



**LibreOffice**  
The Document Foundation

## Publishing Extensions for LibreOffice

## Copyright

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## Note for Mac users

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Some keystrokes and menu items are different on a Mac from those used in Windows and Linux. The table below gives some common substitutions for the instructions in this chapter. For a more detailed list, see the application Help.

<i>Windows/Linux</i>	<i>Mac equivalent</i>	<i>Effect</i>
<b>Tools</b> → <b>Options</b> menu selection	<b>LibreOffice</b> → <b>Preferences</b>	Access setup options
<i>Right-click</i>	<i>Control+click</i>	Opens a context menu
<i>Ctrl (Control)</i>	<i>⌘ (Command)</i>	Used with other keys
<i>F5</i>	<i>Shift+⌘+F5</i>	Opens the Navigator
<i>F11</i>	<i>⌘+T</i>	Opens the Styles & Formatting window

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## Introduction

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You can enhance the functionality of LibreOffice with extensions.

Just install these small programs into LibreOffice and, after restarting the office suit, you can enjoy the new facilities.

If you are an extension developer, you can use several languages to develop LibreOffice extensions. Supported programming languages are Basic, Python, JavaScript and Java. For a higher level of integrity and functionality you can use the C++, Python and Java languages to develop UNO complement-based extensions.

As UNO components, you can provide new implementations of existing functionality or specialized components like Calc Add-Ins, Add-Ons, DataPilots, Chart Add-Ins, or linguistic components: Spellchecker, Hyphenator or Thesaurus.

Also you can create extensions to provide additional Templates, Gallery images and Autotexts.

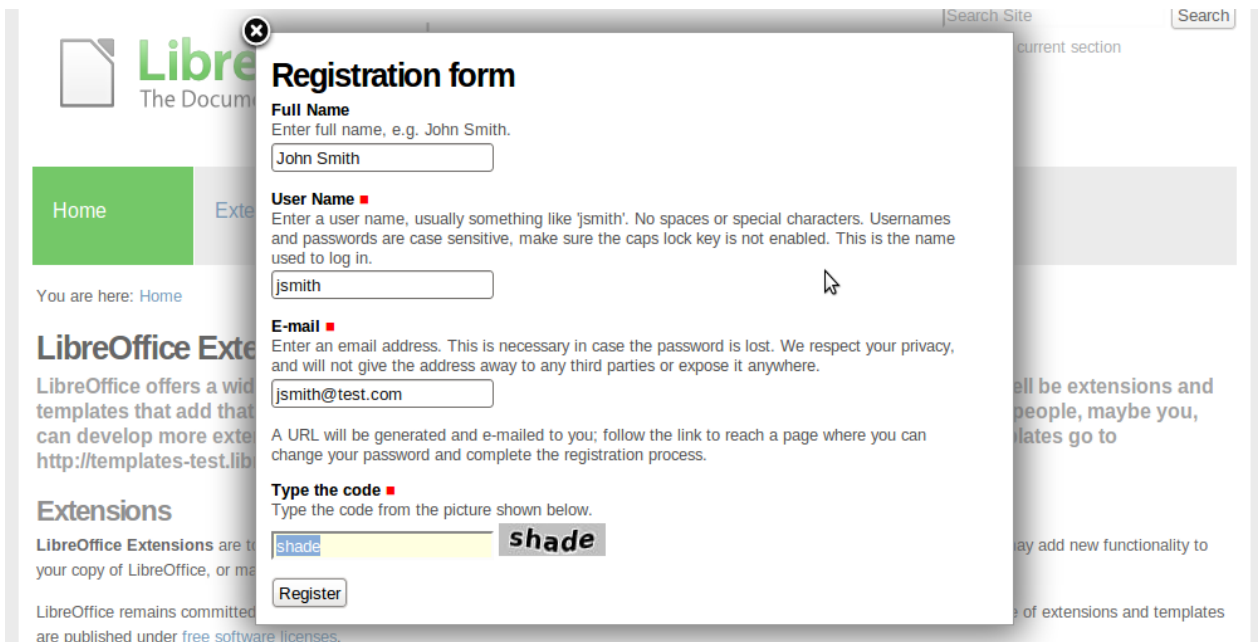
LibreOffice remains committed to providing users with quality software authored under *free software licenses*, and, as such, our catalog of extensions and templates is published under *free software licenses*. These extensions are free of charge.

This manual describes the basic steps for publishing an extension in the LibreOffice official extension repository, located at <http://extensions.libreoffice.org/>.

We recommend reading this document before you start to publish your extension, especially to gather the basic information you will need to fill the mandatory fields.

## Create a Software Project

First of all, you need to register yourself at the Extensions website. Open the Extensions web site in your browser and click on the **Register** button, in the right upper corner. Fill the *Registration form* and click **Register**.

