

WP-United

User Manual

<http://www.wp-united.com>

This user manual will be distributed with all downloads of WP-United. Like a wiki, you are encouraged to add and edit to it. To do so, please check out the latest version from <http://www.wp-united.com/svn/>, make your changes, and then post it on the WP-United.com forum.

This documentation is FREE and OPEN -- please use the Open Document Format (.odt).

Important! Read this manual carefully!

In this manual, we will aim to cover the installation process, and address some commonly answered questions about WP-United.

Please ensure you have read and understood this manual before asking for help on wp-united.com.



WP-United
User Manual
v0.71

Contents

1. [Can WP-United help me?](#)
2. [Before you begin – Planning your install](#)
3. [Installation](#)
4. [The WP-United Setup Wizard](#)
5. [User integration](#)
6. [Cross-posting](#)
7. [Per-user blogs](#)
8. [Template integration](#)
9. [Troubleshooting](#)
10. [Getting help](#)



WP-United User Manual v0.71

1. Can WP-United help me?

Before you begin, make sure you understand what WP-United can do, and the basic system requirements. A full list of features is always available at <http://www.wp-united.com>.

WP-United is designed to integrate WordPress and phpBB.

"Integrate" means **one or more** of the following:

- Some or all users have their login information automatically shared between phpBB and WordPress
- a WordPress blog is integrated into the look and feel of a phpBB forum
- a phpBB forum is integrated into the look and feel of a WordPress blog
- Some details of your phpBB forum/users are shown in WordPress widgets

WP-United **can** do much more than this. For example, it can give individual blogs to your phpBB users, automatically post blog posts onto your forums, and automatically integrated phpBB smilies and avatars, to name just a few. However, one or more of the above options will always be true.

To integrate users, WP-United will use phpBB as your master database. If you are an existing WordPress user, installing phpBB as a new addition to your site, you will be able to copy over your WordPress users to phpBB and set up the initial user mapping state using the included user mapping tool.

WP-United can be uninstalled at any time, and your WordPress and phpBB users will continue to exist as they did before (except, they will no longer be integrated).

WP-United is very modular – you will get the option to turn on or off features depending on your requirements. Even though you must install the whole package, only the parts you have chosen will be used.

phpBB3 > 3.0 and WordPress > 2.5 are supported. WordPress MU is not yet supported.

2. Before you begin – Planning your install

Before you begin, ensure you have a working installation of phpBB3 and WP-United. Read on below for more information on possible install setups.

Basic requirements

You must meet these requirements in order to be able to install and use WP-United:

- phpBB3 > 3.0, using MySQL
- WordPress > 2.5 (2.7 or later strongly recommended)
- phpBB3 and WordPress must be on the same sub-domainn (e.g. don't use forum.xxx.com and blog.xxx.com)
- After installation, WordPress must be accessed using the provided blog.php. However, that file can be renamed to anything you like, and can even replaced the existing WordPress index.php

These are the only requirements. WP-United is very flexible about where and how you install phpBB and WordPress relative to each other:

- WordPress and phpBB can share the same MySQL database, or use separate MySQL databases (as long as they use the same MySQL server you are OK).
- WordPress and phpBB can be installed in any hierarchy relative to each other, as long as they are on the same sub-domain and in the same file system.

Some example installation scenarios are given overleaf.



WP-United User Manual v0.71

Some example installation scenarios

I have a WordPress site in my site root and want to install a forum under it

You could create a sub-folder under your blog, called e.g. forum, and install phpBB there. Then you would rename the provided WP-United blog.php to index.php, and use it to replace the existing WordPress index.php. Then, open your new index.php and type in the path back to phpBB where indicated.

You may also need to modify your phpBB3 cookie settings to ensure that the cookie path covers your WordPress install too.

I have a phpBB forum in my site root and want to install WordPress under it

You could create a sub-folder under your forum, called e.g. blog, and install WordPress there. You would access your new blog through the provided blog.php -- you can put it anywhere you like. Just open blog.php and type in the path back to phpBB where indicated when you are ready.

I have a phpBB forum in my site root and want to install WordPress, but I want WordPress to be my new homepage

You can install WordPress anywhere you like -- even several sub-directories deep under your phpBB3 installation. Then, ensure the provided blog.php is in your root folder, and use that as your new homepage.

phpBB3 already has an index.php, so you won't want to rename or overwrite that. Instead, set your blog.php (or whatever you want to call it -- you are free to rename it) to be your homepage by setting the DirectoryIndex directive in your web Server configuration (e.g. in Apache, you would add a DirectoryIndex directive to your .htaccess file). Search the web to find out how to do this for your specific web server.

There are many other scenarios that WP-United can support -- but with the information provided above you should now know enough to plan your install.

Before installing

Before making any changes to a site, always **back up** your web files and databases.

WP-United installation may take some time. You will also need time to familiarize yourself with the various options available. It is recommended that you first install it on a local development server to try it out. If deploying directly to a live site, bring the site down to normal site visitors before installing -- one way to do this would be to install a temporary password on your site so that visitors cannot access it until you are finished.

Before installing, you should disable WordPress permalinks. You can enable them again afterwards, once you are sure that things are working.

Error reporting and blank pages



WP-United User Manual v0.71

Before you install, ensure you have PHP error reporting turned on (usually in your php.ini file). This should prevent you from seeing blank pages should an error occur, and will help you debug any problems you find. Be sure to turn error reporting off when you make your site live.

Plugin compatibility

A few WordPress plugins are not compatible with WP-United. These tend to be “naughty” plugins that make too many assumptions about their environment.

If you find errors during your install, try disabling your plugins one by one until you find the culprit, and then post the offending plugin on the WP-United forums.

We endeavour to work around “naughty” plugins, and will try to address any problems you report in future versions. However, if you have found an incompatibility, you will need to disable the offending plugin until a future version of WP-United is released. For some errors, you may find that disabling phpBB-in-WordPress template integration fixes the problem.

One or two in-development phpBB3 MODs are also reported to cause problems with the WP-United cross-posting facility. Specifically, MODs that add required (NOT NULL) fields to the phpBB3 posts table are the culprits. By doing this they are breaking the phpBB3 posting API and should be considered “very naughty”. If you receive an error when trying to cross-post from WordPress, then please uninstall any such phpBB3 mods, and ask their author to clean up their act.

