



EE Help Chat — Today, September 17

Sep 17	7:00 PM
Ryan I.	has entered the room
Ryan I.	turned on guest access
Ryan I.	changed the room's topic to <i>Free answers to your ExpressionEngine questions. Every Wednesday at 9PM Eastern (GMT -4).</i> http://eescreencasts.com
Ryan I.	has left the room
Joe U.	has entered the room
Joe U.	has left the room
Ryan I.	has entered the room
	8:50 PM
Ryan I.	changed the room's topic to <i>Free answers to your ExpressionEngine questions. Wednesday at 9PM Eastern (GMT -4).</i> http://eescreencasts.com
	8:55 PM
Ryan B.	has entered the room
Ryan B.	first :)
Eric W.	has entered the room
JF T.	has entered the room
Ryan I.	Welcome, welcome.
Eric W.	Hello all.
Ryan B.	Heya
JF T.	Hello everyone
Eric W.	Ryan – this is awesome. Thanks for doing it.
Ryan I.	You bet. I'm looking forward to seeing how it all works.
	9:00 PM
Ryan I.	Thanks to everyone for joining the chat. Hopefully, we'll have some more people pop in and out during the hour.
JF T.	Yes thanks Ryan, thanks for the screencasts too, they were great
Ryan I.	Great! I'm glad you found them helpful.
Ryan B.	yeah we bought all 10 as well, really helped to bring some other designers in the office up to speed with EE
Ryan I.	awesome
	Well, this won't help you guys out too much, but PragProg has a special coupon just for chat participants. 20% the EE screencasts. Coupon code: eechat_0917
Casey R.	has entered the room
Ryan I.	20% off, that is
	I'll repeat the code throughout the chat since newcomers can't see the previous transcript.
	Hi Casey.
Casey R.	Hello
	Did I miss anything?
Ryan I.	I just gave away a new Mercedes S Class. Sorry, dude.
	;))
Casey R.	Damn. Maybe next week I'll win.
JF T.	I hope I was the winner

Ryan I.	Haha. :D Let's rock n roll. Anyone have a question or issue they want to start with?
Ryan B.	*raises hand*
Ryan I.	Go for it, Ryan.
Ryan B.	its super simple its just something i've always wanted to know but never figured out 9:05 PM
Ryan B.	ok so, say I have a list of categories but my client has used some nested sub categories.. outputting them in a nice list without using the style="nested" tag they don't output very nicely.. 9:05 PM
Ryan B.	usually I'll use a {if} conditional to highlight the selected category, but if I want to output them in a nicely nested list, then I can't use my {if} statements did I explain that well enough? I didn't really think about how I would pose the question yet, sorry if its confusing
Ryan I.	Yes, it makes sense.
Ryan B.	I could use the EE Subcategories extension or plugin whatever it is,, but I wanted to know if there was a method of doing it without the add-on seems like a reasonable request as an EE dev/user
Ryan I.	Sure. I've had some real struggles with the categories, too. I always ended up using custom queries, but let's take a look at this.
Ryan B.	ok 9:10 PM
Ryan B.	ok here is the site in question that I am looking at http://www.bathworks.ca/bathroom/category/basins/
	see how there's that undermount category right underneath, ideally I would like that to be in a nested and if that category was then clicked, it would check {segment_3} for the category url title and highlight it
tonyg	has entered the room
Ryan B.	if there's no simple work around other than using a custom query via the query module then that's fair enough, I just wasn't sure if there was some way to nest 2 tags together to get what I want
Ryan I.	Ryan, I don't think there is with the default category nested behavior.
Luke D.	has entered the room
Dennis F.	has entered the room
Luke D.	G' Day.
Ryan I.	It tries to be very simple and breaks down pretty quickly, especially when trying to use it as navigation.
Dennis F.	Hi
Ryan I.	Hello, Luke. Hello, Dennis.
Ryan B.	yeah for sure
Leslie	has entered the room
Luke D.	Sorry, I'm a bit late.
tonyg	hello y'all
Ryan I.	Hey Tony.
rockthenroll	has entered the room
Luke D.	Ah, great crowd!


