Simple Email Form Documentation

Release 2.3.0

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joomla.unlikelysource.org

Project Home Page

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CHAPTER 1

What's new in version 2.3

• A new Slovenian translation has been added.

New since version 2.2

• Joomla language overrides now work in Simple Email Form. For more information, see *Override strings*.

New since version 2.1

- JForm has become the option by default instead of the deprecated Classic mode.
- Customizing the rendering of the form is easier. For more details, see Override rendering
- You can now send an automatic custom message to your user. See Send User a Custom Message

CHAPTER 2

Installation

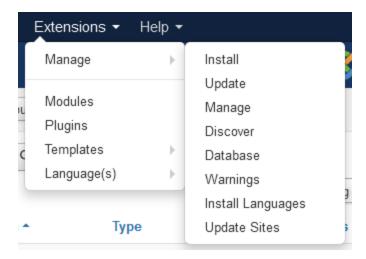
Here is the installation procedure for Joomla 3.x. The procedure is very similar for Joomla 2.5, but the screens look slightly different.

Download the module on the Simple Email Form page.

Login as the Joomla administrator



Select Extensions - Manage - Install



Click on **Browse** and locate the Simple Email Form **TAR.GZ** file you downloaded.

Click Upload & Install

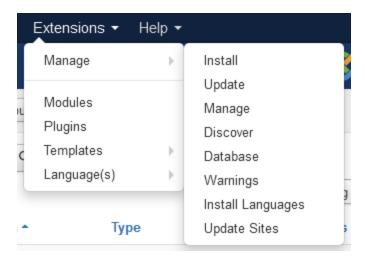


Upload & Install Joomla Extension

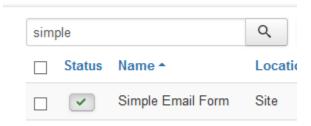


You should see a friendly message indicating success.

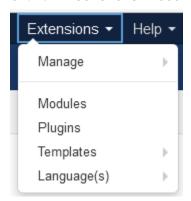
Select Extensions - Manage - Manage



Make sure the Simple Email Form's **Status** is **Published** (green check in the Status column).

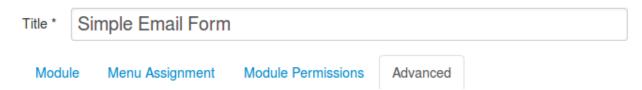


Click on Extensions - Modules.



Click on Simple Email Form in the **Title** column to edit the module.

You can edit the **Title** as desired.



In **Position** (right column of the **Module** tab), either select a module position as indicated by your template or enter a custom position (e.g. user99) if you plan to load the module into an article.



In the Menu Assignment tab, make sure the module is assigned to either On all pages or to the pages you choose.



SAVE your changes.

If you plan to load the module into an article, click on ${f Close}$, then choose ${\tt Extensions}$ - ${\tt Plugins}$

Content - Load Modules

Make sure that the **Content - Load Modules** plug-in is enabled.

You are now ready to configure the basic options in the **Module** tab and the advanced options in the **Advanced** tab.

CHAPTER 3

Basic configuration options

Note: When you move the pointer over a field label, an explanation box pops up to assist you during module configuration.



3.1 Form type

First, the form type must be chosen.

JForm is the most recent version that integrates new Joomla requirements. This is the default option since version 2.1.

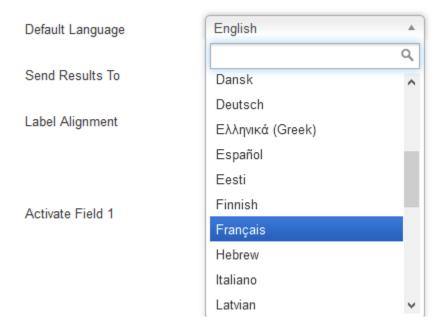
Classic shows the form as it used to be. This option is deprecated and won't be available in version 3.0 of the module.