3. Installation

Before you begin

If you jumped directly here, without reading chapters 1 and 2, please go back and read and understand them now, smartypants.

By now, you should have already installed phpBB3 and WordPress in their separate locations, and ensured that they both work as advertised. phpBB and WordPress will be on the same sub-domain

Installing the MOD

If this is your first time installing phpBB3 MODs, and are used to the beauty and convenience of WordPress plugins, this might come as a bit of a shock: to install phpBB3 MODs, you have to make direct edits to your forum code.

Fortunately for you, we've tried to keep the WP-United code edits as simple and modular as possible, in order to make upgrading phpBB3 in the future very manageable for you.

Any phpBB3 MOD installation a four-step process:

1. Follow the instructions in the provided install.xml. To view this file, you need to open it in your web browser
2. For *Prosilver*, the default phpBB3 template, install instructions are incorporated in the above install.xml. If you use any other phpBB3 styles that are based on Prosilver, you will have to modify them too based on these instructions. If you are using *Subsilver2*, or a template based on *Subsilver2*, you will need to follow the appropriate install instructions provided in the templates folder. Ensure that you modify **all** of the styles you are using, including copying the blog.html file over to each style.
3. The install.xml file includes modifications for the default English language. You will need to make these changes to **all** your installed languages. You can either just use the included English instructions, and modify your installed languages with them, or look in the provided languages folder to see if we have a translated version available for you.
4. The install.xml file has an additional section, "DIY instructions". You need to follow them when you are ready. For WP-United, this means running the included wpu-install.php. This is explained in more detail below.

Automating the install using AutoMod

Manually modifying phpBB3 files by following the instructions in the install.xml file is a tedious and error-prone process. You can automate the install using AutoMod.

WP-United User Manual v0.71

First, download and install AutoMod from phpbb.com. Then, use it to install WP-United. It will automatically backup and modify your phpBB forum code, and copy the relevant files to their required locations.

This method is highly recommended, as most error reported by novice users are a result of incorrect code edits by manually applying install.xml code changes.

If you do use AutoMod, you still need to ensure that you understand the process, and that the MOD is applied to ALL your styles and ALL your languages, as above. You also need to follow the “final install steps”, as below.

Common problems and solutions

File corruption: Sometimes, when copying files over FTP, they can become corrupted. To guard against this, try placing all your files to be copied to your web server together, and packing them into an archive. Then, upload that and unpack it on your server in the correct location.

File formatting: Some editors, particularly on Windows, will add a “UTF-8 byte order marker” at the beginning of files when you edit and save them. You should use a decent text editor in order to avoid this problem. If you are on Windows, then try the excellent Notepad++, or better yet, do yourself a favour and move to Linux. In your text editor, ensure you save with the “UTF-8 without BOM” option.

If your file appears to be bunched up, with no line breaks when editing, again, it is because your Windows text editor does not support standard UNIX line breaks. Use a decent text editor as above.

File permissions: If you edit files manually, be sure that when you upload them to your web server, they have the appropriate permissions – the web server user should have permission to read and execute them. If you are receiving weird errors, check this.

In addition, the WP-United/cache directory should be writeable by the web server. Your wordpress/wp-content/plugins directory should also be writeable.

Final install steps

Part 1: Run wpu-install.php

The last step in the install process is to run the included wpu-install.php file. You should copy this file to your phpBB3 root folder (if you have not done so already), and run it in your web browser by accessing <http://your-forum-address/wpu-install.php>. This file will print off a string of status messages, and will do a great deal of black magic.

When it has completed, delete it from your web server.

Part 2: Moving blog.php and providing the path back to phpBB

Now is also time to move your blog.php file. Blog.php is the file you will use to access WordPress from now on.

WP-United User Manual v0.71

As you read in Section 2, this can be moved anywhere and renamed to anything you like. Common scenarios and examples of how you would move/rename `blog.php` are given in Section 2. It is important that you read and understand these.

Once you have moved `blog.php` to where you want it, you will need to tell it the path back to phpBB3. Otherwise, it will not be able to find your forum, and, in a fit of confusion, give you an error message.

To give `blog.php` the path, open it in a text editor, and find the line:

```
$PATH_TO_PHPBB_INSTALL = "          // <--- set the path to your phpBB root here, between the quotes
```

You need to provide the path back to phpBB3 between the single quotes.

Examples:

- if your phpBB3 forum is in `forum/`, but your `blog.php` is in your web server root, the path would be `./forum`, or just `forum`.
- If your phpBB3 forum is in your web server root, and your `blog.php` is in `some-folder/blog/`, the path would be `../..`
- If your `blog.php` is in the same directory as your phpBB3 forum (i.e. the default location), then you do not need to change anything.

Ready to move on

Now, WP-United is installed, but not set up yet. You need to run the WP-United Setup Wizard so you can tell WP-United exactly what you want it to do. That is detailed in the next chapter.

WP-United User Manual v0.71

4. The WP-United Setup Wizard

Congratulations, you have installed WP-United. Now it's time to tell it what you want it to do.

On the first run of any new WP-United installation (including if you have upgraded from an earlier version), you will need to run the Setup Wizard.

To access the WP-United Setup Wizard, visit the phpBB3 Administration Control Panel (ACP), and click on the WP-United tab at the top.

Then, choose "Setup Wizard". If you have just installed WP-United, this item will be highlighted with the word "**Recommended**". **You must run the Wizard all the way through to the end in order to properly set up WP-United.**

After initial setup, you can come back and run the Setup Wizard again, any time you like. Alternatively, to quickly change any of the settings without having to click through each step, you can click "Settings" instead. However, on the first run of WP-United, use the Wizard.

If the WP-United tab is not visible, then you have not successfully completed installation. Please go back and re-read chapters 1 – 3.

