

Composer Web Installer

As a follow-up to [Composer Dependencies Revamp](#), let's plan how to make it easy for site admins to manage Composer dependencies via the web interface. This will be experimental for [Tiki17](#) and stable for [Tiki18](#).

For now, we focus on packages from <https://packagist.org/> [↗](#) but this will later be extended to

- [themes](#) [↗](#)
- eventually turn off mods <https://mods.tiki.org/> [↗](#), which is only used currently for [PluginR](#) to get around licensing issues (GPL vs LGPL).
- and perhaps translations.

So perhaps [Preferences](#) should have a new concept of external dependency?

Site admin experience

1. Can test that everything is OK: <https://getcomposer.org/doc/03-cli.md#diagnose> [↗](#)
 2. Activates a feature which depends on a lib that is not installed (ex.: mPDF)
 3. Graceful error message explaining what dependency is missing and indicates the license
 - If server permits, site admin is offered a link / button to install the dependency
 - Question: What do we do for versioning? Ex.: Do we let site admins install a Beta version? Ex. mPDF 7.x is in Beta. Do we want to promote? We do want to only promote versions that have explicitly tested by a community member. They could be suggested in the composer.json.dist? <https://getcomposer.org/doc/04-schema.md#suggest> [↗](#) And visible in the GUI somehow?
 - If server doesn't permit, indicate what setting to change
 - Manual instructions are also supplied (shell command or get this zip, and unzip in a specific directory)
 - Perhaps using the [Phar](#) format?
 4. System checks all worked well and reports success or failure.
 5. Ideally, secDB is updated (low priority): [All Tiki files have a feature and permission check which makes them only a risk if active](#) but we don't have this for external libs.
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- If vendor/ is later no longer there (purposely deleted or database is pointed to a fresh check-out of Tiki), a warning should appear on the top of tiki-admin.php

First packages to get working

- [mPDF](#)

 - `cp composer.json.dist composer.json php temp/composer.phar require mpdf/mpdf:~6.1`
- [PhantomJS and CasperJS](#) (will be interesting to test on Windows)
- [ViewerJS](#) [↗](#) but we have a problem: <https://github.com/cozy/ViewerJS/issues/1#issuecomment-291176600> [↗](#)
- [Expose IDS](#) [↗](#)
- php-saml

Priority is GNU/Linux but later Windows and OSX should be tested as well