


THE
ULTIMATE
 **moodle**
GUIDE

BY - JASWINDER SINGH



Moodle World

Table of Contents

Foreword – Why this eBook	3
What is Moodle	7
History of Moodle	8
Why choose Moodle as your first LMS:	9
Difference between Moodle.org & Moodle.com	11
Moodle.org:	11
Moodle.com:	11
What are Moodle Partners:	11
Get your first Moodle site	12
MoodleCloud:	14
About MoodleCloud:	14
To summarise:	15
How to get your first Moodle site with MoodleCloud:	15
GNOMIO	22
How to get your first Moodle site with GNOMIO:	22
GNOMIO Plugins:	26
Localhost – Your own computer	27
KeytoSchool	29
How to get your first Moodle site with KeyToSchool	30
Comparison of different platforms	33
Useful Moodle Terminology - Moodle Terms Glossary	34
Moodle plugin installation guide	37
Installing from the Moodle plugins directory:	37
Installing via uploaded ZIP file	37
Installing manually at the server	38
Essential Moodle Plugins	39
Moodle Gamification plugins	41
Top Moodle themes	43
Moodle Security Tips	45

Moodle Administration Hidden Tools:	47
Moodle Mobile App:	52
Moodle Desktop	54
Moodle Community:	56
MoodleMoots:	56
Why to attend MoodleMoot?	56
Moodle User’s Association	57
Moodle.net	58
Learn Moodle MOOC	58
Moodle GSoC	59
MCCC Certification:	60
Moodle Release Calendar:	62
Need Help? How to get support	63
Moodle Community Forums	63
Moodle Partners	63
MoodleWorld	63
Taking it forward	64
One last favor:	65

Foreword – Why this eBook



Hey there, *Moodler* 😊

That's how a Moodle user is termed as.

So, before you start your journey with the World's most popular open source LMS, let me quickly brief you about this book and answer the question of "Who is Jaswinder Singh" (Yeah, Me!).

In the year 2010, When I was doing fine with my full time job in the Mass Rapid Transit Sector (Delhi Metro Rail Corporation) and part time education in Delhi College of Engineering (One of the premier engineering colleges in

India), I was sure of my secure future career in the Metro rail industry for my whole life. But, since god only decides where your destiny is and you can't choose on your own. So, one of my classmate introduced me to this online learning software - Moodle and from that day onwards my new journey started with Moodle.

In 2014, one of my other friend asked me that it is very difficult to keep the teachers updated about the new features coming in Moodle after every 6 months and exactly at that time Moodle has released the first LTS version i.e. Moodle 2.7. So, I thought of providing a free resource for the first time Moodle teachers to help them get started with Moodle.

There comes "How to use Moodle -2.7" – my first challenge to write something continuously for more than 2 months. The book was released under Creative Commons (CC) License and is available for download from Moodle Books repository for free of cost.

Few readers requested to update the same book for all Moodle releases which was a difficult task for me. So, in March 2015, I started MoodleWorld.com – The one stop website for all Moodle related Information, Articles & Tutorials.

In June 2015, while digging around Moodle forums, I stumbled across a thread started by Michelle Chawla (Tamarind School, Dahanu, Mumbai) about the MoodleMoot in India. A quick search through Moodle forums revealed the previous failed attempts of organizing the MoodleMoot in India by other Moodle community members.

That was 21st June, 2015 when I decided that I am going to organize the first MoodleMoot in India by putting all my efforts. This time I had to wear the hat of event organizer and let me tell you frankly that managing all this with your full time job is a difficult task.

But with the help of Indian Moodle partners and other community members and Moodle enthusiasts, the first MoodleMoot India was organized on 06th Feb 2016 in New Delhi.



Igniting the Inauguration Lamp for MoodleMoot India 2016 with Dr. Martin Dougiamas

In October 2016, I was elected as the Committee member of Moodle Users Association (MUA).

Now, I am still working full time in the MRTS Sector and living my Moodle passion in the nights by writing blogs, tips and helping other Moodlers through forums.

Since posting new articles at MoodleWorld changed my life, I have decided to pass on my learnings to as many people as I can. After all, I love writing, and nothing feels better to me than helping someone change their life.

This book is written **exclusively for readers** like you who want to use Moodle as their learning platform for teaching online.

There's also a **really big community of educators** out there waiting to help you improve & grow your Learning website.

My promise – **By the end of the day**, you will have your own Moodle platform ready & running for playing around or serious online learning.

Let's start Moodling!!!

What is Moodle

Moodle – as the name stands is a learning platform designed to provide educators, administrators and learners with a **single robust, secure and integrated system** to create personalised learning environments.

There are many other eLearning software's available out there like Dokeos, Atutor, Opigno (Based on Drupal) which are free, but why the 96 Million users are using Moodle?

Because the power of Moodle is its design which is based on the Social Constructionist Pedagogy. The other important aspect is the Moodle community which is always there to support you.

Moodle can give you all the building blocks for creating any kind of learning environment but it depends upon your skills – How effectively you can utilize the power of Moodle in your learning environment.

Moodle Project is run by the Moodle HQ team – An Australian Company of more than 30 developers which is financially supported by more than 88 Moodle Partners worldwide.

Moodle HQ provides all the development, updates, fixes, improvements and future vision for the Moodle Project along with contribution from Moodle Community, Moodle partners and Moodle Users Association.

History of Moodle

First started as an alternative to WebCT for online teaching, Moodle quickly evolved into an effective online learning LMS.

Moodle 1.0 was released on 20th August 2002. Users were discussing Moodle on a new forum, translating Moodle into different languages and creating themes. A year later, the first contributed module (workshop) was released and Moodle.org became the community arm of Moodle, with Moodle.com representing the commercial aspect.

In 2004, the first ever MoodleMoot was held in Oxford. From 1000 registered sites in 2004, it had gone to half a million users in 2008 and over a million users in 2010, with over 50 Moodle partners.

During September 2013, the official Moodle MOOC – Learn Moodle introduced with over 900 participants. Learn Moodle MOOC encourages educators to share their experiences and learn from others while learning Moodle. The course runs twice a year in January and August.

In July 2015, Moodle launched the free, HQ-managed hosting solution: MoodleCloud.

In August 2016, Moodle HQ team came up with another brand new initiative – Custom Branding of the Mobile App. The service offered through Moodle partners allows any corporation or institutions to have their own branded Mobile app.

Recently, Moodle HQ team has released the Moodle Desktop app which is a great initiative in making more accessible learning.

Why choose Moodle as your first LMS:

Despite having a lot of competitors, Moodle remains the best open source LMS around the world because of the strong community and its pedagogical design. The other reasons to justify the selection of Moodle as your preferred LMS are:

- **Truly Open source** – Moodle is free to use for everyone and you needn't pay even a single penny for using Moodle on your servers.
- **Sound Educational Philosophy** – While tool-centric LMSs give you a list of tools as the interface, Moodle builds the tools into an interface that makes the learning task central.
- **Proven and trusted worldwide** – Powering more than 70k websites all over the world, Moodle is trusted by institutions and organisations large and small, including Shell, London School of Economics, State University of New York, Microsoft and the Open University.
- **Designed to support both teaching and learning** – With over 10 years of development guided by [social constructionist pedagogy](#), Moodle delivers a powerful set of learner-centric tools and collaborative learning environments that empower both teaching and learning.
- **Easy to use** – A simple interface, drag-and-drop features, and [well-documented resources](#) along with ongoing usability improvements make Moodle easy to learn and use.
- **Always up-to-date** – The Moodle project's open-source approach means that Moodle is continually being reviewed and improved on to suit the current and evolving needs of its users.
- **Community Support** – Moodle has the biggest community of developers, teachers, and designers working all around the globe for making improvements to the product named Moodle.
- **Great documentation and forum support** – One of the basic things missing in most of the other open source LMS's is the lack of

appropriate documentation whereas Moodle is the winner in terms of the documentation also. You will find tonnes of documents on each and every topic related to Moodle and if by chance you are not able to find any relevant topic then you can ask the community members to help you out through Moodle forums.

- **Highly flexible and fully customisable** – Because it is open-source, Moodle can be customised in any way and tailored to individual needs. Its modular setup and interoperable design allows developers to [create plugins](#) and integrate external applications to achieve specific functionalities.
- **Language Options** - Moodle is available in all of the popular languages so that you can teach students in your own language. Even you can also contribute to translate the Moodle into your own language. <http://lang.moodle.org/>. As on date Moodle has been translated into 126 languages* for Moodle 3.3 Version.
- **International standards compliant** - Moodle has achieved and is compliant with the following international standards:
 - **Open Source Initiative (OSI)**
 - **IMS LTI™ Certified**
 - **SCORM-ADL compliant**
 - **Open Badges**
- **Interoperability** – In supporting the seamless integration and use of content from different sources and multiple vendors, the Moodle platform is designed to exchange data using open industry standards for Web deployments, and supports.

Still not impressed, Check out Moodle in action at <https://moodle.org/demo/>

Difference between Moodle.org & Moodle.com

Moodle HQ maintains two different websites for community and commercial aspects:

1. Moodle.org – Self hosted; all source code is available to you for deployment on your own hosting environment.
2. Moodle.com – Moodle Partners will help you in setting up your own learning environment.

Moodle.org:

Moodle.org is the community website for the Moodle project. You can download the source code & the plugins through this portal. The beauty lies in the community support in the Moodle forums where you will get the solutions to your problems in no time.

Moodle.com:

The commercial face of the Moodle project. Moodle.com is a place where you will find details about the Moodle Partners in your country and the commercial services on offer.

What are Moodle Partners:

Moodle Partners are the certified companies who offer Moodle services like consulting, installation, theme design, support & training in all countries. As on date, there are more than 88 Moodle partners around the world. You can contact your nearest Moodle partner for any service related to Moodle.

Get your first Moodle site

Getting your first Moodle site depends mainly upon the time investment, your skill level and your requirements. Moodle site can be created within 5 minutes online but it comes with its own set of restrictions. So I would suggest first to chalk out a brief plan about your Moodle site and what all you want to achieve out of that.

