Joomla's extension ecosystem is one of the most powerful features of the platform — but finding the right tools takes time. This guide organizes the best Joomla extensions of 2026 into 16 business-use categories, covering everything from e-commerce and membership platforms to event management, community building, and document portals. Whether you're building a new site or extending an existing one, this is your reference.

Use-Case Extensions

Every SaaS subscription is a dependency you don't control. The pricing changes, the API breaks, the vendor pivots — and you're stuck. Joomla's extension ecosystem lets you replace those dependencies with infrastructure you own, running on your server, under your domain, on your terms.

This guide covers **16 business-use categories** with curated extensions that are actively maintained for Joomla 5 and 6. Every listing has been verified against the Joomla Extensions Directory and each vendor's own site. We prioritize extensions from vendors with long track records — RSJoomla!, Joomdonation, StackIdeas, JoomlArt, and others who have shipped reliable Joomla software for a decade or more.

How to use this guide: Each category describes a business function you can run natively on Joomla. Scan for the ones that match your needs, compare the listed options, and evaluate them against your specific requirements. Star ratings reflect JED review scores at time of publication.

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1. E-Commerce

Full shopping cart, product management, checkout, and payment processing. These extensions replace hosted e-commerce platforms like Shopify with a solution that runs entirely on your Joomla site — no monthly platform fees, no transaction surcharges beyond your payment gateway, and complete control over your customer data.

- **HikaShop**
  HikaShop • hikashop.com
  Complete e-commerce solution for Joomla 5/6. Shopping cart, product catalog, checkout, and payment processing with 50+ payment gateways. Free core version with paid Business and Essential tiers. The HikaMarket add-on extends HikaShop into a full multi-vendor marketplace with vendor storefronts, commissions, and vendor dashboards. One of the most reviewed e-commerce extensions on JED (299 reviews, 5☆).
- **EShop**
  Joomdonation • joomdonation.com

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Full-featured Joomla shopping cart with product management, tax rules, shipping methods, and multiple payment gateways. Part of the Joomdonation extension ecosystem. 349 reviews, 5☆.

2. Image Gallery & Portfolio

Media management, galleries, lightboxes, and portfolio display. Essential for photographers, designers, real estate agencies, and any business that needs to showcase visual work. These replace services like SmugMug or Flickr Pro with galleries hosted on your own domain.

- **JoomGallery**
  JoomGallery Friends • joomgalleryfriends.net
  Community-driven open-source image gallery for ambitious and professional users. Joomla 5/6 compatible with frontend user panel. Active development with v4.3.0 released February 2026. Free.
- **Phoca Gallery**
  Phoca • phoca.cz
  Modern responsive gallery for Joomla 5/6. Over 200 parameters for customization, multiple layout options, and lightbox integration. Free and open source. One of the longest-running Joomla gallery extensions. 399 reviews, 5☆.
- **RSMediaGallery!**
  RSJoomla! • rsjoomla.com
  Media and image gallery management component from the RSJoomla stable. Joomla 5/6 compatible. Part of a well-supported commercial extension ecosystem with professional documentation and ticketing support.
- **Ignite Gallery**
  Ignite Gallery • ignitegallery.com
  Masonry, metro, and justified grid layouts with video support. Modern gallery presentation styles for portfolio and photography sites. 246 reviews, 5☆.

3. Appointment Booking

Calendar-based scheduling, availability management, and payment integration. If you run a consulting practice, medical office, salon, or any service business that takes appointments, these extensions replace tools like Calendly or Acuity Scheduling with a booking system built into your site.

- **OS Services Booking**
  Joomdonation • joomdonation.com
  Professional scheduling for consultants, clinics, spas, and service businesses. Calendar-based availability, staff management, and payment gateway integration. 129 reviews, 5☆.
- **RSBooking!**
  RSJoomla! • rsjoomla.com
  Booking and reservation extension for Joomla 5/6. Part of the RSJoomla commercial ecosystem with professional support and documentation. Handles appointment

scheduling with calendar views and payment processing.

4. Hotel, Car & Room Booking

Reservation engines with pricing logic, seasonal rules, and availability calendars. Built for the hospitality industry — hotels, vacation rentals, B&Bs, and real estate agencies. These replace OTA-only dependency with a direct booking engine on your own website, cutting commission fees and owning the guest relationship.