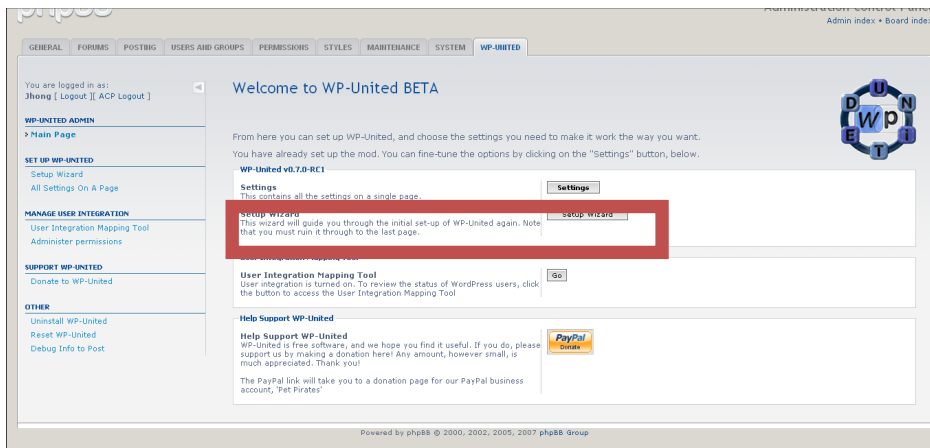


Figure 1: The WP-United Setup Wizard

Introduction to the Wizard

The WP-United Setup Wizard is divided into five easy steps:

Step 1: WordPress installation. This step asks for information about where you have installed WordPress.



WP-United
User Manual
v0.71

Step 2: Login integration. This step asks if you want to integrate user logins between phpBB and WordPress, and provides various associated options.

Step 3: Display and Behaviour settings. This step asks you if you want to integrate templates, and provides various associated options. It also provide various options to integrate phpBB behaviour into WordPress

Step 4: User blogging settings. This step asks if you want to give users their own blogs, and provides various associated options. If you are not integrating logins, this step will not show, and Step 5 becomes Step 4.

Step 5: WP-United Connection. This step “activates” WP-United by installing a plugin into WordPress and automatically setting numerous WordPress options so that it works with WP-United. If you are not integrating logins, this step is called Step 4.

Step 6. “What? You said 5 steps!”. This step is more of a confirmation. If you get here, everything has proceeded according plan. We hope you’ll be sufficiently overwhelmed with happiness to click on the “donate” link. Even just a few dollars is nice ☺

All of the options in each step are discussed in the following sections.

WP-United User Manual v0.71

Setup Wizard Step 1: WordPress Install Location

The screenshot shows the 'WP-United Setup Wizard - Step 1 of 6.' interface. It is titled 'WordPress Installation Location' and includes instructions: 'Here we need a few details so we can find where you installed WordPress'. The form contains three sections:

- WordPress URL:** A text field for 'Base WordPress URL' with instructions: 'Please type the full URL to the base install of WordPress. This is the URL that WordPress would have if it were not integrated into phpBB. For example, http://www.example.com/wordpress/'. A 'Test URL' button is located to the right.
- WordPress Installation Path:** A text field for 'Filesystem Path to WordPress' with instructions: 'Here we need the full filesystem path to WordPress. This could be something like /home/public/www/wordpress -- but every host will be different.' A 'Detect Path' button is located to the right.
- New Integration Address:** A text field with instructions: 'The address you will use to access WordPress from now on. By default, blog.php, in your phpBB root folder, will be used to access your WordPress pages from now on. However, if you want to change this, please move and/or rename'.

In this step, you provide some required information so that WP-United knows how to contact WordPress.

WordPress URL

This is the path to your original WordPress install. i.e., before you installed WP-United, this is the path you would have used to visit your WordPress blog. It should be a full, absolute URL, including the http://. Of course, WordPress should be on the same server, and in the same sub-domain and the phpBB forum you are using to run this WP-United Setup Wizard.

You can use the “Test” button to check that the URL is correct.

WordPress Installation Path

This should be the full, canonical file system path to WordPress. This could be something like /var/www/your-site/wordpress/

We strongly recommend that you use the “Detect Path” button to populate this field. Don’t type anything – just leave the field blank, and click “Detect Path”. WP-United, in its infinite wisdom, will find your WordPress path from the URL you provided above, and then look in that path to see if it can find your WordPress files. If it succeeds, it will tell you.

If the “Detect Path” does nothing, you will have to type the path in yourself. If you are on a *nix server, and the path is a symbolic link, ensure you type in the real, canonical path name, not the name of the symlink. After manually typing the path, you can try to use the “Detect Path” button to check that you have it right.



WP-United
User Manual
v0.71

New Integration Address

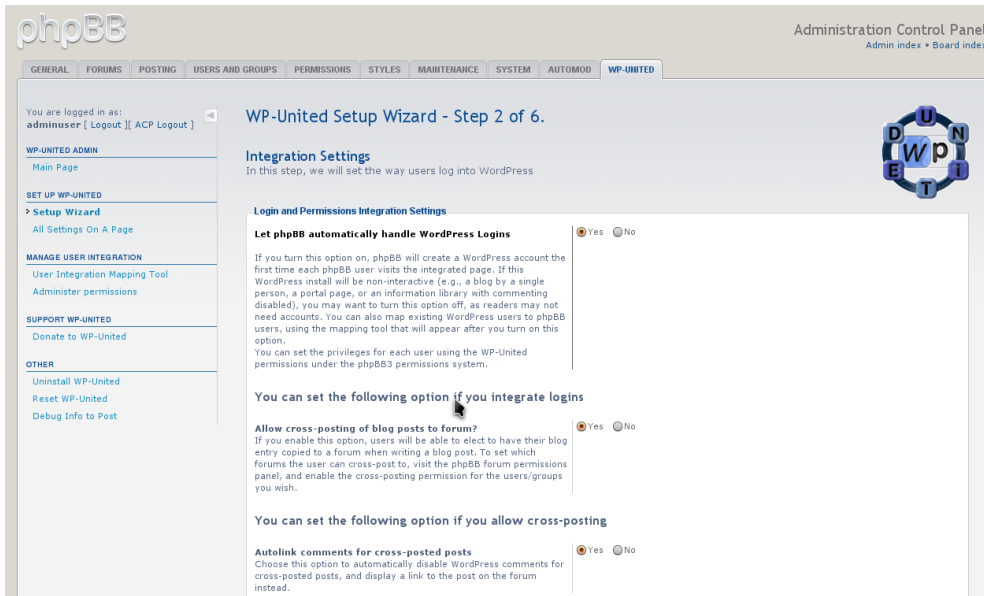
You read Chapters 2 and 3 of this manual, right? In that case, you will have moved `blog.php` to wherever you want. You will already have opened and edited that as described in Chapter 3.