Ryan I.	Hi Les. Rockthenroll, indeed.
Ryan B.	Ok, well maybe if you wouldn't mind posting a sample snippet from a query that you'd normally use than I guess that would help me on my way :)
Leslie	Just stopped by to say hi and give a big thanks to Ryan for doing this.
tonyg	ok to ask a Q?
Ryan B.	hey Leslie, cheers
Ryan I.	go for it, tony
	9:15 PM
tonyg	you are using textmate and it looks like you are using a bundle
Ryan I.	i am
Casey R.	Coda FTW :)
Ryan I.	there's an ee bundle available for textmate. have you tried it out before?
tonyg	that helps with the EE at Syntax I could not find it at EE.com
rockthenroll	this is the bundle – right? http://www.chrisruzin.net/entry/textmate e...
Tristan B.	has entered the room
Luke D.	hello, tristan
tonyg	GreG A
Tristan B.	hello luke
Ryan I.	That's it rockthenroll thanks for the posting the link. here's the pragprog forum topic that covers it: http://forums.pragprog.com/forums/71/topics/679
tonyg	Sheesh sorry for the awful iPhone text!
nEEdhelp	has entered the room
Ryan I.	looks like someone needs help! :)
Luke D.	Heh. nice one.
nEEdhelp	Haha, just kidding. Checking things out.
tonyg	hehe
Ryan I.	Tony, that bundle is great and a real time saver for me.
Luke D.	EEK!
nEEdhelp	Real name, John Fuller, or Manofsteel. :D
tonyg	thks
Casey R.	So here's another topic: What are some of the standard add-ons you all use on a lot of your projects?
Luke D.	Just so everyone knows, in case they didn't there's bundles for both Coda and TextMate.
nEEdhelp	Saw this pop up on Twitter.
Ryan I.	Hey John! Glad you stopped by.
Ryan B.	I agree it's pretty handy especially for some of the tag auto completion, like if you just type "entries" or "encode" and hit tab.. pretty sweet

	9:20 PM
nEEdhelp	np, good idea you have going here
tonyg	not meaning to hog the Qs
Tristan B.	Ryan what are your thoughts on multi language approaches with EE. we have UK and US content for new site
nEEdhelp	UK and US... use English for both. ;)
	My 2 cents :P
Tristan B.	:) out someone in the the US decided to spell things differently
Ryan I.	Casey Reid: it depends on the project but I've been using the User Module from SolSPACE a lot recently.
Tristan B.	and more importantly the US has different content focus
Ryan I.	We like the Edit Tab Ajax extension, Mark Huot's File Extension
Tristan B.	Do you like the SolSPACE stuff? we are looking at the tags add-on
Ryan I.	I love the SolSPACE stuff.
	I've used the User Module, Tag Module, Ratings Module, Freeform.
Casey R.	I use those a well on just about every project. Been using Playa a lot lately too.
nEEdhelp	Playa is getting quite popular for relationships it seems.
Ryan B.	Freeform is amazing, just my 2 cents
Ryan I.	Allow EE Code is also a handy plugin.
Leslie	Well folks, room is full, so I'm going to bow out. Happy chatting. Please be sure to send feedback to Ryan, he'll share it with EllisLab as well. The EE team loves this sort thing, wants to encourage it and support it. Cheers!
Ryan I.	Thanks, Les. Have a great evening!
Tristan B.	i looked at freeform but what i really wanted was real form post processing. i am suprised EE does not have it
Dennis F.	What about compatibility of extensions, modules and plugins with the upcoming version 2.0?
tonyg	other q: when developing using a local server (MAMP or sim) how does one sync with the remote server? Template files are easy, but other EE configs cannot be brought across
nEEdhelp	Multi languages... Leevi Graham has a multi language add-on, I would take a look at that.
Ryan I.	View paste
 What about compatibility of extensions, modules and plugins with the upcoming version 2.0?
	Dennis Frank: THEY will have to be all rewritten to work on the new platform.
	View paste
 when developing using a local server (MAMP or sim) how does one sync with the remote server? Template 
	We use Subversion for the files and connect to a remote database that the development server also connects to.
Ryan B.	the Edit remember ext is nice
Leslie	has left the room
	9:25 PM
paulv	has entered the room
Ryan I.	nEEdhelp: Leevi's add-ons are killer, too.
Eric W.	I have a beginner question
	Someone mentioned relationships