Depending upon various requirements, your technical skills and limitations, you can have your first Moodle site from a variety of sources like:

- **MoodleCloud** – MoodleCloud is the simplest Moodle hosting solution provided by the makers of Moodle. You need not to worry about installing, backing up or upgrading. All the technical nitty-gritties are handled by the Moodle HQ team. Although it's the best solution but it's having its own set of restrictions imposed for usage like number of users etc. The unused sites will be deleted after a period of 90 days from last logged in date.
- **Gnomio** – Gnomio is another Moodle hosting platform created by a bunch of Moodle fans. It also comes with similar features but without any limitation on the number of users or courses. However it also supports ads which are a bit costlier to turn off as compared to MoodleCloud.
- **Localhost** – The best solution for a tech savvy user. You can test out all the features of Moodle without any restrictions but you can't use for teaching online. So better use it for developing your learning environment. It involves a bit of technical steps and prone to errors also which are generally not suited for the teacher's skillset.
- **KeytoSchool** – Initially one of the biggest free Moodle hosting providers but later adopted to the subscription based hosting model which is still very much affordable. The restrictions put over the

website are much lighter than MoodleCloud and all plans come without any advertisements.

- **Self-Hosted** - If you are having your own infrastructure ready with you along with dedicated support staff then you can opt for the self-hosted Moodle solution. It gives you complete freedom without any kind of service payments hassles.
- **Managed hosting by Moodle Partners** – If you would like to throw the monkey of managing everything on your own, then you can opt for managed hosting by Moodle Partners. Moodle Partners in your country will provide you the best available solutions and will be responsible for all technical aspects of your Moodle site depending upon your service agreement.

Now, Let's discuss them one by one:

MoodleCloud:

MoodleCloud – the hosting solution by the creators of Moodle is the first stop point for all the new Moodle users for getting their first Moodle site. You can use the site for teaching as a single individual teacher. There are higher packages available for small schools consisting up to 500 users, but if you need for higher number of users then contact the Moodle partners in your country.

It comes with a maximum limit of 50 users and 200 MB of disk space. You are also capable to track your site's usage and monitor statistics on the administrator panel. It also comes with the world's most popular open source web conferencing solution BigBlueButton. You can share video, audio, whiteboards and desktop sharing with your students without any hassle.

About MoodleCloud:

The free portal by Moodle HQ which allows anyone to create an online learning portal for free. When you create a portal with MoodleCloud then you will get a web address like:

http://www.your_school_name.moodlecloud.com

(You can choose anything in place of ***your_school_name***)

Your learning material will be hosted on the Moodle servers which is perfect for the individual teachers and small schools who wants to start amidst tight budget.

But MoodleCloud.com has many limitations in terms of managing your learning portal. For example: you can't install any new plugin apart from the pre-installed plugins.

From an individual teacher's perspective, this is not a bad option as the Moodle HQ team will take care for managing your server and technical requirements and keep your site secure and updated to latest Moodle version. But, if you are looking to have your own learning environment, then

forget about MoodleCloud and explore hosting options with Moodle partners. You can choose to have in-house hosting if you have IT infrastructure and team to support the same. Otherwise, you can opt for the hosting with Moodle Partners.

Note: If you want to just explore Moodle initially, create a free site at MoodleCloud or Gnomio and it will give you an overview of Moodle interface and how Moodle can be used in your learning environment.

To summarise:

MoodleCloud is suitable for:

- Individual teachers and small schools who want to start their online learning portal.
- Factors like design and hosting are not much issues.

MoodleCloud is not suitable for:

- Big Corporates/Universities/Institutions who are looking to have their own customized learning environment.
- Corporates/Universities/Institutions who need complete control over their learning environment.

How to get your first Moodle site with MoodleCloud:

Getting your first Moodle site ready with MoodleCloud is a 5 minutes job. All you need is a working Mobile number and an email address to authenticate yourself.

Steps to register for your first MoodleCloud site:

- Head on to the official Moodle cloud website at - <https://moodlecloud.com/en/>. Here you will see the different available plans. "Moodle for free" is to get a free Moodle site for with some restrictions. Moodle for Starters plan is focused for individual teachers whereas "Moodle for schools" is meant for small schools. Since we are

going to register our site as an individual teacher so proceed with Moodle for Free package.

Moodle hosting
from the people that make Moodle

	Free	Starter	Moodle for School		
	Get it in minutes, keep it forever.	Ideal for a single class	Mini	Small	Medium
Annual price in AUD*	\$0	\$80/year	\$250/year	\$500/year	\$1,000/year
	GET STARTED	SIGN UP	SIGN UP	SIGN UP	SIGN UP
Max users	50	50	100	200	500
Max file storage	200 MB	200 MB	200 MB	400 MB	1 GB
Latest Moodle version	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Unlimited courses and activities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Personalised site name	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mobile app enabled	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Web conferencing with BigBlueButton +	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inactive site retention ?	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ads hidden from students ?	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Custom certificates	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Automated backups	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Advanced theme	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Extra plugin pack +	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Plugin and theme installation ?	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
	GET STARTED	SIGN UP	SIGN UP	SIGN UP	SIGN UP

- If you already hold an account with MoodleCloud, you can login to your account otherwise create a new account for yourself by clicking "Create a new account".



Let's get started

New to MoodleCloud? Create your new account now.

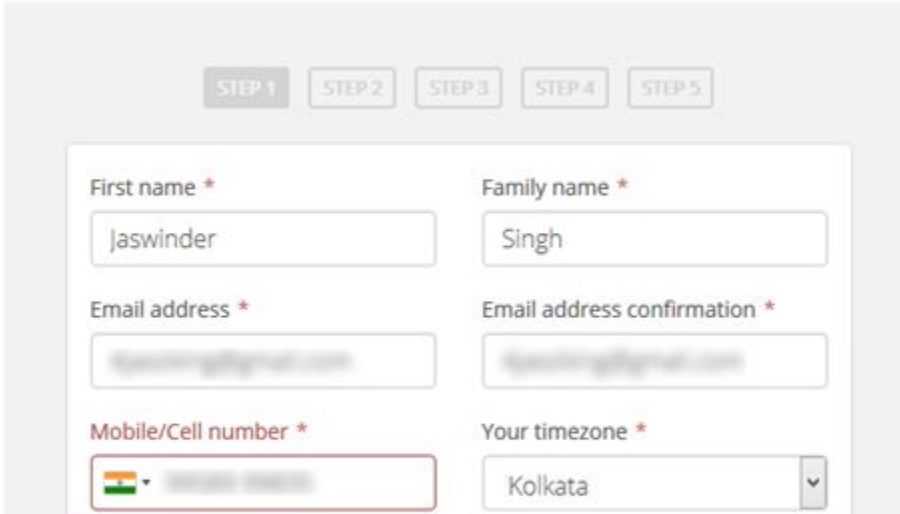
Already have a MoodleCloud site? Login to connect your sites to a single account.

CREATE NEW ACCOUNT

LOG IN

- Fill in your personal details including your mobile number preceded by your country code. Please make sure to mention a correct mobile number as you will receive a verification code in next steps.

Enter your details



The screenshot shows a registration form with five steps. The first step is active. The form fields are:

Field	Value
First name *	Jaswinder
Family name *	Singh
Email address *	jaswinder@gmail.com
Email address confirmation *	jaswinder@gmail.com
Mobile/Cell number *	+91 98861 98861
Your timezone *	Kolkata

- Check out the available site name which will be similar to like <http://moodleworld.moodlecloud.com> or schoolname.moodlecloud.com

and select your closest hosting location. Please note that you can't change your site name and hosting location afterwards.



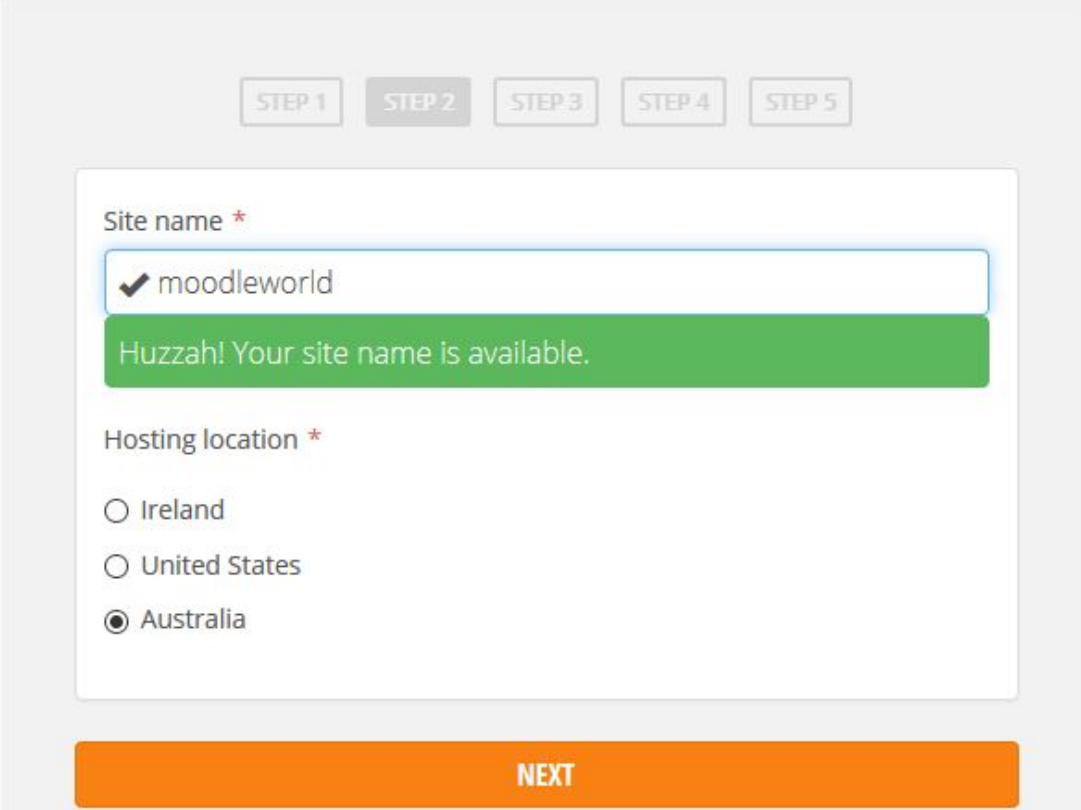
Give your MoodleCloud site a name

Here's the exciting bit! Give your site a name and a place to live. Your site name doubles as your site address, so:

A Moodle for Free site named "mysite" will be mysite.moodlecloud.com

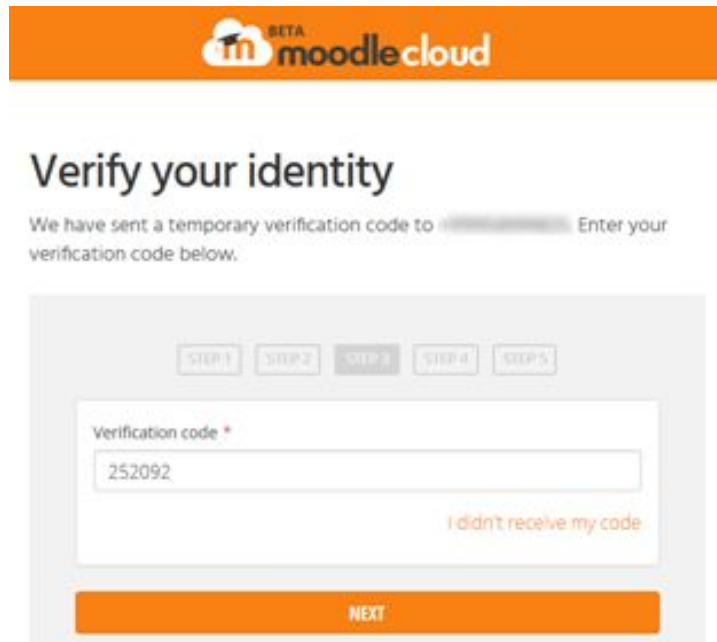
A Moodle for School site named "mysite" will be mysite.moodle.school

Choose wisely - your site name and hosting location cannot be changed later.



