Introduction



The idea for this plugin came about while building my girlfriend's photography website. I wanted to implement an easy to use gallery that could mimic how sites like PixieSet display images - so basically how Masonry does it. I also wanted to just use the OctoberCMS media manager to upload my images, I didn't want to use a separate backend page for that. I checked out all of the current gallery plugins available for OctoberCMS and none of them hit the mark.

So, I found UniteGallery.js, and integrated that with a simple PHP function to cycle through all of the images uploaded into a folder using media manager - I actually have a blog article on how I did this.

Well, as I built more and more websites with OctoberCMS, I started working on a dedicated plugin to help me out. And here we are, with a working "November Gallery" plugin that (currently) supports two "visualization engines", UniteGallery JS and Swiper.

I hope you find it as useful as I do!

> I would like to ask you for one favor. I've worked long and hard to make this available for you, and you are welcome to use it for free for non-commercial purposes (there is also a paid "Professional" version). **If you have any issues, please don't leave a review if you don't think this is a five-star product**. **Reach out to me first** by raising an issue on github, or by adding a comment to this page. Give me a few days to respond - I may get busy with other stuff but I will get back to you. Thank you!

November Gallery Pro vs. Personal

This plugin is available in two editions:

1. The Personal Edition is a free plugin meant for non-profit use, such as:
    2. Building a personal website that is not offering a product or services for sale
    3. Academic use

    4. Use by non-profit organizations

2. The Pro Edition is meant for commercial use, such as:
    1. A website selling or promoting products or services
    2. Use by a for-profit organization

In terms of functionality, the two plugins are identical. November Gallery Pro is available from the OctoberCMS Marketplace. The Personal Edition is available from GitHub. You will need to install it yourself - follow the README on the GitHub project page.

> Be among the first 10 to purchase the plugin on the October marketplace and use code **FIRST10** to get **10% off**!
>
> Want more? **Get 40% off** by being among the first 10 to answer my riddle.
>
> One of my favorite photographers had a famous anecdote about driving along a highway with his two assistants after a long and not particularly successful day of photography. It was dusk and he was driving fast when suddenly he realized that a perfect photographic moment was approaching. He quickly pulled over and set up his gear - but in the rush he couldn't find his light meter. Knowing that he has mere seconds to get it right he decided to calculate the exposure using a system that he had developed with a friend, a system that photographers use even today to help anticipate the final results of their shot. He had one point of reference that he was sure of: the moon. Knowing the brightness of the moon he quickly calculated the correct exposure and took the shot. Considering that the moment truly was special, he tried to flip his film over to take the second shot but by then the light was gone.
>
> So my riddle is: *what is the name of the community where he took this iconic photograph?* Enter it in all capital letters when purchasing the plugin to get the discount :-)
>
> *Offer expires November 30th, 2019. Limit 1 coupon per customer.*

What is November Gallery?

November Gallery is essentially a scaffolding over various Javascript-based visualization libraries. JS is great for displaying the images because it runs in the user's browser and can immediately react to changes in its environment, for example, a user turning their phone from vertical to horizontal, or resizing their browser. What November Gallery does is provide a framework within OctoberCMS for managing your images and building templates that include gallery "definitions". From an admin's/site content editor's perspective, you (1) get a "Gallery" page in your "backend" (that sounds wrong) and

(2) you get various components that you can drag-and-drop onto your CMS pages/partials.

Additionally, it also provides (3) "Snippets" to use in your "Static" pages (if you have the Static Pages plugin installed), and (4) it also integrates with the RainLab Blog Component, if you have it. It also provides for various options on a back-end configuration page.

For rendering your galleries, November Gallery provides you with various options, but it makes use of two JS libraries to do so. The various components it makes available to you really just help with configuring how the JS scripts are run so that you get a "swiper" or a "popup" gallery etc. You do not have to understand *how* these JS libraries work, but reading about the available configuration options will enable you to customize your galleries further than if you just use the options available through the November Gallery component property pages.

The Embedded Gallery Component

This gallery makes use of UniteGallery JS. Use it to show a gallery of thumbnails, or a gallery "embedded" into your page, with optional full-screen (lightbox-style) viewing.

> Use the Embedded Gallery for fix-size galleries or for showing clickable thumbnails arranged as tiles

Several gallery layouts are available:

Tiles

This gallery displays your images as clickable "tiles" that open a popup lightbox. It really looks best if your images have differing dimensions, some tall, some landscape, some square, etc. You can choose from four tile layouts: Columns, Justified, Nested, and Grid.

Carousel

This gallery displays your images in a row that (optionally) scrolls by itself.

Combined

This gallery combines a large image with a row of thumbnails. It works best if your images are relatively small and have the same dimensions. There are three themes available: Normal, Compact, and Grid.

Slider

This gallery is similar to the "Combined" gallery without a strip of thumbnails.

The Swiper Component

This makes use of Swiper. Use it to create a modern, responsive "swiper" that can be controlled easily from any device. Note that you can control any of the galleries by touch (or click-and-swipe using a mouse). Various transitions are available: "fade", "slide", "flip", "cube", etc..

> The Swiper Component is really geared towards responsive galleries because by default it fills whatever container it is in.

The Popup Lightbox Component

This makes use of a custom UniteGallery JS theme. Use it to create a pop-up lightbox of images that can be opened from a link or button (or any other clickable component) on the page. Two styles are available: "Wide" and "Compact".

The Video Gallery Component

Again, this makes use of UniteGallery JS. Use it to display videos inline. You can choose to upload your videos to your website or to show videos hosted on YouTube/Vimeo/Wistia.

Image List Only Component

Well, I probably could have given this component a better name. This component only loads the list of image files into a page variable, without rendering a gallery. Use this if you wish to write your own code for displaying the images, or if you wish to make use of some other JS library to render them.

Where to now?

The other pages in this book guide you in using the gallery. You also have several other resources available:

- The November Gallery Demo Site
- The November Gallery Source Code on GitHub
- Our OctoberCMS Blog Quick Start Guide

- Our introduction to The OctoberCMS Ecosystem

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