

Tutorial

Adapt your

template for

mobiles

Joomla! 2.5



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Thanks

I want to thank everyone who helped and supported me in this project.
Thank you all !

Cédric KEIFLIN

My websites

<http://www.joomlack.fr>

Portail Joomlack with démos and download of extensions that are developped by me, and news from Joomlack.

<http://extensions.joomlack.fr>

Listing and demos of Joomla! Extensions

<http://tutoriels-joomla.joomlack.fr>

Site dedicated to tutorials (in french) for Joomla! with some documentaiton about how to make your own Joomla template

<http://www.template-creator.com>

Component Joomla that allows you to create your own template

For whom is this document

This tutorial is for anyone who wants to learn about template adaptation for mobiles.

Warning, this document is not a tutorial about CSS, it assumes you have the necessary knowledge in the field of HTML/CSS.

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I. Introduction

Here we are again in a new template adventure... This time around, we will be focusing on mobile compatibility. Indeed more and more people browses the Internet by means of their mobile phone, or smartphone, as well as with tablets such as the iPad.

Can my web site not be viewed with mobiles and laptops ? Of course it can, don't worry. If you have no use for a mobile version of your website because nobody comes on your site with their telephone, then leave it as it is! The site is visible, except that it is necessary to scroll horizontally and vertically to be able to visualize the whole page, making it hard to navigate. We are going to optimize all of this to allow the visitor to view the full width of the web site on his screen and to be able to access the whole of the contentes hassle free.

Don't forget, if you have created a web site, then it is to be viewed by someone so might as well optimise the viewing process.

II. The blah blah of the theory

1. The techniques

Before attacking the practical work, we are going to have a look at the overview of the theory so that you will better understand what we are going to do. We are just going to review ideas. If you want to know more about it, you can ask Google!

1.1) *User agent - PHP*

The server that accommodates your site can detect the system being used to navigate your web site. We can thus use this method, but it is necessary to list all the devices (iPhone, iPad, android, BlackBerry, etc.) and write it into the conditions that will manage the display.

Although I use this feature in a module, I don't think it's very efficient for the management of css.

1.2) *Javascript*

Javascript can also be used to detect user agents, browsers, and screen sizes. The main problem that can arise is if you have a script mistake on your web page, the script won't work and everything fails. Secondly, it weighs down the page which could make it difficult to manage.

1.3) *Mediaqueries*

Now we arrive at the interesting part... what's this thing we call mediaqueries ? We can say this is a conditional property of CSS. We are going to use it in our case to say " if this screen is less than 800 px wide, then load these CSS's ". Interesting, isn't it? We are going to be able to style our web site as we want. The only downside is that this recent technique is not compatible with the older browsers. Thus forget the compatibility with the older phones. Personally, I don't think it's a real concern.

2. Drivers

We are going to review resolutions to define our conditions to be inserted into mediaqueries.

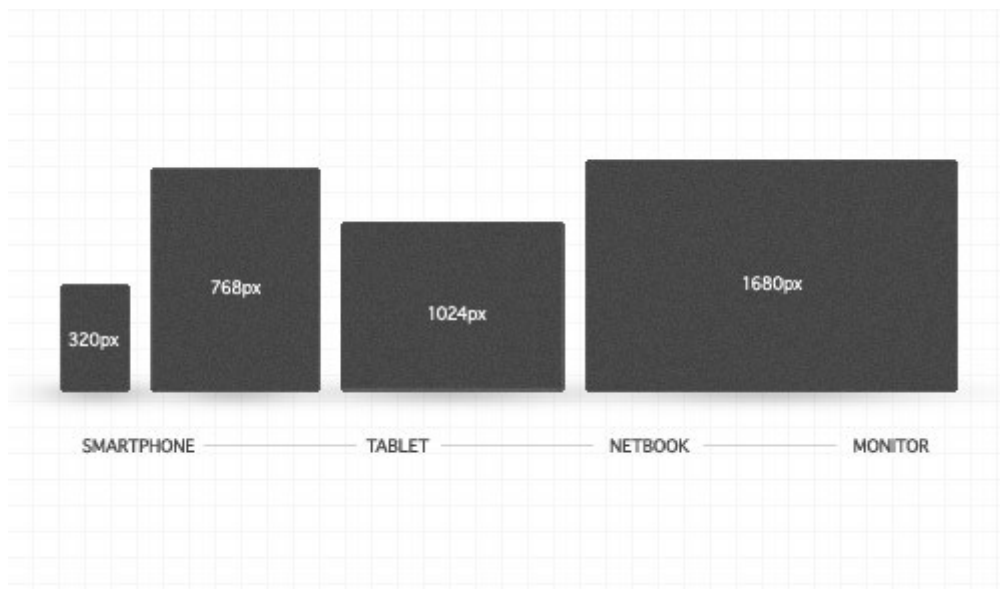
Portrait display on Smartphonet : **320px**

Landscape display on Smartphone : **640px**

Portrait display on tablet : **768px**

Landscape display on tablet : **1024px**

Laptop : **1024px**



Source and image : <http://line25.com/tutorials/create-a-responsive-web-design-with-media-queries>

We are going to put into place a few conditions to manage these different cases.

The blah blah of the theory How does it work ?

3. How does it work ?

To implement mediaqueries in a functional way, you need 2 things :

3.1) To fix the resizing of the display on Smartphones

There is a meta tag called viewport. It defines the manner in which displays are resized on drivers. So, we are going to reset it and prohibit the mobile from zooming in too far, otherwise we can't see anything. Raphael Goetter explains it like this :

"The main advantage of incorporating this step is to avoid the automatic resizing of the layout, which renders the contents too small, to fix the width of the mobile and to be able to adapt afterwards "

Source : <http://www.alsacreations.com/astuce/lire/1177-une-feuille-de-styles-de-base-pour-le-web-mobile.html>

Below is the script that needs to be added in the header of the HTML page :

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width; initial-scale=1.0">
```

3.2) Adding conditions of screen size

For example, in an existing style sheet we can add:

```
@media screen and (max-width: 640px) {  
... styles css ...  
}
```

Thus for all screens for which the resolution does not exceed 640px, the styles defined here will be taken into account. Easy!

The blah blah of the theory How does it work ?

III. Pratical case - tutorial

Now that we have overviewed the theory, let's move on to the pratical. It's always more entertaining to get our hands dirty with this little step by step tutorial.

1. Creation of the base template

Let's start with creating a template that will serve as a base for our mobile adaptation. We are going to try to begin with a standard architecture :

- Banner with logo and module
- Horizontal menu
- Module of slideshow
- Block of 4 aligned modules
- Main contents with left and right columns
- Block of 4 aligned modules
- Footer

I have created a specific template supplied with this tutorial that you can use however you want on your own web sites.

I created this template with Template Creator CK. As such, I am supplying the parameters of the template, which you can install in Template Creator to modify, with this tutorial.

Keep in your mind that if you want to use this technique to adapt your template to mobiles, it must also be coded in a simple and functional way. If you try to do it with a professional template or a template created with Artisteer, you risk to encounter some difficulties.

Finally, here is the result of my work, a little template that is rather simple to create :

Practical case - tutorial Creation of the base template



When working on a mobile adaptation project, there are 2 important points to consider :

- know how to modify or to develop the design according to the size of the screen (align or hide blocks, modify margins, etc.)
- have enough knowledge in CSS to produce the result

It all depends on your needs, and especially on your initial template! If you try to adapt a framework (gantry, T3, warp, shape5 or other), or even a template Artisteer, I wish you good luck. Indeed, to be able to easily adapt the template, it is necessary to think of this need from its conception.

Most frameworks propose functions for mobiles that are already integrated into the template.

Then, if you know nothing about CSS, either go along your way or arm yourself with patience. It is, however, necessary to have notions of floatation, margins, and other such kind of things to create the design.

Ok, that's enough talking, let's move on to the next step !

2. Defining the design according to the resolution

Here we are not limited to only one single solution, but we will see what we absolutely need and what we can modify. I take a screen shoot and put it in my picture editor. Then, I draw lines corresponding to the resolutions for 768px, 524px, 292px.

Clearly, as soon as we fall below the limit of 960px, we fall on a design that is **758px wide**.

As soon as we fall below the limit of 768px, we fall on a design that is **makes 524px wide**.

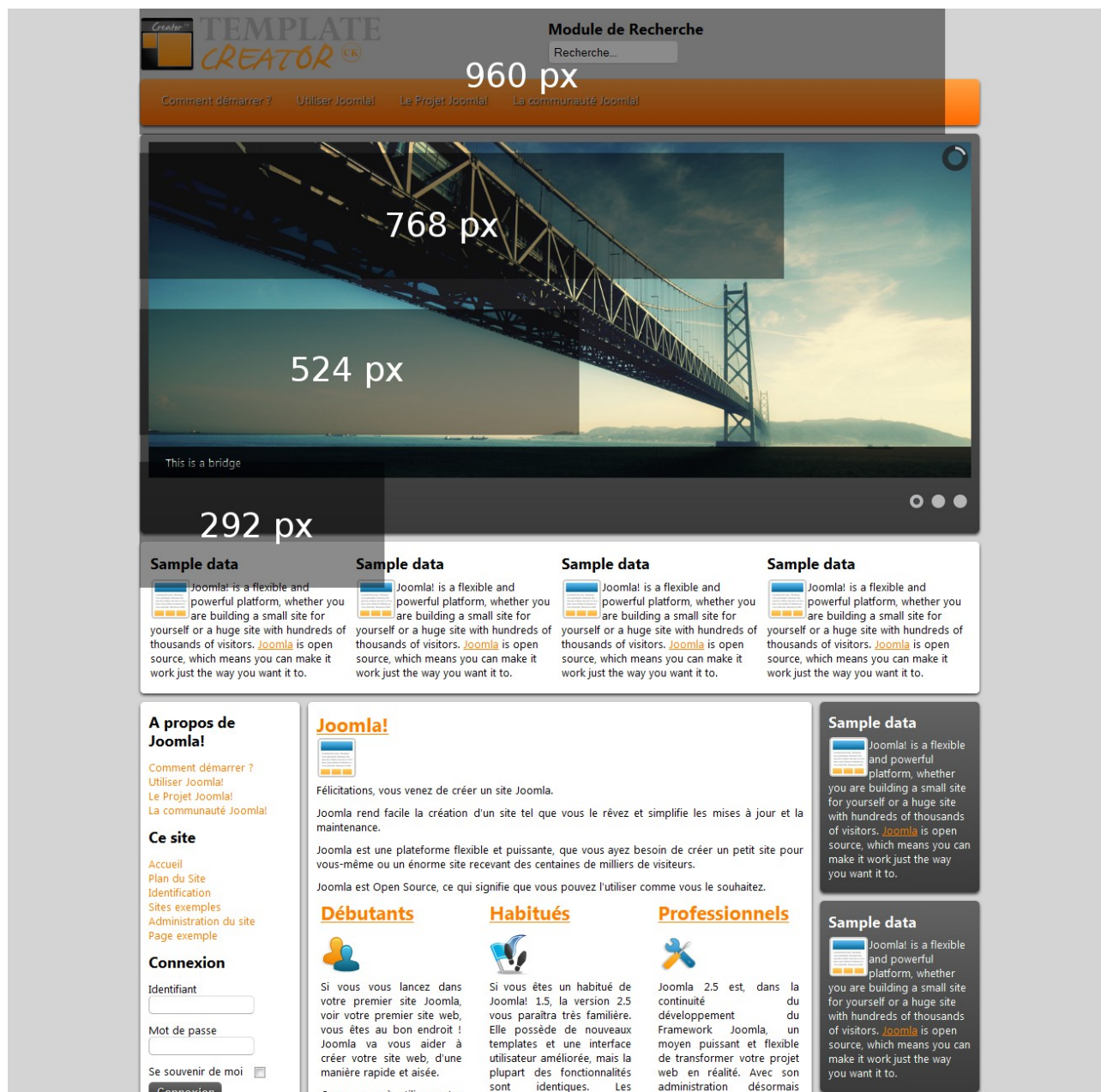
As soon as we fall below the limit of 524px, we fall on a design that is **292px wide**.

We quickly become aware that with 292px there is no space, and that it's impossible to place all the columns. We are now going to attack the definition of the design.

With regard to the resolutions, we can fix those that we want, for my part I, was inspired by the tutorial in Line25 :

<http://line25.com/tutorials/create-a-responsive-web-design-with-media-queries>

Practical case - tutorial Defining the design according to the resolution



2.1) 5.1) Design with a 758px width

- **banner with logo & module** : no problem, it will fit
- **horizontal menu** : we reduce the margins between links to fit everything on a single line
- **Slideshow module** : we leave it as it is (if you use my [Slideshow CK](#) module, it will adapt itself automatically to the width of the page because it's conceived with an adaptive design)
- **Block of 4 modules aligned at the top** : we reduce the width of the modules to keep them aligned
- **Main contents with left and right columns** : here, it's necessary to make a choice. So, we are going to work on the left column and align the modules horizontally. We keep the central column and the right column side by side.
- **Block of 4 modules aligned at the bottom** : same process as for the modules aligned at the top
- **Footer** : no change necessary

2.2) Design with a 524 px width

- **Banner with logo and module** : we block the search module as far on the left as possible so that everything fits into the width. If need be, we resize the logo.
- **Horizontal menu** : we reduce the margins between links to fit everything on a single line. If need be, we will adapt the details according to the obtained result
- **Slideshow module** : same as the 758px design
- **Block of 4 aligned modules at the top** : we further reduce the width of the modules and keep them aligned.
- **Main contents with left and right columns** : same as before but with modules (in the left column) smaller, and move the right column underneath with aligned modules
- **Block of 4 modules aligned at the bottom** : same as modules aligned with respect to the top
- **Footer** : no change necessary

2.3) Design with a 292px width

(it's here that it becomes a little bit complicated)

- **Banner with logo and module** : we block the search module as far on the left as possible to make everything fit into the width. If need be, we resize the logo or move the module underneath
- **Horizontal menu** : reducing the margins isn't enough anymore, we will have to place the links above and below one another
- **Slideshow module** : we could keep it but, frankly, if it's not really useful, then let's reduce the weight of the design of the page. We remove it (note that css will only hide the module, if you really want to reduce the weight of the page, you should use a user-agent detection to avoid loading the module, see bonus 2)
- **Block of 4 aligned modules at the top** : here we have no choice, considering that they don't contain crucial information for browsing with mobiles, we remove them
- **Main contents with left and right columns** : hmmm, a difficult choice... two different options : either we remove a column or we have a very very long website. What's to be done? In this case we are going to keep both columns and vertically align the modules
- **Block of 4 modules aligned at the bottom** : we align them above and below one another
- **Footer** : still no change necessary...

3. Modification of the index.php file

For our example I chose to call on a specific external sheet for mobiles. It will allow us to better visualize and especially to know where to find the CSS.

Warning : although this is a viable method, optimization techniques for loading pages recommend to place all the CSS sheets in a single file to minimize the number of requests.

We are going to edit the **index.php** file located in the template to add the loaded css sheet, which we will name **mobile.css**

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="<?php echo $this->baseurl ?>/templates/<?php echo $this->template ?>/css/mobile.css" type="text/css" />
```

So, we place this new sheet in the folder **templates/[template]/css/mobile.css**

Then, we fix the zoom factor with the viewport meta tag as already explained in the tutorial. Just after the function **<jdoc:include type="head" />**:

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width; initial-scale=1.0" />
```

```
// No direct access to this file
defined('_JEXEC') or die('Restricted access');
?>

<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd"
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="<?php echo $this->language; ?>" lang="<?php echo $this->language; ?>"
<head>
    <jdoc:include type="head" />
    <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width; initial-scale=1.0" />
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="<?php echo $this->baseurl ?>/templates/system/css/system.css" type="text/css" />
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="<?php echo $this->baseurl ?>/templates/system/css/general.css" type="text/css" />
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="<?php echo $this->baseurl ?>/templates/<?php echo $this->template ?>/css/default.css"
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="<?php echo $this->baseurl ?>/templates/<?php echo $this->template ?>/css/template.css"
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="<?php echo $this->baseurl ?>/templates/<?php echo $this->template ?>/css/fonts/fonts."
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="<?php echo $this->baseurl ?>/templates/<?php echo $this->template ?>/css/mobile.css"
```

4. Creation of the CSS style sheet

On va maintenant travailler dans le fichier **mobile.css**.

4.1) 7.1) Tablet in portrait mode: 758px

Let us start with the first design, which is 758px wide.