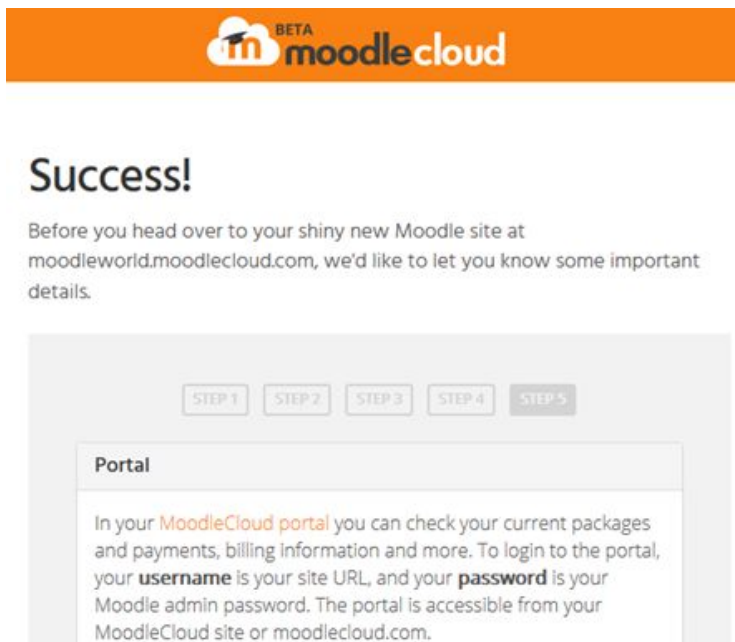
The screenshot shows a multi-step form for creating a MoodleCloud site. At the top, there are five step indicators: STEP 1, STEP 2 (highlighted), STEP 3, STEP 4, and STEP 5. The main form area contains two sections. The first section is labeled "Site name *" and has a text input field containing "moodleworld" with a checkmark icon to its left. Below the input field is a green confirmation message: "Huzzah! Your site name is available." The second section is labeled "Hosting location *" and contains three radio button options: "Ireland", "United States", and "Australia", with "Australia" selected. At the bottom of the form is a large orange button labeled "NEXT".

- You will receive a verification code on the mobile number provided in Step-3 above.



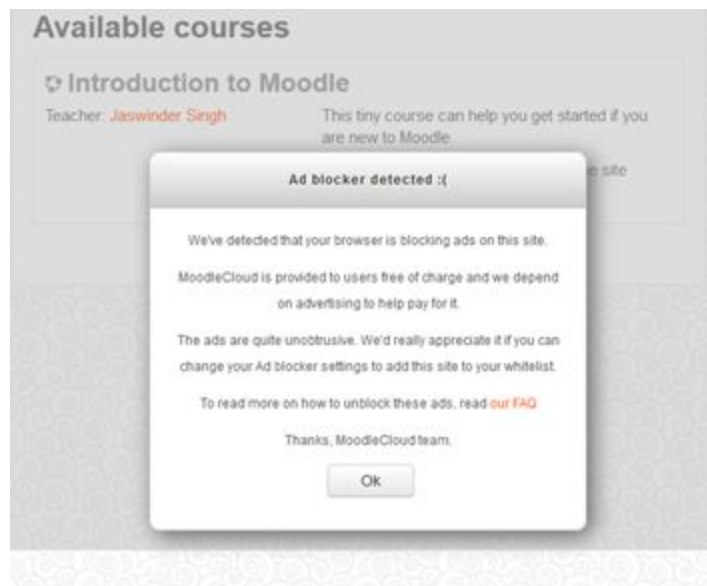
The screenshot shows the MoodleCloud BETA interface. At the top is the MoodleCloud logo. Below it, the heading "Verify your identity" is displayed. A message states: "We have sent a temporary verification code to [redacted]. Enter your verification code below." Below this is a progress bar with five steps, where "STEP 3" is highlighted. A text input field labeled "Verification code *" contains the number "252092". To the right of the input field is a link that says "I didn't receive my code". At the bottom of the form is an orange "NEXT" button.

- Then, choose a secure and robust password for your moodlecloud portal as well as your MoodleCloud website.

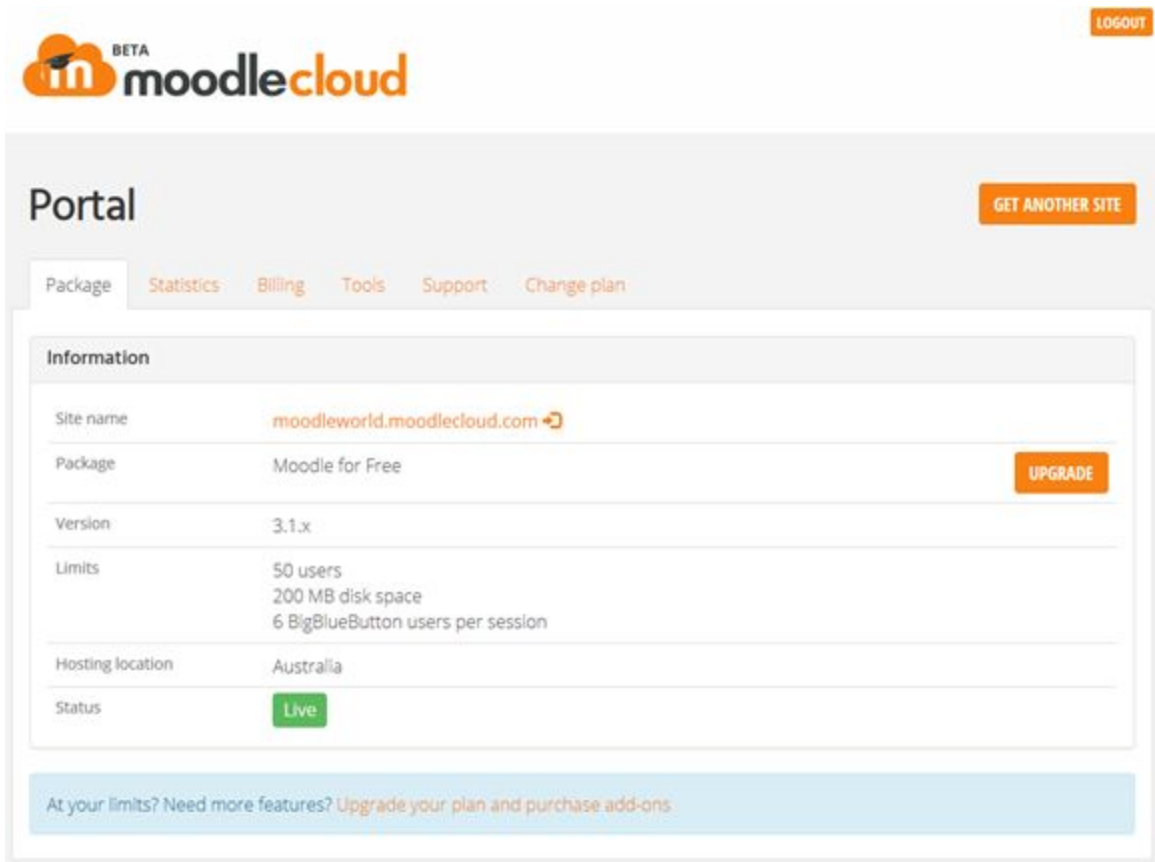


The screenshot shows the MoodleCloud BETA interface. At the top is the MoodleCloud logo. Below it, the heading "Success!" is displayed. A message states: "Before you head over to your shiny new Moodle site at moodleworld.moodlecloud.com, we'd like to let you know some important details." Below this is a progress bar with five steps, where "STEP 5" is highlighted. A section titled "Portal" contains the following text: "In your MoodleCloud portal you can check your current packages and payments, billing information and more. To login to the portal, your **username** is your site URL, and your **password** is your Moodle admin password. The portal is accessible from your MoodleCloud site or moodlecloud.com."

- Congrats, you're done and will get a success message about creation of your Moodle site with the contact details of your nearest Moodle partner for any support requests.
- I had adblock plus installed on my machine, so when I opened my MoodleCloud website for the first time, it displayed the following popup. If you would like to get an adfree website, then you can get it for as low as \$5/month through your Moodlecloud portal area. It will remove the advertisements from the student's area however teachers may still see some announcements related to Moodle services.



- MoodleCloud portal area: Here you will get all relevant information about your MoodleCloud account and site including statistics, billing information, current Moodle version, package, limits of your package etc.



The screenshot shows the Moodle Cloud portal interface. At the top left is the Moodle Cloud logo with 'BETA' above it. At the top right is a 'LOGOUT' button. Below the logo is the 'Portal' heading and a 'GET ANOTHER SITE' button. A navigation menu includes 'Package', 'Statistics', 'Billing', 'Tools', 'Support', and 'Change plan'. The main content area is titled 'Information' and contains a table with the following details:

Site name	moodleworld.moodlecloud.com ↗
Package	Moodle for Free UPGRADE
Version	3.1.x
Limits	50 users 200 MB disk space 6 BigBlueButton users per session
Hosting location	Australia
Status	Live

At the bottom of the information section, there is a light blue banner with the text: "At your limits? Need more features? Upgrade your plan and purchase add-ons".

- If you would like to upgrade to Moodle for Starter or Moodle for School plan, then you can contact the Moodle HQ team through your portal.

