



Shadowbox Mambot & Module

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Preface

This tutorial will guide you through the process of setting up Ninja Shadowbox on your Joomla! 1.0 Or Joomla! 1.5 website.

In order to follow this tutorial you will need to know the basics of the Joomla! Version you are using, as well as basics in the WYSIWYG editor of your choice as we will not be covering them in this tutorial.

{We will not be covering installation of modules or mambots nor will we will we be covering basic navigation of Joomla! If you don't know these I suggest watching some of the videos on www.ninjaforge.com}

Feedback

We welcome all feed back here @ ninjaforge, so if you have any feedback or suggestions for this or future tutorials, please feel free to contact us, via the forums or by email.

Support

This tutorial is here to guide you in the process of setting up Shadowbox, if you need more support on the extension or if you feel something is not covered here that should be, please visit us in the forums and we will try to answer your questions. Please do not use the contact form for support requests, our ninja's are very busy and it helps us and other customers if we answer questions in the forum.

Part 1 - Module or Mambot?

In part 1, we will be discussing the differences between the module and mambot version of Ninja Shadowbox.

There are absolutely no differences in the backend parameters of the two versions, nor are there more features in either of the versions.

In a previous mambot the ninja club released, we found that because of the way the Joomla! System works, when a mambot is set up to fire “onContent” it naturally only works when there is content to display.

This is fine when your mambot is content specific, however when it comes to Ninja Shadowbox, we actually want it to work on any page we choose, so that you the user can choose to place shadowbox links wherever you like, say for instance in a custom module.

This is where the mambot becomes useless, unless you have content on that page as well, which you will find next to impossible, if you choose to place a shadowbox link on a component page for instance.

This is where the module comes in!

The module can be placed on any page and will fire a shadowbox link regardless of whether the page contains content.

The module too is invisible, permitting you turn off the module name in the backend.

So which one should you choose?

If you intend to only use shadowbox links in content, then you will be perfectly fine using the mambot version of the module, if however you think you may want to put links elsewhere, then you should install and use the module version.

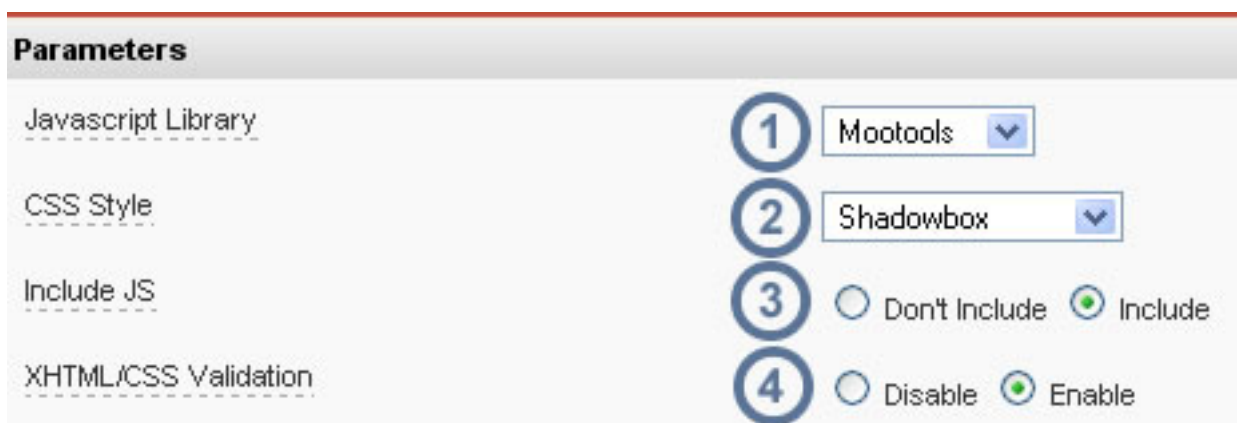
In my opinion there are no real benefits of using the mambot over the module, but there are benefits the other way around.

If in doubt, install the module.

Part 2 – Basic Configuration

In part 2 we will be focussing on the basic configuration options of Ninja Shadowbox, explaining in details what each option does.