```
@media screen and (max-width: 960px) {  
    ... on ajoute les css ici ...  
}
```

First, we define the width of the main container :

```
#wrapper {  
    width: 758px !important;  
    padding: 0;  
}
```

You can perform a test and you will see that quite a lot of things have moved and some already have a correct appearance. In fact, how can we perform a test ??

There's nothing more simple ! All you have to do is resize the width of your Web browser, as soon as you reduce your window to under 960px, the site adapts itself. Too cool :)

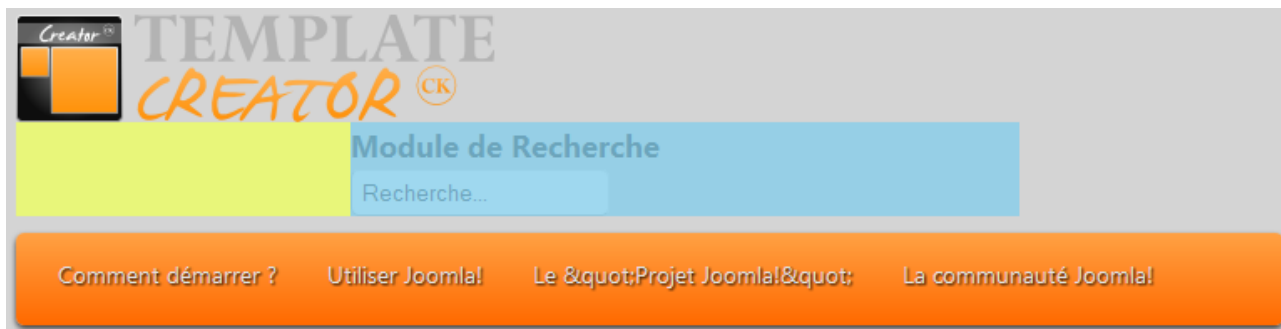
I have another question, why do we use the property **!important** in css ? I believed that you should not use it because of its incompatibility with Internet Explorer?

Hey, you have ever seen a smartphone that surfs on the net using an old search engine like Internet Explorer ? No ? No worries then, we can use the property **!important** to override all other already defined css's.

First problem to fix : the search module in the banner, it places itself below the logo. Hey was that planned ?! Ha Ha



We use Firebug to inspect the **#banner** element and this is what we find :



We see the left margin in yellow and the width of the module in blue. We therefore just have to reduce the width of the module.

```
#banner {  
    width: auto;  
}
```

First problem resolved, let us move on to the second: the main columns. We see that they are not aligned. First of all, it is necessary to force the left column to span the full width of 758px. Then, we float the modules with float:left; and we attribute them a 33% width (since here I only have 3 modules). And there you have it!

```
#left {  
    width: 758px !important;  
}  
  
#left .moduletable, #left .moduletable_menu {  
    float: left;  
    width: 33%;  
}
```

Cool! That worked but now there is something strange... why is the white container so small?

A propos de Joomla!	Ce site	Connexion
Comment démarrer ? Utiliser Joomla! Le "Projet Joomla!" La communauté Joomla!	Accueil Plan du Site Identification Sites exemples Administration du site Page exemple	Identifiant <input type="text"/> Mot de passe <input type="password"/> Se souvenir de moi <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="Connexion"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mot de passe oublié ?• Identifiant oublié ?• Créer un compte

Ahhh, the magic of **float**... These things are very particular. We could add a DIV with **clear:both** in the **index.php** file of the template, but I am simply going to use css's to avoid this issue with **overflow:hidden**; I take advantage of the opportunity to also define the margins in order to correctly align the block:

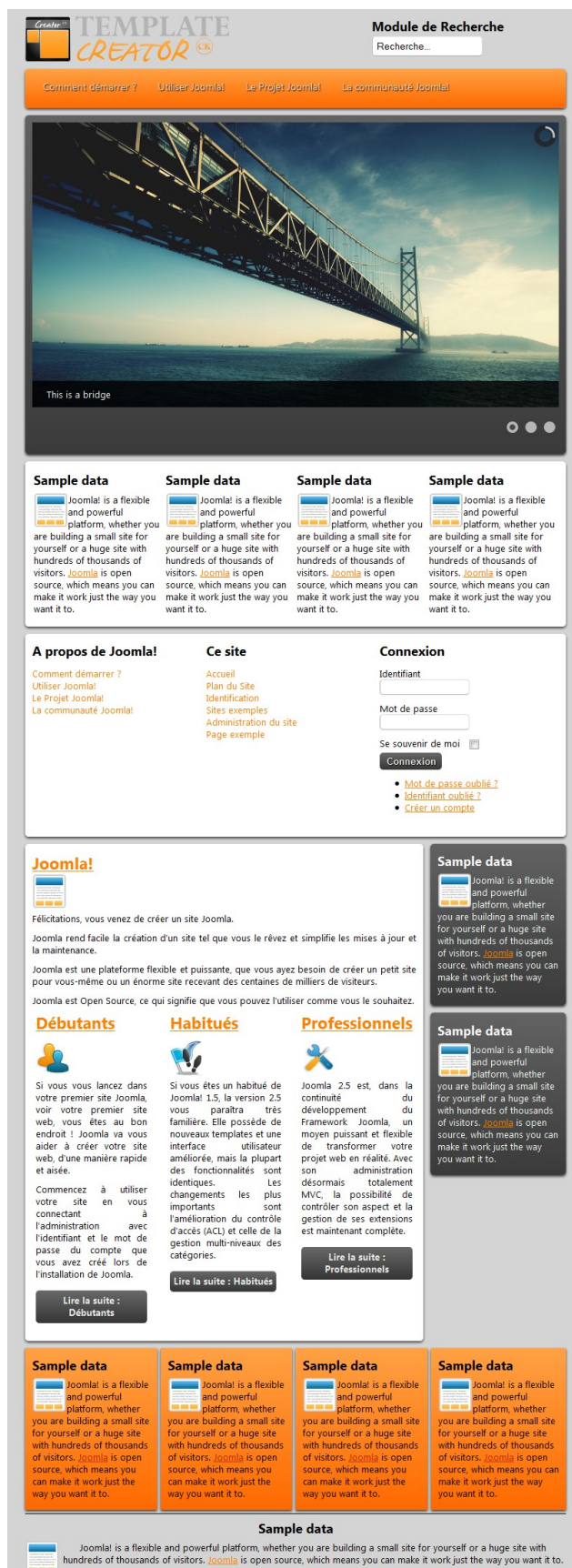
```
#left > div.inner {  
    overflow: hidden;  
    margin: 0 0 10px 0;  
}
```

Moving forward, we still have to define the width of the central column. As the width of the wrapper is 758px and that of the right column is 200px, it leaves us with 558px.

```
#center {  
    width: 558px !important;  
}
```

That's it for this part, let us see the result:

Practical case - tutorial Creation of the CSS style sheet



4.2) 7.1) Tablet in portrait mode: 524px

We have had fun up to now, no? Indeed, let us continue with the same momentum.

We now test for resolutions under 758px, we post a design of 524px.