Ryan I.	tonyg: you can also set a lot params in the config.php file, so you don't have to pull them from the database.
tonyg	Thks will look at that
paulv	View paste <hr/> I have a bunch of different web business ideas that all revolve around different types of paid listing 
Casey R.	tonyg: One of many forum posts on local/remote dev and config file. http://expressionengine.com/forums/viewthr...
Ryan I.	Thanks for the link, Casey. That's the one where I chimed in with some of my settings.
Ryan B.	thanks for that Casey
Eric W.	When calling a specific field from a relationship in an embed, EE doesn't process the tags (because they are embedded). How do I embed tags within {exp} tags?
Tristan B.	Is there a way to nest entries code in EE as I sometimes what to look up other data based on weblog data but EE breaks at nesting them
rockthenroll	Ryan I, what are some things you use as params in the config.php file?
Ryan I.	paulv: EE can definitely handle what you're looking for. You can use a SAEF and the Simple Commerce Module (but that requires PayPal use, which some people don't like). I built a process for a large media site to take advertising using SAEF and Simple Commerce. It worked pretty well.
	9:30 PM
Ryan I.	Eric Wiley: Do you have some sample code? It sounds like you're running into a parse order issue.
Ryan B.	you can pay with credit cards via paypal no?
tonyg	will transcript of tonight's session be available? My iPhone is only displaying
Eric W.	I totally am running into a parse issue
Ryan I.	Ryan Blaind: Yep, without needing an account.
Tristan B.	yes paypal takes credit cards
tonyg	part of the page ;-)
paulv	Thanks Ryan. I'd like to also allow them to somehow store listings (closed status) and pay again to reopen them (open status). Does this sound possible?
Eric W.	{exp:weblog:entries weblog="products" url_title="asbury_multipurpose_4_in_1_bucket"}
Ryan I.	paulv: That sounds possible but will probably need some custom code. It doesn't sound extremely difficult.
Eric W.	sorry- disregard my last entry..premature
Ryan I.	tonyg: I'm hoping to make a transcript available. Just need to get it exported to a workable format.
paulv	Great! Now I need to find someone to hire for this.
nEEhelp	has left the room
Casey R.	quick Campfire tip: use @ then the first letter or letters of the persons name you want to reply to. It will autocomplete their name.
Luke D.	Ryan I.: Is there anyway to know how much EE will change because of it's rewrite for 2.0? Will expressions and basic coding remain similar or will we all have to adapt to a large degree (from what you're aware of)
Ryan I.	Tristan Bailey: I have had some success with nesting weblog entry tag pairs but it really depends on the situation.
tonyg	Thks - link to Textmate bundle no longer visible in iPhone - sorry to be a pain!
Saul M.	has entered the room
Ryan I.	View paste <hr/> Ryan I.: Is there anyway to know how much EE will change because of it's rewrite for 2.0? Will expres: 