- **Vik Booking**
  e4jConnect • e4jconnect.com
  Independent Internet Booking Engine (IBE) with channel manager integration. Handles hotels, vacation rentals, B&Bs, and hostels. Revenue management and dynamic pricing. 131 reviews, 5☆.
- **Solidres**
  Solidres • solidres.com
  Hotel booking engine for Joomla. Room management, seasonal pricing, availability calendars, and payment processing. Free core with paid add-ons for channel management and advanced features. 217 reviews, 5☆.
- **JHotelReservation**
  CMSJunkie • cmsjunkie.com
  Online booking and automated reservation system for lodging facilities. Room types, rate plans, and availability management. Free core version. 21 reviews, 5☆.
- **OS Property**
  Joomdonation • joomdonation.com
  The leading Joomla real estate extension. Property listings, agent management, search and filtering, map integration, and lead capture. Supports residential, commercial, and rental properties. Part of the Joomdonation ecosystem.

5. Membership & Subscription

Recurring billing, content protection, tiered access, and member management. If you sell access rather than products — gated content, premium downloads, members-only areas — these extensions replace platforms like Patreon or MemberPress with subscription infrastructure on your own site.

- **Membership Pro**
  Joomdonation • joomdonation.com
  Subscription plans, content restriction, payment integration, and member management. Supports recurring billing, trial periods, and group subscriptions. Part of the Joomdonation ecosystem. 201 reviews, 5☆.
- **RSMembership!**
  RSJoomla! • rsjoomla.com
  Control subscriber access to articles, files, folders, and modules. Flexible subscription plans with multiple payment gateways. Joomla 5/6 compatible. 45 reviews, 5☆.
- **PayPlans**

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StackIdeas • stackideas.com
Subscription management and e-commerce for Joomla. Integrates with EasySocial and EasyDiscuss for community-based memberships. Multiple payment gateways and plan types. Joomla 5 compatible. 112 reviews.

6. Email Marketing & Automation

Newsletter management, list segmentation, autoresponders, and SMTP integration. These replace Mailchimp, Constant Contact, and other email marketing SaaS with a self-hosted email engine that keeps your subscriber list under your control and eliminates per-send pricing.

- **RSMail!**
  RSJoomla! • rsjoomla.com
  Newsletter and email extension for Joomla 5/6. Subscriber management, email templates, bounce handling, and campaign tracking. Part of the RSJoomla commercial ecosystem with professional support.

7. Event Management

Event creation, ticketing, registration, calendar integration, and attendee management. Built for conferences, workshops, classes, recurring meetups, and any organization that runs events. Replace Eventbrite’s fees and data silos with registration and ticketing on your own platform.

- **RSEvents!Pro**
  RSJoomla! • rsjoomla.com
  Event and calendar extension for Joomla 5/6. Event registration, ticketing, recurring events, and payment processing. Integrates with other RSJoomla extensions (RSForm! Pro, RSMail!). Professional support and documentation.
- **Event Booking**
  Joomdonation • joomdonation.com
  Individual and group registration, shopping cart, and payment gateways. Supports recurring events, waitlists, early-bird pricing, and certificate generation. The most-reviewed event extension on JED. 583 reviews, 5☆.
- **JEvents**
  JEvents • jevents.net
  Well-established events calendar with complex repeat patterns, iCal import/export, and multiple calendar views (month, week, day, list). Free core with paid add-ons. 499 reviews, 5☆.
- **JTicketing**
  Techjoomla • techjoomla.com
  Paid events and ticketing with social platform integration. QR code check-in, seating charts, and multiple ticket types. 32 reviews, 5☆.

Vendor ecosystem tip: Joomdonation and RSJoomla! both offer deep integration across their

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own extension lines. If you're already running one of their tools, check their catalog first — extensions from the same vendor tend to work together seamlessly with shared user data and unified admin workflows.

8. Community, Social & Gamification

Social networking platforms, user profiles, activity streams, groups, gamification, and community hubs. Build your own social platform instead of renting space on Facebook Groups or Discord. Own the member data, control the experience, and keep the engagement on your domain.

