

Creating dependent menus with Moodle 'Database activity'

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Live examples, presets and guides at:
mootau15.moodlemoot.org/course/view.php?id=20

Hello, everyone

My name is William

- In this session, I will show you how to create a dependent menu with Moodle 'Database activity'.
- Sometimes, when you collect information with a 'Database form' in Moodle, the 'Add entry' page shows many fields.
- If this includes some non-compulsory fields, then you can use a dependent menu to reveal relevant fields only.
- In Moodle2.9, a 'Database field' can be made compulsory. However, if you are still using Moodle2.8 or a lower version, a dependent menu can make some fields 'act' as compulsory fields.

Add entry

HOW IT WORKS: Example 1

Dependent menu

Example database.

[View list](#)

[View single](#)

[Search](#)

[Add entry](#)

New entry

Your continent:

Choose... ▾

'Continent' field only

Other fields are hidden

Save buttons are hidden

Add entry

Select a continent from the drop down menu

View list View single Search

New entry

Your continent:

- ✓ Choose...
- ASIA
- AFRICA
- N. AMERICA
- S. AMERICA
- EUROPE
- OCEANIA

Then, a 'country' field revealed.

Select a country from the drop down menu.

Dependent menu

Example database.

View list View single Search Add entry

New entry

Your continent:

OCEANIA

Your country:

- ✓ Choose...
- Australia
- Fiji
- Kiribati
- Marshall Islands
- Micronesia
- Nauru
- New Zealand
- Palau
- Papua New Guinea
- Samoa
- Solomon Islands
- Tonga
- Tuvalu
- Vanuatu

Add entry

Then, a 'city' field is revealed.

Enter city into the text field.

When the first letter of a city's name is being entered, a 'sector' field revealed

[View list](#) [View single](#) [Search](#)

New entry

Your continent:

OCEANIA

Your country:

New Zealand

Your city:

ndent menu

atabase.

[View single](#)

[Search](#)

[Add entry](#)

New entry

Your continent:

OCEANIA

Your country:

New Zealand

Your city:

Auckland

Your educational sector:

Primary
Secondary
University
TAFE or VET

Add entry

Select 'sector(s)' from the multi section drop down menu, then a 'comment option' revealed

Secondary
University
TAFE or VET

Do you have any comment?

- ✓ Choose...
- Yes, see below:
- Thank, no comment.

Dependent menu

Example database.

[View list](#)

[View single](#)

[Search](#)

[Add entry](#)

[Export](#)

Select 'No' from the drop down menu, then the 'Submit' button is revealed

Univ
TAFE

Do you have any comment?

Thank, no comment. ▾

Submit

Add entry

Or, select 'Yes' from the drop down menu, then a text field is revealed

Primary
Secondary
University
TAFE or

Do you have any comment?

Yes, see below: ▾

Dependent menu

Example database.

[View list](#)

[View single](#)

[Search](#)

[Add entry](#)

[Export](#)

New entry

When the first letter of the comment is entered, the 'Submit' button is revealed

I love Moodle

Submit

Dependent menu

Edit 'Add template'

Export Templates Fields Presets

List template Single template Advanced search template Add template RSS template

CSS template Javascript template

Available tags

Fields

continent - [[continent]]
africa - [[africa]]
asia - [[asia]]
europe - [[europe]]
northamerica - [[northamerica]]
oceania - [[oceania]]
southamerica - [[southamerica]]

Disable editor

Reset template

Enable editor

```
<!-- Remove default table, list all fields by  
-->
```

```
<strong>Your continent:</strong><br>[[continent]]
```

```
<div id="country">
```

```
<strong>Your country:</strong><br></div>
```

```
<div id="africa">[[africa]]</div>
```

```
<div id="asia">[[asia]]</div>
```

```
<div id="europe">[[europe]]</div>
```

```
<div id="northamerica">[[northamerica]]</div>
```

Moodle has kindly created a table layout for us to start with.

The 'table layout' needs to be changed to 'DIV layout'.

Add 'id's for each DIV – these are going to be hidden.

Dependent menu

Example 1

CSS for 'Add template'

Export Templates Fields Presets

List template Single template Advanced search template Add template RSS template

CSS template Javascript template

Available tags



Fields

continent - [[continent]]
africa - [[africa]]
asia - [[asia]]
europe - [[europe]]
northamerica - [[northamerica]]
oceania - [[oceania]]
southamerica - [[southamerica]]

Add template

```
<div id="say">  
<strong>Do you have any comment? </strong>  
[[say]]  
</div>  
  
<div id="comment">  
[[comment]]  
</div>  
  
<!-- Create our own submit button -->
```

Create a customised 'Submit' button

Disable editor

```
<div id="submiturl">  
<a class="btn btn-success btn-large" href="javascript:urllsubmit();">Submit</a>  
</div>
```

Add CSS to hide Moodle default buttons

Reset template

Enable editor

```
<!-- Hide Moodle buttons -->  
<style>  
input[type="submit"] {  
display:none;  
}  
</style>
```

