

GROUPEE'S UBB.THREADS™ SOFTWARE VERSION 7.0+

Installation Guide for Trial or Licensed Version

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2401 Fourth Avenue, Suite 500 • Seattle WA 98121
Phone 206.283.5999 • Fax 206.283.6616

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Pre-Installation Checklist

Before beginning the installation, you will need the items below.

- A copy of the UBB.threads™ software zip file downloaded from the Member Area at www.ubbcentral.com.
- Unzipping software such as WinZip (<http://winzip.com/>) or Stuffit Expander (<http://www.stuffit.com/expander>) available free for Macintosh, Windows, Linux, and Solaris platforms. Note: Microsoft Windows XP includes the ability to read zip files without needing a third party program.
- Access to your server either at the machine directly or via a remote connection method (such as FTP, SFTP, SCP).
- A modern web browser such as Internet Explorer 6.0+, Netscape 7.0+, Firefox 1.5+, Konqueror 3.5+ or Safari 1.0+.
- A MySQL 4.0 database accessible from your web server as well as the database username and password.
- The following must be installed and configured on your server:
 - ✓ Web server, such as Apache
 - ✓ PHP 4.3+ which must also be configured to allow email and uploads

Warning: Please read the details of an entire step before proceeding with that step. Important information may be included after the instruction itself.

Uploading the Software Files

1. Unzip the Software Files

Use your unzipping tool to extract the software zip file to your computer.

2. Connect to the Server

3. Create Installation Directory

This is the directory within your web root from which your UBB.threads™ installation will run. Note that when choosing the placement of this directory on your web server, you are also determining the URL. We recommend using “ubbthreads” or “forums”.

4. Transfer Files to Server

This can be done via FTP, SCP, SFTP, other remote connection method or directly from the machine itself if you have such access. Move all of the directories and files extracted from the software zip to the installation directory you created on your server.

Note: If you are uploading files via FTP, you may wish to upload scripts in ASCII (text) mode and images in Binary mode. While uploading in this fashion is not required, it can be helpful for troubleshooting, should you encounter problems in the future. To do this:

1. Change the transfer mode on your FTP program to upload in text or ASCII.
2. Upload all of the files and directories from the extracted software files into the installation directory *except* for the **images** directory and its contents.
3. Change the transfer mode on your FTP client to Binary and upload the images directory and its contents. *You may not see a “Binary” mode option in your FTP program; you may just have a menu option to check and uncheck ASCII. To upload in Binary, uncheck ASCII.*

5. Set File & Directory Permissions

Unix & Mac Servers:

You must set the following permissions on the UBB.threads™ files and directories. You can use your FTP software to set these permissions. For exact information on setting permissions in your FTP client, see the documentation included with that program.

- **includes/** directory: set permissions to **0777**
- files within the **includes/** directory: set permissions to **0666**
- **sessions/** directory: set permissions to **0777**
- **templates/compile/** directory: set permissions to **0777**
- **templates/** directory: set permissions to **0777**
- **cache/** directory: set permissions to **0777**
- **cache_builders/** directory: set permissions to **0777**
- **cache_builders/custom/** directory: set permissions to **0777**

- files within the **cache_builders/custom/** directory: set permissions to **0666**
- **styles/** directory: set permissions to **0777**
- files within the **styles/** directory: set permissions to **0666**

NT Servers:

Because permissions must be set on the machine itself, and cannot be set remotely via your FTP client, you will need to have access to the machine to set these permissions. If you do not have access to the machine, ask your host to make these changes. If you encounter permission-related problems during the installation process, use this list as a reference to set permissions for the IUSR_ account:

- **includes/** directory: **read, write, execute** and **delete** permissions
- files within the **includes/** directory: **read** and **write** permissions
- **sessions/** directory: **read, write, execute** and **delete** permissions
- **templates/compile/** directory: **read, write, execute** and **delete** permissions
- **templates/** directory: **read, write, execute** and **delete** permissions
- **cache/** directory: **read, write, execute** and **delete** permissions
- **cache_builders/** directory: **read, write, execute** and **delete** permissions
- **cache_builders/custom/** directory: **read, write, execute** and **delete** permissions
- files within the **cache_builders/custom/** directory: **read** and **write** permissions
- **styles/** directory: **read, write, execute** and **delete** permissions
- files within the **styles/** directory: **read** and **write** permissions

Configuring the Software Files

1. Run Installation Script

Browse to the **install.php** script found in your **install/** directory. If you've uploaded the files to a directory called **forums**, the URL to the **install.php** script in your **install/** directory would look like this:

<http://www.yourdomain.com/forums/install/install.php>

2. Check Permissions

In this step, the application checks the set permissions. If you've properly set the permissions as outlined above, each of the checks conducted by the installation script will result in a green "PASSED" message. If any of the directories or files do not have proper permissions or do not exist, the installation will note this with a red "FAILED" message.

If you receive the "FAILED" message, reset the permissions of that item and click the **"Try Again"** button.

Once each of the checks results in the "PASSED" message, you can click the **"Proceed to**

Next Step” button. You should not proceed to the next step until each of the files/directories listed result in the “PASSED” message.