GNOMIO

Gnomio is created by a bunch of Moodle fans. The vision behind Gnomio is to allow the teachers to discover the ultimate open source e-learning tool.

Before the launch of Moodle Cloud, Gnomio was among the free Moodle site providers. However, there are some restrictions put over the capabilities of the free site. You can use the Gnomio Moodle site as an individual teacher or as a small school. The best thing about Gnomio is that there are no restrictions over the bandwidth or disk space usage but since it is a free platform, so the resources are limited.

Similar to MoodleCloud, Gnomio also support BBN web conferencing tool. However, the BBN recorded sessions will be deleted from your Moodle site after 30 days. Gnomio comes with a bigger plugin sets by default as compared to MoodleCloud, however similar to MoodleCloud, you are not allowed to install any theme or plugin by your own.

The thing why it comes without any cost is because the platform is supported by the Google Ads. Means all the websites created on Gnomio platform will contain Google ads and you can switch it off by making a donation.

You can get a year of adfree Moodle site by paying as low as \$150. And if you become a donor than you will be able to send the emails for every 15 minutes instead of 2 hours in case of regular site. Your site will not be disabled in case you are not able to use it for a while.

How to get your first Moodle site with GNOMIO:

So, let's dive in and register for our first Moodle site with Gnomio:

- In the Gnomio home page, enter the desired Moodle site name like MySchool.gnomio.com or xyz.gnomio.com and provide your email address in the specified fields.



Learn to use Moodle, the most widely used open source learning tool.
 Create your own **free** e-learning site without limits on the number of users or courses.
 Fill out the form below and you will have your Moodle online within a few minutes.
 And now including [BigBlueButton](#) web conferencing!

Create your site

Name: .gnomio.com
Only lowercase letters and numbers. (2-12 Chars)

E-mail:

We promise not to use your e-mail for anything else.

If you have an email account @hotmail.com, @live.com, or @outlook.com please add gnomio.com to your email account's safe sender list before creating your new learning site.

About us

Gnomio is not a company. We are just a few moodle fans enjoying an unexpected success while offering free tools for the e-learning community.

We are hosting [near ten thousand e-learning sites](#) and every month we provide service to over 300.000 students at no cost.

Terms of Service

We create the code of our theme and with an experience

Advertising and Donations

You may switch off the advertising on your site by making a donation using any of the PayPal buttons below. **Please tell us your site name!**

\$20 and get a **month** without ads on your site.

\$50 and get **three months** without ads on your site.

\$150 and get a **year** without ads on your site.

1 tweets by @GnomioNews

Gnomio
@GnomioNews

All md2.com and gnomio.com sites have been upgraded to #moodle 3.1.3
docs.moodle.org/dev/Moodle_3.1...

Gnomio
@GnomioNews

We have reached the mark of one million users registered at our sites! We want to thank you all of them.

[Embed](#) [View on Twitter](#)

- You will see a message like **“Your site is being created. Within a few minutes you will receive an email with login info. If you do not receive it please check your SPAM folder. Thank you!”**



DISCOVER THE ULTIMATE E-LEARNING TOOL!

Learn to use [Moodle](#), the most widely used open source learning tool.
 Create your own **free** e-learning site without limits on the number of users or courses.
 Fill out the form below and you will have your Moodle online within a few minutes.
 And now including [BigBlueButton](#) web conferencing!

Create your site

Your site is being created. Within a few minutes you will receive an email with login info.
 If you do not receive it please check your SPAM folder. Thank you!

 558
  2057
  2523
  78
  4303
  49.3K

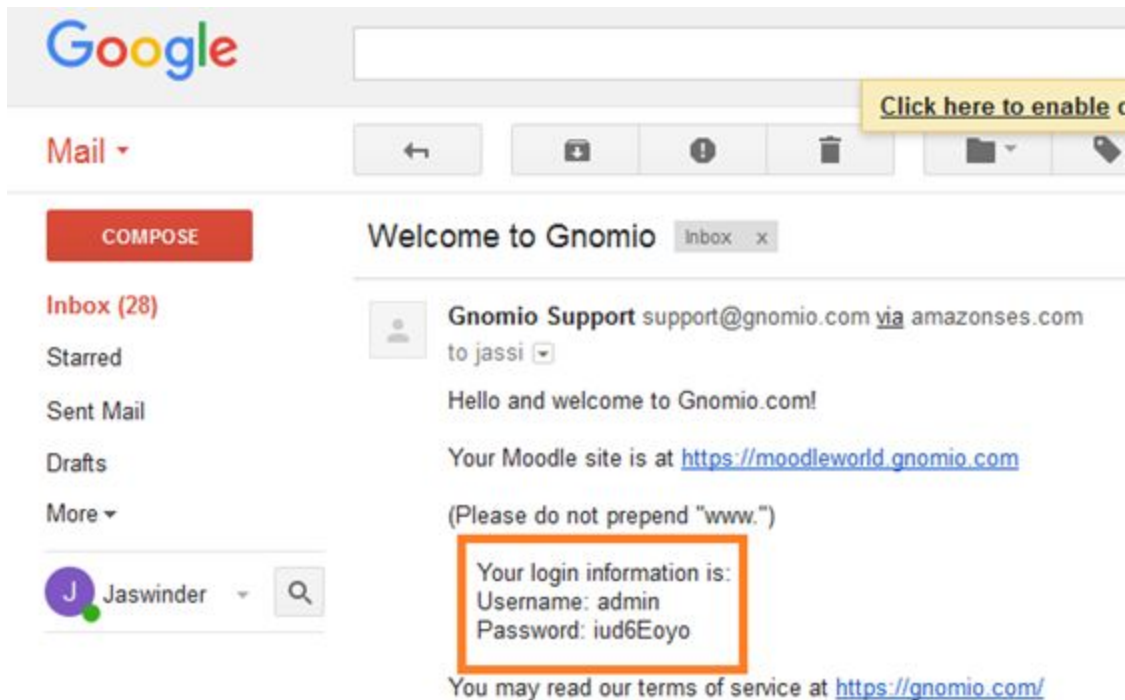
Tweets by @Gnomio

 **Gnomio**
 @GnomioNew
 All mdl2.com and gno
 upgraded to #moodle
 docs.moodle.org/dev/

 **Gnomio**
 @GnomioNew
 We have reached the 1
 registered at our sites
 of them.

[Embed](#)

- In your email, you will find an email with the site URL, and login info. Just click the site URL and open your first Moodle site.



The screenshot shows a Gmail interface. The search bar at the top contains the Google logo. Below it, the 'Mail' section is visible. On the left sidebar, there are folders for 'COMPOSE', 'Inbox (28)', 'Starred', 'Sent Mail', 'Drafts', and 'More'. The main content area shows an email from 'Gnomio Support' with the subject 'Welcome to Gnomio'. The email body contains the following text:

Hello and welcome to Gnomio.com!

Your Moodle site is at <https://moodleworld.gnomio.com>

(Please do not prepend "www.")

Your login information is:
 Username: admin
 Password: iud6Eoyo

You may read our terms of service at <https://gnomio.com/>

- And now your Moodle playground is ready for playing around to your heart's content.

Moodleworld You are not logged in. (Log in)

You may switch off the advertising on this site by making a donation to Goomio.

NAVIGATION

- Home
- Courses

Welcome to your Moodle site

Now, you are in control!


Here are some links of interest:

- Moodle manuals
- Moodle support site
- Moodle release notes

CALENDAR

November 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



GNOMIO Plugins:

Gnomio comes with many useful and popular plugins pre-installed like:
(Clicking any plugin name will open the same in the Moodle plugins directory)

- [Attendance](#)
- [BBN](#)
- [Certificate](#)
- [Checklist](#)
- [Group Choice](#)
- [Game](#)
- [Geogebra](#)
- [Hotpot](#)
- [H5P](#)
- [iPal](#)
- [jClic](#)
- [Quizventure](#)
- [Realtime quiz](#)
- [Scheduler](#)
- [Skype](#)

Localhost – Your own computer

- https://docs.moodle.org/33/en/Complete_install_packages_for_Windows
- https://docs.moodle.org/33/en/Windows_installation_using_XAMPP

Localhost - In computer networking, localhost is a hostname that means this computer. So, if you would like to play around with Moodle without any kind of restrictions over plugin installation or advertisement related then you can proceed with a local installation of Moodle on your own computer.

Please note that this method is not suitable for non-technical teachers as it may involve many technical instructions to follow during the installation process and afterwards. So go ahead at your own risk.

Also please note that you should deploy this method on your production server as it is not recommended.

To install Moodle on your own computer, download the installation package from <https://download.moodle.org/windows>

This complete package includes all the prerequisites like web server, database, scripting language, administration tool, and Moodle.

Before proceeding further please note the following system requirements

- 256 MB RAM (minimum), 1GB RAM (recommended)
- 500 MB free Fixed Disk (more space will be needed depending on user uploads)
- For older versions of Moodle:
 - Windows 98/ME (minimum)
 - Windows NT/2000/XP/2003 (recommended)
- For Moodle 3.1 and later versions:

- Windows Vista/7/8/10/2008/2012
- Microsoft Visual C++ 2015 Redistributable package is required for PHP

The complete install package is a zip file that contains a webserver called [Apache](#), plus Moodle and Moodle's required [Apache](#) database and [PHP](#) program.

There are three basic parts to run this install process.

1. Download and unpack the complete install package.
2. Start the webserver.
3. Install Moodle using a web browser.

So let's check out the steps in detail:

1. After downloading the install package, you need to unzip the same. You can use the WinZip or 7-zip to unpack the archive to a drive or partition of your choice.
2. The extract process will create three files ("Start Moodle", "Stop Moodle", and "README") and a subfolder called "server".
3. Use the "Start Moodle.exe" file which you should find in the top directory. Once the "Start Moodle.exe" program is open, don't close it; use "Stop Moodle.exe" for that purpose.
4. Now you are ready to start the Moodle installation.
5. Start your web browser and type localhost, or <http://127.0.0.1> or <http://localhost> in the address bar.
6. Proceed with the desired installation steps like Moodle paths, language, License, database configuration etc.

7. Congratulations - Moodle has been Installed!

KeytoSchool

Initially launched in 2009 with managed Moodle services, KeytoSchool is one of the biggest free Moodle hosting providers but later adopted to the subscription based hosting model. The restrictions put over the website are much lighter than MoodleCloud & Gnomio.