```
@media screen and (max-width: 758px) {  
    ...css styles here...  
}
```

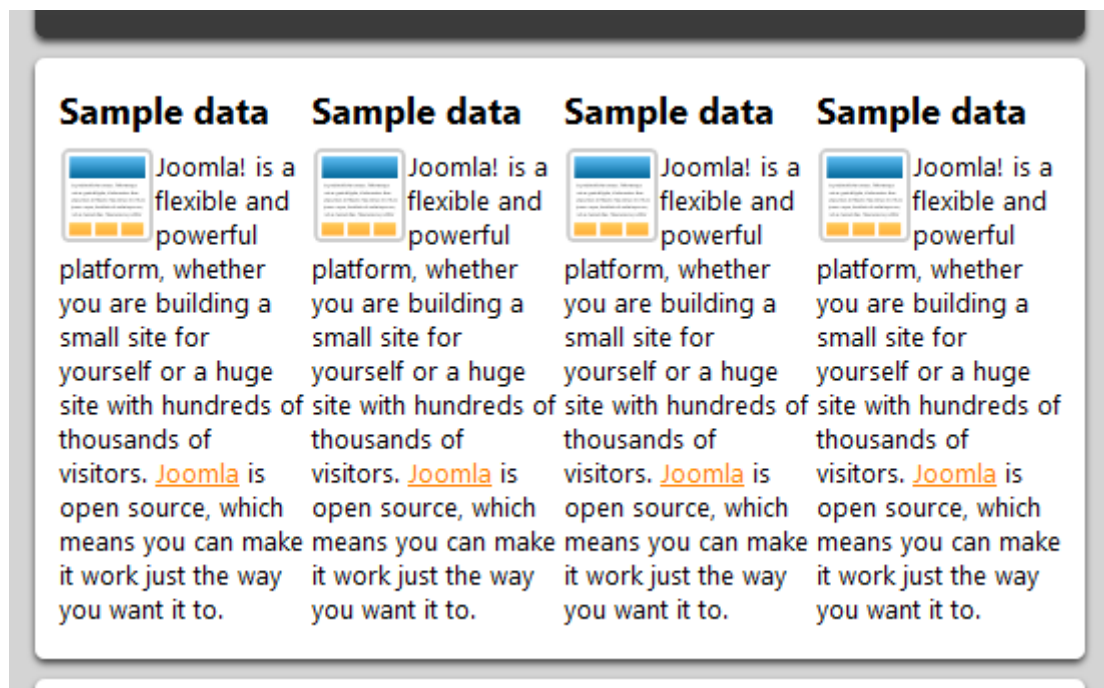
If we play with the width of the browser, we can already see how the template reacts. And here, we notice something very interesting: all the styles which we have previously defined for the width of 758px are still applied. Yup, since we are using a lower resolution the **max-width** condition is still valid.

Very good news, it suffices to make a few additional adjustments to obtain the final result.

First of all, we remark that this darn search module has moved under the logo. In this case, we need only modify the margin to reduce it to 50px to resolve the problem.

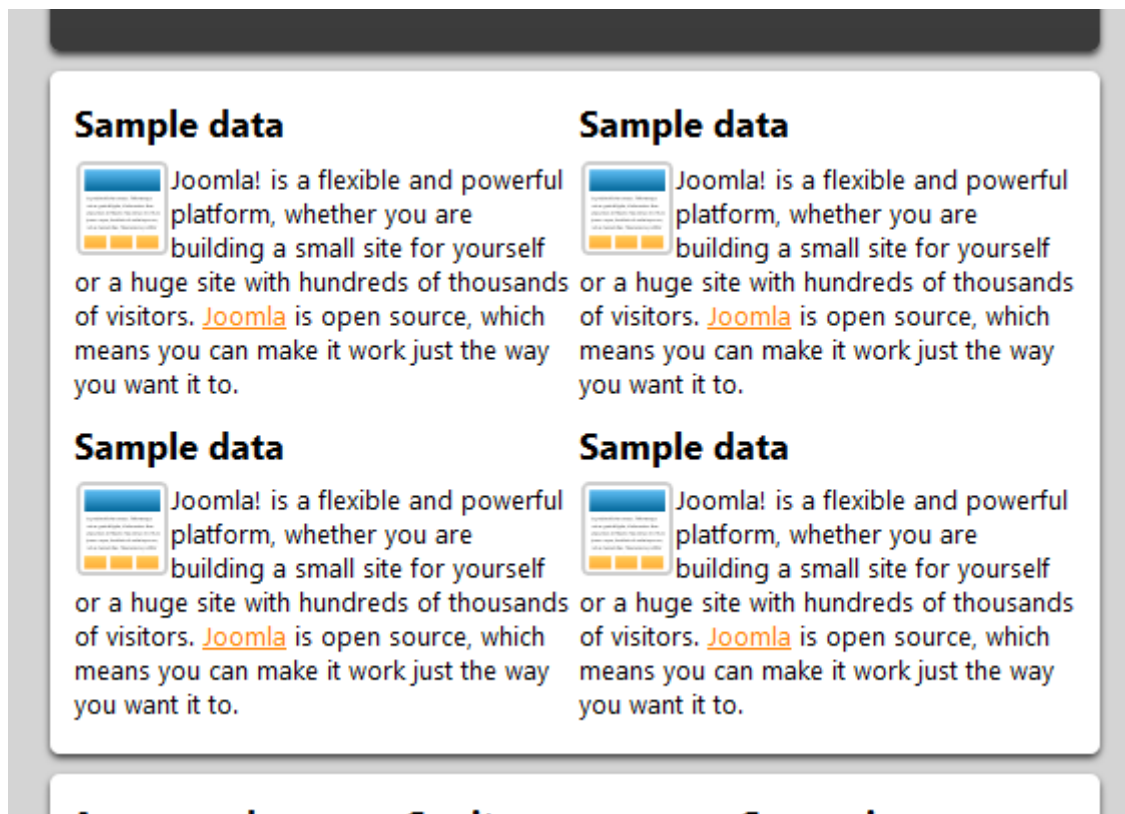
```
#banner {  
    margin-left: 50px;  
}
```

For the modules of the top, no problem... well, almost. Lets take a look



It could work but I find that it is a little bit... small. The modules are not very wide and we have difficulty accommodating the text. We are going to try to improve it. We define the width of every module at 50% to place 2 modules per line:

```
#modulestop .flexiblemodule {  
    width: 50%;  
}
```



That's better! It was not planned in the initial specifications, but it is also necessary to know how to adapt according to the result and what we want to show.

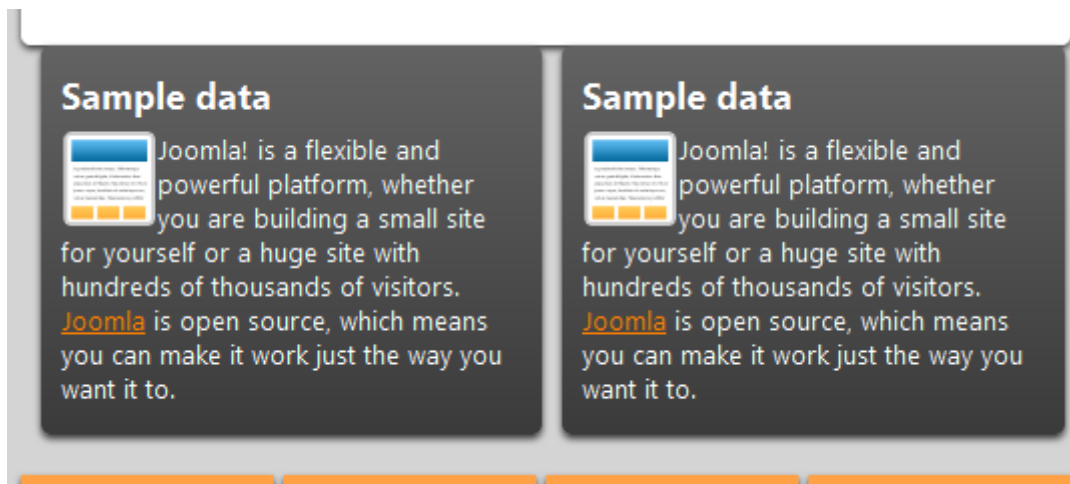
The left column (which no longer resembles a column) is too wide, it is necessary to restore it the proper width. The same is true for the central column and the right column which we are now going to be transformed into rows.

```
#left, #center, #right {  
    width: 524px !important;  
}
```

It begins to get more complicated when modifying the right column. Below are the css's that need to be applied:

```
#right .moduletable, #right .moduletable_menu {  
    float: left;  
    width: 45%;  
    margin: 10px 0 0 0 !important;  
    padding: 2% !important;  
}  
  
#right div.moduletable:first-child, #right div.moduletable_menu:first-child {  
    margin-right: 2% !important;  
}
```

I imagine the expression on your face, you are saying to yourself " but what is this? ". This could have been done in a more simple manner but the margins would not have allowed the modules to adjust correctly to the totality of the width, resulting in an unattractive « border » effect. Here is a view of an example with just with one float:left and a 44 % width:



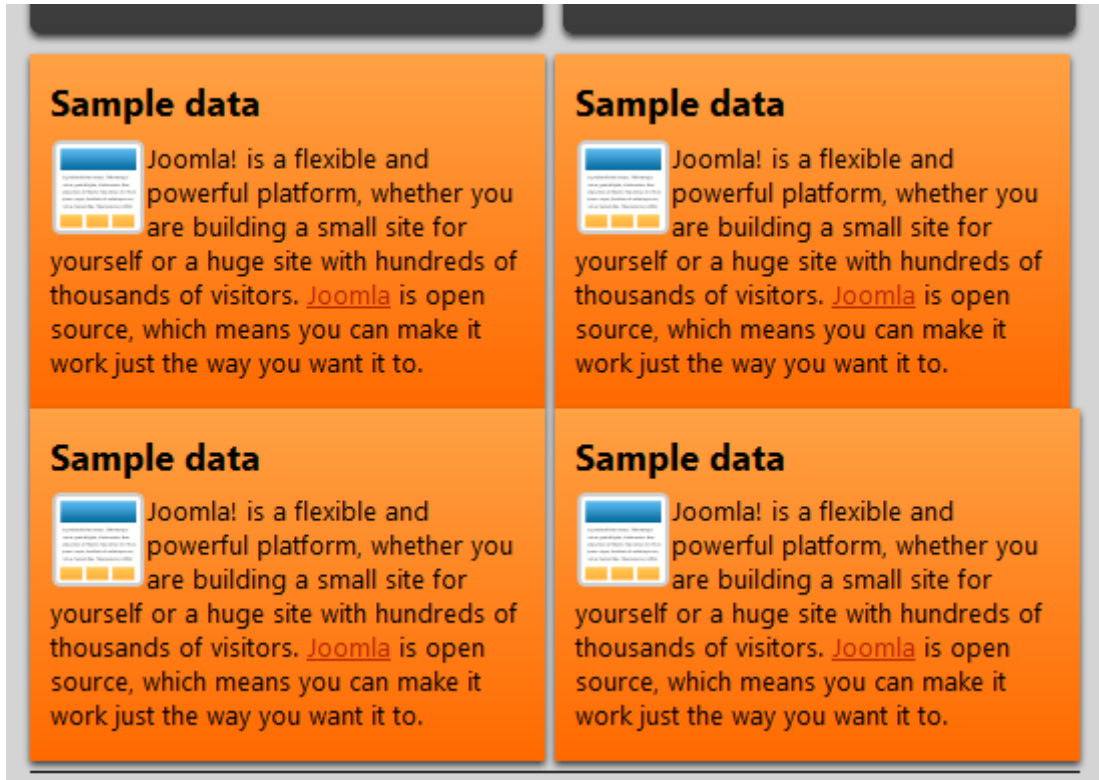
Not very nice, right ? As such, I reset the margins, leave 10px at the top to create a space and 0 everywhere else. Then, I define a 45 % **width** plus 2 % of **padding** on each side, making every block take up 49 % of the space, leaving a global margin of 2 % throughout the whole column. I use the 2 % left over to separate the modules with a margin. I am only going to apply this margin to the first module found in the container **#right** (by using the property **:first-child**).

You see, it is simple!

If we take a look at the bottom modules, we encounter the same problem as those for the top. As such, we repeat the previous operation to place 2 modules per line :