Here, you enter in the URL that corresponds to that file. Note that this could be the same as the “WordPress URL”, above, if you have replaced WordPress’ `index.php` with WP-United’s `blog.php` (and renamed `blog.php` to `index.php`).

If you don’t understand what this is, please go back and re-read Chapters 2 and 3.

WP-United User Manual v0.71

Setup Wizard Step 2: Integration Settings



In this step, you set whether users will be integrated between phpBB and WordPress.

Let phpBB automatically handle WordPress logins

If you turn this option on, users can be integrated between phpBB and WordPress.

Exactly which users are integrated is set by setting permissions for users or groups using the phpBB3 permissions system. By default, only the founder phpBB user is integrated.

You can also set exactly what you want your users to do – for example, all phpBB users could be integrated with your WordPress account so that they can post comments on items, but you could restrict new post privileges to moderators or administrators.

For users you have chosen to integrate, phpBB will create a WordPress account the first time each phpBB user visits the integrated page (your blog.php).

If you have existing WordPress users, you can map them to phpBB users, using the provided mapping tool.

After enabling this option and completing the Setup Wizard, you should read *Chapter 5: User Integration* carefully to ensure you understand how to properly set up your site for user integration.

Allow cross-posting of blog posts to forum?



WP-United
User Manual
v0.71

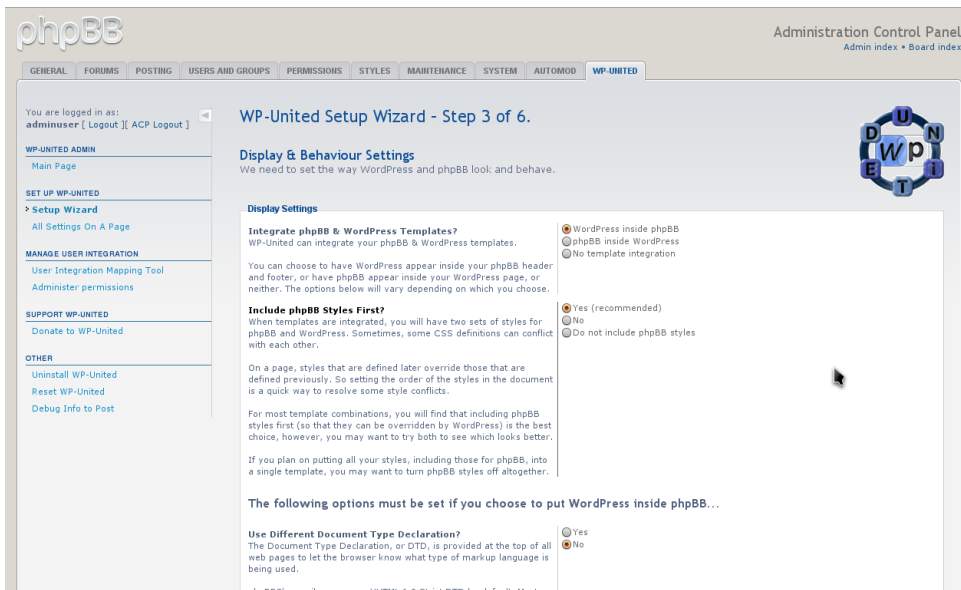
This option is available if you have chosen to integrate users. If selected, it gives you the option, when posting WordPress posts, to cross-post an excerpt to a chosen forum.

For this option to work, you will need to have:

- (a) Set up user integration properly in accordance with *Chapter 5: User Integration*. Any user who wishes to cross-post must have an established integrated account
- (b) Set up per-form cross-posting privileges using the phpBB3 permissions system. This is detailed in *Chapter 6: Cross-posting*.

WP-United User Manual v0.71

Step 3: Display & Behaviour Settings



The screenshot shows the 'Administration Control Panel' for phpBB, specifically the 'WP-UNITED' section. The page is titled 'WP-United Setup Wizard - Step 3 of 6'. The main heading is 'Display & Behaviour Settings'. The page contains several sections with radio button options:

- Integrate phpBB & WordPress Templates?**
 - WordPress inside phpBB
 - phpBB inside WordPress
 - No template integration
- Include phpBB Styles First?**
 - Yes (recommended)
 - No
 - Do not include phpBB styles
- Use Different Document Type Declaration?**
 - Yes
 - No

In this step, you can choose how the look, feel and behaviour of your WordPress and phpBB installs work together.

Integrate phpBB and WordPress templates

Combining **new** applications into an existing site with an established look and feel can be a painstaking process, particularly for new users. WP-United aims to simplify the process by automatically interleaving your templates together.

Here you can choose whether your phpBB install appears inside WordPress, or vice-versa.

Important notes on template integration

The template integration system will be revamped in WP-United v0.8, and will automatically correct conflicts in the CSS between phpBB and WordPress. Until then, you may have to make some minor modifications to your phpBB or WordPress CSS to ensure that they don't tread on each others' toes.

If you are experiencing problems with WordPress plugin compatibility, and are using the phpBB-in-WordPress integration method, try using a different integration method, or turn on template caching (see *Chapter 8: Template Integration*)

Include phpBB styles first?



WP-United User Manual v0.71

This option is available if you choose to integrate templates. It sets the order that styles (CSS style sheets and inline CSS) appear in the <head> section of your integrated document.

Later CSS selectors can override earlier ones, so setting the order can be an easy way to resolve some style conflicts.

For most template combinations, you will find that including phpBB styles first (so that they can be overridden by WordPress) is the best choice, however, you may want to try both to see which looks better.

You also have the option to disable phpBB styles altogether. If you want to manually combine all your CSS, from both WordPress and phpBB, into a single style sheet, this option could be useful.

Note that in WP-United v0.8, style conflicts can be resolved automatically by WP-United, and so this option will no longer be very important.

Use different Document Type Declaration

This option is available if you are integrating WordPress inside phpBB.

The Document Type Declaration (DTD) is usually the first line that appears in an HTML document. It declares to the browser what kind of document it is (for example HTML4, XHTML 1.0 Strict, etc.).

phpBB3's Prosilver uses an XHTML 1.0 Strict DTD by default. Most WordPress templates, however, use an XHTML 1 transitional DTD.

