yeah.. i had an odd problem where a URL with incorrect or missing entry title caused 100 oldest articles to load.. i had to add in special tags to get it to be a 404 instead.
Timo K.	Hello. (i'm a bit late... seems this is still on...?)
Jason H.	I will def write something up if I get it to work
Oli S.	Actually I wish someone would implement the RadiantCMS URL model in a plugin; it's like Pages but any page can be a weblog-style date based archive. very easy to build nice URL structure
Jason H.	Time, that is up to ryan
	timo*
Oli S.	one last q bf everyone leaves - any way to remove the trailing slash on URLs?
Jim W.	You can find me on the EE boards, PM me.
Jason H.	ok
	10:10 PM
Oli S.	or am I better to use .htaccess?
Ian C.	Oli Studholme, could always do it with php
Oli S.	Ian Cook: hadn't thought of that. will try if .htaccess is too hard :)
Jim W.	Anyone done anything with LDAP or Active Directory?
Ian C.	ive read a number of forum posts about people trying LDAP and AD
	but i never got the impression that it worked very well or that anyone had really solved it
Jim W.	Ya I have posted to most of them
Jason H.	I will have more on AD and LDAP when CI is in play
Ian C.	(cant *WAIT* for that)
Jim W.	I use it away from ee all the time. currently customizing Heat Self Service wo authorize against AD
Ian C.	thanks all, cyas
Jason H.	I have to jet, hopefully I can make some progress with SCM
	good night all
Jim W.	L8r
Brandon R.	has left the room
	10:15 PM
Timo K.	I'm fairly new to ee. got all the screen-casts. terrific. got a problem though: i have a list of projects on the homepage (via includes)... when i got to my-url.com/projects/ the list is fine, but if i go to my-url.com/projects/view they're missing (except for the acutal project i'm on).
Jim W.	Good night folks, off to write a proposal
Timo K.	is there any reason in general, includes can look different on different views?
Jim W.	TK dynamic=off
Timo K.	that's it?
	i add that to the list.. for ex: limit="4" dynamic="off"?
Leevi G.	has entered the room
Jim W.	yup
	Drove me nuts for a while till I figured it out

Timo K.	thank you! (i'll try it tomorrow at office... haven't figured out how to work on the same project at work and from home)
Ryan I.	Timo, that's a normal EE stumbling block. So, you're not alone. :)
Oli S.	hey Leevi
Leevi G.	hey Oli S.
Timo K.	so relieved... thanks jim. thanks ryan for the terrific screencasts, and for the opportunity to ask questions here...!
Ryan I.	glad to help, timo
Oli S.	Timo Kuhn: try this assuming you're taking your laptop to work (setup for one computer & two servers): http://boblet.tumblr.com/post/68095239/ee-...
	10:20 PM
Leevi G.	Hey Rya – got my apprentice writing a cool plugin that takes a url like: http://bugtracker/index.php/tickets/projec... and modifies a weblogs output
	Ryan
Ryan I.	interesting
Jim W.	Ok lets try again. Night all.
Ryan I.	Take it easy jim.
Leevi G.	yeah it's pretty cool
	allows you to basically do simple serchs by url links
Ryan I.	sweet
Casey R.	Leevi Graham: idea for an extension for you to develop. URL-shortening built in the EE CP. Like this: http://thesidepath.com/
Jim W.	has left the room
Ian C.	has left the room
Ryan I.	Going to wrap it up here. The 24/7 chatroom is always open: http://eescreencasts.com/ee-chat
	Leevi, I want to hear more about that. I'm over in Curly Braces, too.
Oli S.	thanks as always Ryan
Ryan I.	glad to do it
Oli S.	oh that reminds me, I need to DM you :)
	10:25 PM
Timo K.	Thanks Ryan. (is there a transcript available afterwards, or should i save it now...)
Ryan I.	Have a good night, everyone!
	(Good day)
Leevi G.	see ya
Jason H.	has left the room
Ryan I.	Timo, I will post a transcript right now to EE Insider.
Timo K.	thx
Ryan I.	it'll show up here: http://eeinsider.com/ee-help-chat
	(at the bottom)

ok, shutting it down!

Timo K. has left the room

Casey R. has left the room

Oli S. has left the room

Leevi G. has left the room

Jonathan M. has left the room

Ryan I. turned off guest access