In order to follow this part, we will be using a screenshot of the module versions backend in Joomla! 1.0. The reason for this is because the J!1.0 version has one extra parameter that neither the mambot nor the Joomla! 1.5 versions have. I will explain this when we get there, so don't be alarmed if you don't see this in the version you are using.



Parameters	
Javascript Library	1 Mootools
CSS Style	2 Shadowbox
Include JS	3 <input type="radio"/> Don't Include <input checked="" type="radio"/> Include
XHTML/CSS Validation	4 <input type="radio"/> Disable <input checked="" type="radio"/> Enable

1. The “Javascript Library” parameter allows you to select the Javascript language that best suits your site. If you have a new installation of Joomla! You will have nothing to worry about here, and can simply choose any you like, although I do suggest “mootools”.

However for those of that have a customised site that uses other Javascript libraries, you may need to try all of these options one by one and find the one that works the best on your website.

Why the need to include all the libraries?

We have found that most problems users have with JavaScript extensions can be put down to conflicts between different libraries, so we have given you the option to choose the one that does not conflict.

2. The “CSS Style” has 4 options:-
“None” which will mean no CSS style sheet will be included; this gives you the option of including the CSS in your own CSS files, particularly useful if you like to keep all your CSS together.

“Shadowbox” this is the default shadowbox theme that you can see in our demo, it in particular has a dark style.

“Shadowbox Light” is a lighter version of the default CSS.

“Custom” allows you to upload your own custom.css file that you have created into the extension directory, and use that instead of the defaults. It also allows people to create Shadowbox themes and distribute them within the community, should they wish.

3. “Include JS” is used if you wish to include the Shadowbox Javascript in your own JavaScript file. I suggest just leaving this enabled.
4. “XHTML/CSS Validation” is the parameter I discussed earlier and is only in the Joomla! 1.0 module. The reason it is here is because of the way Joomla! 1.0 works with modules. In order for us to make the module XHTML valid we have to place the code in the head. However Joomla 1.0 modules don’t come with the ability to do this, so we have to use a piece of code that forces it to do it for us, however for some people this causes issues, and displays a blank white screen (WSOD), this is usually caused by PHP errors on the page. If you get the WSOD just turn this parameter off and the module will work, however it will not be valid code.

And that covers the basic configuration of Ninja Shadowbox, you can now publish you module and follow part 3 to show your shadowbox links and images.

Part 3 – Using Shadowbox.

Part 3 of this tutorial is a rather large one, so I have split it down into smaller parts, so feel free to skip to the part that you are looking for.

All code below will need to be entered into your content or you custom module code, don't forget if you are using a WYSIWYG editor, you will need to turn off code cleanup and enter this into the html view.

Please also note, that you will need to change the URL to the images you wish to display.

Single Linked Image

In the blue box below, you will find the code that will help you display a single image when a user clicks on a text link.

```
<a href="http://example.com/images/myimage.jpg" rel="shadowbox">Link Text</a>
```

Linked Image Gallery

This code will allow you to display a gallery of images when a user clicks on your text link.

Note here we use a CSS class of "hidden", for the 2nd and 3rd image, this will allow us to hide these two links, and only display the first one. When working with galleries we use [galleryname] to help shadowbox distinguish between multiple galleries, this is very important

```
<a href="http://example.com/images/myimage1.jpg" rel="shadowbox[mygallery]">Link Text</a>

<a class="hidden" href="http://example.com/images/myimage2.jpg" rel="shadowbox[mygallery]">Link
Text</a>

<a class="hidden" href="http://example.com/images/myimage3.jpg" rel="shadowbox[mygallery]">Link
Text</a>
```

Thumbnail Gallery

Unlike the code above the following code will display you gallery images and thumbnails.

