

Form2Content Anywhere v. 2.4.1

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Introduction

Form2Content Anywhere is a Joomla! content plugin. It is an add-on for the Joomla! [Form2Content](#) CCK from [Open Source Design](#) and can only be used in combination with [Form2Content](#). It's purpose is to embed [Form2Content](#) data in Joomla! content and content from any 3rd party extension that supports Joomla! content plugins.

When to use

Basically you would use Form2Content Anywhere when the standard intro and full article versions, generated by [Form2Content](#), do not suffice. Maybe you don't want to display all but just a few specific fields from the content type. Maybe you want to format the fields in a different way than the standard [Form2Content](#) generated intro and full articles. Maybe you want to display article content outside the main content area of your Joomla template. There are many scenarios. Here are some examples:

- Display an article in the main content area and its image, or even image gallery, in a module position.
- Embed the plugin in a [Form2Content](#) template to display a list of links to articles in the same category as the main article.
- ...

You can see the plugin functionality as an extension to your article. Since it can be loaded in a custom HTML module you could for instance display your article photo gallery in a module position. Or any other content for that matter. The layout of the gallery or content can be templated, just like your [Form2Content](#) article templates.

Since the plugin can be set to automatically detect the article ID, it will also automatically display the images belonging to the article you are viewing.

Plugin details

Name:	Form2Content Anywhere
Extension type:	Content Plugin
Version:	2.3.2
Release date:	6 juni 2015

Minimum requirements

Joomla! version:	3.4.1 ¹
Form2Content version:	6.10 ² (Lite/Pro?)

¹ The Joomla! version is the version this extension was developed under and tested with. The extension may or may not work on older and/or newer versions of Joomla!

² The Form2Content version is the version this extension was developed for and tested with. The extension does **not** work with older versions but it may work with newer versions of Form2Content.

Download and installation

For download:

https://drive.google.com/uc?export=download&confirm=no_antivirus&authuser=0&id=0B5f3ajyU6D8BbEVPSU5RQjhyaIE

For installation:

https://docs.joomla.org/Installing_an_extension

Usage

Description

Form2Content Anywhere is a Joomla! content plugin. It can be used anywhere other regular content plugins can be used, like in Joomla! articles, Joomla! category descriptions and Joomla! custom modules³, but also in content of 3rd party extensions if they support content plugins.

Similar to other content plugins, the Form2Content Anywhere plugin is used by embedding a specific code (tag) in the content. Different from most other content plugins, this plugin can be applied in two different ways (see [Synopsis](#) below). Using the first, single tag syntax, the plugin expects the name of an existing [Form2Content template](#) file. Using the second, dual tag syntax, a template can be specified between the opening and closing tags of the plugin.

Depending on the options specified in the (opening) tag, the plugin can be used to display data from one or more [Form2Content](#) articles. For a single article, an article id must be specified. For multiple articles, a category, content type or author id must be specified.

For the display of multiple articles, options can be used to limit the number of articles, specify the sorting order and/or exclude specific articles from the result.

Synopsis

Syntax 1

```
{F2cAnywhere option[|option|option|....]}
```

Syntax 2

```
{F2cAnywhere option[|option|option|....]}embedded template{/F2cAnywhere}
```

The tag word, **F2cAnywhere**, is mandatory but configurable (see [Configuration](#) below). Neither the curly braces nor the closing slash (/) may be surrounded by whitespace. Tag word and first option must be separated by at least one whitespace character.

³ For this to work you must set the module's "Prepare Content" option to "Yes".

Beware when using wysiwyg editors like JCE. They sometimes insert HTML tags that may interfere with proper functioning of the plugin.

Options

Options are specified as **option name=value**. Multiple options must be separated with a vertical bar (| also known as a pipe character) which should not be surrounded by whitespace..

id

One or more [Form2Content](#) article id's (so *not* Joomla! article id's). It may be present in either of three formats:

number

A positive integer value, identifying a single [Form2Content](#) article.

numerical list

A comma separated list of positive integer values, identifying multiple [Form2Content](#) articles.