In most cases, this doesn't matter. However, turning this option on could prevent some browsers, such as Internet Explorer, from going into "quirks mode", and will ensure that even more WordPress templates display as designed.

Setting the option to "Yes" means that the WordPress DTD is used. "No" leaves the phpBB DTD as-is.

Simple header and footer or full page?

This option is available if you are integrating phpBB inside WordPress. It controls how much of WordPress is used to create the containing page.

"Simple" means that just the WordPress header and footer is called, and the phpBB forum is sandwiched between them. For example, this means that the WordPress sidebar will not normally show. This is the preferred option, and highly recommended.

"Full page" means that an entire WordPress page is created, just as it would for a normal run of WordPress. PhpBB is then sandwiched into the post content area. This is, in most cases, a drain on server resources, and in versions prior to v0.8, will present more style difficulties. However, if you need to have the WordPress sidebar or other active WordPress content showing, then this option could be useful.

If you choose "Full page", you will need to set the page template that WordPress will use. This option is described below.



WP-United User Manual v0.71

A further discussion of template integration and the associated options is available in *Chapter 8: Template Integration*.

Remove phpBB header?

This option is available if you are integrating phpBB inside WordPress.

If you turn this option on, WP-United will try to automatically identify the phpBB header, and remove it from the page. It is designed to work with the Prosilver & subSilver2 themes and some derivatives.

However, depending on your theme, it might not be able to correctly identify which part of the page to remove. If you use a very customised template, or things look odd with this option on, you can leave this option off. Otherwise, leave it on for a quick-and-easy no-hassle integration of phpBB into WordPress.

WP-United will try to automatically position the phpBB Quick Search box in the WordPress header. However, it may not know exactly where to place it. If it does not appear, or you want to put it somewhere else, add the tag `<!--PHPBB_SEARCH-->` to your WordPress template, and it should automatically appear there.

This option is designed to work best with fairly unmodified phpBB templates. If you are getting strange behaviour, please try turning this option off.

Padding around phpBB

This option is available if you are integrating phpBB inside WordPress.

When phpBB is inserted into your WordPress page, you might want to control the spacing around it. Here, you can add a padding around phpBB to do so. If your phpBB is covering up your WordPress template borders, try adding some padding.

If you would prefer to set this yourself in CSS, or do not want any padding to be defined, leave each box blank (not '0').

Select a full page template

This option is available if you are integrating phpBB inside WordPress and selected the “Full Page” option for “Simple header and footer or full page” option above.

Here you can choose the WordPress page template to be used for you phpBB forum. For example, it could be your index page, your single post content page, or an archives page.

Just type in the name of the template (e.g. 'index.php', 'single.php' or 'archive.php') here. If the file can't be found WP-United will default to using page.php (for the default WordPress theme) or index.php (for Classic-style themes).

Use phpBB Word Censor?



WP-United
User Manual
v0.71

If you turn this option on, all WordPress posts (contents and titles) will be passed through the phpBB word censor when they are displayed.

Use phpBB smilies in WordPress?

If you turn this on, you will be able to use phpBB smilies in WordPress posts. Visitors will also be able to use them when leaving comments.

When creating a WordPress post, you will need to remember the phpBB smiley codes. However, for visitors leaving comments, they will be able to see a clickable list of all phpBB smilies.

With this option on, WordPress smilies will be disabled.

Make blogs private?

This option makes your entire WordPress install inaccessible to users who are not logged in to phpBB. This might be useful for communities where users share private information via blogs.

However, turning this option on will make your WordPress install invisible to search engines, and will reduce the number of people who register at your site. As such, it is not recommended. Most users should leave this option off.

WP-United User Manual v0.71

Step 4: “To Blog or Not To Blog”

The screenshot shows the 'WP-United Setup Wizard - Step 4 of 6' in the phpBB Administration Control Panel. The page is titled '“To Blog or Not To Blog?”' and explains that users can fine-tune settings for integrating phpBB and WordPress logins. The main content area contains several sections with radio button options:

- “To Blog or Not To Blog?”**
 - Give users their own blogs?** (Yes/No)
 - The following options must be set if you allow users to have their own blogs...**
 - Blog links in profiles** (Yes/No)
 - Blog links under posts** (Yes/No)
 - Users can choose theme** (Yes/No)
 - Blogs Listing (WP 2.1 or later only)** (Yes/No)

If you did not turn on user integration in Step 2, this step will not show.

In this section, you have the option to modify the way WordPress behaves, by making it appear as if each user has their own blog, with their own blog title, tagline, posts, and optionally, theme.

Give users their own blogs?

Turning this option on instructs WordPress to start behaving differently. Each integrated user "author" or above, will be able to create their own blog. They will be able to choose the title, description, and (optionally), the appearance of their blog.

Their blog is automatically created the first time they create a post.

When integrated users with the correct permissions visit the WordPress dashboard, they will be able to set the various options for their blogs. The “Visit Site” link at the top of the dashboard will take them to their blog, if they have posts.

If you turn this option on, several options become available. These are detailed below.

Blog links in profiles

Turning this option on will put "Blog" links in the profiles of users which have active blogs. The link will appear after they have made their first post, and will go directly to their blogs.

Blog links under posts

Turning this option on will put "Blog" links under posts (next to the PM, WWW, etc. buttons), of users who have active blogs. The links will be created after they make their first post, and will go directly to their blogs.

Users can choose theme

This option gives users the ability to choose the theme (template) for their own blog. The users can simply select the theme they want from the installed WordPress themes.

Remember that this sets the theme on a *per-user-blog* basis, **not** a *per-user* basis. For example, if a user selects the "ABC" theme for his blog, any visitor to that user's blog will see the "ABC" theme. It does **not** mean that the user will see the "ABC" theme for every blog page he/she visits, including the WordPress homepage.

Users are not given the ability to customise or edit themes – it is left to the site administrators to ensure all available themes are suitable for use.

Note that in the forthcoming WP-United v0.8, template style conflicts between phpBB and WordPress will be automatically eradicated. This will make users themes much more viable when template integration is turned on.

Blogs listing on Index Page

If you give users their own blogs, the WordPress index page will no longer make much sense, as by default WordPress just shows all the latest posts in reverse chronological order.

This option automatically adds a new page to WordPress, and sets it as the homepage. This new page shows a nice paginated list of users' blogs, with various information, such as avatars, number of posts, latest post, etc.