The important aspect about KTS which I like the most is that all plans come without any advertisements. The other important aspects from a teacher's point of view are:

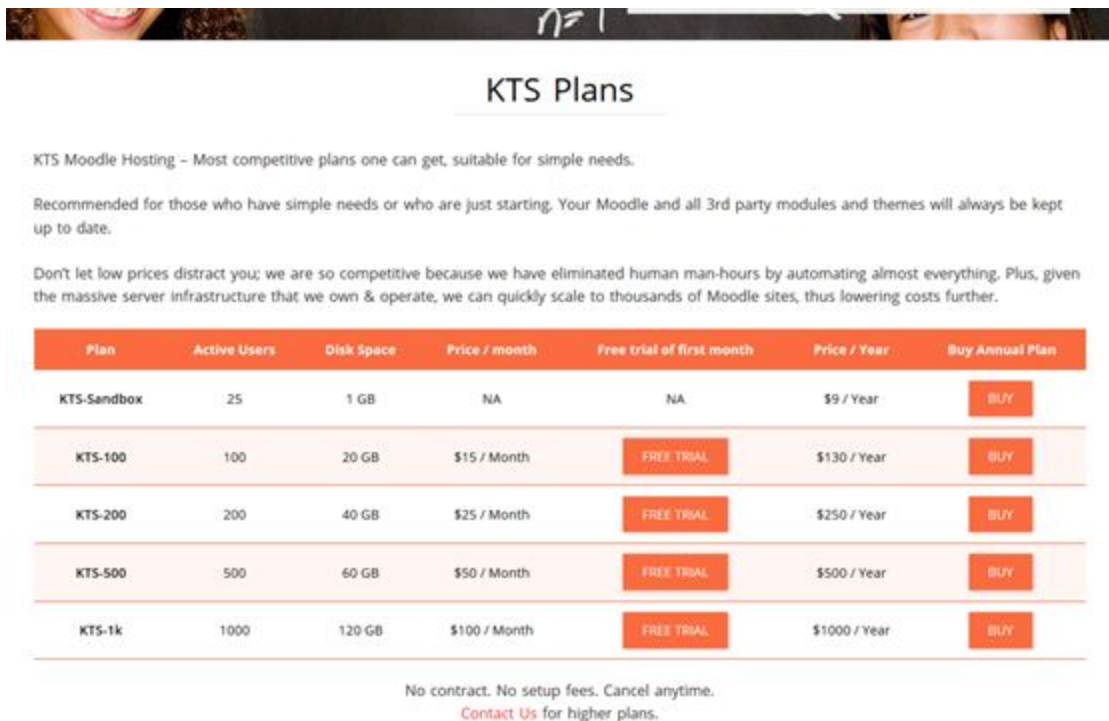
- You can use your own Site URL address
- Daily full Site Backup
- Automated Course Backup
- Unlimited Users and Courses (Only active users are accounted)
- Latest Moodle version
- Pre-loaded customizable, mobile ready themes
- Pre-installed popular 3rd party plugins
- Free technical support

The basic sandbox plan starts from as low as \$9/year for 25 active users and 1GB of disk space. KTS team also offers free trial of all KTS plans for one month.

How to get your first Moodle site with KeyToSchool

For this demonstration purpose, we will register for the KTS100 trial plan.

- Visit the KeytoSchool website KTS plans page at <https://www.keytoschool.com/moodle-hosting-kts-plans/>



KTS Plans

KTS Moodle Hosting – Most competitive plans one can get, suitable for simple needs.

Recommended for those who have simple needs or who are just starting. Your Moodle and all 3rd party modules and themes will always be kept up to date.

Don't let low prices distract you; we are so competitive because we have eliminated human man-hours by automating almost everything. Plus, given the massive server infrastructure that we own & operate, we can quickly scale to thousands of Moodle sites, thus lowering costs further.

Plan	Active Users	Disk Space	Price / month	Free trial of first month	Price / Year	Buy Annual Plan
KTS-Sandbox	25	1 GB	NA	NA	\$9 / Year	BUY
KTS-100	100	20 GB	\$15 / Month	FREE TRIAL	\$130 / Year	BUY
KTS-200	200	40 GB	\$25 / Month	FREE TRIAL	\$250 / Year	BUY
KTS-500	500	60 GB	\$50 / Month	FREE TRIAL	\$500 / Year	BUY
KTS-1k	1000	120 GB	\$100 / Month	FREE TRIAL	\$1000 / Year	BUY

No contract. No setup fees. Cancel anytime.
[Contact Us](#) for higher plans.

- Select the plan which you would like to choose and click the Free Trial link.
- On the next screen, you can choose whether to use a free domain or point your own domain to the KTS service. This is the biggest advantage of using KTS instead of MoodleCloud or Gnomio as it gives you the flexibility to brand your learning platform. For this demonstration, we will continue with the free subdomain and proceed further.

Choose language → Login View Cart (0)

Home Announcements Knowledgebase Network Status Contact Us Account

KTS - 100 Monthly

The product/service you have chosen requires a domain name so please enter your domain name selection from below.

I want Vidya Mantra to register a new domain for me.
 I will update my nameservers on an existing domain Or I will register a new domain.
 I want to use a free subdomain.

http:// .moodlehub.com

CONTINUE

This order form is provided in a secure environment and to help protect against fraud your current IP address (106.220.253.88) is being logged.

- Check out the details on the cart page and click Checkout.

Member's Area

Choose language → Login View Cart (1)

Home Announcements Knowledgebase Network Status Contact Us Account

Shopping Cart

Description	Price
<i>KeyToSchool Hosting - KTS - 100 Monthly (moodleworld.moodlehub.com)</i> <input type="button" value="EDIT CONFIGURATION"/> <input type="button" value="REMOVE"/>	\$15.00 USD
Subtotal:	\$15.00 USD
100% One Time Discount:	\$15.00 USD
Moodle (MPVM) @ 10.00%:	\$0.00 USD
Total Due Today:	\$0.00 USD
Total Recurring:	\$15.00 USD Monthly

Have a promotion code? [Click here to add it](#)
 ktstrial - 100% One Time Discount
 Don't use Promotional Code

This order form is provided in a secure environment and to help protect against fraud your current IP address (106.220.253.88) is being logged.

- You need to register with your email address and complete the order.

- After confirmation, you will receive the details of your Moodle site in your email.

RECORDS

Thank you for your order from us! Your hosting account has now been added to setup queue and this email contains all the information you will need in order to begin using your account. Your new Moodle site should be ready in **1-10 minutes** depending on queue length.

If you have requested a domain name during sign up, please keep in mind that your domain name will not be visible on the internet instantly. This process is called propagation and can take up to 48 hours. Please see DNS CNAME section in this email for details.

New Account Information

Hosting Package: KTS - 100 Monthly
Domain: moodleworld.moodlehub.com

Moodle Login Details

URL: moodleworld.moodlehub.com
Username: admin
Password: login

FTP Login Details

Host Name: moodleworld.moodlehub.com
Username: qcbzaig
Password: Uj820gS9je

- And you are ready with your Moodle site.

Comparison of different platforms

Features	MoodleCloud*	Gnomio*	KeytoSchool*
Users	50	No Limit	25
Course	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
Advertisement	Ad supported – Extra Pack to remove ads starting \$5/month	Donation to switch off advertisement, starting \$20/month	No advertisement
Install new Plugins	Not available	Not available	Not available
Install new Themes	Not available	Not available	Not available
Own Domain Name (Site URL)	Not available	Not available	Available
Disk Space	200 MB	No limit	1 GB
Moodle Version	Latest	Latest	Latest
Video Conferencing	BigBlueButton	BigBlueButton	BigBlueButton, WizIQ, Congrea
Course backup	Manual Backup	Manual Backup	Automated Course Backup
Site Backup	Not defined	Not defined	Daily Full Site Backup
Technical Support	Through Moodle Partners	Through Moodle Forums	Technical Support team

**For comparison purpose, we have taken the Moodle for Free, Gnomio free and KTS Sandbox plans. However, these features may differ in other plans.*

Useful Moodle Terminology - Moodle Terms Glossary

Some useful Moodle terms that are always handy to know while starting with Moodle:

- **Front Page:** the landing page of Moodle (both for the server, and for individual courses).
- **Roles:** the level of access a user is given; this can vary at different levels, such as the server, course category level and individual course level.
- **Cohorts:** Groups of people with similar roles that are assigned to specific areas of your site.
- **File Picker:** Area where users pick (or upload) files to use in the course. This includes a personal storage area called Private Files.
- **Activity:** The functional pieces of Moodle that allow for student interaction, either with the "teacher" or with other students. (Students view resources, they do something with activities.)
- **Assignments** - Assignments allow the teacher to specify a task that requires students to prepare digital content (any format) and submit it by uploading it to the server. Typical assignments include essays, projects, and reports and so on. This module includes grading facilities.
- **Blocks** - A Block in Moodle is an item that a teacher can add to the left or right of a Moodle course page. They provide extra information or links to aid learning. Blocks are a bit like "widgets" elsewhere online and can contain; for example, [RSS news feeds](#), [quiz results](#), a [calendar](#), links to blogs, glossary terms or private files.

- **Choice** - A choice activity is very simple - the teacher asks a question and specifies a choice of multiple responses. It can be useful as a quick poll to stimulate thinking about a topic; to allow the class to vote on a direction for the course; or to gather research consent.
- **Context** - A Moodle context is a place where permissions are assigned to a user (usually through a role). In Moodle, contexts are layered in a hierarchy. Some examples: a site is the overall context; each course category is a context in the site; each course is a context in its course category; each topic/section is a context and the resources and activities in a topic/section are contexts.
- **Glossary** - This activity allows participants to create and maintain a list of definitions, like a dictionary.
- **Label** - Labels are text and/or images that are actually embedded directly among the other activity links in the course page.
- **Lesson** - The Lesson module in Moodle allows a series of pages to be entered. Each page can have a question at the end, and depending on the answers a student gives can lead them to any other page. A lesson delivers content in an interesting and flexible way. It consists of a number of pages. Each page normally ends with a question and a number of possible answers. Depending on the student's choice of answer they either progress to the next page or are taken back to a previous page. Navigation through the lesson can be straightforward or complex, depending largely on the structure of the material being presented.
- **Outcomes** - An Outcome is like any other grade except that it can be applied to multiple activities. When the activity is marked, a mark should be given for the submission itself and for the outcome.
- **Permission** - A permission is a part of a role which allows or denies someone to use a feature or function of Moodle. There are over 450 different permission settings in any Moodle role. Each permission has 1

of 4 states that can be assigned to it: "not set", "allow", "prevent", and "prohibit. Editing or creating new roles on the site level can be complicated. In part because of the hierarchical nature of contexts. In many contexts, roles or permissions can be overridden, and the permitted user will see a shortened list of permissions appropriate to the context.