- **EasySocial**
  StackIdeas • stackideas.com
  Full social networking platform for Joomla. User profiles, activity streams, groups, events, messaging, and photo/video sharing. Build a community hub directly on your Joomla site. Integrates with EasyDiscuss and PayPlans.
- **JomSocial**
  JoomlArt • jomsocial.com
  The original Joomla social community extension. Profiles, groups, events, messaging, activity streams, and privacy controls. Powers thousands of community sites worldwide. Mature, well-documented platform.
- **Community Builder**
  Joomlapolis • joomlapolis.com
  One of the oldest and most widely deployed Joomla community extensions. Advanced user profiles, custom fields, connection management, and an extensive plugin ecosystem. Free core with paid add-ons and plugins. Highly customizable.
- **Community Answers**
  Shondalai • shondalai.com
  Q&A discussions, knowledge base, and voting system. Build a community-driven FAQ or help center on your Joomla site. 17 reviews, 5☆.

9. Forum & Discussion

Forum platforms, discussion boards, Q&A systems, and moderation tools. These replace Discourse or vBulletin with a discussion platform that lives inside your Joomla site, sharing user accounts, permissions, and branding with the rest of your content.

- **EasyDiscuss**
  StackIdeas • stackideas.com
  Modern Q&A-style discussion platform for Joomla. Stack Overflow-inspired with voting, accepted answers, badges, and points. Integrates with EasySocial and PayPlans. Professional support from StackIdeas.
- **Kunena**
  Kunena • kunena.org

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The leading Joomla forum with 8M+ downloads. Full-featured discussion boards, user profiles, moderation tools, and private messaging. Community-driven, true open source. 263 reviews, 5☆.

10. Learning Management System (LMS)

Online courses, quizzes, certificates, student tracking, and content drip. Replace Teachable, Kajabi, or Thinkific with a learning platform you control. Keep course revenue at 100% instead of paying platform commissions, and integrate directly with your membership and payment extensions.

- **Guru**
  iJoomla / JoomlArt • guru.ijoomla.com
  The #1 Joomla LMS. Create a school, university, or online course platform. Course builder, quizzes, certificates, student progress tracking, and payment integration. Purchased separately from the JoomlArt ecosystem.
- **Shika**
  Techjoomla • techjoomla.com
  Social LMS with e-learning features. Course management, lessons, quizzes, and certificates. Integrates with JTicketing for paid courses. 22 reviews.

11. Directory & Marketplace

Business listings, classified ads, vendor management, and review systems. Build a local business directory, a niche review site, or a classified marketplace on your own Joomla installation. Replace Yelp-style third-party listings with a platform you own and monetize.

- **J-BusinessDirectory**
  CMSJunkie • cmsjunkie.com
  The most advanced directory extension for Joomla. Business listings, reviews, maps, offers, events, and advertising management. 70 reviews, 5☆.
- **JReviews**
  ClickFWD • jreviews.com
  Directory, classifieds, reviews, and CCK all-in-one. Custom fields, criteria-based reviews, and powerful filtering. Versatile platform for review sites, directories, and marketplaces. 92 reviews, 5☆.
- **RSDirectory!**
  RSJoomla! • rsjoomla.com
  Directory and ads management for Joomla 5/6. Listings, categories, custom fields, and advertising integration. Part of the RSJoomla commercial ecosystem with professional support.

12. File Management & Document Portal

Secure file sharing, download management, version control, and access restrictions. Replace

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Dropbox, Google Drive, or SharePoint with a document portal built into your Joomla site. Control who can access what, track download counts, and maintain file versioning — all under your own roof.

- **jDownloads**
  jDownloads • jdownloads.com
  Extensive download manager for Joomla with 18 years of development. Free GPL extension with many special functions. Seamlessly integrates into Joomla admin with familiar structure. Joomla 5 compatible with v4.1 adding Joomla 6 support in Q1 2026.
- **EDocman**
  Joomdonation • joomdonation.com
  Leading document and file download manager for Joomla. Version control, access permissions, download tracking, and category management. Part of the Joomdonation ecosystem. 170 reviews, 5☆.
- **RSFiles!**
  RSJoomla! • rsjoomla.com
  Download manager for Joomla 5/6. File categorization, download tracking, and access control. Part of the RSJoomla commercial ecosystem with professional support and documentation.
- **Phoca Download**
  Phoca • phoca.cz
  File download manager with categories, statistics, and access control. Free and open source. From the same developer as Phoca Gallery.
- **Dropfiles**
  JoomUnited • joomunited.com
  Drag-and-drop file manager with cloud storage integration (Google Drive, Dropbox, OneDrive). Visual file management from within the article editor.