If you are giving users their own blogs, this provides a nice portal-style view into your new blogging system, and we recommend that you turn it on.

Blogs Homepage Title

This option is available if you have turned on the Blogs listing index page. It allows you to set the title of the new page.

Blogs Homepage Introduction

This option is available if you have turned on the Blogs listing index page. It allows you to set the introduction that appears at the top of the page.



WP-United User Manual v0.71

You can type anything you like here. If you add the “magic” tag {GET-STARTED}, it will automatically be replaced by a link that changes depending on context – it will ask users to login or register to create their blog if they are logged out. If they are logged in, it will tell users to “add to” or “create” their blog, depending on whether they have posted before.

Blogs to list per page

This option is available if you have turned on the Blogs listing index page. It allows you to set the number of blogs that appear on each page of the listing.

Style list using WP-United CSS

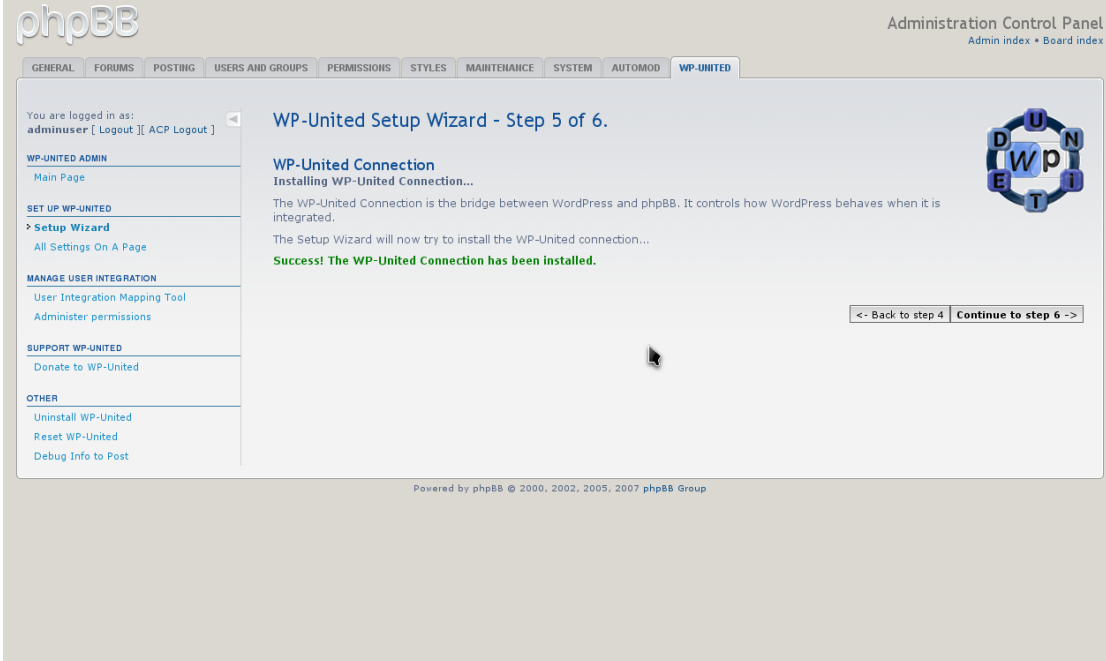
This option is available if you have turned on the Blogs listing index page.

WP-United provides some default CSS to make the blogs listing page look nice. It is available in the `phpbb/wp-united/wpu-blogs-homepage.css` file. Turn this option on to use that to help style your page.

It is recommended that you start with this option on. Later, if you wish to modify the CSS, or include it together with your existing WordPress CSS to improve performance, you can turn this option off.

WP-United User Manual v0.71

Step 5: WP-United Connection



The screenshot shows the phpBB Administration Control Panel. The top navigation bar includes tabs for GENERAL, FORUMS, POSTING, USERS AND GROUPS, PERMISSIONS, STYLES, MAINTENANCE, SYSTEM, AUTOMOD, and WP-UNITED. The main content area is titled "WP-United Setup Wizard - Step 5 of 6." and displays the "WP-United Connection" section. The text indicates that the connection has been successfully installed, with a green message: "Success! The WP-United Connection has been installed." A "Continue to step 6" button is visible at the bottom right of the main content area. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with categories like "WP-UNITED ADMIN", "SET UP WP-UNITED", "MANAGE USER INTEGRATION", "SUPPORT WP-UNITED", and "OTHER".

If you are not integrating users, this step is displayed as “Step 4”.

The good news – this step requires no action from you. This is where WP-United takes all your provided information, and does all the hard work, setting up WordPress for the integration.

During this process, WP-United will:

- Find and contact WordPress, causing it to run
- Auto-install a new plugin, called the “WP-United Connection” to your WordPress install
- Set various WordPress options, telling it to run via the new blog.php, and setting several necessary parameters
- Install a set of “WP-United Connection Settings” to the WordPress database, so that WordPress will know how to contact phpBB, and will know about all the settings you have chosen.

If this process succeeds, you will receive a green message telling you that it is OK to proceed. However, it can fail for a number of reasons:

The header features a dark blue background with a pattern of interlocking puzzle pieces. The text is white and positioned on the left side of the header.