```
#modulesbottom .flexiblemodule {  
    width: 50%;  
}
```

Oh look, we have a margin problem on these ones!



Lets keep going! We can fix that while we're at it!

```
#modulesbottom .flexiblemodule > div.inner {  
    margin: 5px;  
}
```

If you inspect the elements with Firebug, you will see that the HTML structure contains the blocks of the modules in which there is always another DIV with an **inner** class. This is what we call the nested DIVs method. You must not apply a **width**, **margins** and **padding** to the same element to ensure a maximal compatibility with all browsers.

It is already better:



Last and ultimate step for this design, the menu. I kept it for the end to be able to rest a little before attacking the very last design.

Here I keep it simple, I increase its height to force the links onto two lines

```
height: 60px;  
}
```

And the ballot is played. Let us look at the beautiful design that we obtain.

Practical case - tutorial Creation of the CSS style sheet



4.3) Mobile in portrait mode: 292px

We finally arrive at the end of our last section. Here is the last condition that must be added to create the design of 292px wide:

```
@media screen and (max-width: 524px) {  
    ... styles css ici...  
}
```

The first step, as usual, is to adjust the width of the **wrapper** and take a look at what it looks like when we resize the window.

```
#wrapper {  
    width: 292px !important;  
    padding: 0;  
}
```

Well, we said that we were going to hide the slideshow and the row of modules at the top. With one **display:none;** the ballot is played

```
#slideshow, #modulestop {  
    display: none;  
}
```

Then, we are going to re-work the "left column" (which doesn't look like a column anymore) to accommodate every module in the totality of the width.

```
#left {  
    width: 292px !important;  
}  
  
#left .moduletable, #left .moduletable_menu {  
    float: none !important;  
    width: auto;  
}  
  
#left > div.inner {  
    margin: 0 0 10px 0;  
    height: auto;  
}
```

A few explanations? We fix the width of the column at 292px. Then, we tell the modules to adapt their width and to align one under the other with **float:none;** We also restore

the automatic height on the **div.inner** because we had fixed it before (in the previous design).

Next, we attack the right and center column. Knowing that they are going to behave as the left column, which we have just formatted, we just modify the code to add them in :

```
#left, #right, #center {
    width: 292px !important;
}

#left .moduletable, #left .moduletable_menu,
#right div.inner div.moduletable, #right div.inner div.moduletable_menu {
    float: none !important;
    width: auto;
    margin: 10px 0 0 0 !important;
}

#left > div.inner {
    margin: 0 0 10px 0;
    height: auto;
}
```

Let us note that here we use a longer string for the column **#right** to give more weight to the CSS because we have previously defined a margin of 2 % with a pseudo-class. Without going into detail, I am only applying the classic CSS techniques.

We will now attack the bottom row of modules... Warning! It's necessary to identify the HTML structure because, in this case, we don't have 4 modules aligned in the same block, but 4 blocks which contain 1 module each. To simplify :

```
<div id="modulesbottom">
    <div id="modulebottom1" class="flexiblemodule">
        <jdoc:include type="modules" name="position-12" style="xhtml" />
    </div>
    <div id="modulebottom2" class="flexiblemodule">
        <jdoc:include type="modules" name="position-12" style="xhtml" />
    </div>
    ...
</div>
```

Playing with the module classes will, therefore, be of no use here! Rather, we are going to use the class " flexiblemodule " to place modules and also add a small margin below

to vertically space them out.

```
#modulesbottom .flexiblemodule {  
    float: none;  
    width: auto !important;  
}  
  
#modulesbottom .flexiblemodule > div.inner {  
    margin: 0 0 10px 0;  
}
```

Have you seen what the web site looks like? Not bad, don't you think ? All that is left is to put the finishing touches on the top menu and I believe that we have covered all the bases.

Quick note, in general, I advise you to not create more than one level of submenus. The more levels you have, the more difficult your browsing will be and the less accessible it will be. The ideal situation is to have one submenu, in which we place all the necessary links. With [Maximenu CK](#), we can organize the structure in columns and rows, leaving us free to be creative and play with the ergonomics.

Here is what our menu currently looks like on a 292px width :



It's not great ...

What I want to do is list all the items of the menu one under the other and apply an orange, graded background to each of them to make them look like buttons.

Let's go!

First, we begin by removing the background and the shadow on the main container, without forgetting to delete the fixed height:

```
#nav {  
    background: none !important;  
    box-shadow: none !important;  
    -moz-box-shadow: none !important;  
    padding: 0 !important;  
    margin-bottom: 10px;  
    height: auto;  
}
```

Then, I reuse the applied css's to the DIV #nav and I add some margin definitions

```
#nav ul.menu li.level1 {  
    width: 292px !important;  
    height: 35px;  
    margin: 3px 0 !important;  
    padding: 5px 0 5px 0;  
    border-bottom: none !important;  
    float: none;  
    background: #ffa245;  
    background-image: url("bloclnav-gradient.svg");  
    background-image: -o-linear-gradient(center top,#ffa245, #ff6a00 100%);  
    background-image: -webkit-gradient(linear, left bottom, left top,#ffa245, #ff6a00  
100%);  
    background-image: -moz-linear-gradient(center top,#ffa245, #ff6a00 100%);  
    background-image: linear-gradient(center top,#ffa245, #ff6a00 100%);  
    -pie-background: linear-gradient(center top,#ffa245, #ff6a00 100%);  
    border-radius: 5px;  
    -moz-border-radius: 5px;  
    -o-border-radius: 5px;  
    -webkit-border-radius: 5px;  
    box-shadow: #363636 0px 2px 3px 0px;  
    -moz-box-shadow: #363636 0px 2px 3px 0px;  
    -webkit-box-shadow: #363636 0px 2px 3px 0px;  
}
```

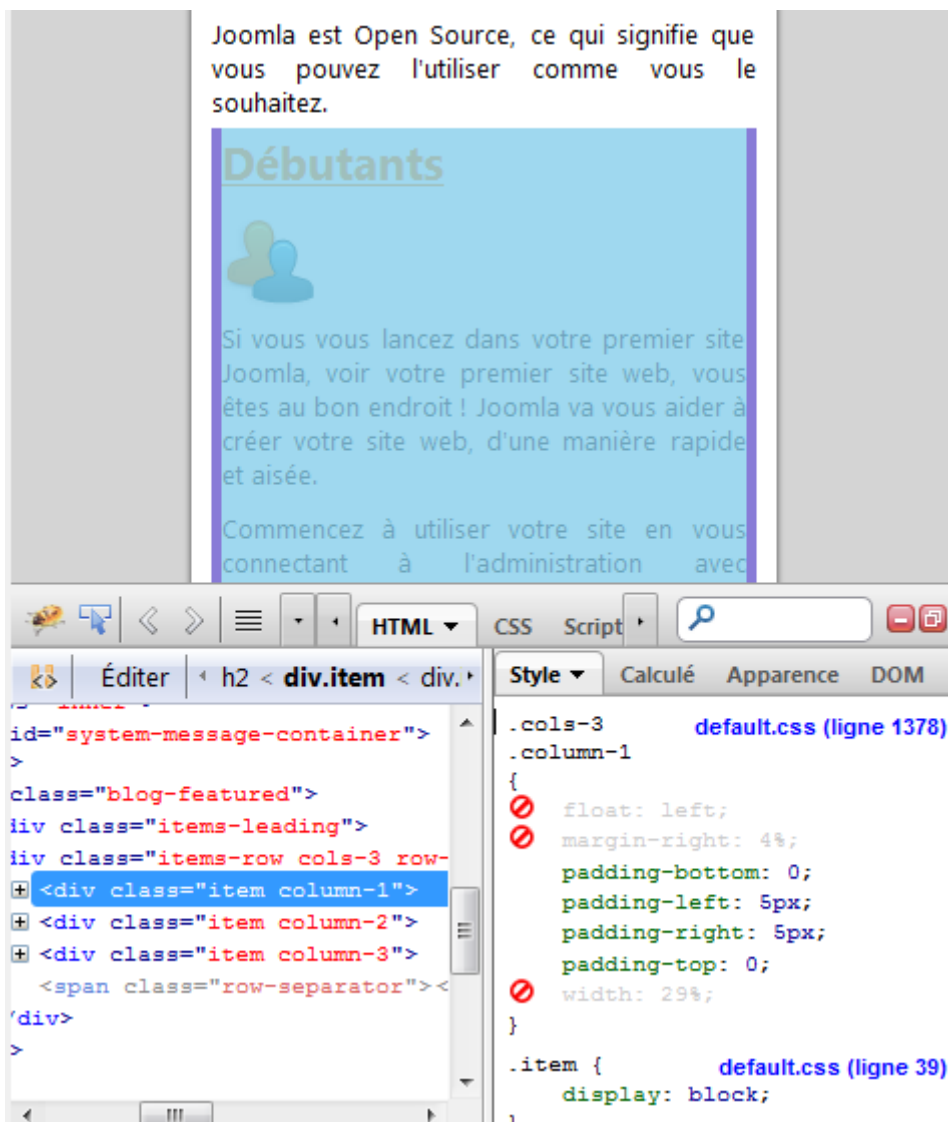
And we obtain an attractive menu!



I believed that we were done, but, in fact, there is still a detail that bothers me: the alignment of the columns on the homepage in blog mode. It is the kind of detail that you will have to adjust by yourself for every page as soon as you see that something is not quite right.

A quick use of Firebug to inspect the elements, and I can right away see that it is the CSS's of the template that manage the alignment of columns. By deleting **float:left**, the margins and the 29% width, I obtain a correct result :

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I will, therefore, do the same in my css:

```
#center .items-row .item {  
    width: auto;  
    float: none;  
    margin: 0;  
}
```

While we're at it, I will give you the css's necessary to adapt the contact form

```
.contact form fieldset dt {  
    max-width: 80px;  
}  
  
.contact input, .contact textarea {  
    max-width: 160px;  
}
```

A quick look at the result :

Nom du contact

Contact

Formulaire de Contact

Envoyer un e-mail. Tous les champs précédés d'un * sont obligatoires.

Nom *

E-mail *

Sujet *

Message *

Envoyer une ☐ copie à votre adresse

Envoyer

And the final result :

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We are finally finished! You can now see that it isn't s hard. You just need to add a few lines of CSS to adapt your web site to the various peripheral resolutions that exist.

Nothing limits you in the redesign of your site, except your motivation and your knowledge in CSS coding. Indeed, I didn't approach the subject of aspects of the CSS language that define the "weight" of a property. The CSS is very complex and I believe no book or tutorial could train you better than your own experience with using this language.

5. Bonus - Adjusting submenus in Maximenu CK

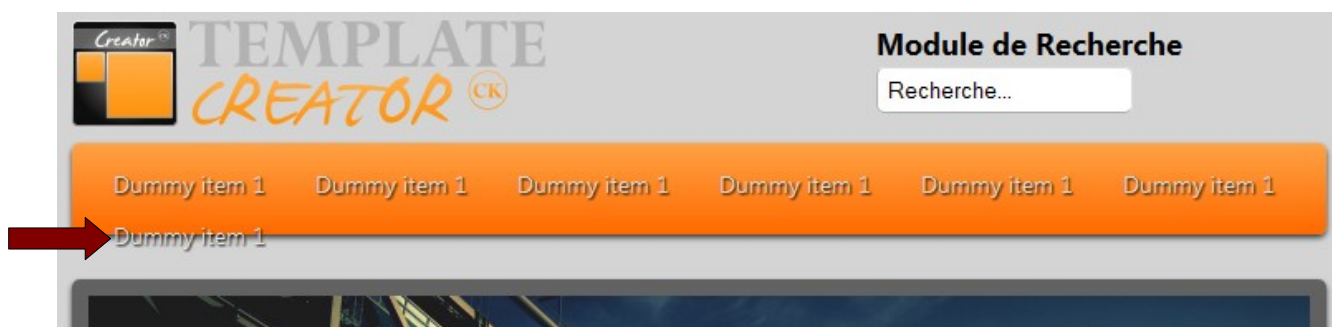
In attempting to polish up our site, we created a rather simple menu template, containing only a few items. Now, we are going to have fun with a menu that is a little more complicated. Here is the outline of the new menu:



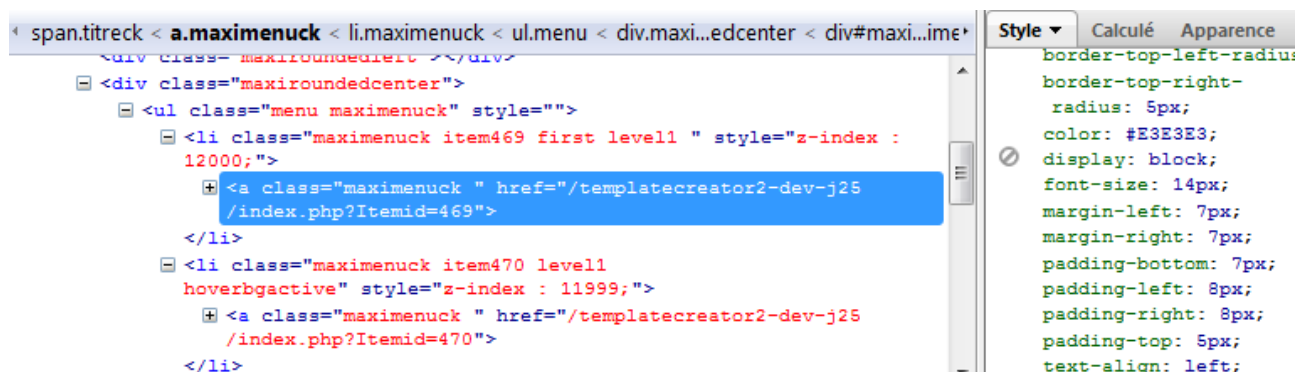
I created the structure of the submenu with the help of **plugin Maximenu params**, which allows us to easily create columns and define an HTML tag for the elements. So, I created column titles < h2 >

[Download the plugin Maximenu params](#)

If we reduce the width of the screen, this is what it looks like :



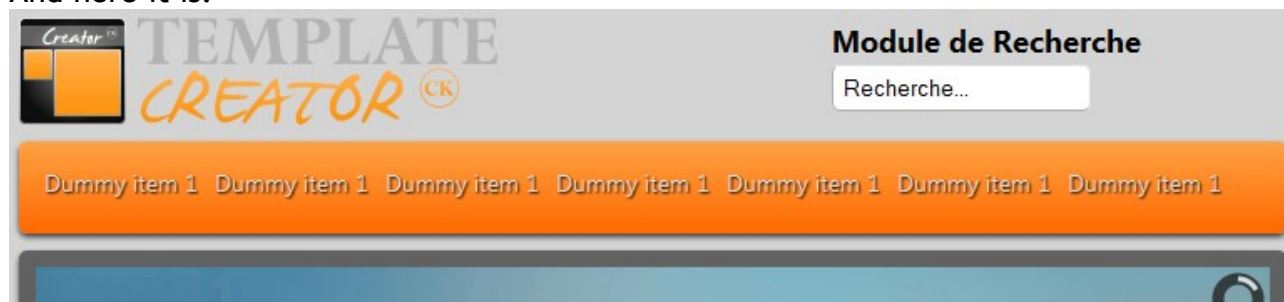
We now have the last item on the menu that has moved down. We need to remedy this problem. By inspecting it with Firebug, we can see that the margins are applied to the element < a >:



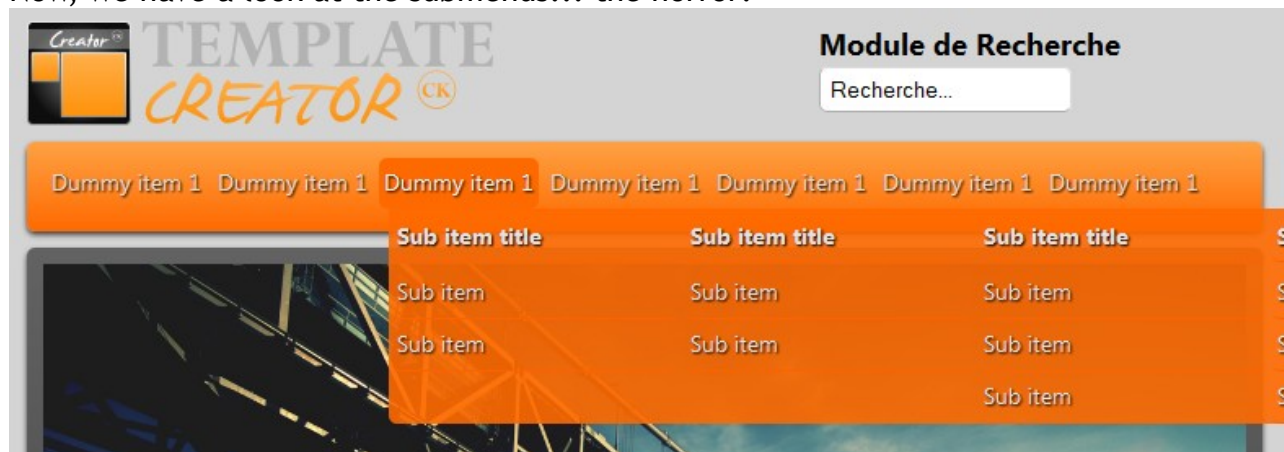
So, we add CSS's to reduce the margins