3.2 Language

You can then set the language used in the form. Language files can be found and edited at /path/to/joomla/modules/mod_simpleemailform/language_files.

Thirty languages are available.



Note: The module is now integrated with Joomla native language support, so this field has no effect on the JForm type.

3.3 Email address

Next to **Send Results To**, you **must** enter an email address where information gathered by the simple email form will be sent. If there's more than one address, separate them with commas or spaces.



An empty **Email address** field will prevent the form from displaying and generate a "SORRY: This email address is invalid! Please re-enter your email address" error.

3.4 Label alignment

Choose to have the labels aligned **left**, **right** or **center**.

Label Alignment

Left

Right

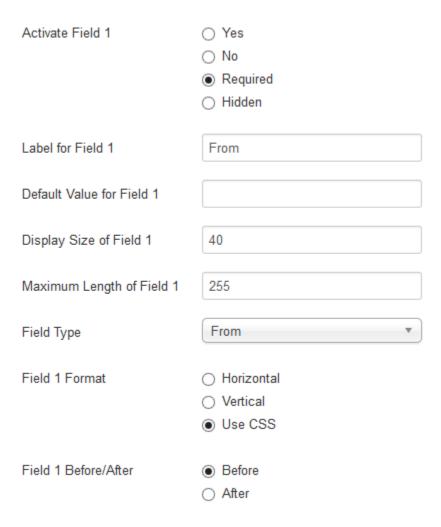
Center

CHAPTER 4

Field options

Eight options can be used to configure each field:

- Activate Field X
- Label for Field X
- Default Value for Field X
- Display Size of Field X
- Maximum Length of Field X
- Field Type
- Field X Format
- Field X Before/After



4.1 Activate Field X

Set this option to **Yes** to add field X to your form.

No means that field X won't appear in the form.

Required means that the user won't be able to submit the form if the field is empty. These fields are marked with an asterisk (*).



Hidden fields don't appear on screen. The value is automatically added in the email that is sent to you.

4.2 Label for Field X

Short description of the information to be entered in this field.

4.3 Default Value for Field X

With field types Subject, Normal and Textarea, the default value appears automatically in the form.

Note: Since version **1.8.5**, default values don't appear in **Textarea** fields. The HTML5 placeholder attribute is used instead.

With field types **Drop**, **Radio** and **Checkbox**, this option populates the answers available to the user in this format:

A=Apple, B=Banana, C=Cantelope

In this case, the user will see Apple, Banana and Cantelope on screen. If "Apple" is chosen, "A" is returned.

Note: To set a default for a **Drop**, **Radio** or **Checkbox** field, just make sure the desired default value is the first one specified.

4.4 Display Size of Field X

Size, in rows and columns, of a Textarea field. Size is entered in the following format: row,column

With field types **Radio** and **Checkbox**, you can enter the width, in pixels, of the labels besides each radio button or box.

Display Size has no effect on other field types.

Note: This option is only available with the **Classic** form type.

4.5 Maximum Length of Field X

Highest number of characters accepted from the user. This field isn't used with field types **Drop**, **Radio** and **Checkbox**.

4.6 Field type

Since version **2.0**, available field types are:

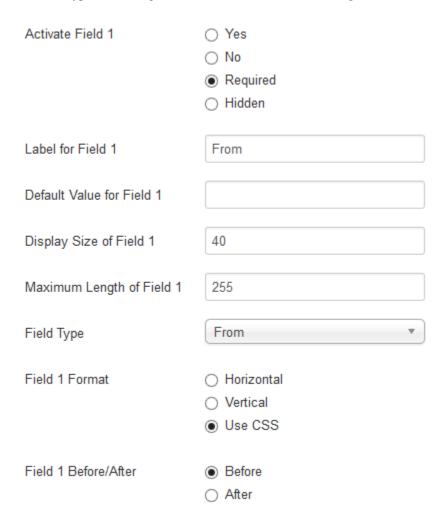
- From
- Subject

4.2. Label for Field X 15

- Normal (text)
- Textarea
- Drop (select)
- Radio
- Checkbox

4.6.1 From

This field type is used to get the email address of the user filling out the form. The first field defaults to **From**.