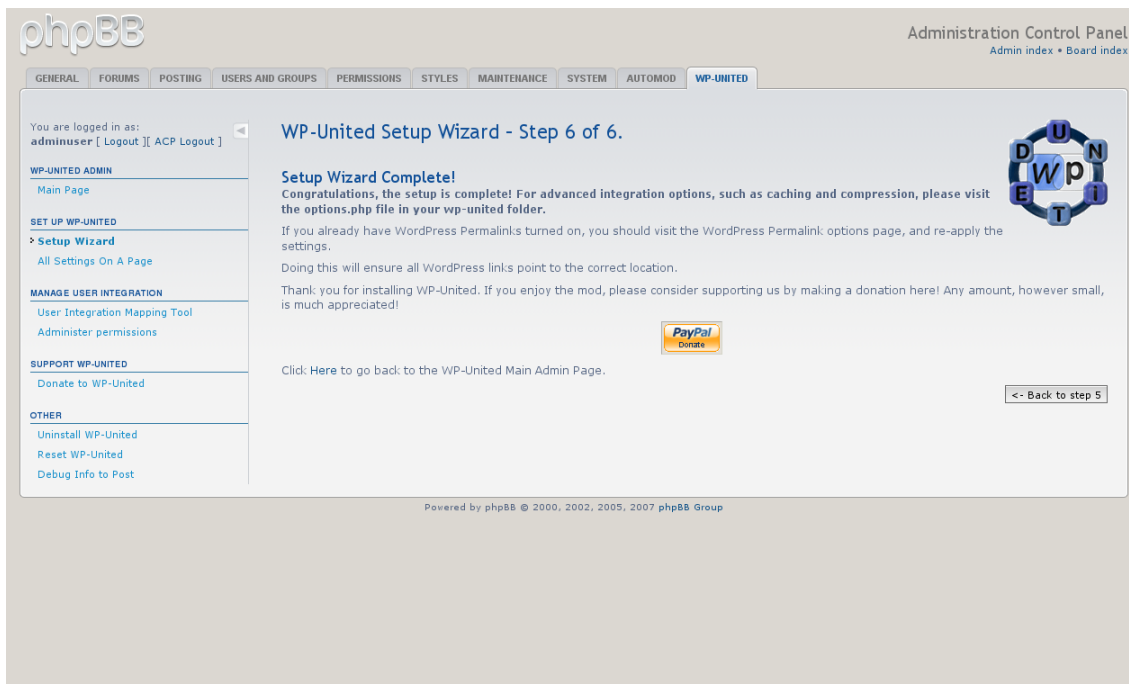
WP-United User Manual v0.71

- If your wp-content/plugins directory is not writeable, WP-United will not be able to auto-install the WP-United plugin. You should make it writeable, or manually copy (copy, don't move) the file wp-united/wpu-plugin.php there now.
- If one or more of your WordPress plugins, or if your WordPress theme is not compatible with WP-United, you will receive an error message or a blank page. Try disabling plugins one by one until you have found the culprit, or switching themes. More information on plugin compatibility is given in Chapter 2.

After making any of the above changes, you should run the WP-United Setup Wizard again (don't worry, your settings are saved).

WP-United User Manual v0.71

Step 6: All done!



The screenshot shows the phpBB Administration Control Panel. The top navigation bar includes tabs for GENERAL, FORUMS, POSTING, USERS AND GROUPS, PERMISSIONS, STYLES, MAINTENANCE, SYSTEM, AUTOMOD, and WP-UNITED. The main content area is titled "WP-United Setup Wizard - Step 6 of 6." and features a "Setup Wizard Complete!" message. The message states: "Congratulations, the setup is complete! For advanced integration options, such as caching and compression, please visit the options.php file in your wp-United folder." It also provides instructions for users who have WordPress Permalinks turned on, advising them to visit the WordPress Permalink options page and re-apply settings. A "PayPal Donate" button is visible. A "Back to step 5" button is located at the bottom right of the main content area. The footer of the page reads "Powered by phpBB © 2000, 2002, 2005, 2007 phpBB Group".

If you have reached this step, then you have successfully installed WP-United.

If you have enabled user integration, please ensure you read through the next chapter to understand how to implement it on your site.

This page also asks for donations. Producing WP-United, and this documentation, took many hours of time. If WP-United is working for you, please give something back.

You can do this in many ways, perhaps by helping out on our forums, improving this documentation, producing or polishing translations, or, if you prefer, donating a little money.

Any way you feel able to help is much appreciated.

Please read the rest of this manual, and also the additional instructions provided in Step 6.

5. User Integration

If you are reading this chapter, you will have already successfully set up WP-United, and in Step 2 of the Setup Wizard, you will have elected to turn on User Integration.

This chapter describes the additional actions you will need to perform in order to set up a site with working user integration.

WordPress permissions

In WordPress, users permissions are divided into five roles:

- **Subscribers:** Can view their profile and can write comments
- **Contributors:** Can create posts, but not publish them until they are approved by someone with a higher level.
- **Authors:** Can create and publish posts.
- **Editors:** Can edit and approve other people's posts
- **Administrators:** Can do everything

Mapping phpBB user permissions to WordPress permissions

Exactly who can automatically integrate with WordPress, and what they can do, is set using the phpBB permissions system.

As a result, by default, only the phpBB founder user is integrated – as they are magic and are automatically granted all permissions.

To get started, select the “Permissions” tab in your phpBB ACP.

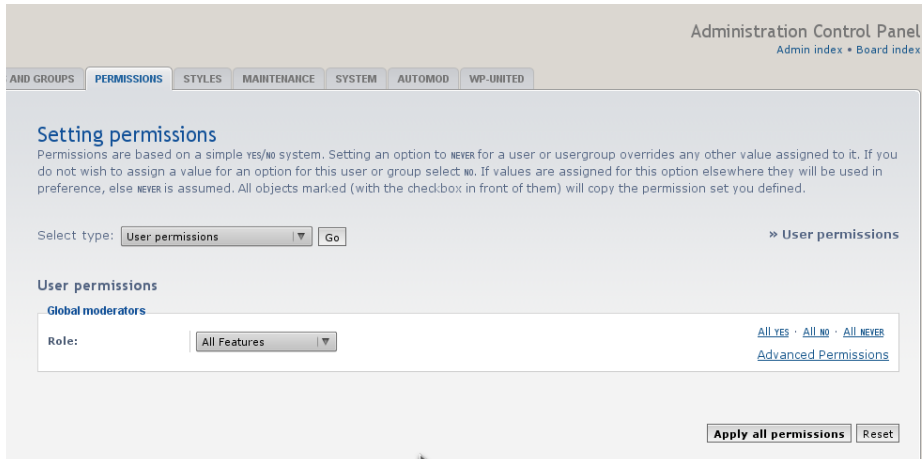
There are several ways to set up phpBB3 permissions:

- Managing users individually. This is normally not recommended as it can be difficult to manage and keep track of what you have done. To manage permissions on a per-user basis, Select “Users' Permissions” on the left, then select the user you want to administer.
- Managing user groups. To manage permissions on a per-group basis, select Group Permissions on the left, then choose the group you want to administer.
- Managing by role. To manage by role, you first define a set of roles. Each role has a different set of permissions. You can then choose one of the above – “Managing users individually” or “Managing user

WP-United User Manual v0.71

groups”, but instead of playing with permissions for each, you simply assign a role. This chapter covers setting permissions rather than roles. To set up roles, please refer to the phpBB3 documentation.