3. Enter Database Information

In order for the UBB.threads™ software to properly store your data, it must have access to your MySQL database. Entering your database information into this form allows the UBB.threads™ installation script to build the necessary database tables and stores the database information in the configuration files so that the application can write new data (posts, registrations, etc) to the database.

Enter your **Database Server Name**, **Database Name**, **Database User** and **Database Password** into the appropriate fields. If you do not have this information, you will need to contact your host or MySQL documentation.

By default, the **Tablename Prefix** used is “ubbt_”. This prefix will precede the name of every table created by the UBB.threads™. If you wish to use another prefix, change this value.

Verify that the information you’ve entered is correct and click “**Check Database Settings**”.

If the installation script tells you that connecting to the database with the information provided has “FAILED”, use the “**Verify Settings**” button to return to the form. Check your settings, contacting your host if necessary, and try again.

If the installation script tells you that connecting to the database with the information provided has “PASSED” you may then click the “**Next Step**” button to proceed.

4. Enter Paths and URLs

If PHP has been properly configured to provide this information, UBB.threads™ will automatically detect the correct path & URL settings for this step, but please verify these before continuing.

Verify that the field for “**The Domain UBB.threads will be run on**” is correct. It should look like this:

<http://www.yourdomain.com>

Note: there should be no slash trailing the domain.

Verify that the field for “**Base URL to the UBB.threads Install**” is correct. This should be the path to the installation relative to the URL. It should look like this:

/forums

Note: there should be no slash trailing the name of the directory.

Verify that the field for “**Path to Your UBB.threads Install**” is correct. It might look like this:

/home/yourdomain/public_html/forums

Note: there should be no slash trailing the name of the last directory.

If you are running multiple installations of the UBB.threads™ software on this domain, you can also choose to use a custom cookie prefix to avoid cookie problems. If you wish to do this, enter a prefix into the **“Custom Cookie Prefix”** field here.

If the installation script tells you that the information provided has **“FAILED”**, use the **“Verify Settings”** button to return to the form. Check your settings, contacting your host if necessary, and try again.

If the installation script tells you the information provided has **“PASSED”** you may then click the **“Next Step”** button to proceed.

5. Create the Admin User

The user you create during this step will be the primary administrator of the board. Enter the preferred **Username** (the name used for logging in), **Display Name** (the name displayed with your posts on the community), **Email Address** and **Password** into the corresponding fields and click **“Submit Admin User Info”**.

6. Create the Database Tables

Once you have created your admin user, the installation procedure will take you through the automatic building of the database tables.

7. Delete the Install Files

Delete the **install/** directory from the server. **Note: you should not continue until you have deleted this directory. Leaving these files on the server could cause problems at a later time.**

Using the Setup Wizard

The UBB.threads™ installation procedure includes an optional Setup Wizard at the end of the installation to help you configure your new message board. If you wish to bypass the Setup Wizard, choose **“No, thanks, just take me to the bare setup.”** This manual will follow the use of the Setup Wizard.

1. Configure the Basics

Begin by configuring the following fields:

Name: This is the name of your new message board, such as “Joe’s Discussion Forums”.

Board Email Address: All emails sent from the board will come from this email address.

Homepage URL: If your UBB.threads™ is an extension of an existing website, add the URL to your site here.

Text for Homepage URL: Rather than letting the URL to your website appear as a full URL - like <http://www.yourdomain.com> - you might choose to use your website’s name, like: “Joe’s Website”.

2. Add Categories

The Setup Wizard allows you to add five categories. If you wish to have more than five, you can add additional categories later, under the **Forums >> Category Settings** section of your control panel. Once you've created your categories via the Setup Wizard, click Submit.

Note: UBB.threads™ creates a default category called “General Discussion”. If you wish to have a category by the same name, there's no need to create it here. If you wish to change the name of the category, or delete it, you may do so later under the **Forums >> Category Settings** section of your control panel.

3. Add Forums

You will now see your newly created categories in a list and have the opportunity to build forums within these categories. To create a new forum, choose the category to which you'd like to add and click the **[+]** symbol to expand that section. The Setup Wizard allows you to add up to ten forums in each category. If you wish to have more than ten forums in any category, you can add additional categories later, under the **Forums >> Forum Settings** section of your control panel.

Create your forums by adding the **Forum Name**, **Forum Description** (optional), and choose whether or not users are required to log in before posting with the **Anonymous Posting?** setting. When you've finished setting up your forums, click “Submit”.

Configuring Your Portal Settings

UBB.threads™ offers a **Portal** feature which allows you to use UBB.threads™ for virtually any of your site content. Before you unleash your community to the world, have a look through the **Portal** settings in your control panel to determine if these features would be helpful to your website. For complete details on the **Portal** feature, please review the Administrator's Guide at <http://www.ubbcentral.com/support/docs.php?product=UBB.threads>

Additional Resources

Additional documentation for the installation, configuration and management of UBB.threads™ can be found at <http://www.ubbcentral.com/support/docs.php?product=UBB.threads>. Support for the UBB.threads™ is provided for free via the support forums at <http://www.ubbcentral.com/boards/ubbthreads.php>. Should you need it, advanced support is available at the rate of \$50 per half hour unit via our support ticket system at <http://www.ubbcentral.com/support/index.php?product=UBB.threads>