4.6.2 Subject

Whatever the user enters here will become the "Subject" in the email sent to you. The second field defaults to Subject.

Activate Field 2	○ Yes
	○ No
	Required
	○ Hidden
Label for Field 2	Subject
Default Value for Field 2	RE: Simple Email Form
Display Size of Field 2	40
Maximum Langth of Field 2	255
Maximum Length of Field 2	255
Field Type	Subject ▼
· ·oia ·ypo	
Field 2 Format	Horizontal
	○ Vertical
	Use CSS
Field 2 Before/After	Before

4.6.3 Normal

This field will appear as one line on your input form.

If you do not wish to enter a **default value**, make sure to hit the **spacebar**.

4.6. Field type

○ Required
○ Hidden
Label for Field 8 Company
Default Value for Field 8 This is a default value
Display Size of Field 8 40
Maximum Length of Field 8 255
Field Type Normal ▼
Field 8 Format Horizontal Vertical Use CSS
Field 8 Before/After Before After

4.6.4 Textarea

Creates a text box in which the user can type a message. Label is the only field that is not ignored by this field type.

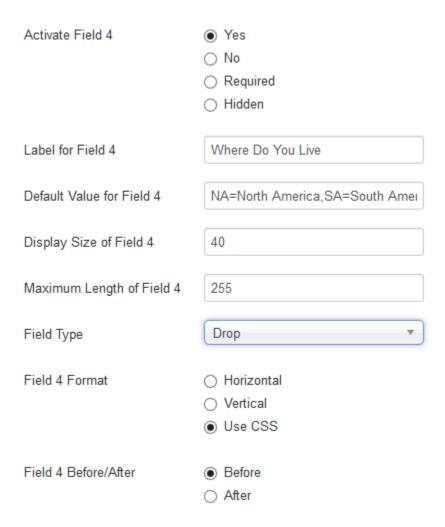
Note: The new JForm type displays an HTML editor.

Activate Field 6	Yes	
	○ No	
	○ Required	
	○ Hidden	
Label for Field 6	Comments	
Default Value for Field 6	Comments	
Display Size of Field 6	4,60	
Maximum Length of Field 6	255	
Field Type	Textarea ▼	
Field 6 Format	○ Horizontal	
	VerticalUse CSS	
Field 6 Before/After	Before	

4.6.5 Drop

In the **Default Value** field, enter options separated by commas as follows: Return1=Visible1,Return2=Visible2. ReturnX is the value returned in the email message. VisibleX is the value appearing in the form.

4.6. Field type



4.6.6 Radio

In the **Default Value** field, enter options separated by commas as follows: Return1=Visible1,Return2=Visible2.

ReturnX is the value returned in the email message sent when that button is selected. VisibleX is the value appearing in the form.

Horizontal format is table/row/col/col/col.

Vertical format is table/row/col/col/row/col/col.

Use CSS (default) assumes you will use your custom CSS.

Before means that the label appears to the left of the button.

After means that the label appears to the right of the button.

Activate Field 3	YesNoRequiredHidden
Label for Field 3	Employment status
Default Value for Field 3	S=Student,E=Employed,R=Retired
Display Size of Field 3	40
Maximum Length of Field 3	255
Field Type	Radio ▼
Field 3 Format	HorizontalVerticalUse CSS
Field 3 Before/After	○ Before After

4.6.7 Checkbox

In the **Default Value** field, enter options separated by commas as follows: Return1=Visible1,Return2=Visible2.

ReturnX is the value returned in the email message sent when that box is checked. VisibleX is the value appearing in the form.

Horizontal format is table/row/col/col/col.

Vertical format is table/row/col/col/row/col/col.

Use CSS (default) assumes you will use your custom CSS.

Before means that the label appears to the left of the box.

After means that the label appears to the right of the box.

