Users and Groups [UsersGroups]

One of the major strengths of an ImpressCMS- or XOOPS-based site is the ability to create content and control access to that content by specific user groups. You can also control actions for various areas by user group. But, some thought needs to be put into this before forging ahead.

There are 3 basic groups that are part of every XOOPS or ImpressCMS installation - **Webmasters**, **Registered Users** and **Anonymous Users**. The user you created when you installed your site was placed in the Webmasters group and has complete access to all areas and functions on the site. As new users create accounts on your site, they are placed in the Registered Users group. Anyone not registered or not logged in is part of the Anonymous Users group.

Groups provide you with the means to control who has access to different types of content and different functions through a permissions system. You select which groups have access to each module, which groups can administer each module and which groups can view the various blocks for the modules. Individual modules also have permission settings for the various functions within that module.

You also have the ability to create your own custom groups and assign different permissions within your site. It is highly recommended you create at least one new group for users that will manage the day-to-day operations of your site and leave the default Webmasters group for system administration (installing, uninstalling and updating modules; setting group permissions and system preferences are tasks that are best left unavailable, except when needed).

Within your church or ministry, you may have groups like Pastors, Teachers, Staff, Ministry Leaders, Technical Advisors and Members. As you develop further participation on your site, you may find it helpful to have groups for each of the ministries you serve - youth, seniors, music, outreach, hospitality, confirmation, families, couples - it all depends on what fits your needs. Just remember, simpler is better and only make it as complex as it needs to be.

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