'article'

The literal string 'article' (without the quotes), denoting the currently displayed article. This format can only be used on single article pages (i.e. `?option=com_content&view=article`). The plugin will use the id of the displayed article to retrieve the corresponding [Form2Content](#) article.

catid

One or more Joomla! category ids. It may be present in either of four formats:

number

A positive integer value, identifying a single Joomla! category.

numerical list

A comma separated list of positive integer values, identifying multiple Joomla! categories.

category path

A category path. This is a literal string, made up of category aliases separated by slashes (/). The path must have a leading slash and start with the top most category. For example:

`/animals/mammals/pink-fairy-armadillo.`⁴

'article'

The literal string 'article' (without the quotes), denoting the currently displayed article. This format can only be used on single article pages (i.e. `?option=com_content&view=article`). The plugin will use the category id of the

⁴ Although a path makes the identifier easily recognizable, it's also quite prone to changes in category hierarchy structure. In the current incarnation of the plugin, a non existing path will result in severe run time errors.

displayed article to retrieve the corresponding [Form2Content](#) articles in that category.

authorid

One or more Joomla! user ids. It may be present in either of four formats:

number

A positive integer value, identifying a single Joomla! user.

numerical list

A comma separated list of positive integer values, identifying multiple Joomla! users.

'user'

The literal string 'user' (without the quotes), denoting the currently logged in user. The plugin will use the id of the logged in user to retrieve the corresponding [Form2Content](#) article.

'article'

The literal string 'article' (without the quotes), denoting the currently displayed article. This format can only be used on single article pages (i.e. `?option=com_content&view=article`). The plugin will use the creator id of the displayed article to retrieve the corresponding [Form2Content](#) article.

contenttypeid

One or more [Form2Content](#) content type ids. It may be present in either of four formats:

number

A positive integer value, identifying a single content type.

numerical list

A comma separated list of positive integer values, identifying multiple content types.

featured

In- or excludes featured articles. Can be either *yes* to include or *no* to exclude featured articles. If not specified, featured articles are always included.

exclude

Identifies [Form2Content](#) articles to be excluded from the result. This option only has meaning when any of the other options results in multiple articles and will be silently ignored otherwise. It may be present in either of two formats:

number

As a single positive integer value or a list of such values separated by commas.

'article'

The literal string 'article' (without the quotes), denoting the currently displayed article. This format can only be used on single article pages (i.e. ?option=com_content&view=article'). The plugin will use the id of the displayed article to retrieve the corresponding [Form2Content](#) article id to be excluded from the list.

order

Specifies the order in which the articles must be displayed. This option only has meaning when used in combination with option **catid** and will be silently ignored otherwise.

The order is specified as a list of column names, each optionally followed by a direction indicator, separated by commas:

column name[ASC|DESC][,column name[ASC|DESC], column name ...]

Columns must exist in table #__f2c_form, the [Form2Content](#) articles table. For the currently supported version of [Form2Content](#), available columns are:

id
asset_id
projectid
title
alias
created_by
created_by_alias
created
modified
metakey
metadesc
catid
intro_template
main_template
reference_id
ordering
publish_up
publish_down
state
featured
access
attribs
metadata
language
extended

The direction indicator can be ASC for ascending (lowest to highest) and DESC for descending (highest to lowest). It must be separated from the column name with a space.

limit

Limits the number of retrieved articles. This option only has meaning when used in combination with option **catid** and will be silently ignored otherwise. It must be specified as a single positive integer value.

template

The name of a [Form2Content](#) template file, without the path but including the extension. The plugin expects in the default [Form2Content](#) folder:

```
<website root>/media/com_form2content/templates
```

All options denoting ids (**id**, **catid**, **authorid**, **contenttypeid**) and lists thereof, may be preceded with an exclamation mark (!) to invert the result.

URL query string

As an alternative to providing the [Form2Content](#) article id using the **id option**, it can be passed in the query string of a URL as **f2cid=value**. For example:

```
http://domain.tld?index.php?option=com_content&view=article&Itemid=123&f2cid=456
```

Embedded template

Using [Syntax 2](#), it's possible to embed a [Form2Content](#) template in the content. The **template** option and the embedded template are mutually exclusive. If both are specified, an error message is displayed.