4.6. Field type

Activate Field 5	YesNoRequiredHidden
Label for Field 5	Computer OS
Default Value for Field 5	W10=Windows 10,W8=Windows 8,
Display Size of Field 5	200
Maximum Length of Field 5	255
Field Type	Checkbox ▼
Field 5 Format	○ Horizontal⑥ Vertical○ Use CSS
Field 5 Before/After	Before After

4.7 Field X Format

Only works with Radio and Checkbox field types.

• Horizontal means that all radio buttons or checkboxes are on the same row.

Field 3 Apple Banana Cantelope

• **Vertical** means that the various button-label pairs are displayed one above the other.

Apple O
Field 3 Banana Cantelope

• Use CSS means that you use your custom CSS to display the buttons or boxes.

4.8 Field X Before/After

Only used with Radio and Checkbox field types.

- **Before** means that labels are displayed to the left of their respective buttons or checkboxes.
- After means that they are displayed to the right.

Advanced configuration options

5.1 Caching

Use global means that this module's content will be cached according to your Joomla's global cache settings.

No caching means that no content from this module will be cached.

This option is provided by Joomla.

5.2 Form Instance

If you use more than one **Classic** forms on your website, even on different pages, you need to give each one of them a unique number to differentiate them from each other.

5.3 Send Results CC

Enter email addresses here if you want the form to be sent in carbon copy.

5.4 Send Results BCC

Enter email addresses here if you want the form to be sent in blind carbon copy.

5.5 Reply To this address

Enter email addresses where replies should be sent to.

5.6 Activate Reply To

If set to Yes, a "Reply to" field will appear when the email is sent.

5.7 Auto Reset Fields

Yes means that all fields will be cleared when the user submits the form.

No means that the values entered by the user will remain after the form is submitted.

Note: With the **JForm** type, **No** is automatically used.

5.8 Name of CSS Class

Enter the name of the CSS class that will be used with the form.

5.9 Space After Labels

Amount of pixels between the labels to the left of the form and their input fields.

5.10 Redirect URL

Enter a Website address where the user should be redirected after submitting the form. Make sure you enter a **fully formed** URL.

Example: http://www.unlikelysource.com/

5.11 Use Captcha

With the **JForm** type:

To be able to use Captcha, you can follow the procedure on the Joomla Website.

This will produce a captcha looking like this:



Note: If you don't have a Google account and don't want to create one, you can use a Captcha extension available in the Joomla Extensions Directory.

With the **Classic** form type:

Set to **No Captcha** if you don't want any Captcha protection.

Image Captcha creates an image including a background rectangle, characters the user will have to type and lines blurring the image.



5.12 Directory to Write Captchas

Submit

Reset

An absolute path where captchas will be written.

Example: /var/www/application/images

Make sure that the repository is writable.

5.13 URL for Captcha Directory

URL matching the directory specified above.

5.14 Captcha Word Length

Number of characters the user will need to enter.

5.15 Captcha Font Size

Size of the characters in the captcha image.

5.16 Captcha Width

Width in pixels of the captcha image.

5.17 Captcha Height

Height in pixels of the captcha image.

5.18 Captcha Text Color

The color of the characters in the captcha image.

5.19 Captcha Lines Color

The color of the lines partially hiding the characters in the captcha image.

5.20 Captcha Background Color

The color of the captcha image background.

5.21 Error Text Color

The color in which error messages are displayed to the user.

5.22 Success Text Color

The color in which success messages are displayed to the user.

5.23 Name of Anchor Tag

After submitting the form, the user is redirected to the anchor tag mentioned here. By default, this tag is placed at the beginning of the form.

The name of the tag must start with #. Example: #tag

5.24 Number of Upload Fields

Determines the number of attachments users can or must send through the form.

5.25 Upload Field Label

The label for the upload fields.

5.26 Allowed Attachment Filenames

List of approved filename extensions, separated by commas. For security reasons, Joomla will prevent any user from sending executable content, for instance a .php file.

