



Remove Fluff Files After Joomla Updates

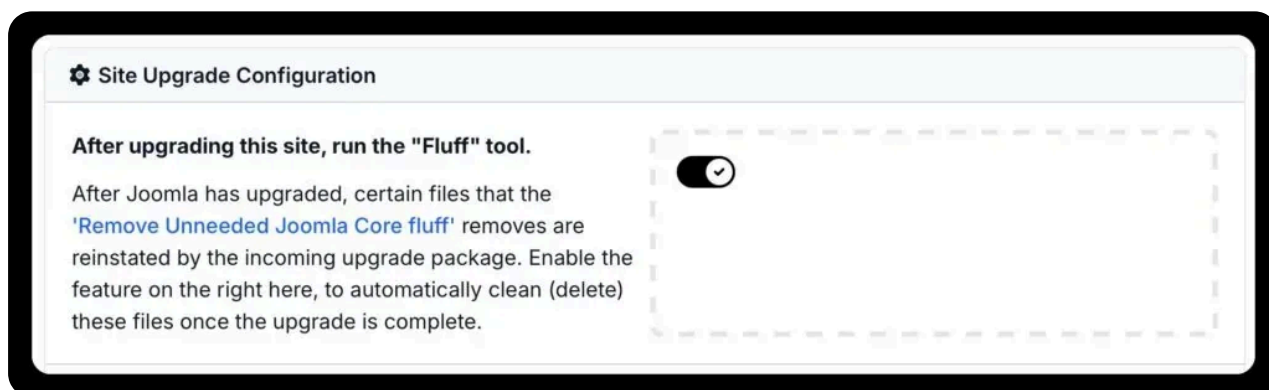
mySites.guru can automatically delete leftover installation folders, readme files and other fluff left behind after Joomla core updates.

Phil E. Taylor | 16 March 2026

"What is fluff??? – Unneeded files that Joomla distributes that you can safely remove from your site."

Remove the Joomla fluff after each update

Lots of people asked us to remove "Fluff files" automatically on upgrading Joomla – well, you can now opt in for this on the **Settings Tab** of your **Manage Site** pages in your account at <https://mysites.guru>. If you're on Joomla 5.4+, you should also check whether automated core updates are enabled on your sites, since those can trigger updates (and leave fluff behind) without anyone touching the admin panel.



Removing these files won't damage your site - it just tidies up your web space. There's no risk in leaving them, but removing them is good practice.

You can check the status of these files at any time on the Snapshot Tab.

After a snapshot is taken in mySites.guru, we display the number of files that are found in the snapshot results page

Files Information

6 Issues	Remove Unneeded Joomla Core "fluff"	 Learn More Investigate
OK	Akeeba Kickstart Should Not Be Left In WebSpace	 Learn More Investigate
OK	Forum Post Assistant Should Not Be Left In WebSpace	 Learn More Investigate

The "Learn More" button explains the check and the technical details. The "Investigate" button deletes the fluff files from your site.



Excellent!

I checked your webSpace and never found anything that looked like "fluff" from Joomla installations

The following files were checked and were correctly not present.

/.drone.yml	Not Present
/robots.txt.dist	Not Present
/web.config.txt	Not Present
/joomla.xml	Not Present
/build.xml	Not Present
/LICENSE.txt	Not Present
/README.txt	Not Present
/htaccess.txt	Not Present
/LICENSES.php	Not Present
/configuration.php-dist	Not Present
/CHANGELOG.php	Not Present
/COPYRIGHT.php	Not Present
/CREDITS.php	Not Present
/INSTALL.php	Not Present
/LICENSE.php	Not Present
/CONTRIBUTING.md	Not Present

The files which we will remove are:

/.appveyor.yml

```
/.drone.yml
/.editorconfig
/.git-blame-ignore-revs
/.gitignore
/.php-cs-fixer.dist.php
/.travis.yml
/build.xml
/CHANGELOG.php
/CODE_OF_CONDUCT.md
/configuration.php-dist
/CONTRIBUTING.md
/COPYRIGHT.php
/CREDITS.php
/cypress.config.dist.js
/htaccess.txt
/INSTALL.php
/joomla.xml
/LICENSE.php
/LICENSE.txt
/LICENSES.php
/package.json
/package-lock.json
/phpunit.xml.dist
/phpunit-pgsql.xml.dist
/README.md
/README.txt
/renovate.json
/robots.txt.dist
/ruleset.xml
/travis-ci-phpunit.xml
/web.config.txt
/images/banners/osmbanner1.png
/images/banners/osmbanner2.png
/images/banners/shop-ad-books.jpg
/images/banners/shop-ad.jpg
/images/banners/white.png
/images/headers/blue-flower.jpg
/images/headers/maple.jpg
/images/headers/raindrops.jpg
/images/headers/walden-pond.jpg
/images/headers/windows.jpg
/images/joomla_black.gif
```

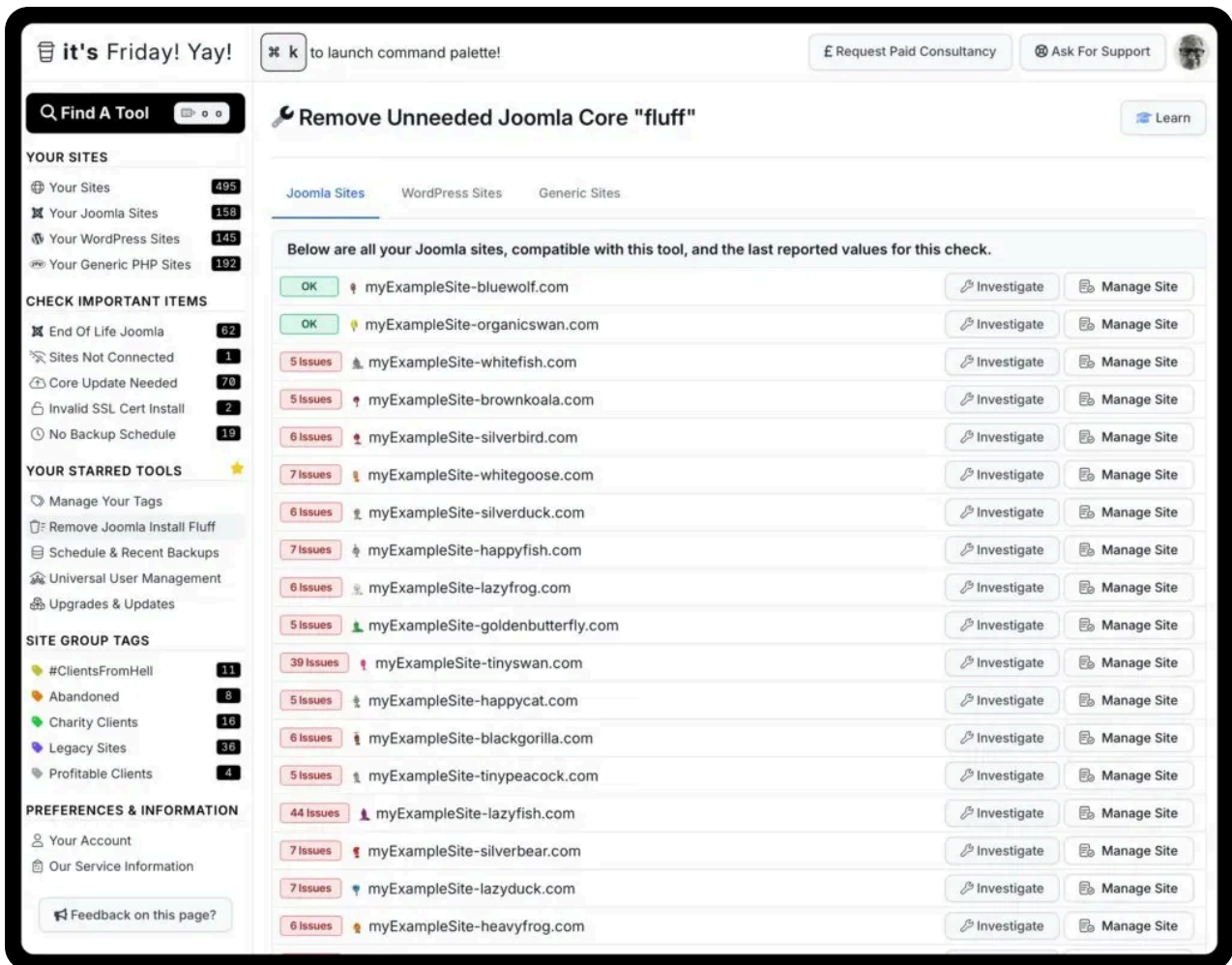
```
/images/joomla_black.png
/images/joomla_green.gif
/images/joomla_logo_black.jpg
/images/powered_by.png
/images/sampleddata/fruitshop/apple.jpg
/images/sampleddata/fruitshop/bananas_2.jpg
/images/sampleddata/fruitshop/fruits.gif
/images/sampleddata/fruitshop/tamarind.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/animals/180px_koala_ag1.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/animals/180px_wobbegong.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/animals/200px_phyllopteryx_taeniolatus1.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/animals/220px_spottedquoll_2005_seanmcclean.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/animals/789px_spottedquoll_2005_seanmcclean.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/animals/800px_koala_ag1.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/animals/800px_phyllopteryx_taeniolatus1.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/animals/800px_wobbegong.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/banner_cradle.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/landscape/120px_pinnacles_western_australia.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/landscape/120px_rainforest_bluemountainsnw.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/landscape/180px_ormiston_pound.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/landscape/250px_cradle_mountain_seen_from_barn_blu
/images/sampleddata/parks/landscape/727px_rainforest_bluemountainsnw.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/landscape/800px_cradle_mountain_seen_from_barn_blu
/images/sampleddata/parks/landscape/800px_ormiston_pound.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/landscape/800px_pinnacles_western_australia.jpg
/images/sampleddata/parks/parks.gif
```