Before you install: Always test new extensions on a staging copy of your site first. Even well-reviewed extensions can conflict with your existing setup. A staging site takes 30 minutes to configure and can save you days of troubleshooting.

13. Donation & Fundraising

One-time and recurring donations, campaign management, progress tracking, and donor management. Replace GoFundMe or Donorbox with a fundraising system embedded in your own site — keeping donor data private and avoiding platform fees beyond your payment gateway.

- **Joom Donation**
  Joomdonation • joomdonation.com

The leading Joomla donation extension. Powerful fundraising and donor management with multiple payment gateways, recurring donations, campaign goals with progress bars, donor recognition, and tax receipt generation. Part of the Joomdonation ecosystem. 289 reviews, 5☆.

14. Helpdesk & Support Tickets

Customer support queues, ticket assignment, SLA tracking, knowledge base, and issue resolution workflows. Replace Zendesk or Freshdesk with a support system that shares your Joomla user base, integrates with your existing content, and keeps all customer communication data on your own server.

- **RSTickets!Pro**
  RSJoomla! • rsjoomla.com

- **Helpdesk Pro**
  Joomdonation • joomdonation.com
  Professional support ticket and helpdesk extension for Joomla. Ticket categories, priority levels, file attachments, email notifications, and staff assignment. Part of the Joomdonation ecosystem.
  Helpdesk and ticketing system for Joomla 5/6. Customer communication, ticket management, staff assignment, and knowledge base. Part of the RSJoomla commercial ecosystem with professional support. 32 reviews.

15. Job Board & Recruitment

Job postings, applications, resume uploads, employer dashboards, and candidate management. Build a job board or freelance marketplace directly on your Joomla site instead of paying Indeed or LinkedIn for job listing placement.

- **JoomBri Careers**
  JoomBri Team • joombri.in
  Simple yet powerful jobs board extension for Joomla. Job listings, applications, resume management, and employer dashboards. Modern UI for both frontend and backend. Joomla 5/6 compatible.
- **JoomBri Freelance**
  JoomBri Team • joombri.in
  Turn Joomla into a full freelance or reverse auction marketplace. Project posting, bidding, milestone payments, user portfolios, and messaging. Joomla 5/6 compatible with Bootstrap 5 UI. 52 reviews, 5☆.

16. Auto-Posting to Social Media

Automated publishing of Joomla content to social media platforms, scheduled social posts, and cross-platform syndication. Replace Buffer or Hootsuite with direct social publishing that fires automatically when you hit “Publish” in Joomla — no middleman, no extra dashboard, no

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monthly subscription.

- **Perfect Publisher**
  Extly • extly.com
  One-of-a-kind social media solution for Joomla. Auto-publish content to Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn, Bluesky, Telegram, and Google My Business. Scheduled posts, evergreen republishing, RSS feed grabbing, and rule-based channel targeting. Free core (2 channels) with paid Pro tier. Integrates with 35+ Joomla extensions including HikaShop, EasySocial, Kunena, and JEvents.
- **JFBConnect**
  SourceCoast • sourcecoast.com
  Complete social network integration suite for Joomla. Social authentication (1-click login via Facebook, X, LinkedIn, Google), auto-posting new content to social pages, Open Graph and Twitter Card meta tags, and social sharing buttons. Deep third-party extension integration. 284 reviews, 5☆.

Choosing the Right Extensions

With dozens of options across 16 categories, choosing the right extensions comes down to a few practical considerations:

Evaluate

- Joomla 5/6 compatibility confirmed
- Active development in the last 6 months
- Responsive support from the vendor
- Clear documentation and update history
- Free trial or demo site available

Protect

- Test on a staging site before going live
- Back up your site before every install
- Stick to one vendor ecosystem when possible
- Avoid installing extensions you don’t actively use
- Review extension permissions and data access

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This guide is a living document. Categories and extensions will be updated as we evaluate new tools throughout 2026. If you're evaluating extensions for a specific project and need help choosing, we can help you compare options and plan the implementation.

Find Out What Your Website Needs

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