5.27 Are upload fields required?

If set to Yes, submitting the form will fail with an error if an upload field is empty.

Note: This new feature is only available with the **JForm** type.

5.28 Directory to Save Attachments

An absolute path to the directory in which attachments sent by users will be saved.

5.29 Send Me an Email Field Label

The label for field **Send Me an Email**, set below.

5.30 Send Me an Email Field

If set to Yes, users can ask to receive a copy of the form that they send.

5.31 Send User an Email Automatically

If set to Yes, users will always receive a copy of the form that they send.

5.32 Send User a Custom Message

If the **Send User an Email Automatically** option is set to **Yes**, you can fill out this section to send your user a custom message.

5.33 Email Check

If set to Yes, the data entered in the From field is validated and must follow the format emailaccount@domain.

Note: With the JForm type, this validation occurs automatically.

5.34 Include Article Title

If set to Yes, the Joomla article title is automatically included in a hidden field added to the email.

5.35 Test Mode

If set to Yes, the form is used in test mode.

5.36 Override rendering

Set this option to **Yes** if you want to use your own template to modify the module's display. To get you started, you can copy the **mod_simpleemailform/tmpl/default_custom.php.dist** and name it **default_custom.php**.

You can also give your custom file another name, but you will have to insert your chosen name on line 7 of the **default.php** template file.

5.37 Override strings

Set this option to **Yes** if you want to use Joomla's language overrides feature. Searching for constants with "MOD_SIMPLEEMAILFORM" will give you a list of all the strings that can be overriden in this module.

Thanks to this feature, you won't lose your changes the next time you update Simple Email Form.

5.38 Module Tag

The html tag used for the module. This option is provided by Joomla.

5.39 Bootstrap Size

The number of columns used in the module. This option is provided by Joomla.

5.40 Header Tag

The HTML tag used for module headers and titles. This option is provided by Joomla.

5.41 Header Class

The CSS class used for module headers and titles. This option is provided by Joomla.

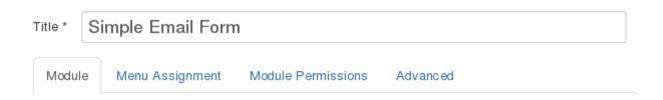
5.42 Module Style

The option used to override the template style. It is provided by Joomla.

5.41. Header Class 31

CHAPTER 6

Configuration Example



Simple Email Form



A simple email form from unlikelysource.com with up to 8 fields + CAPTCHA + 32 languages.

Version 2.0.0 -- works on 3.x (1.8.1-1x supports Joomla 1.x)!

REQUIRES a web server running at a minimum PHP 5.3!!!

TO LOAD IN AN ARTICLE (most common):

- . In the Details box, modify Position to user99 (or whatever).
- In your target article, add this line: {loadposition user99}.
- . Make sure Extensions Plugin Manager Content Load Module is active.

	Center	3, 11, 1
34	Right	Chapter 6. Configuration Example
Label Alignment	Left	
Send Results To	info@unlikelysource.com	
Default Language	English	▼
Form Type	JForm Classic (DEPRECATED)	

Activate Field 1	YesNoRequired
	○ Hidden
Label for Field 1	From
Default Value for Field 1	
Display Size of Field 1	40
Maximum Length of Field 1	255
Field Type	From
Field 1 Format	○ Horizontal○ Vertical⑥ Use CSS
Field 1 Before/After	Before After

Activate Field 2	○ Yes
	○ No
	Required
	○ Hidden
Label for Field 2	Subject
Default Value for Field 2	RE: Simple Email Form
Display Size of Field 2	40
Maximum Length of Field 2	255
Field Type	Subject ▼
Field 2 Format	○ Horizontal
	○ Vertical
	Use CSS
Field 2 Before/After	Before