Dependent menu

Example data

JS for 'Add template'

Export Templates Fields

List template Single template Advanced search template Add template

CSS template Javascript template

Available tags



Fields

continent - [[continent]]
africa - [[africa]]
asia - [[asia]]
europe - [[europe]]
northamerica - [[northamerica]]
oceania - [[oceania]]
southamerica - [[southamerica]]

Disable editor

Reset template

Enable editor

To start with, hide all fields except the first drop down menu 'Continent'

```
<script type="text/javascript"><br/><br/>// Hide all fields except the first menu (Continent)<br/><br/>document.getElementById("country").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("asia").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("africa").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("northamerica").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("southamerica").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("europe").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("oceania").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("city").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("sector").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("say").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("comment").style.display = 'none';<br/>document.getElementById("submiturl").style.display = 'none';<br/><br/>// Select continent<br/><br/>var menuselection=document.getElementById("[[continent#id]]");</pre></div><div data-bbox="779 514 932 802" data-label="Text"><p>Get Element by ID display =none</p></div><div data-bbox="891 940 950 965" data-label="Page-Footer"><p>10 / 20</p></div>
```

Dependent menu

JS for 'Add template'

Hide all 'country' fields when a selection of 'continent' changed

When a continent is selected, event=onchange

Form ID

Disable editor

Get Element by ID display =none

Available tags

Fields

continent -
africa - [[africa]]
asia - [[asia]]
europe - [[europe]]
northamerica - [[northamerica]]
oceania - [[oceania]]
southamerica - [[southamerica]]

Select continent

```
var menuselection=document.getElementById("[[continent#id]]");
```

Listen to the onchange event of the first menu

```
document.getElementById("[[continent#id]]").onchange=function(){display();};
```

```
function display() {
```

```
// Hide all fields except the first menu
```

```
document.getElementById("country").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("asia").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("africa").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("northamerica").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("southamerica").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("europe").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("oceania").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("city").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("sector").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("say").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("comment").style.display = 'none';
```

```
document.getElementById("submiturl").style.display = 'none';
```

Reset template

Enable editor

Dependent menu

Example database.

JS for 'Add template'

Get Element by ID

Disable editor

Reset template

Enable editor

```
... is each time according to menu selection
if ( menuselection.selectedIndex==1 ) {
document.getElementById("country").style.display = 'block';
document.getElementById("asia").style.display = 'block';
}

if ( menuselection.selectedIndex==2 ) {
document.getElementById("country").style.display = 'block';
document.getElementById("africa").style.display = 'block';
}

if ( menuselection.selectedIndex==3 ) {
document.getElementById("country").style.display = 'block';
document.getElementById("northamerica").style.display = 'block';
}

if ( menuselection.selectedIndex==4 ) {
document.getElementById("country").style.display = 'block';
document.getElementById("southamerica").style.display = 'block';
}

if ( menuselection.selectedIndex==5 ) {
document.getElementById("country").style.display = 'block';
document.getElementById("europe").style.display = 'block';
}

if ( menuselection.selectedIndex==6 ) {
document.getElementById("country").style.display = 'block';
document.getElementById("oceania").style.display = 'block';
}
}
```

Number of item's order (automatically set when field is defined) is used to control fields revealed when it is selected

Define number of fields to be revealed each time

Dependent menu

Example database

JS for 'Add template'

Get Element by ID

When a country is selected, event=onchange

Available tags

Fields

continent - [[continent]]
africa - [[africa]]
asia - [[asia]]
europe - [[europe]]
northamerica - [[northamerica]]
oceania - [[oceania]]
southamerica - [[southamerica]]
city - [[city]]

```
// display city  
document.getElementById("[[asia#id]]").onchange=function(){displaycity();}  
document.getElementById("[[africa#id]]").onchange=function(){displaycity();}  
document.getElementById("[[northamerica#id]]").onchange=function(){displaycity();}  
document.getElementById("[[southamerica#id]]").onchange=function(){displaycity();}  
document.getElementById("[[europe#id]]").onchange=function(){displaycity();}  
document.getElementById("[[oceania#id]]").onchange=function(){displaycity();}
```

City event =onkeyup

Reveal the 'City' field

Sector event =onchange

Reveal the 'Sector' field

```
function displaycity() {  
document.getElementById("city").style.display = 'block';  
}
```

```
// display sector  
document.getElementById("[[city#id]]").onkeyup=function(){displaysector();}
```

```
function displaysector() {  
document.getElementById("sector").style.display = 'block';  
}
```

```
// display say  
document.getElementById("[[sector#id]]").onchange=function(){displaysay();}
```

```
function displaysay() {  
document.getElementById("say").style.display = 'block';  
}
```

Reveal the 'Say' field

Dependent menu

Example

JS for 'Add template'

Add entry Export Templates

List template Single Add template

Javascript template

When a comment option is selected

Number of item's order (automatically set when field is defined) is used to control fields revealed when it is selected