```
#nav ul.menu li a, #nav ul.menu li span.separator {
    margin-left: 2px;
    margin-right: 2px;
    padding-left: 3px;
    padding-right: 3px;
}
```

And here it is:

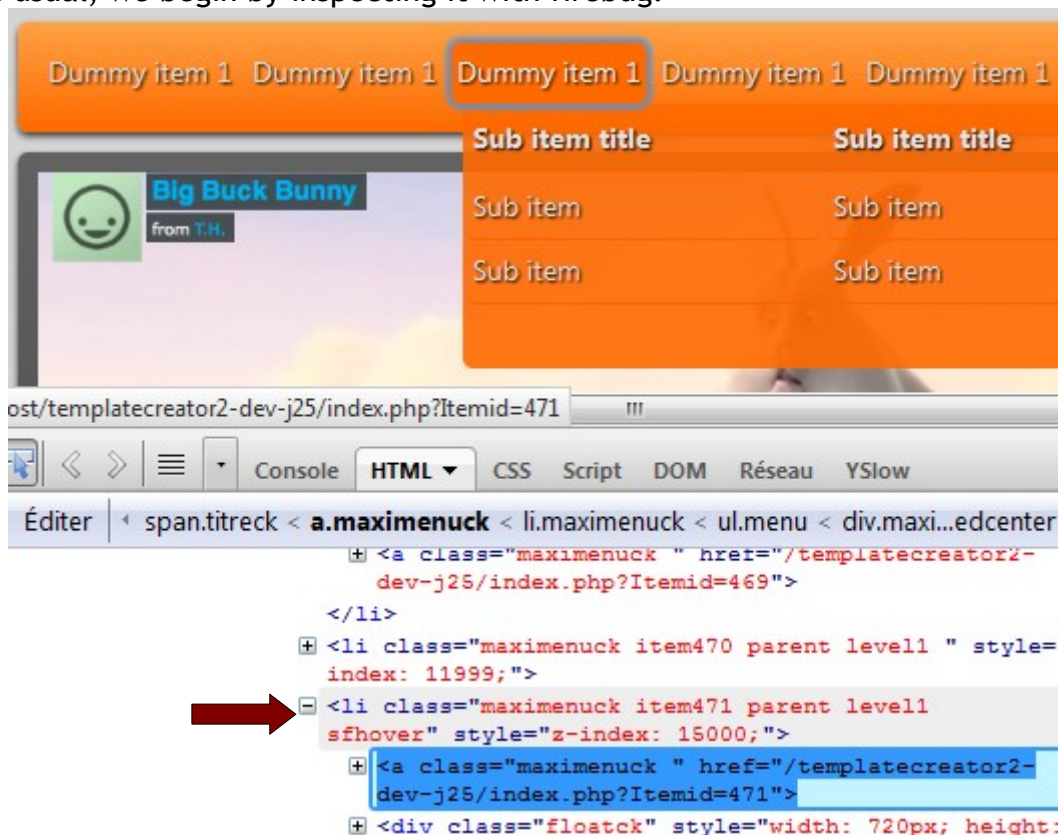


Now, we have a look at the submenus... the horror!



A first problem is that the whole submenu appears shifted with regard to the parent item, and we see that everything hangs over because the width of the page isn't large enough to show everything.

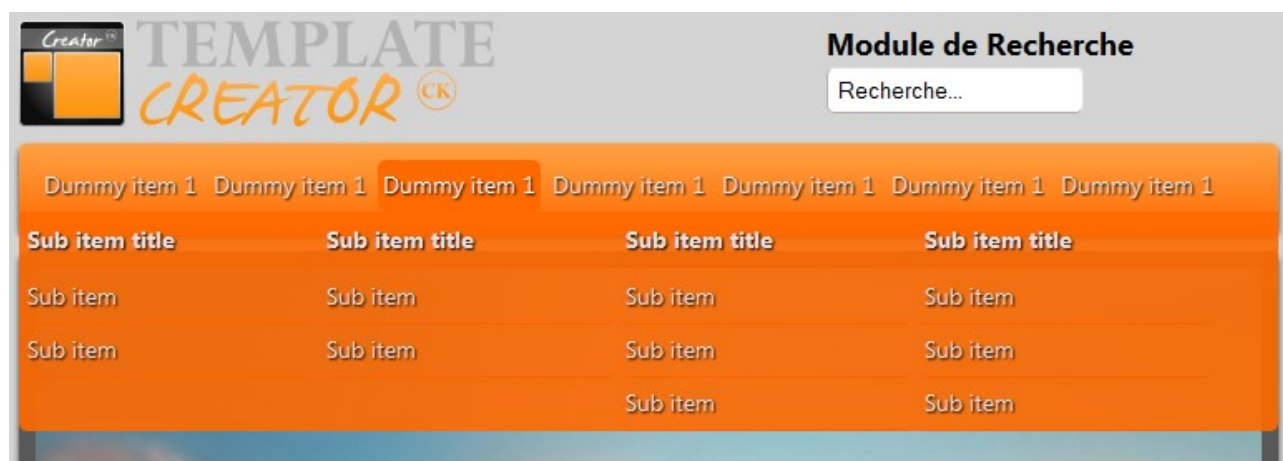
Well, as usual, we begin by inspecting it with firebug:



It's important to remember the number of the parent element, in this case **item471**. We are going to use it to redefine the margins of the submenu. We are going to place the submenu to the far left of the page. To be make it asthetically pleasing, we will widen the submenu to the width of the site.

```
#nav ul.menu li.item471 > div.floatck {
    margin-left: -214px;
    width: 758px !important;
}
```

Here's the result we obtain:



All you have to do is test the margin values and refresh the page to find the optimal depiction. In my test I arrived at the value of-214px.

We continue our tests and we reduce the window even further to pass to the lower resolution design. Here is a quick glance at the menu:



We have the parental(main ?) links over 2 lines, but that isn't too bad. It would be difficult to do it any other way.

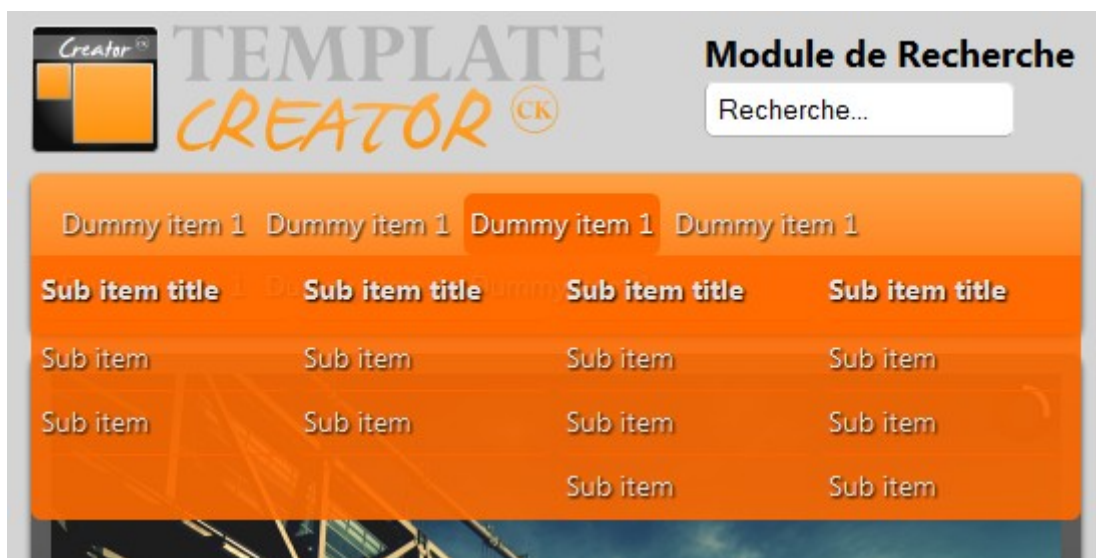
On the other hand, for the submenu, once again we have some work to do!! Oh shoot, it's necessary to re-define the parameters for everything, every time? Yes, almost everything. Look at the left margin. It is already good! We just have to adapt the widths of the columns. In my configuration they are of 180px by default. So, we are going to reduce them as much as possible ($524/4 = 131\text{px}$).