The first part of the code is the main image, the second part "img alt=" is the thumbnail image.


```
<a href="images/red.jpg" rel="shadowbox[colorThumbs]"></a>
```

```
<a href="images/blue.jpg" rel="shadowbox[colorThumbs]"></a>
```

```
<a href="images/green.jpg" rel="shadowbox[colorThumbs]"></a>
```

Area Mapping

Shadowbox allows you to pin point specific areas of large images, through the use of area tags

```
<div id="hongkong">  
  
<map name="hongkongmap" id="hongkongmap">  
    <area alt="" href="gallery/hongkong-1.jpg" coords="43,27,135,77" shape="rect"/>  
    <area alt="" href="gallery/hongkong-2.jpg" coords="191,11,286,74" shape="rect"/>  
    <area alt="" href="gallery/hongkong-3.jpg" coords="419,2,502,81" shape="rect"/>  
</map>  
</div>
```

Flash Media – SWF

You can display .swf files with Ninja Shadowbox, however with this more advanced functionality comes a little more code, to be specific we need to tell shadowbox the height and width of our container, this is easily accomplished, like so.

```
<a href="gallery/mymedia.swf" title="My Title"  
rel="shadowbox;width=400;height=300">Single SWF</a>
```

Flash Media – SWF Gallery

Similar to the linked gallery we had above, the .swf gallery also uses the CSS class “hidden” to hide the 2nd and 3rd links. New to this code is the use of ids, this should be something unique

```
<a href="gallery/mymedia.swf" title="My Media" rel="width=400;height=450" id="flash1">SWF  
Gallery</a>  
  
<a class="hidden" href="gallery/mymedia1.swf" title="My Media 1" rel="width=400;height=450"  
id="flash2">SWF Gallery</a>  
  
<a class="hidden" href="gallery/mymedia2.swf" title="My Media 2" rel="width=400;height=450"  
id="flash3">SWF Gallery</a>
```

Flash Video – FLA

You can also include .fla files if you so wish.

```
<a href="gallery/mymedia.flv" title="My Media"  
rel="shadowbox;width=600;height=450">Flash Video</a>
```

Movies

Including movies is also very simple using Ninja Shadowbox, there are some advanced options that can be used here, but I will cover them later in the tutorial. For now we will learn how to include them.

Movies – .mov

Display just a single .mov movie on click, again we have to specify the width and height.

```
<a href="gallery/mymovie.mov" title="My Movie"  
rel="shadowbox;width=292;height=218">Single Movie (mov)</a>
```


Movies - .mp4

Display an mpeg4 movie on click.

```
<a href="gallery/mymovie.mp4" title="My Movie"
rel="shadowbox;width=292;height=218">Single Movie (mpeg-4)</a>
```

Movies - .wmv

For those of you who are using .wmv videos.

```
<a href="gallery/mymovie.wmv" title="My Movie"
rel="shadowbox;width=320;height=240">Single Movie (wmv)</a>
```

Movies – apple.com

One of the best features of Ninja Shadowbox in my opinion is the ability to display movies for other websites, below is an example from apple.com

```
<a href="http://images.apple.com/movies/paramount/beowulf/beowulf-
tr2_h.640.mov" title="Beowulf Trailer"
rel="shadowbox;width=640;height=272">Apple.com Trailer</a>
```

Movies – YouTube

Displaying videos from YouTube is just as easy.

```
<a href="http://www.youtube.com/v/wbzLpteC8ng&autoplay=1" title="David
Beckham" rel="shadowbox;width=405;height=340">YouTube</a>
```

Movies – Google

Example code for displaying videos from Google.

```
<a  
href="http://video.google.com/googleplayer.swf?docid=1352016870638076087&auto  
play=1" title="While My Ukulele Gently Weeps"  
rel="shadowbox;width=405;height=340">Google Video</a>
```

Movie Gallery

Yet another wonderful little feature for you to play around with, is the ability to have a movie gallery. It's almost too simple to be true. Here we use our good friend, CSS style "hidden" again.

```
<a href="http://www.youtube.com/v/JPSzcRbFArA&autoplay=1" title="YouTube"  
rel="shadowbox[Movies];width=405;height=340">Movie Gallery</a>  
  
<a href="gallery/kayak.mov" class="hidden" title="QuickTime"  
rel="shadowbox[Movies];width=292;height=218">MOV</a>  
  
<a href="gallery/cat.wmv" title="Windows Media" class="hidden"  
rel="shadowbox[Movies];width=320;height=240">WMV</a>
```

Gallery Mixed Content

And finally in movie related tutorials, the following code will show you how to mix up your gallery with different content, using a movie file an IFRAME as well as an image.

```
<a href="http://www.youtube.com/v/JPSzcRbFArA&autoplay=1" title="YouTube"  
rel="shadowbox[Mixed];width=405;height=340">Movie Gallery</a>  
  
<a href="http://www.ninjaforge.com" title="IFRAME" class="hidden"  
rel="shadowbox[Mixed]">iframe</a>  
  
<a href="gallery/cat.jpg" title="My Image" class="hidden"  
rel="shadowbox[Mixed]">My Image</a>
```

Web

Ninja Shadowbox can also be used to display other websites, or other pages from your own website or even hidden content from your site.