Activate Field 3	Yes
	○ No
	○ Required
	○ Hidden
Label for Field 3	Employment status
Default Value for Field 3	S=Student,E=Employed,R=Retired
Display Size of Field 3	40
Maximum Length of Field 3	255
Field Type	Radio ▼
Field 3 Format	Horizontal
	○ Vertical
	○ Use CSS
Field 3 Before/After	○ Before
	After

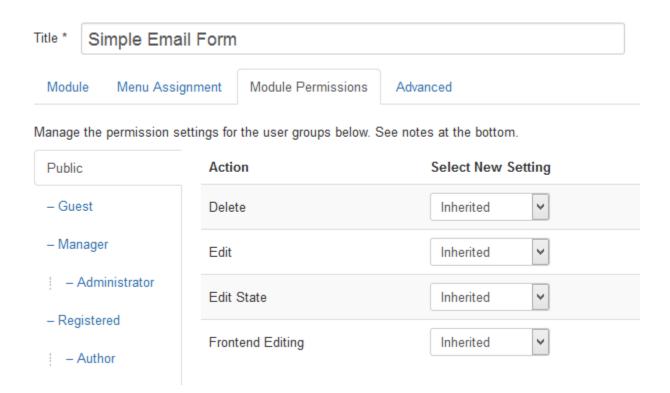
Activate Field 4	Yes No Required
	○ Hidden
Label for Field 4	Where Do You Live
Default Value for Field 4	NA=North America,SA=South Amer
Display Size of Field 4	40
Maximum Length of Field 4	255
Field Type	Drop ▼
Field 4 Format	○ Horizontal○ Vertical⑥ Use CSS
Field 4 Before/After	Before After

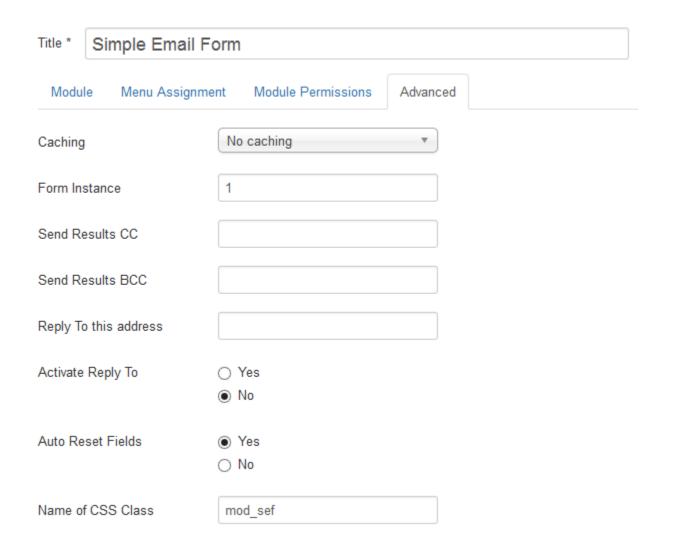
Activate Field 5	YesNoRequiredHidden
Label for Field 5	Computer OS
Default Value for Field 5	W10=Windows 10,W8=Windows 8,
Display Size of Field 5	200
Maximum Length of Field 5	255
Field Type	Checkbox ▼
Field 5 Format	HorizontalVerticalUse CSS
Field 5 Before/After	Before After

Activate Field 6	Yes
	○ No
	 Required
	○ Hidden
Label for Field 6	Comments
Default Value for Field 6	Comments
Display Size of Field 6	4.60
Display Size of Field 6	4,60
Maximum Length of Field 6	255
Field Type	Textarea ▼
Field 6 Format	○ Horizontal
	○ Vertical
	Use CSS
Field 6 Before/After	Before

Activate Field 7	○ Yes
	○ No
	Required
	○ Hidden
Label for Field 7	Terms
Default Value for Field 7	understand_terms=I understand that
Display Size of Field 7	200
Maximum Length of Field 7	255
Field Type	Checkbox ▼
Field 7 Format	Horizontal
	○ Vertical
	○ Use CSS
Field 7 Before/After	○ Before
	After