- **Quiz** - This module allows the teacher to design and set quiz tests, consisting of multiple choice, true-false, and short answer questions. These questions are kept in a categorised database, and can be re-used within courses and even between courses. Quizzes can allow multiple attempts. Each attempt is automatically marked, and the teacher can choose whether to give feedback or to show correct answers. This module includes grading facilities.
- **Resources** - A Resource in Moodle is an item that a teacher can add to a Moodle course to support learning, such as a file, a video or link to a website. A resource differs from an activity in that it is static; i.e., the student can merely look at or read it, rather than participate.
- **SCORM - Sharable Content Object Reference Model (SCORM)** is a collection of standards and specifications for web-based e-learning. It defines communications between client side content and a host system called the run-time environment (commonly a function of a learning management system). SCORM also defines how content may be packaged into a transferrable ZIP file.
- **Sections** - The areas within a course that hold activities are known as sections. This is a generic term that covers weeks and topics.
- **Wiki** - A Wiki enables documents to be authored collectively in a simple mark-up language using a web browser. The Moodle Wiki module enables participants to work together on web pages to add, expand and change the content. Old versions are never deleted and can be restored.

Moodle plugin installation guide

Moodle Plugins enable you to add additional features and functionality to Moodle, such as new activities, new quiz question types, new reports, integrations with other systems and many more.

Moodle supports more than 50 types of plugin to extend the functionality. [Check out the full list here.](#)

As of writing of this guide, [Moodle Plugins directory](#) includes more than 1375 plugins contributed by 720+ Moodle community developers.

There are three ways how the plugin code can be installed in Moodle.

- Installing from the Moodle plugins directory
- Installing via uploaded ZIP file
- Installing manually at the server

Installing from the Moodle plugins directory:

- Login as an admin and go to Site administration > Plugins > Install plugins. (If you can't find this location, then plugin installation is prevented on your site.)
- Click the button 'Install plugins from Moodle plugins directory'.
- Search for a plugin with an Install button, click the Install button then click Continue.
- Confirm the installation request
- Check the plugin validation report.

Installing via uploaded ZIP file

- Go to the [Moodle plugins directory](#), select your current Moodle version, then choose a plugin with a Download button and download the ZIP file.

- Login to your Moodle site as an admin and go to *Administration > Site administration > Plugins > Install plugins*.
- Upload the ZIP file. You should only be prompted to add extra details (in the Show more section) if your plugin is not automatically detected.
- If your target directory is not writeable, you will see a warning message.
- Check the plugin validation report

Installing manually at the server

If you can't deploy the plugin code via the administration web interface, you have to copy it to the server file system manually (e.g. if the web server process does not have write access to the Moodle installation tree to do this for you).

You need to establish the correct path in the Moodle code tree. For beginners, I would bring the attention to the plugin nomenclature for better understanding the Moodle code tree.

If you carefully observe the plugin name then you will observe that it is starting similar to `block_sharing_cart`, `theme_essential` or `editor_marklar` etc. This means that the first word includes the type of plugin and second word includes the name. You need to extract the file contents in the appropriate directory on your server. Some Common locations are:

- `/path/to/moodle/theme/` - themes
- `/path/to/moodle/mod/` - activity modules and resources
- `/path/to/moodle/blocks/` - sidebar blocks
- `/path/to/moodle/question/type/` - question types
- `/path/to/moodle/course/format/` - course formats
- `/path/to/moodle/admin/report/` - admin reports

Essential Moodle Plugins

Here I will share a list of few Moodle plugins which have become the de-facto standard for all new Moodle sites. However the usage of these plugins depends on a sector specific requirements. But on a general note, you can use these plugins to explore the additional capabilities of Moodle. And, as a Moodle beginner you should also have a look over the functionality offered by these plugins.

- [PoodLL Plugin Set](#) - PoodLL is a set of plugins that adds audio and video recording functionality to Moodle, and also comes with a range of useful widgets to enhance Moodle activities. Using PoodLL you can build courses that turn your Moodle installation into something like a language lab.
- [Generico Filter](#) - Generico is a simple templating filter that allows you to set up text and code snippet templates for use in Moodle text areas. It will allow an unlimited number of templates to be registered. When Moodle encounters a Generico filter string it will use the data in the filter string to fill out the template, and insert it into the page. Surprisingly, Generico filter has found its use in many creative applications, few of which are shared by Moodlers [in this showcase](#).
- [Completion Progress](#) - The perfect time management tool for your students. Comes with a visual representation of activities to be completed.
- [Configurable Reports](#) - The custom report builder for Moodle. Create custom reports without SQL knowledge. It is tool suitable for the teachers who are not comfortable with the SQL.
- [Attendance](#) - Attendance plugin allows teachers to maintain a record of attendance, replacing or supplementing a paper-based attendance register.
- [Sharing Cart](#) - Makes it very easy to share the course activities/resources between courses.

- [Custom Certificate](#) - Enables the creation of dynamically generated certificates with complete customization via the web browser.
- [Moodle Welcome](#) - Sends a welcome message to new users, sends a notification to a moderator of the new user creation.
- [Checklist](#) - allows a teacher to create a checklist / todo list / task list for their students to work through.
- [Accessibility](#) - The block allows users to customise Moodle to their visual needs. It supports changing of text sizes and colour schemes. Customisations save to the user's session, allowing them to persist between pages, and can also be saved to the database allowing them to apply permanently.
- [Game](#) - The game activity module makes use of questions, quizzes and glossaries to create offer a variety of interactive games.
- [H5P](#) - Create and add rich content inside your LMS for free. Some examples of what you get with H5P are Interactive Video, Quizzes, Collage and Timeline.
- [Roster](#)- a simple report which displays the user pictures for everyone enrolled in the given course.
- [Stash](#) - Add an inventory of items to your course and let your students find items by exploring the activities. Can be used to for gamifying your Moodle course.
- [Heatmap](#) - The Heatmap block overlays a heatmap onto a course to highlight activities with more or less activity to help teachers improve their courses.
- [Level Up!](#) - Gamify your students' learning experience by allowing them to level up in their courses.

Moodle Gamification plugins

There are [lot of ways to gamify your Moodle course](#) and [many plugins](#) which can be used [to enhance the gamification](#) effect. Moodle Plugins can be used to extend the functionality which is not provided in the core.

- [H5P](#) – One of the most talked about HTML5 based interactive content platform. H5P moodle plugin allows you to create different interactive contents in your Moodle course. Some of the H5P content types for gamifying your Moodle course are: Memory Game, Personality Quiz, Course Presentation, Arithmetic quiz etc. Download the [H5P Moodle plugin from Moodle plugins directory here](#) & Check out [different H5P content types here](#).
- [Game](#) – One of the best Moodle plugin in the last decade and among the most downloaded plugins. Game Plugin allows you to create interactive games by using questions, glossaries and quizzes. It includes 8 games which are: hangman, crossword, cryptex, millionaire, sudoku, Snakes and Ladders, The hidden picture & Book with questions. Download the [most recent version here](#). Recently, Vasilis – maintainer of Game plugin is looking for [support from Moodle community](#) to continue the development of this awesome plugin.
- [Quizventure](#) – Unique Moodle plugin which will stop your students from procrastinating while attempting the course quiz. The questions from the course comes down in the form of the ship and the students have to shoot the correct answers. Quite engaging and interesting plugin for engaging the learners. Download [the latest version here](#).
- [Stash](#) – Hide the treasure in your course and let the students unlock it. The teacher can create items and then place them in activities and resources for students to find. Along with Stash availability plugin, you can also restrict the access to course content until the learners have collected stash item.
- [Level Up!](#) – Let the students earn experience points based on their actions within the course. It will show the current points in a block and

learners progress towards next level. Even you can configure to congratulate the learners once they reached the next level. [Download the Level Up! plugin here.](#)

- [Mootivated](#) – The most recent kid on the block which allows you to reward your learners with virtual coins for learning in Moodle. Learners can use those coins to customize the avatar with different items. Please note that Mootivated needs a paid third-party subscription based service to connect your Moodle site.

Top Moodle themes

Making your learning environment looks great is always a top priority for Moodle managers in order to engage teachers as well as the students. There are many free and premium Moodle themes available in the market serving different learning sectors.

- [Essential](#) – There is not even a single theme which came close to the number of the downloads of Essential theme in recent months or better say years. The theme maintained by Gareth J Barnard is one of the most popular Moodle themes ever and looking at the efforts in keeping it maintained it seems that it will stay at the top of list for a long time.
- [Adaptable](#) – Adaptable theme designed by Jez H and Fernando Acedo comes second on the list of most downloaded theme. The theme is a highly customisable responsive two column theme designed for a variety of sites.
- [Aardvark](#) – The original Menubar theme for Moodle. The theme is inspired by a Flat UI and Google’s Material design.
- [Academi](#) - The clean, modern and customizable theme for all supported Moodle versions.
- [Klass](#) - Another modern fully responsive theme which works on all devices and all browsers. Just download and make your e-learn website modern.
- [Eguru](#) - The Guru of moodle themes e-Guru - ultra responsive moodle theme with multi color pattern. It has stunning features that will be a suitable choice for your educational establishments and coming out with powerful admin theme setting options.

-
- [Campus](#) – Another theme codesigned by Gareth and David Bogner provides fully responsive, MNet authentication, slideshow and all regular features of a Moodle theme.
 - [Bootstrap](#) – The theme based on the Twitter bootstrap framework with minimal styling. It can be used to create user experience optimized themes.
 - [Roshnilite](#) – Again a fully responsive and features heavy theme which provides customizable sections on the front page. The best thing about this plugin is the number of options available to customize the appearance of your site. The theme is developed by DualCube team.
 - [Fordson](#) - A child theme of Boost providing stunning visuals, an enhanced homepage experience, and improved navigation. Fordson sports a simple and effective design with a no-nonsense Bootstrap 4 layout that looks great on any screen.

Moodle Security Tips

Security of a Moodle site is an incredibly important issue for all Moodle site administrators. Following the much publicized ransomware “Wannacry” and “Petya”, it is much more stringent task for all Moodle site administrators to keep their Moodle sites secured. In educational sector, data security is an incredibly important concern and it makes the job of a Moodle administrator more responsible.

As more and more sensitive data is stored on your Moodle server, you need to be competent enough to handle all such disasters. As the old proverb says” Prevention is better than cure.” It makes complete sense to be close all the security holes and be ready for any disaster.

