

## Re: PHP forum / external login

**Source:** <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/comp.lang.php/2004-03/2207.html>

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**From:** Jay Moore (*address\_at\_isp.tld*)

**Date:** 03/25/04

Date: Thu, 25 Mar 2004 14:05:22 GMT

Egon Schneider wrote:

> *Hi \**,  
>  
> *I have a a website running for a bunch of people, written in PHP.*  
> *Everyone has it's own login, I use some session-based authentication*  
> *mechanism and a MySQL database for storing the users / passwords /*  
> *....*  
>  
> *Now I'd like to integrate some 3rd-party-forum into this site,*  
> *something like phpBB or similar , could also be a more simple one, it*  
> *really doesn't matter. But the point is, I don't want that my users*  
> *have to login twice, once for my site, and a second time for the*  
> *forum. I want to have the forum and my site share the same (existing)*  
> *user database.*  
>  
> *So I need an (existing), preferably GPL'ed, preferably PHP-based forum*  
> *software with some kind of external login (e.g., using cookies, PHP*  
> *sessions, \$PHP\_AUTH\_USER, or whatever). Sure, I could hack one, but*  
> *isn't there a better solution?*  
>  
> *Does anyone of you such a forum? Please let me know...*  
>  
> *Thanks,*  
> *Egon Schneider.*

I found instead of creating a site and implementing a forum, it's easier to use the forum and implement the site around it. For example, one of the sites a buddy and I we were working on ([www.gmtuner.com](http://www.gmtuner.com)) has a phpbb-driven set of forums. Using the same cookies that phpbb uses, I am able to authenticate users on the rest of the site. If they login on the site, they're automatically logged in on the boards. If they log out on the boards, they're automatically logged out on the remainder of the website. The reverse also holds true.

I'm sure there's a way you could 'hack' phpbb to use your existing users database, but I think it'd be far easier to set up phpbb, and copy the logins and passwords (and whatever else is necessary) into the phpbb users database.

comp.lang.php: Re: PHP forum / external login

-Jay