Activate Field 8	Yes	
	○ No	
	○ Required	
	○ Hidden	
Label for Field 8	Company	
Default Value for Field 8	This is a default value	
Display Size of Field 8	40	
Maximum Length of Field 8	255	
Field Type	Normal	
Field 8 Format	○ Horizontal	
	○ Vertical	
	● Use CSS	
Field 8 Before/After	Before	
	○ After	
Title * Simple Email F	orm	
Module Menu Assignme	ent Module Permissions Advanced	
Module Assignment	On all pages	





Space After Labels	10
Redirect URL	
Use Captcha	No CaptchaImage CaptchaText Captcha
Directory to Write Captchas	/myserver/htdocs/joomla/captcha
URL for Captcha Directory	http://joomla.unlikelysource.org/cap
Captcha Word Lengh	4
Captcha Font Size	24
Captcha Width	200
Captcha Height	60
Captcha Text Color	#000000

Captcha Lines Color	#BFBFBF
Captcha Background Color	#FFFF00
Error Text Color	red
Success Text Color	green
Name of Anchor Tag	#unlikely
Number of Upload Fields	2
Upload Field Label	Attachment
Allowed Attachment Filenames jpg,png	
Are upload fields required?	● Yes ○ No
Directory to Save Attachments	/myserver/htdocs/joomla/images

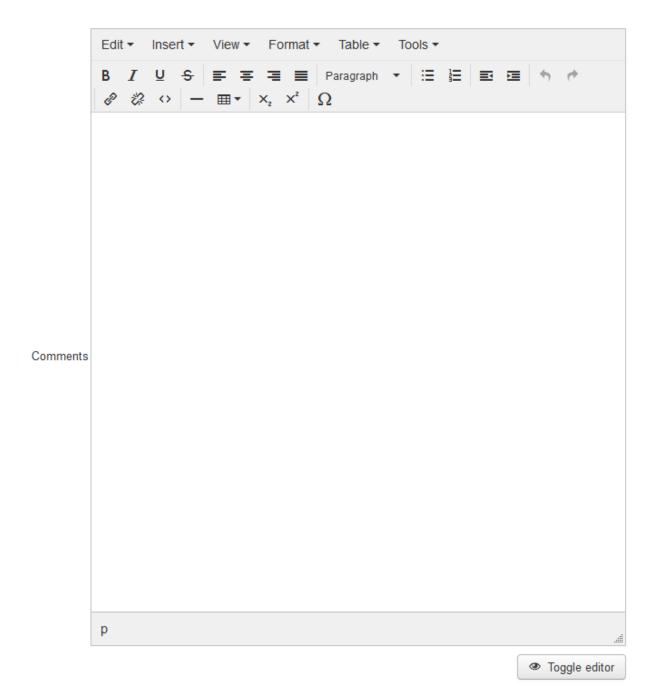
Send Me A Copy Field Label	Send me a copy
Send Me A Copy Field	YesNo
Send User a Copy Automatica	ally ○ Yes No
Email Check	YesNo
Include Article Title	YesNo
Test Mode	YesNo
Override rendering	YesNo
Module Tag	div ▼
Bootstrap Size	0
Header Tag	
Header Class	
Module Style	Inherited ▼

Here's the result of this configuration with the **Classic** type:

From		
Subject	RE: Simple Email Form	
Employment status	○ Student ○ Employed ○	Retired
Where Do You Live	North America	~
Computer OS	Windows 10 Windows 8 Other Windows Linux Mac OSX	
Comments	Comments	
Terms	I understand that this module is free	· _
Company	This is a default value	
Attachment	Browse No file selected. Browse	
Please enter the following	drou	
		Help us prevent SPAM!
	Send me a copy Submit Reset	

Here's the result of this configuration with the **JForm** type:

From *			
Subject *	RE: Simple Ema	il Form	
Employment status	Student En	nployed	Retired
Where Do You Live	North America		~
	Windows 10		
	Windows 8		
Computer OS	Other Window	s	
	Linux		
	Mac OSX		





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