	9:35 PM
Ryan B.	I also just wanted to pick your brain Ryan, about how you typically setup the CP once you are ready to put it into the clients hands. Say for a typical blog, how do you setup the fields so they are fairly easy to edit/post upload pictures, create links, things like that. Do you use a WYSIWYG editor? Or simply a xhtml formatting and the button bar
Ryan I.	Luke, I don't know for sure, but I can't imagine that Ellis Lab will make you learn a new templating language. Their announcement was that EE 2.0 was a upgrade, not a migration. I'm assuming everything you've learned so far will still apply to EE 2.0. Obviously, the CP will be different, but the templating should be the same.
	Ryan Blaind: In general, I try to remove everything from the CP that the client doesn't absolutely need. For uploads, I always use Huot's File extension. I always remove any unneeded tabs from the publish form and add top level tabs so the clients can easily access hidden functionality (like the Freeform module).
Casey R.	Along the same lines of @ryan b question, when allowing clients to enter large blocks of text, say in a textarea, how do you handle it if they want to have a link to a PDF in the middle of the content. Or an image for that matter. WYSIWYG, LG Replace, Tell them now, etc.?
Luke D.	Thanks, Ryan I. That's great news.
Ryan I.	Ryan Blaind: I haven't used a WYSIWYG editor because I think it can cause more problems than it solves. YMMV, of course. :)
Ryan B.	I agree fully.. however sometimes clients want that functionality
	but say comparing the WP CP vs. EE for publishing a blog, it would be great to be able to set something up similar to that.. I've tried tinymce, fck etc etc.. all have the fail
Ryan I.	Casey Reid: We tell them how to do it. I've found that the ultimate easy-as-pie CMS experience is a myth. If you make your setup too rigid the client will bump into those restrictions fairly quickly. If you leave the client a little room to play and teach them how to make those things happen, it seems to work pretty well.
Tristan B.	Does anyone know if their is a setting to let a client edit Categories. I could not find one, so have to be admin for that
	9:40 PM
Luke D.	Heh. Your clients may vary.
Casey R.	so in the case of letting them upload and link to a PDF or multiple PDF's in the middle of a block of content text, what approach would you use?
Ryan I.	Any questions from those who haven't chimed in yet?
Eric W.	I withdraw my previous Q. Can find the answer in the forums and would rather hear what everyone else has to say.
Ryan I.	//case I would show them how to upload the PDFs and link them up. Nothing fancy. :)
	oops that was for Casey.
Ryan B.	Tristan Bailey: yeah there is in the member group preferences you can set it, but also you have to set it in the edit category group page, you click which member groups you wish to allow access to edit cats
Tristan B.	Ryan B: thanks
Ryan I.	Scrolling up a bit to make sure I didn't miss anything.
Casey R.	Ryan I: Gotcha. I was more looking for what EE method you use for that type of upload, but we can move on :)
Ryan I.	//pa Be sure to check out the EE job board and the Pro Network, if you're looking to hire someone.
	paulv. man, the autocompletion is failing for me.
paulv	Where is the ee job board?
Ryan I.	http://expressionengine.com/forums/viewforum/47/
Tristan B.	Ryan would you tell us an outline of how you start building most sites. do you have standard set of weblogs, extensions, etc like make be a misc weblog for FAQs, Terms, etc,
paulv	Thanks Ryan – great help.
	9:45 PM
Ryan I.	Tristan Bailey: First thing I always do is change "weblog" to "section." Then I set up a "Site" template group and section (formerly "weblog") to house general site content (like Pages).
Luke D.	Yes, Ryan. This is a cool thing you're doing here.

Ryan I.	We covered this earlier, but I know you can't see the chat history, so the extensions I like are: Mark Huot's File Extension, Live Search and Edit Tab Ajax. Those are pretty standard for us.
Tristan B.	do you use an 'includes' template group? i can't resist naming my css files with .css at the end
Ryan I.	Yes, definitely create an "includes" group.
	Sometimes I'll break that out into multiple groups. Like, one for "includes_public" and "includes_private" if the site has public and member-only areas.
Tristan B.	we use Edit Ajax but does not seem to work in ie 7 and the File Extension was new to me but looks good
rockthenroll	what about global variables? since they have less overhead do you use them for non-EE code?
Ryan I.	http://docs.markhuot.com is a great place to get some EE goodies.
tonyg	Thks for tonight's session – campfire is not great on iPhone, though ... no extended scrolling. I hope u r able to publish a transcript. Thks again!
Ryan I.	Thanks for stopping by, Tony!
	View paste
	<pre>what about global variables? since they have less overhead do you use them for non-EE code?</pre>
	Yes, quite often. We use them for bits of text that the client would need to edit via the control panel.
Tristan B.	do you find the members section for public users ok or have you extended or changed it for any sites. We are just starting a sort of social site with EE
Ryan I.	Bits of text that don't warrant their own entry.
paulv	has left the room
Ryan I.	By the way, before I forget. PragProg has created a special coupon for tonight's chatters. 20% any of the EE screencasts if you use the code: eechat_0917
	9:50 PM
Matt M.	has entered the room
Ryan I.	20% off the EE screencasts, that is: eechat_0917
Casey R.	does that code expire? Can we use it for your next EE series?
rockthenroll	when you say you use Freeform is that for the member-based sites so the data posts to the db from password protected areas? or do you custom code those usually?
Eric W.	Cool. That'll save me a buck on the one I don't own.
Ryan I.	Casey, it's only good for 24 hours, but I hope to do more chats and have more coupons!
	View paste
	<pre>do you find the members section for public users ok or have you extended or changed it for any sites.</pre>
	I've written a lot of custom modules for a social site we did. We also used Solspace's User Module. It's a must-have, IMO, if you're going to expose member functionality on the front end.
	View paste
	<pre>when you say you use Freeform is that for the member-based sites so the data posts to the db from pas:</pre>
	I've used them in both, but normally I use a SAEF or custom form for members to post data.
Casey R.	What are some of the things you've had to use CodeIgniter for that EE couldn't handle, aside from the Airbag Hire page :) In your opinion is learning Code Igniter worth it form a dev standpoint?