Now, you will see a screen similar to the below:



At the top, you can select to administer either “User permissions”, “Global moderator permissions” or “Admin permissions”.

Which one you choose will depend on how you want the users you have selected to integrate.

- User Permissions: You will be able to integrate users as WordPress subscribers, contributors or authors.
- Global moderator permissions: You will be able to integrate users as WordPress editors.
- Admin permissions. You will be able to integrate users as WordPress administrators.

Select the type of permissions you wish to administer, then click “Go”.

Now, to view individual WP-United permissions, click “Advanced Permissions.” A table will appear, where you can assign all of the relevant permissions to this user/group.

Select the “WP-United” tab. To integrate this user or group, select “Yes” for the appropriate permissions level.

Note that if you select multiple permissions, then higher permissions take precedence over lower permissions. “Yes” permissions take precedence over “No” permissions, and “Never” permissions take precedence over “Yes” and “No” permissions.

When you are done, click “Apply all permissions” at the bottom of the screen.



WP-United User Manual v0.71

Repeat this process for all the users and groups you wish to be integrated. Congratulations! You have now set up your integrated site.

How the integration process works

WP-United uses a “just-in-time” integration method. Users are integrated the moment they access WordPress for the first time.

When your phpBB users visit `blog.php` (or whatever you have renamed it to – see *Chapter 2*), WP-United will check to see if they should be integrated with WordPress. If they should, WP-United will log them into WordPress as the appropriate user. If this is their first visit to the `blog.php`, WP-United will create a WordPress account for them.

You should note that the WordPress account that is created does not always have the same username as the phpBB user. PhpBB and WordPress have different naming rules for usernames, and so it is not possible to ensure that they always match. WP-United takes care of the mapping regardless of the username.

For security reasons, the WordPress user “admin” is never integrated.

The User Mapping Tool, and migrating existing WordPress users to phpBB

If you are integrating a WordPress install with users already defined, you should map them across to your phpBB users, in order to set up the initial integration state. Otherwise, when your phpBB users visit `blog.php` for the first time, they will be given a new account instead. The User Mapping Tool can map users for you.

In addition, the User Mapping Tool can be run at any time to review and manage the current integration status of all your users.

To run the User Mapping Tool, visit the WP-United tab of your phpBB ACP, and click “User Mapping Tool”.

The tool will list all of your WordPress users (apart from “admin”), and will do the following:

If that WordPress user is already integrated to a phpBB user, it will allow you to break the integration, or even delete that user from WordPress

If the WordPress is not integrated, WordPress will search for a potentially matching username in phpBB. You can choose to integrate to that user, or type a phpBB username yourself. If you want to create a new phpBB user for this account, you can do that too.

Using the User Mapping Tool, you can also bulk-manage all of your users, integrating and breaking integrations as necessary.

When you are ready, click “Process”. The User Mapping tool will distil all of your selections into a list of actions it needs to perform. Review this list of actions carefully, and then click “OK” to execute them.

WP-United User Manual v0.71

Debugging user integration

As an administrator, user integration can sometimes be confusing, especially if you are often logging in/out and switching between users.

Sometimes you will want to see exactly what WP-United is doing in order to keep your phpBB and WordPress accounts in sync. To do this, you can turn on login debugging.

Enabling login debugging

- Close your site to public view – perhaps by setting a password to access it.
- open wp-united/options.php in a text editor, and find the line: `define('WPU_DEBUG', FALSE);`.
- Change FALSE to TRUE, and save the file. Now, whenever you access a page where logins are integrated, you will see a purple box at the top of the page, stating what WP-United has done to integrate logins.

Logging in via WordPress

If login integration is working, integrated users will not need to access wp-login.php to log in. They should log in via phpBB. (WP-United will take care of modifying login/register links for you when you have user integration enabled).

If WordPress is requiring an integrated user to log in, something is wrong – ensure you have enabled user integration in the WP-United Setup Wizard, and followed the steps above to assign permissions. If the problem persists, use Login Debugging or the User Mapping Tool to see what is happening.

Third-party tools, such as desktop blog posters, or word processors, can still log into WordPress directly, for example, via xmlrpc. However, users should note that, as explained above, their WordPress username will not always be the same as their phpBB username.



6. Cross-posting

Basic requirements

You can allow integrated users to cross-post blog entries to specific forums. In order to allow users to cross post, you will need to:

- Turn on user integration and cross-posting in Step 2 of the WP-United Setup Wizard (see *Chapter 4: The WP-United Setup Wizard*).
- Ensure the users you want to allow to cross-post are integrated with phpBB, and have at least WordPress author permissions (see *Chapter 5: User Integration*)
- Set WP-United cross-posting permissions for the users on the forums you want to allow them to cross-post to.

Setting cross-posting permissions

The process for setting cross-posting permissions is similar to the process described in Chapter 4 for user integration permissions. The difference is that cross-posting permissions apply on a *per-forum* basis.

To get started, select the “Permissions” tab in your phpBB ACP. Then, do one of the following:

- Select “Forum permissions”, select the forums on which you want to allow cross-posting, then select the users/groups you wish to administer.
- Select “Users’ forum permissions”, select the user you wish to administer, then select the forums on which you want to allow them to cross-post.
- Select “Groups’ forum permissions”, select the group you wish to administer, then select the forums on which you want to allow them to cross-post.

Ensure “Forum permissions” is selected in the drop-down box at the top of the screen, then choose “Advanced Permissions” for the users/groups/forums you wish to administer.

Next, click the “WP-United” tab and set “Can post blog posts to this forum” to “Yes”.

Do this for all the users/groups/forums you want, and click “Apply all permissions”.

Note that if multiple permissions apply to the same user, then “Yes” permissions take precedence over “No” permissions, and “Never” permissions take precedence over “Yes” and “No” permissions.



WP-United
User Manual
v0.71

7. Per-user blogs

COMING SOON



WP-United
User Manual
v0.71

8. Template Integration

COMING SOON



WP-United
User Manual
v0.71

9. Troubleshooting

COMING SOON



WP-United
User Manual
v0.71

10. Getting Help

COMING SOON