Moodle also provides a security overview report where you can see the current status of security on your Moodle site. It is available for site administrators in *Administration > Site administration > Reports > Security overview*.

- **Keep your Moodle up to date** – Moodle releases minor point releases after every two months from the first major version release which includes a lot of bugs and security issues fixed. As per the recent Moodle stats still a lot of Moodle site admins are using Moodle 1.9 version which is not supported since long back.
- **Keep all plugins and themes update** – Just as you update Moodle core, Moodle plugins needs to be updates along with the themes. Unless properly secured, Moodle plugins can also be backdoor entry to your Moodle site.
- **Remove unnecessary plugins** – Why to keep all plugins which you are not at all using, you should uninstall them asap. Moodle has a useful information to show you the list of courses where any particular activity plugin is used. You can check out the same through Site Administrator > Plugins > Activities > Manage Activities (Blocks) etc.

If you are not using any more plugin installed on your Moodle site, it's a better to uninstall it.

- **Implement a password policy and change your passwords often**
 - Moodle offers to set a password policy for all users on your Moodle site. By enforcing a password policy, you can force users to use stronger passwords that are less susceptible to being cracked by an intruder. It is generally a good practice to change your passwords often to make sure safety.
- **Don't use admin as your username** – Most site administrators keep the administrator username as simple as admin which results in easy pickings for the hackers. Make sure to keep a username with strong character combinations.
- **Limit login attempts** – Under Site policies > Account lockout, you can set up the threshold limit of incorrect login attempts to prevent DDoS attacks.
- **Set Backups** – Regular backups are necessary to prevent any disruption due to any hardware issue or any security failure. As a Moodle administrator, you must make sure that a robust backup process is in place.
- **Use HTTPS for login** – HTTPS encrypts the user's login data, so it's difficult to sniff out a user's username and password on the network. In Moodle, HTTPS logins can be enabled by an administrator in *Settings > Site administration > Security > HTTP security*.
- **Change file permissions** – File and folder permissions are set of rules that "specify who and what can read, write, modify and access them" in your Moodle website. Avoid configuring Moodle directories and sub directories with 777 permissions. You should opt for 755 or 750 instead.
- **Set Cron execution via command line only** – Running the cron from a web browser can expose privileged information to anonymous users. Under site policies, you can run the cron from the command line or set a cron password for remote access.

Moodle Administration Hidden Tools:

These tools can be managed through *Administration > Site administration > Plugins > Admin tools > Manage admin tools*.

- **DB Search and Replace** – Have you ever wished to do a search and replace function in your Moodle database. Let's say that you have migrated your Moodle site to a new URL and you contain a lot of internal links. How you will update all of them? DB Search and Replace is the perfect tool to help you out in such scenario. To use this tool, simply go to *Your_Moodle_Site/admin/tool/replace/index.php* and enter the URL for your old server (<http://oldserver.com/>) and new server (<http://newserver.com/>) and it will fix any links stored in the database. A big time saver indeed!!! ****Before using this tool, Make sure to keep another copy of your Moodle database as backup.****

Search and replace text throughout the whole database

This script should be considered experimental. Changes made cannot be reverted, thus a complete backup should be made before running the script!

Several tables are not updated as part of the text replacement. These include configuration, log, events, and session tables.

▼ DB search and replace

Search whole database for*

usually previous server URL

Replace with this string*

usually new server URL

Shorten result if necessary

▼ Confirm

I understand the risks of this operation*

Yes, do it!

- **Database transfer** – There may be case when you would like to migrate from one database to another e.g from MySQL to Postgre. The database transfer tool enables an administrator to migrate their Moodle site from one database to another. The dbtransfer tool uses the XMLDB schema definitions from Moodle and installed plugins to retrieve the data from one database and transfer it to another. You can find this tool through *Administration > Site administration > Development > Experimental > Database migration*.

Transfer this Moodle database to another server

This script will transfer the entire contents of this database to another database server. It is often used for migration of data to different database type.

▼ Target database

Type*	<input type="text" value="Choose..."/>	▼
Database host*	<input type="text"/>	
Database name*	<input type="text"/>	
Database user*	<input type="text"/>	
Database password*	<input type="password"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Unmask
Tables prefix	<input type="text"/>	
Port	<input type="text"/>	

▼ Options

Enable maintenance mode 

[Transfer data](#)

- **Capability Overview** – Moodle offers the most advanced and fine grain control over the user roles and permissions. Sometimes, you may need to check out the roles and permission for a specific capability. Capability Overview report will show the role and its permission level for that capability and if that capability was overridden for the role where in the site. Check out the capability report for your Moodle site through *Site administration > Users >*

Permissions > Capability report.

▼ Report settings

This report shows, for a particular capability, what permission that capability has in the definition of every role (or a selection of roles), and everywhere in the site where that capability is overridden.

Capability: Search

moodle/site:approvecourse: Approve course creation

moodle/site:config: Change site configuration

moodle/site:deleteanymessage: Delete any messages on the site

moodle/site:deleteownmessage: Delete messages sent by and to the user

moodle/site:doclinks: Show links to offsite docs

moodle/site:forcelanguage: Override course language

moodle/site:mnetlogintoremove: Roam to a remote application via MNet

moodle/site:readallmessages: Read all messages on site

moodle/site:sendmessage: Send messages to any user

moodle/site:uploadusers: Upload new users from file

Roles:

All

Manager

Course creator

Teacher

Non-editing teacher

Student

Guest

Authenticated user

Authenticated user on frontpage

[Get the overview](#)

- **Security overview report** The security overview report will give you a quick overview about the areas where the security may be compromised. The report is useful to enhance the security level of your Moodle site and configuration. Check out the security overview report in *Administration > Site administration > Reports > Security*

overview.

Security overview

Issue	Status	Description
Insecure dataroot	OK	Dataroot directory must not be accessible via the web.
Displaying of PHP errors	Warning	The PHP setting to display errors is enabled. It is recommended that this is disabled.
No authentication	OK	No authentication plugin is disabled.
Allow EMBED and OBJECT	Critical	Unlimited object embedding enabled - this is very dangerous for the majority of servers.
Enabled .swf media filter	OK	Flash media filter is not enabled.
Open user profiles	OK	Login is required before viewing user profiles.
Open to Google	OK	Search engine access is not enabled.
Password policy	OK	Password policy enabled.
Email change confirmation	OK	Confirmation of change of email address in user profile.
Writable config.php	Warning	PHP scripts may modify config.php.
XSS trusted users	Warning	RISK_XSS - found 1 users that have to be trusted.
Administrators	OK	Found 2 server administrator(s).
Backup of user data	Warning	Found 1 roles, 0 overrides and 1 users with the ability to backup user data.
Default role for all users	OK	Default role for all users definition is OK.
Guest role	OK	Guest role definition is OK.
Frontpage role	OK	Frontpage role definition is OK.
Web cron	Warning	Anonymous users can access cron.

- Spam Cleaner** – Is your Moodle site affected with spam content? In case your site is affected with spam, then the first thing you should do is to upgrade it to the latest Moodle version and update these [critical settings](#). In case you are not using the Self registration for authentication then better disable it. Spam Cleaner report script allows you to search all user profiles for certain strings and then delete those accounts which are obviously created by spammers. You can search for multiple keywords using commas. Run the report from *Site*

administration > Reports > Spam cleaner.

This script allows you to search all user profiles for certain strings and then delete those accounts which are obviously created by spammers. You can search for multiple keywords using commas (e.g. casino, porn).

For further information, see the documentation [Reducing spam in Moodle](#).

eg: casino, porn, xxx

- **Language Customization** – Do you know that you can change the default Moodle terms or phrases used on your Moodle site? Language customization options is another tool which can be highly useful to rephrase the default terms according to your requirements. For example, if you would like to change the word “Topic” to “Chapter”. You can easily go to *Site administration > Language > Language customization* and choose the language which you would like to customize. For more details about Language Customization, [check out this Moodle doc](#).

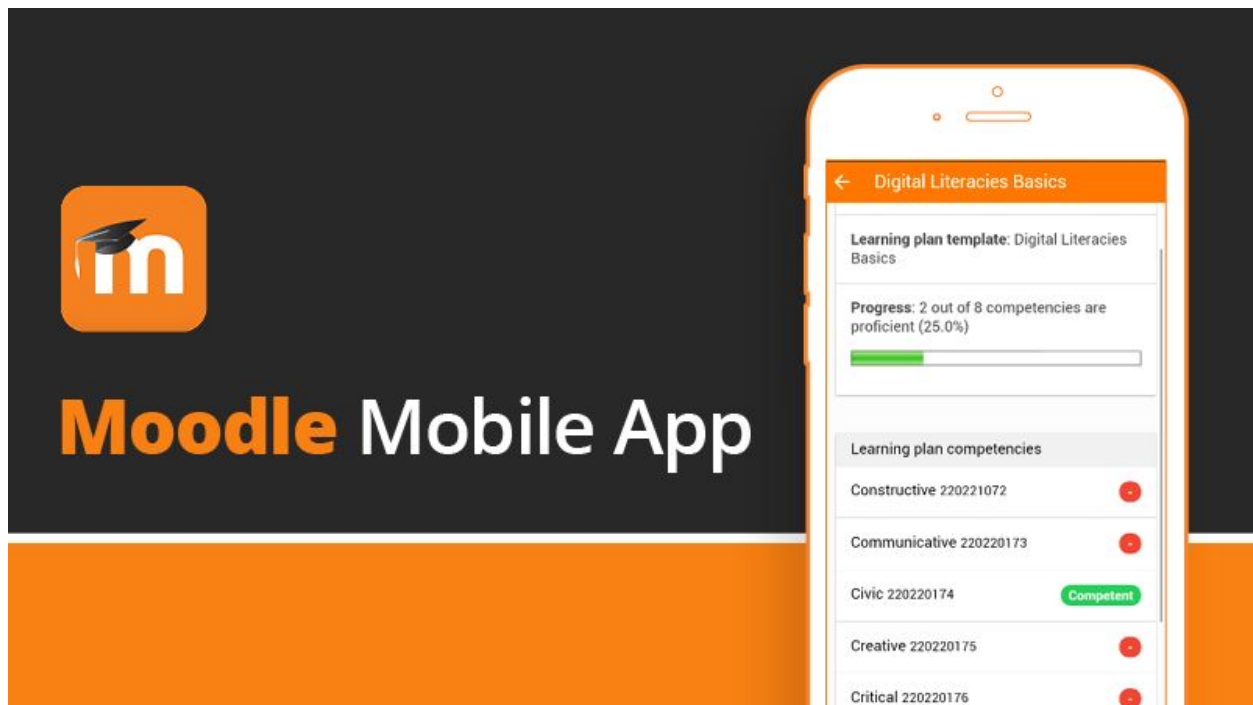
Language customisation

Choose...	▼
Choose...	
English (en)	
Tamil (ta)	
తెలుగు (te)	

Moodle Mobile App:

Moodle Mobile is the official mobile app for Moodle. Moodle supports mobile learning and the latest few versions of the Moodle mobile app are focused in making learning more accessible.