It follows the same conventions as all the other links, you can find the code below.

Inline Content

Inline content will display content from your website. The content has to be inside a `<div>` and can be hidden or visible. Shadowbox will then load the div into the shadowbox pane.

For inline content we must specify a width and height, otherwise Shadowbox will just fill the screen.

Note: make sure you use the correct `<div>` id when typing your link for shadowbox, otherwise you will receive an error

```
<div id="hiddendiv" class="hidden">
```

This is an invisible div that will only be seen when the user clicks the shadowbox link

```
</div>
```

```
<a href="#hiddendiv" title="Inline content"
rel="shadowbox;width=200;height=400">Inline</a>
```

External Page

Linking to other website is a useful function, and can be for a variety of reasons, be it for your online portfolio, or just to display your favourite websites.

```
<a href="http://www.google.com/" title="Google.com" rel="shadowbox">External
site</a>
```


This Page

Perhaps you would like to show the same page your link is displayed on, or perhaps another part of your website, you can do this too with shadowbox

```
<a href="index.php" title="This Page" rel="shadowbox">This Page</a>
```

Part 4 - Advanced Configuration

I am sure you have gathered by now that shadow box is truly a very powerful script, but we are not yet done. Ninja shadowbox can be customized even further by using some of the advanced options that are built into shadowbox.

Below I will highlight them and explain what each parameter does and give you ideas on how to use them.

Advanced Configuration	
Use Advanced Mode	① <input checked="" type="radio"/> False <input type="radio"/> True
Animate	② True ▼
Animation Sequence	③ Width Then Height ▼
FLV Player	④ http://www.
Overlay Color	⑤ #000
Overlay Opacity	⑥ 0.85
Overlay Background Image	⑦
Overlay Click Close	⑧ True ▼
Auto Play Movies	⑨ True ▼
Show Movie Controls	⑩ True ▼
Resize Duration	⑪ 0.35
Fade Duration	⑫ 0.35
Display Gallery Navigation	⑬ False ▼
Continous Gallery	⑭ False ▼
Display Gallery Counter	⑮ True ▼
Gallery Counter Type	⑯ Default ▼
Large Image Handling	⑰ <input type="radio"/> None <input checked="" type="radio"/> Resize <input type="radio"/> Drag
Initial Height	⑱ 160

1. “Use Advanced Mode” this parameter simply tells the extension to use your chosen advanced configuration. If you don’t want to use the advanced options leave this set to False
2. The “animate” allows you to turn of the animation when Shadowbox opens, if you turn this off when your image opens it Shadowbox it will open to the exact height of the image, and will not stretch outwards/inwards.
3. The “animSequence” tells Shadowbox how to open. “Height then width” will stretch vertically and then horizontally, “width then height” will stretch horizontally then vertically. “Sync” will make Shadowbox stretch out both ways at the same time.

The “Sync” option is especially good when working with galleries, I feel it gives a much smoother animation when your images are of different sizes.

4. If you would like to use a different .flv player other than the default .flv player. Enter the URL of the player in the “flvPlayer” parameter.
5. “overlayColor” allows you to change the background color of the Shadowbox popup. Helping you further customise the look of Shadowbox.
6. “overlayOpacity” allows you to change the opacity of the shadowbox popup.
7. If you would like to use a background image instead of a color, simply enter the URL to the image in the “overlayBgImage” parameter.
8. “listenOverlay” allows you to turn off the ability to close the popup simply by clicking the background of Shadowbox, forcing your users to use the “close” button.
9. “autoPlayMovies” if enabled this parameter will set your videos to autoplay on open.
10. “showMovieControls” allows you to turn off the “play/pause/stop” controls on your movies.
11. “resizeDuration” allows you to specify the length of time it takes shadowbox to resize your images.
12. “fadeDuration” allows you to specify the length of time it takes shadowbox to close or fade to the next image.
13. “displayNav” allows you to turn of the “next/previous” button when displaying a gallery.