Get Element by ID

event=onchange

Reveal the 'Comment' area

Reveal the 'Submit' button

Available



Field ids

continent id - [[continent#id]]
africa id - [[africa#id]]
asia id - [[asia#id]]
europe id - [[europe#id]]
northamerica id - [[northamerica#id]]
oceania id - [[oceania#id]]

```
function displaycomment() {  
  if ( sayselection.selectedIndex==1 ) {  
    document.getElementById("comment").style.display = 'block';  
    document.getElementById("submiturl").style.display = 'none';  
  }  
  
  if ( sayselection.selectedIndex==2 ) {  
    document.getElementById("comment").style.display = 'none';  
    document.getElementById("submiturl").style.display = 'block';  
  }  
}
```

Dependent menu

Example of

JS for 'Add template'

Export Templates Fields Presets

List template Single template Advanced search template Add template

Form ID

```
[[comment#id]]
continent id - [[continent#id]]
africa id - [[africa#id]]
asia id - [[asia#id]]
europe id - [[europe#id]]
northamerica id - [[northamerica#id]]
oceania id - [[oceania#id]]
southamerica id - [[southamerica#id]]
city id - [[city#id]]
sector id - [[sector#id]]
country id - [[country#id]]
comment id - [[comment#id]]
```

When a comment text is entered, event=onkeyup

```
document.getElementById("comment").onkeyup=function(){displaybutton();}
// display button
document.getElementById("comment").onkeyup=function(){displaybutton();}
function displaybutton() {
document.getElementById("submitur").style.display = 'block';
}
// Submit and Save
function urlsubmit() {
var x = document.getElementsByTagName("form");
x[0].submit();
}
// ]]></script>
```

Get Element by ID

Reveal the 'Submit' button

Form submission function

Enable editor

Save template

Example 2

Dependent menu and hidden empty fields

New entry

Core elements addressed in this entry:
For each chosen core element below, please reflect explicitly on how it relates to the entry.

Element 1

Path: p

HTML format

Would you like to add another core element from the drop down list?'

- ✓ Choose...
- Yes, I'd like to enter more elements
- No more.

Save and add another

Show 2 fields and an option menu

Other fields are hidden

Dependent menu and hidden empty fields

empty fields in 'Single View' and Dependent menu in 'Add entry' template.

View single Search Add entry Export Templates Fields

New entry

Core elements addressed in this entry:
For each chosen core element below, please reflect explicitly on how it relates to the entry.

Element 1

Paragraph

I like E1

Path: p

HTML format

Would you like to add another core element from the drop down list?'

Yes, I'd like to enter more elements

Again, core elements addressed in this entry:
For each chosen core element below, please reflect explicitly on how it relates to the entry.

Element 2

Paragraph

B I [List icons]

I love E2 too,|

Path: p

HTML format

Save and view

Save and add another

After selecting 'Yes', 2 more fields are revealed

JS for 'Single template'

The 'table layout' needs to be changed to 'DIV layout'.

Disable editor

Add 'id's to each DIV that is going to be hidden.

If comment2 is empty display = none

Reset template

Enable editor

```
<div id="more"><strong>More entry, core elem  
[[core2]]</div>  
<div>[[comment2]]</div>  
  
<p> ##edit## ##delete## ##approve## ##disapprove## ##export##</p>  
  
<script type="text/javascript">// <![CDATA[  
  
if ('[[core2]]' == '') {  
    document.getElementById('more').style.display  
}  
  
if ('[[comment2]]' == '') {  
    document.getElementById('more').style.display='none';  
}
```

Example 3

Dependent menu and hidden empty fields

Fields in 'Single View' and Dependent menu in 'Add entry' template.

[View list](#) [View single](#) [Search](#) [Add entry](#) [Export](#) [Templates](#) [Fields](#)

New entry

Name:

Common field

Show common fields

Material:

Choose... ▾

Before the Material selection is made

Density: (number value)

Common field

Show optional menu

Price: (number value)

Common field

Show common fields

and view

Save and add another

Example 3

Dependent menu and hidden empty fields

Hide empty fields in 'Add entry' template.

Search Add entry Export Templates Fields

New entry

Name:

Material:

Density: (number value)

Conductivity: (number value)

Malleability:

Price: (number value)

Save and view Save and add another

After selecting 'Metal'

Relevant fields are revealed

Dependent menu and hidden empty fields

Hide empty fields in 'Single View' and Dependent menu in 'Add entry' template.

View list View single Search Add entry Export Templates Fields

New entry

Name:

Material:

Density: (number value)

Botanical name:

Combustion: (number value)

Price: (number value)

Save and view Save and add another

After selecting 'Wood'

Relevant fields are revealed

Empty fields will be hidden in 'View Single'

ISSUES

The dependent menu **won't** work at all if JavaScript is **disabled** in the user's browser settings.

All fields will be revealed straight away - there'll be no error message on the Moodle page.

The browser will show a warning icon - users must click on the icon to allow JS.