The upcoming version of the Moodle mobile app, which will be released along with Moodle 3.4 in November 2017, will include 100% support for all Moodle core activities.



With the Moodle Mobile app, you can learn wherever you are, whenever you want, with these app features:

- Easily access course content - browse the content of your courses, even when offline
- Connect with course participants - quickly find and contact other people in your courses

-
- Keep up to date - receive instant notifications of messages and other events, such as assignment submissions
 - Submit assignments - Upload images, audio, videos and other files from your mobile device
 - Track your progress - View your grades, check completion progress in courses and browse your learning plans
 - Complete activities anywhere, anytime - attempt quizzes, post in forums, play SCORM packages, edit wiki pages and more - both on and off-line

The app is available for Android and iOS devices. Click the links below to download the latest app on your device.

- [Android Devices,](#)
- [iOS devices](#)

Moodle Desktop

Recently, Moodle HQ team has released the Moodle Desktop app. The Moodle desktop app allows you to get access to your Moodle courses on desktop or Surface tablets.

With Moodle Desktop you can experience all these popular (and more) functionalities that are found in [Moodle Mobile](#), on your desktop or Surface tablets:

- View course activities and download materials offline
- Quickly find and contact other people in your courses or organisation
- Attempt quizzes, post in forums, play SCORM packages, edit wiki pages and more - on and offline
- Upload images, audio, videos and other files from your desktop or tablet
- View deadlines filtered by dates or course subjects
- Receive instant notifications for messages, forum posts, calendar events and deadlines
- Track your learning progress or grades



Moodle Desktop is now available for:

- Windows for desktop: Windows 7 and later (AMR not supported)
- Windows for tablets: Windows 10 with "Windows Anniversary Update"
- macOS: Minimum macOS version supported is macOS 10.9
- Linux: Ubuntu 12.04, Fedora 21 and Debian 8 and later

Note - As for the Moodle Mobile app, Moodle Desktop will ONLY work with Moodle sites that have been set up to allow it.

Moodle Community:

MoodleMoots:

MoodleMoot conferences are held around the world, with a focus on encouraging collaboration and sharing of best practices of the open source learning platform.

MoodleMoots started when the global Moodle community saw a need to come together and share their experiences with the open source platform – what they have learnt, what works and what doesn't – so others can learn from those experiences to enhance and improve their Moodle sites.

MoodleMoots have been running for over a decade, and today, these conferences are run worldwide by:

- Moodle HQ (the driving organisation behind the Moodle project)
- Moodle Community members
- Moodle Partners or other Moodle users who organise Official MoodleMoots (supported and endorsed by Moodle HQ)

Why to attend MoodleMoot?

MoodleMoots are attended by presenters, members of the Moodle community, Moodle users from around the world, Moodle Partners and sponsors.

If you are a Moodle user and would like to share your insights or best practices into using Moodle, then we encourage you to register to become a presenter. The information you share will assist other Moodlers get the best out of their learning environments.

If you and your organisation / institutions are new to Moodle and you'd like to increase your knowledge of the learning platform, then we encourage you to attend MoodleMoots and collaborate with other Moodle users.

MoodleMoots are also a rich source of information for Moodle system administrators to engage and share ideas and innovation with other admins.

Lastly, if you just love Moodle and support the mission of this open source project to empower educators and learners, you will find a community of like-minded people in the MoodleMoots.

Find out the MoodleMoot in your country on www.moodlemoot.org

Moodle User's Association

The Moodle Users Association Inc. is a not-for-profit incorporated association which helps to drive the Moodle project. It is a separate entity from Moodle Pty Ltd or any other entity involved in the Moodle open source project.

The Association extends the global Moodle community to complement [Moodle Partner](#) provision of services to their clients, Moodle project development by [Moodle HQ](#), and existing various community engagement formats and forums, including individual developments for non-Core installations.

Any person or organisation can be a member, **except** organisations whose primary function is to provide commercial LMS services.

There are four membership levels:

- Individual
- Organization - Bronze
- Organization - Silver
- Organization - Gold

Find out more about the membership details at -
<https://moodleassociation.org/membership/>

Moodle.net

Moodle.net is the OER platform of the Moodle project. Moodle.net connects you with free courses and content shared by Moodle users all over the world.

You can find Moodle courses to Download & use and to enrol & participate shared by other Moodle community members. You can also search and share the following resource on Moodle.net

- [Database presets](#)
- [Glossary entries](#)
- [Quiz questions](#)
- [SCORM packages](#)
- [Books](#)
- [IMS LTI sites](#)
- [User tours](#)
- [Competency frameworks](#)
- [Boost presets](#)

Learn Moodle MOOC

Learn Moodle is the official Moodle website for delivering MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses).

Designed and developed by Moodle HQ Sites Team, the website aims to facilitate learning and collaboration to inspire better teaching everywhere.

Learn Moodle uses a mostly unmodified version of the latest release, with a custom Bootstrap-based theme.

Moodle has [a lot of features](#), and it can take quite a long time to learn them all. As an open-source learning platform, it's benefited from the experimentation and feedback of thousands of online educators over the past 12 years, and evolved a lot of tools that are completely unique. It's rarely useful to learn all the capabilities in a vacuum, though - the best way to learn them is to be teaching a real course, to be open to new ideas for what you want to do and then look for solutions to each problem. Being part of an ongoing support community is ideal for this sort of professional development: our community is full of great teachers with great ideas.

Interested, check out the next Learn Moodle MOOC which will run on Moodle 3.4 and will start from 8th January 2018 - <https://learn.moodle.net/>

Moodle GSoC

Moodle has been involved in Google's [Summer of Code](#) program since 2006. This program pays students to work on open source software products for about three months (over the northern hemisphere summer), mentored by existing developers of those products. The work usually adds a new feature or a new module. The intention is that this new code improves the software, as well as helping new programmers to become familiar with developing in an open source community.

Students apply for projects via the GSOC site. The project applications are then passed on to Moodle are evaluated and selected by the full group of Moodle mentors. The best proposals are often from students who take the time to interact and discuss their ideas before submitting a proposal.

If you are a student older than 18 years and wish to participate in the GSoC with Moodle as the target project:

- Check out what's involved in the [Google Summer of Code](#) (which can change from year to year).
- Look at the list of [projects for new developers](#), or think up one of your own.
- Find out [how to apply](#) to complete a GSoC project with Moodle.

MCCC Certification:

The Moodle Course Creator Certificate (MCCC) is a way of validating your Moodle knowledge and skills. The **Moodle** certification scheme is coordinated through **Moodle Partners** in each country.

The **MCCC** is based around eight Skill Sets, common to both the course [project](#) and the exam component, as follows (the minor points are indicative and not exhaustive):

- Environmental technology
 - Browsers, cookies, plugins, access speed
- Generic **Moodle** skills
 - Course settings, formats, editor, themes, profiles
- **Moodle** Blocks
 - All standard blocks and their use
- Using Resources
 - Text, web, linking, labels, directories
- Using Activities
 - [Assignment](#)(s), [Chat](#), [Choice](#), [Forum](#), [Glossary](#), etc.

-
- Media and content
 - Images, audio, movies, [flash](#), etc.
 - Participant management
 - Enrolling, scales, grades, etc.
 - Course management
 - Groups, logs, files, etc.

In addition, the course project will require a document that illustrates how the candidate has related the course design to the learners, and utilised the functionality of **Moodle** effectively to meet the needs of the audience.

For more information about the MCC certification, check out the Moodle partner in your country.

Moodle Release Calendar:

Moodle development team follows a fixed schedule for all new versions releases. The general release calendar of Moodle is like:

Release type	Frequency	Months
Major (eg. 3.x)	6 monthly	Second Monday of May and November
Minor (eg. 3.1.x)	2 monthly	Second Monday of July, September, November, January, March and May

Need Help? How to get support

Moodle is a community backed piece of software so when you are in trouble with your Moodle site or stuck up somewhere, then you can look out for support through these means:

Moodle Community Forums

Moodle Community forums are organized in various languages and you can get support from the community, share ideas and meet others in the community.

For any support issues, post your query in <https://moodle.org/course> and you will find someone to help you out.

Moodle Partners

Moodle Partners are the corporate companies who provide the Moodle services like Hosting, Development, Support, Theming & training etc. Ten percent of any money you pay to a Moodle Partner goes towards the Moodle project, so by choosing a Moodle Partner you are helping Moodle software to evolve.

As of writing this book, Moodle has got 89 Moodle partners all around the world. If you need any help, you can just [look out for the nearest Moodle partner in your country](#) or [contact Moodle HQ here](#).

MoodleWorld

You can also post all your queries to us through

- Our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/moodleworld/>
- Tweet your query to @moodleworld - <https://twitter.com/moodleworld>
- This contact form - <http://www.moodleworld.com/contact-us/>

I will do my best to help you out and resolve your issue on priority.

Taking it forward

Remembering that making an online learning portal takes time and lot of efforts. And the most important aspect is that you have to refine your training course to optimize the learning flow, improve usability over a period of time.

So, just go ahead and start exploring Moodle for your online teaching.

Finally, it doesn't matter which tool you are using but if you are not applying your knowledge in any application, then the acquired knowledge is of no use.

“The knowledge without application is of no use.”

One last favor:

Can you follow us on our Twitter & Facebook page and share this book with all of your friends who want to start their own online training portal? I know it won't help you or me much in terms of money, but it feels good to change somebody's life for the better.

Don't you agree?

Click on the link below to follow us on Twitter and Facebook.



Also Click on the "click to tweet" image to share this Ultimate Moodle Guide on Twitter with your friends



Join me and let's contribute our bit together in making Moodle as the best Learning Management system in the world.

With Love

Jaswinder Singh

www.MoodleWorld.com

Twitter - [@4jassiking](https://twitter.com/@4jassiking)

Facebook - [@4jassiking](https://www.facebook.com/@4jassiking)