14. “continuous” will automatically flip through your gallery images, without the need for users to click the next/previous buttons.
15. “displayCounter” lets you turn off the number of images displayed at the bottom of your shadowbox panel.
16. “counterType” gives you 2 options, you can either use the default “1 of 5” counter type or display separate links “1,2,3,4,5” to allow your users to quickly navigate large galleries.
17. “handleLgImages” this parameter is very handy when working with large images. By default shadowbox adds scroll bars to your images if they are larger than the users screen. With this parameter you can make shadowbox resize or crop your images if they are too big
18. If you would like your shadowbox panel to be a certain height when it first opens (before the animation sequence) then you can enter that height in the “initialHeight” parameter.
19. If you would like your shadowbox panel to be a certain width when it first opens (before the animation sequence) then you can enter that height in the “initialWidth” parameter.
20. “enableKeys” when turned off this parameter disables the use of the keyboard to close your shadowbox panel or navigate your galleries with the keyboard.
21. “handleUnsupported” parameter lets you decide what to do when your user’s browser does not support your media type, you can either link them to the plugin that is needed or remove the media when they navigate your site.

Putting Advanced Options In To Action

One of the best parts about the advanced options in shadowbox, is that you can use any or all of the advanced options above on a per link basis. So if you would like to turn off keyboard navigation in one gallery but keep it on in another you can!

To give you some ideas on how to use the advanced options in your links here are some examples below

Typically they all follow the same syntax

Resizing Large Images.

```
<a href="/images/hugeimage.jpg" title="This Image is very Big"
rel="shadowbox;options={handleLgImages:resize}">This Page</a>
```

Auto Gallery With No Controls

```
<a href="/images/hugeimage.jpg" title="This Image is very Big"
rel="shadowbox;options={displayNav:false,continous:true}">This Page</a>
```

Conclusion

So to conclude this part of the tutorial, you can see from the above code that shadowbox is highly customisable. You can use any number of advanced options on any shadowbox link, use all of them or 1 of them it's entirely up to you.

I hope you enjoy using Ninja Shadowbox as much as I did putting it together.

Please feel free to drop me an email : Richie@ninjaforge.com

If you have any comments, ideas or criticisms about this tutorial.

Part 5 – FAQ

Q. I've published the extension but my links are not working.

A. This could be for a variety of reasons, please try the following

- Make sure you have chosen a CSS file.
- Make Sure if you're using the mambot, that you have content on the page.
- Check to see if you have javascript conflicts – if you have multiple different javascript libraries on your website, this will cause problems – change to another library in shadowbox.
- Make sure you have turned off code cleanup in your editor, as it sometimes removes your shadowbox code.

Q. My website breaks and I get a blank screen when using the J1.0 module, what wrong?

A. Turn off "XHTML/CSS validation" to fix your problem

Q. Why Doesn't the mambot work on Component Pages?

A. because it is made to work with content pages only, if you require it to work elsewhere use the module version

Q. Can I load Modules into shadowbox?

A. no, but you can if you download Ninja Shadow Panel.

Q. I am having problems that are not covered here, what do I do?

A. visit us in the forums and we will try help you out.

Credits

Shadowbox Created By – Michael J. I. Jackson - <http://mjijackson.com/shadowbox>

Ninja Shadowbox Created By – Richie Mortimer – <http://ninjoomla.com>

Ninja Shadow Panel Created By – Richie Mortimer – <http://ninjoomla.com>

Shadowbox was inspired by [Lokesh Dhakar's Lightbox](#) and [Kevin Miller's LightWindow](#). Credit should be given to the authors of those libraries for the basic idea behind Shadowbox.

The default Shadowbox Flash video player is [Jeroen Wijering's JW FLV Player](#). It is distributed under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 2.0 Generic](#) license.

Compressed versions of the files necessary to run Shadowbox are included in the default distribution in the `build` directory. The compression was performed with the excellent [YUI compressor](#) by [Julien Lecomte](#).