When defining an embedded template, the syntax slightly differs from the regular [Smarty](#) syntax. Whereas Smarty by default expects template tags to be enclosed within { and } (see <http://www.smarty.net/docs/en/language.basic.syntax.tpl>), in an embedded template they must be enclosed within [: and :]. For example:

Regular Smarty template:

```
<article class="intro">
    {$INTRO_TEXT}
</article>
```

Embedded Smarty template:

```
<article class="intro">
    [:$INTRO_TEXT:]
</article>
```

Special template parameters

Form2Content Anywhere injects some additional parameters into templates:

{F2CANYWHERE_SEQUENCE_NUMBER}

Gives the total number of articles being processed.

{F2CANYWHERE_ITEM_COUNT}

Gives the sequence number of the article being processed, starting at 0 (zero).

Configuration

Tag

Allows the plugin's tag identifier to be changed. The default is **F2cAnywhere**.

Recursive

Enables processing of [Form2Content](#) Anywhere plugins within [Form2Content](#) templates. This function is still experimental and not tested extensively. Use of an [embedded template](#) only works on the first level of a regular template file and not within another embedded template. Use of the **template** option will probably work on multiple nesting levels.

Error handling

How to handle runtime errors:

- Display a regular Joomla! error message in the standard message area as defined in the active template.
- Display the error message in the content. by replacing the plugin tag with the message.
- Silently ignore the error message.

Show not found messages

Enables the display of 'no articles found' messages, unless error handling has been disabled (see previous setting).

Message CSS class

When displaying the error message in the content, add this class to the enclosing <div> to allow custom styling of the message.

Examples

Display the [Form2Content](#) article with **id** 12 using **template** file nieuws_intro.tpl:

```
{F2cAnywhere id=12|template=news_intro.tpl/}
```

Display all [Form2Content](#) articles in categories with id 7 or 23 using **template** file nieuws_intro.tpl:

```
{F2cAnywhere catid=7,23|template=news_intro.tpl/}
```

Display all [Form2Content](#) articles with content type id 3 but not created by the user with id 73 using **template** file profile_intro.tpl:

```
{F2cAnywhere contenttypeid=3|authorid!=73|template=profile_intro.tpl/}
```

Display the same [Form2Content](#) article but this time using an embedded template:

```
{F2cAnywhere id=12}
{if $DETAIL_TEXT}
<article class="detail">
    
    [:$DETAIL_TEXT:]
</article>
{/F2cAnywhere}
```

Display 10 newest articles from the same category as the currently displayed **article**, except that article itself, ordered by creation date in descending order (newest first), using **template** ander_nieuws.tpl:

```
{F2cAnywhere catid=article|exclude=article|limit=10|template=other_news.tpl/}
```

Changelog

v. 2.4.2

New

- Injects template parameters **{F2CANYWHERE_SEQUENCE_NUMBER}** and **{F2CANYWHERE_ITEM_COUNT}** into templates.

v. 2.4.1

Fixed

- Take article start and finish publishing settings into account.

v. 2.4.0

New

- Filter on featured articles.
- Automatically enable plugin after installation.

Fixed

- Better recognition of plugin tag.
- Namespace bug.

v. 2.3.2

Fixed

- Fixed nasty bug when using the `id=article` option.

v. 2.3.1

Fixed

- Compatibility issues resulting from fixes in Form2Content core (support for Joomla! 3.4.1).

v. 2.3.0

New

- New option **authorid**.
- New option **contenttypeid**.
- New configuration setting **Show not found messages**.
- Id options accept either a single id (integer value) or a comma separated list of id's.
- Id options can be preceded an exclamation mark (!) to invert the query result.

Changed

- Option **catid**. When using a *category path* it must now always be prefixed with a forward slash (/).

Improved

- In several, but not all places a Form2Content model (Form2ContentModelForms) is now used to retrieve Form2Content articles, instead of using custom queries.

- In several, but not all places instances of JTable are now used to retrieve Joomla! and Form2Content data, instead of using custom queries.

v. 2.2.1 - 2015-02-26

Fixed

- Take published state and publication dates into account when determining the maximum number of articles for the **limit** option.