```
#nav ul.menu li.item471 > div.floatck div.maximenuck2 {
    width: 131px !important;
}
```

```
#nav ul.menu li.item471 > div.floatck {  
    width: 524px !important;  
}
```

Pasting these CSS's directly in your site will probably have no effect. You have to adapt them to your own menu items. Here it's only been adapted to item 471.

Here is our new result :



It's all good !

Shall we go on ? Why not ? We reduce the width of the window even further... and then once again (but it's the last time!) we have to re-work it all.



Hmmm, difficult, how should we do this? Personally, I am going to shorten the submenu by deleting titles of columns and aligning all the items one under the other.

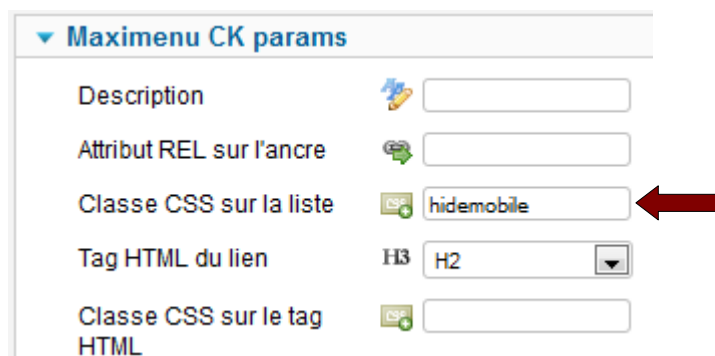
How do we delete titles? Two possible methods :

- Either we use firebug to identify the item number of the element we want to hide and we apply the CSS's (example with item 490):






```
#nav ul.menu li.item490 {  
    display:none;  
}
```

- or we use the capacities of the [plugin Maximenu params](#) to manage all the elements we want to hide with a CSS class. This is the method that I am going to describe.

In the edition of the menu links, which allow the creation of the column titles, I am going to modify the parameters in the **Maximenu CK Params** tab and add a class **hidemobile** on the list element < li >:



▼ Maximenu CK params

Description		<input type="text"/>
Attribut REL sur l'ancre		<input type="text"/>
Classe CSS sur la liste		<input type="text" value="hidemobile"/>
Tag HTML du lien	H3	H2 
Classe CSS sur le tag HTML		<input type="text"/>

I, therefore, add this class on all the column titles and then, in the CSS, I just have to call upon this class to tell it not to show itself :

```
#nav ul.menu li.hidemobile {  
    display:none;  
}
```

Then, we realign the margins and the width of the submenu, as well as the width of every column:

```
#nav ul.menu li.item471 > div.floatck div.maximenuck2 {  
    width: 292px !important;  
}  
  
#nav ul.menu li.item471 > div.floatck {  
    width: 292px !important;  
    margin-left: 0px;  
}
```

I decided to fix the column width at 292px on **div.maximenuck2**, but if you have short titles, you can use a width of 146px to align 2 columns on the same line in order to save space in terms of height.

And the result in images:



And now the bonus is finished! I hope that you enjoyed it. Now you can personalize your display menu as you wish. You can also see that even if the plugin `Maximenu` params is not necessary, it is very useful to add a generic class that pilots the display. In this way, if you have to change or add an item, it will suffice to add it to this class and it will behave as the others without the need to modify the CSS's every time.

6. Bonus 2 - Detection of User-Agent for the Slideshow

You still want more ? What a thirst for knowledge! ;)

Now we are going to see how to optimize our page... As seen previously, the slideshow is hidden for the smaller resolutions, but it is always loaded within the page! This weighs it down enormously. As such, we are going to use the detection abilities of **User-Agent** to fix this problem.

The principle is simple. We can detect the type of device used to visit the site thanks to the variable PHP: `$_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT']`.

Here is a list of the most current values for mobiles:

```
'iPhone'  
'iPod'  
'iPad'  
'android'  
'blackberry'  
'Windows Phone'  
'symbian'  
'series60'  
'palm'
```

Thus, we use a simple PHP condition to detect if the value is present:

```
if (strstr($_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT'], 'iPhone')) { ... }
```

Enough talk, let us practice! We edit the `index.php` file of the template to add this condition :

```
<?php  
$isMobile = false;  
if (isset($_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT']) && (strstr($_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT'], 'iPhone')  
  
    || strstr($_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT'], 'iPod')  
    || strstr($_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT'], 'blackberry')  
    || strstr($_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT'], 'Windows Phone')  
    || strstr($_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT'], 'Android')) {  
    $isMobile = true;  
}  
?>
```

A few explanations: first of all, I declared a variable `$isMobile` with the value **false**, thus, by default, we are not on a mobile. Then if we detect a mobile we change the value to **true**. As such, all that remains to do is to just use this variable in a condition to manage the display.

As we already have a condition of `countmodules` for the slideshow position, I just add

the verification « we are not on a mobile » to post the module:

```
<?php if ($this->countModules('position-5') AND !$isMobile) : ?>
<div id="slideshow">
    <jdoc:include type="modules" name="position-5" style="xhtml" />
</div>
<div class="clr"></div>
<?php endif; ?>
```

And there you have it! In this case, it was rather fast to implement and it can be very practical to refine the load time of the page with mobiles.

If, however, you want to use the slideshow on mobiles, be aware that my module [Slideshow CK](#) is compatible with mobiles and we can even navigate between the images by sliding the finger across the screen.

7. Used extensions

7.1) *Template Creator CK*

As already explained, I used my Template Creator CK component to create the template. In doing so, I have a template for which the source code is accessible and I can modify it without difficulties.

You can download Template Creator CK at <http://www.template-creator.com/>

[Link to Template Creator CK in the JED](#)

7.2) *Maximenu CK*

To generate the horizontal menu, I use my Maximenu CK module, which allows your site to have a drop-down menu mootools with organization of submenus in columns and rows.

You can download Maximenu CK on Joomla!fr

[Link to Maximenu CK in the JED](#)

7.3) *Slideshow CK*

To display a slideshow, I use another one of my extensions, Slideshow CK, which is based on a [script JQuery of Pixedelic](#), which itself allows us to display a slideshow designed so that it adapts itself to the width of the container. Furthermore, we can surf between images with our finger.

You can download Slideshow CK on Joomla!fr

[Link to Slideshow CK in the JED](#)

8. Resources

Raphaël Goetter's excellent book :

<http://www.goetter.fr/livres/css-avancees/>

A tutorial on Alsacrérations :

<http://www.alsacreations.com/astuce/lire/1177-une-feuille-de-styles-de-base-pour-le-web-mobile.html>

The tutorial from Line25.com :

<http://line25.com/tutorials/create-a-responsive-web-design-with-media-queries>

....?? What is happening ? Is there another page ?

Pssssttt! Hey have you looked at your images ? You know the big images which are more than 292px, how do you think they are going to look on the small design?



Oops! Lets go one last time before we part, in the first condition
@media screen and (max-width: 960px) {

add this little CSS line

```
img {  
    max-width: 100%;  
}
```

And hop! The ballot is played, look for yourself :



We simply told the images to not exceed the width of the container. Now that is enough, I leave you to have fun!

Do not hesitate to go to <http://www.joomlack.fr>, and tell your friends about it!

If you want the latest live news of what's new on Joomlack, I advise you to subscribe to my Twitter account:

<http://twitter.com/ced1870>

see you soon...

Cédric KEIFLIN alias ced1870