"Please note, just because we call the License file fluff, doesn't mean we believe the license Joomla is distributed under is fluff – just to be clear 😊 The GPL recommends that the text of the license is distributed with the Open Source of the product, but you don't need it there cluttering up your webspace."

We did try to get the Joomla project to see sense, but failed 😞

Can You View Fluff File Status Across All Joomla Sites?

The Ultimate Toolset at mySites.guru allows you to view how many fluff files are on each Joomla site at a glance also. like this:



View the fluff files in Joomla across many sites

Does mySites.guru Check Technical Requirements Too?

Planning an upgrade? mySites.guru can check whether your sites meet the technical requirements for Joomla 5 and Joomla 6 before you hit the update button - across all your connected sites at once.

What About Hidden Files?

Speaking of tidying up your webspace - fluff files aren't the only things hiding in plain sight. Hackers plant dot-prefixed hidden files and folders that most file managers never show you. The mySites.guru audit surfaces them all in seconds.

Post-update cleanup is part of our [guide to managing updates at scale](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

What are Joomla fluff files?

Fluff files are unneeded files that Joomla distributes with its core - such as README.txt, LICENSE.txt, and sample data images - that serve no purpose on a live site and can safely be deleted.

Will removing fluff files break my Joomla site?

No - removing these files only tidies up your web space and has no effect on how your site functions.

How do I enable automatic fluff file removal in mySites.guru?

Go to the Settings Tab of your Manage Site page in your mySites.guru account and opt in to automatic fluff file removal after Joomla updates.

Get Your Free Site Audit

See how your WordPress and Joomla sites measure up.
No credit card required.

<https://manage.mysites.guru/en/register>

Get in touch

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