Ryan I.	EE 2.0 will be CI-based, so it's totally worth learning it.
Ryan B.	What if one has basically no knowledge of php, well being able to write it from scratch, would you recommend learning php before diving into CI?
	9:55 PM
Ryan I.	Casey Reid: If the project requires too much customization OR won't use much of the functionality in EE, I'll do it from scratch.
	View paste
	What if one has basically no knowledge of php, well being able to write it from scratch, would you re
	
	I think Derek Allard wrote about learning PHP while learning Code Igniter. Let me dig up the link..
	Here we go: http://www.derekallard.com/blog/post/learn...
Ryan B.	sweet thanks Ryan.
Ryan I.	You bet.
	Anyone else have a question? There are a few minutes left... Lots of lurkers out there :)
Dennis F.	Ryan, is it possible to relate different Weblogs in a Custom Relationship Field depending on the Weblog the Field Group belongs?
Ryan I.	I don't think that's possible without custom code. What did you have in mind, Dennis?
Luke D.	not lurkers, readers. heh. can you tell us what else you have planned so we can follow up with you? Will you be posting stuff on the screencast site or on your own site?
Eric W.	yeah. I'm actually taking notes
	10:00 PM
tonyg	has left the room
Ryan I.	Luke Dorny: Anything screencast-related will be posted at http://eescreencasts.com , including any new screencasts i launch (and there are more coming, i promise!).
Luke D.	ah, that's good to hear.
Ryan I.	Anyone that opted to be notified of product updates, should also get an email when there are new screencasts available.
	Last call on questions before we call it a night...
Luke D.	Great stuff, Ryan. Thanks again.
Eric W.	Right on.
Brian L.	has entered the room
Ryan I.	And the coupon code for 20% off the EE screencasts: eechat_0917
Eric W.	You just made four dollars from me.
Ryan I.	:) Thanks!
Eric W.	...or your cut of four dollars..
rockthenroll	thanks, ryan
Eric W.	:) Thank you!
Dennis F.	Thanks! ;)
Ryan I.	Thanks to everyone for hanging out to chat EE.
Brian L.	Hi, I just entered, but I bought the 10 screencasts previously and they're excellent!
Casey R.	You planing on doing this Chat on occassion?
Ryan I.	I think we'll do it again next week. Same time, same day, same place.
	I'd like to do it every week.

	Brian Lokker: Thanks!
Brian L.	Sorry I missed this – couldn't get on until the very end.
Dennis F.	It's 4 am here. ;)
Eric W.	Good night all.
Casey R.	Cool. Great stuff. Thanks for setting it up and answering our questions.
	10:05 PM
Luke D.	links: http://eescreencasts.com/ http://www.derekallard.com/blog/post/learn... http://docs.markhuot.com/http://expressionengine.com/forums/viewforum/47/
Ryan I.	No problem, Brian. We'll be back next week for more. But please feel free to use the PragProg Forums. http://forums.pragprog.com/forums/71
	Thanks, Luke.
Luke D.	http://www.ryanirelan.com/
Ryan I.	And I'm always hanging out on the EE forums, too.
	Take care, everyone.
Brian L.	OK – and you've already answered one of my questions on the EE forum.
Casey R.	has left the room
Tristan B.	its 3 am here need some sleep but thanks for the questions me be try it at 6 or 7pm next time?
Ryan I.	Email me feedback on times: ryanirelan@gmail.com
	I'm trying to make it as convenient for as many people as possible, but it's hard!
Tristan B.	I know thanks for your input and feedback to everyone in your time
Luke D.	oh, and on twitter: http://twitter.com/eescreencasts
Ryan I.	Luke is my official linkbot. ;)
Ryan B.	has left the room
Eric W.	has left the room
JF T.	has left the room
Luke D.	has left the room
Dennis F.	has left the room
rockthenroll	has left the room
Tristan B.	has left the room
Saul M.	has left the room
Brian L.	has left the room
Matt M.	has left the room
Ryan I.	turned off guest access