

# XoopsWiki : WhatIsXoops

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## What is XOOPS?

[XOOPS](#) is software which, when installed on an Internet host with a [PHP](#)-capable web server (e.g., [Apache](#)) and a database (e.g., [MySQL](#)), allows administrators to easily create dynamic websites with great content and [many features](#). It is an ideal tool for developing small to large dynamic community websites, intra company portals, corporate portals, weblogs and much more.

XOOPS is released under the terms of the [GNU General Public License \(GPL\)](#) and is free to use and modify. It is free to redistribute as long as you abide by the distribution terms of the GPL.

## What XOOPS stands for

XOOPS is abbreviation of eXtensible Object Oriented Portal System.

Though started as a portal system, XOOPS is in fact striving steadily on the track of Content Management System. It can serve as web framework for use of light, medium and large sites.

A lite XOOPS can be used as a personal weblog or journal. For this purpose, you can do a standard install, and use its News module only.

For medium site, you can use modules like News, Forum, Download, Web Links etc to form a community to interact with your members and visitors.

For a large site as an enterprise one, you can develop your own modules such as eShop, and utilize uniformed user management system of XOOPS core to get your modules glued with whole system seamlessly.

## Pronunciation guide

The standard pronunciation of XOOPS should follow English rules, and you should pronounce it as [zups].

## Key features of XOOPS

- Database-driven  
XOOPS uses relational databases (currently MySQL) to store data required for running a web-based content management system.
- Fully Modularized  
Modules can be installed/uninstalled/activated/deactivated with a click using the XOOPS module administration system.
- Personalization  
Registered users can edit their profiles, select site themes, upload custom avatars, and much more!
- User Management  
The ability to search for users by various criteria, send email and private messages to users through a template-based messaging system.
- Supported World -wide  
XOOPS was created and is maintained by a [team of several hard-working volunteers](#) working from all over the world. The XOOPS community has more than dozen official support sites around the world for support of non-English speaking users.
- Multi-byte Language Support

Fully supports multi-byte languages, including Japanese, Simplified and Traditional Chinese, Korean, etc.

- Versatile Group Permissions System  
Powerful and user-friendly permissions system which enables administrators to set permissions by group.
- Theme-based skinnable interface  
XOOPS is driven by a powerful theme system. Both admins and users can change the look of the entire web site with just a click of a mouse. There are also over 60 themes available for download!

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