

JResource Download Tracker - Comprehensive Documentation

1. Overview

JResource Download Tracker is a professional-grade gated-download and lead-capture extension built for Joomla 4, 5, and 6.

It empowers site administrators to protect valuable digital assets (such as PDFs, eBooks, software, and media) behind customizable lead-capture forms. By utilizing this extension, you can seamlessly collect user data before granting access to your resources, effectively turning your downloads into a powerful lead generation engine.

All captured leads and download metrics are centralized within a unified Joomla administrator dashboard, making it simple to track performance and export data to your preferred CRM or email marketing platform.

2. System Requirements

- **Joomla Version:** Joomla 4.0 or higher (Fully compatible with Joomla 5 and 6).
 - **PHP Version:** PHP 7.4 or higher (PHP 8.0+ recommended for optimal performance).
 - **Database:** MySQL 5.6+ or MariaDB equivalent.
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3. Package Contents

When you install `pkg_jresourcedownloads.zip`, the following extensions are installed on your Joomla site:

1. **Component (`com_jresourcedownloads`):** The core application for managing resources, forms, leads, and categories.
2. **Module (`mod_jresourcedownloads`):** A frontend module to display specific resources and trigger the download forms.
3. **Content Plugin (`plg_content_jresourcedownloads`):** Allows you to embed resources directly into Joomla articles using shortcodes.

4. **Privacy Plugin (`plg_privacy_jresourcedownloads`)**: Integrates with Joomla's core Privacy tool suite to ensure GDPR compliance for user data.
 5. **Task Plugin (`plg_task_jresourcedownloads`)**: Allows integration with Joomla's Task Scheduler for automated data maintenance (e.g., pruning old leads).
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4. Installation Guide

1. Log in to your Joomla Administrator backend.
 2. Navigate to **System** -> **Install** -> **Extensions**.
 3. Under the **Upload Package File** tab, drag and drop the `pkg_jresourcedownloads.zip` file, or click to browse and select it.
 4. Joomla will automatically install the package and its sub-extensions.
 5. Once the installation is successful, verify that all plugins are enabled by going to **System** -> **Manage** -> **Plugins** and searching for "JResource". Ensure they have a green checkmark next to them.
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5. Configuration & Usage

5.1 Creating a Resource Category

Organizing your resources makes them easier to manage, especially if you plan to offer many downloads.

1. Go to **Components** -> **JResource Download Tracker** -> **Categories**.
2. Click the **New** button.
3. Enter a **Title** (e.g., "Whitepapers", "Software Updates").
4. Optional: Add a description and select a parent category if you are using a nested structure.
5. Click **Save & Close**.

5.2 Building a Lead Capture Form

Before you can gate a resource, you need to create a form for users to fill out.

1. Navigate to **Components** -> **JResource Download Tracker** -> **Forms**.
2. Click **New**.
3. **Title**: Give your form a descriptive name (e.g., "Standard B2B Lead Form").
4. **Form Builder**: Add the fields you require. You can typically add fields such as:
 - First Name (Text)
 - Last Name (Text)

- Email Address (Email - Required for tracking)
- Company Name (Text)
- Consent Checkbox (Boolean - Important for GDPR compliance)

5. Configure which fields are mandatory.

6. Click **Save & Close**.

5.3 Adding a Gated Resource

This is where you upload or link the file you want to offer.

1. Go to **Components** -> **JResource Download Tracker** -> **Resources**.
 2. Click **New**.
 3. **Title & Description**: Provide the name and details of the resource. This is what the user will see.
 4. **Category**: Assign the resource to a category created in step 5.1.
 5. **File/URL**: Upload your file (PDF, ZIP, etc.) or provide a secure external URL to the asset.
 6. **Form Selection**: In the settings, select the Form you created in step 5.2 to gate this resource.
 7. **Status**: Ensure the status is set to **Published**.
 8. Click **Save & Close**.
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6. Displaying Resources on the Frontend

Method A: Using the Module

The module allows you to place a download button anywhere on your site (e.g., in a sidebar or footer).

1. Navigate to **Content** -> **Site Modules**.
2. Click **New** and select **JResource Download Tracker**.
3. In the module settings, choose the specific **Resource** you want to display.
4. You can toggle options such as **Show Resource Title** and customize the **Button Text**.
5. Assign the module to a template position and select the menu items where it should appear.
6. Click **Save & Close**.

Method B: Using the Content Plugin (Shortcode)

You can embed a download button directly within a Joomla article.

1. Ensure the `Content - JResource Download Tracker` plugin is enabled.
2. Open a Joomla Article.
3. Use the following shortcode syntax anywhere in the text: `{jresource id="1"}` (replace "1" with the actual ID of your resource).

4. When the article is viewed, the shortcode will automatically render a button that triggers the gated form.
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7. Managing Leads & Analytics

7.1 The Dashboard

Navigate to **Components** -> **JResource Download Tracker** -> **Dashboard**.

Here you will find a high-level overview of your extension's performance, including:

- Total number of downloads across all resources.
- Total leads captured.
- Recent activity timeline.

7.2 Viewing and Exporting Leads

1. Go to **Components** -> **JResource Download Tracker** -> **Leads**.
 2. You will see a chronological list of all captured leads, including the user's submitted data, IP address, timestamp, and the specific resource they downloaded.
 3. **Exporting Data:** Click the **Export** button in the toolbar to download a CSV file of your leads. You can use this file to import contacts into Mailchimp, HubSpot, Salesforce, or any other CRM.
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8. Privacy & GDPR Compliance

Data privacy is a core feature of the JResource Download Tracker.

- The included **Privacy Plugin (`plg_privacy_jresourcedownloads`)** automatically hooks into Joomla's central Privacy Dashboard.
 - When a user submits an Information Request via Joomla's privacy tools, any leads captured by this extension tied to their email address will be included in the export.
 - If a user requests account deletion, their personal data in the leads table can be automatically anonymized to maintain download statistics without retaining personally identifiable information (PII).
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9. Troubleshooting

- **Files are not downloading after form submission:** Check the directory permissions of your Joomla `/tmp` or media folders to ensure they are writable. Also, verify that the file path in the Resource settings is correct.
 - **Form is not appearing in the frontend:** Ensure that the Module or Plugin is published and assigned to the correct pages. Verify that a Form has been correctly assigned to the Resource.
 - **Emails are not being sent (if configured):** Check your Joomla Global Configuration -> Server -> Mail Settings to ensure your SMTP or PHP Mailer is configured correctly.
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10. Support and Updates

- **Automatic Updates:** When an update is available, you will see a notification in your Joomla backend. You can update the extension seamlessly via the Joomla Updater.
- **Technical Support:** If you encounter any bugs or need assistance, please contact our support team at orders@1decision.co.uk.
- **Website:** <https://www.1decision.co.uk/>