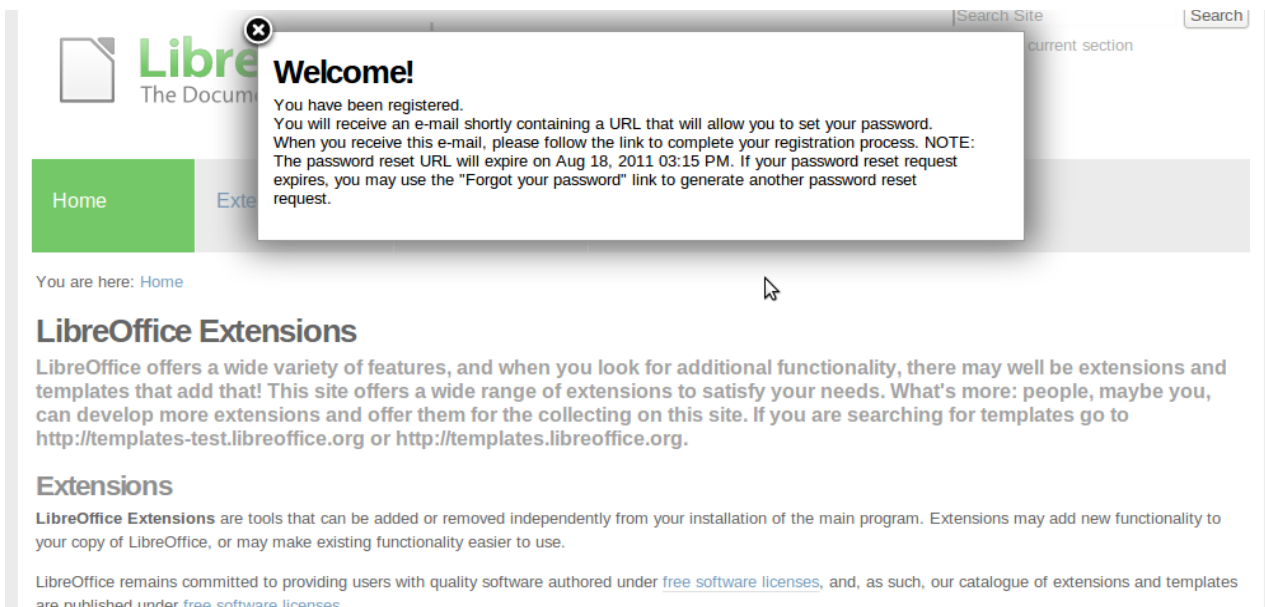


The screenshot shows the LibreOffice Extensions website with a registration form overlay. The form is titled "Registration form" and contains the following fields and instructions:

- Full Name**: Enter full name, e.g. John Smith. Input: John Smith
- User Name**: Enter a user name, usually something like 'jsmith'. No spaces or special characters. Usernames and passwords are case sensitive, make sure the caps lock key is not enabled. This is the name used to log in. Input: jsmith
- E-mail**: Enter an email address. This is necessary in case the password is lost. We respect your privacy, and will not give the address away to any third parties or expose it anywhere. Input: jsmith@test.com
- Type the code**: Type the code from the picture shown below. A CAPTCHA image shows the word "shade" in a stylized font. Input: shade

A "Register" button is located at the bottom of the form. The background shows the LibreOffice Extensions website navigation and content.

You should receive an e-mail containing a link to set your password and complete your registration process. You may set the password before the deadline date indicated in the e-mail. After this date, you may use the "Forgot your password" link to get a new password.



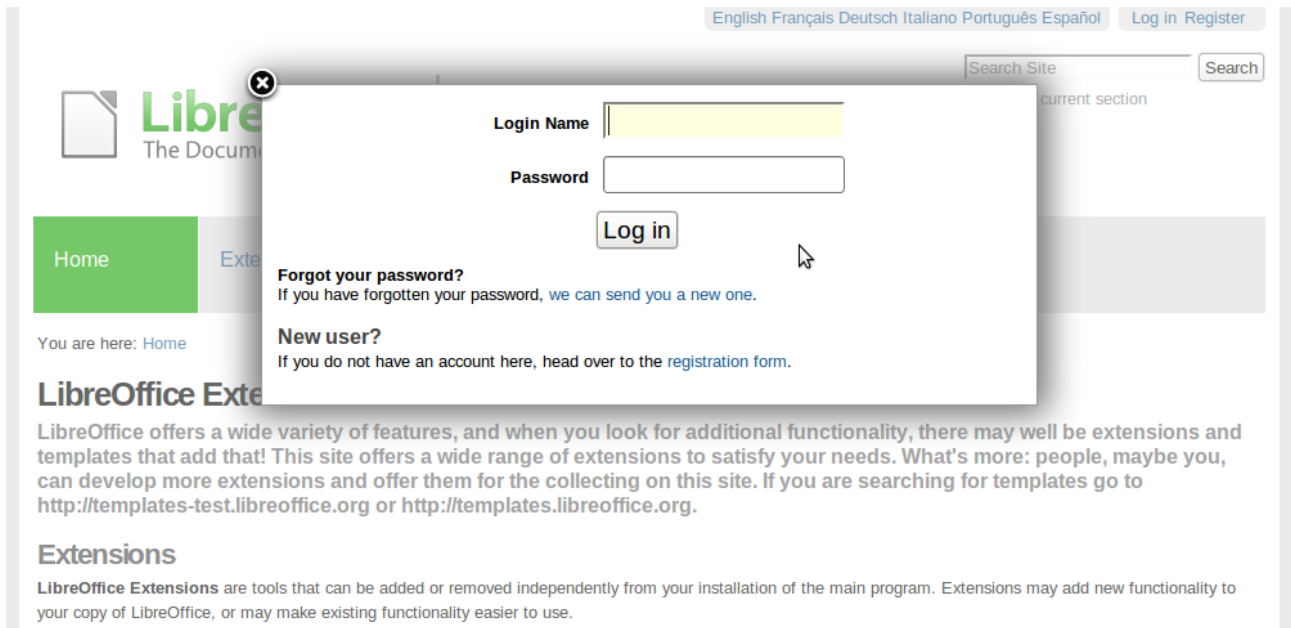
The screenshot shows the LibreOffice Extensions website with a "Welcome!" message overlay. The message reads:

**Welcome!**  
You have been registered.  
You will receive an e-mail shortly containing a URL that will allow you to set your password. When you receive this e-mail, please follow the link to complete your registration process. NOTE: The password reset URL will expire on Aug 18, 2011 03:15 PM. If your password reset request expires, you may use the "Forgot your password" link to generate another password reset request.

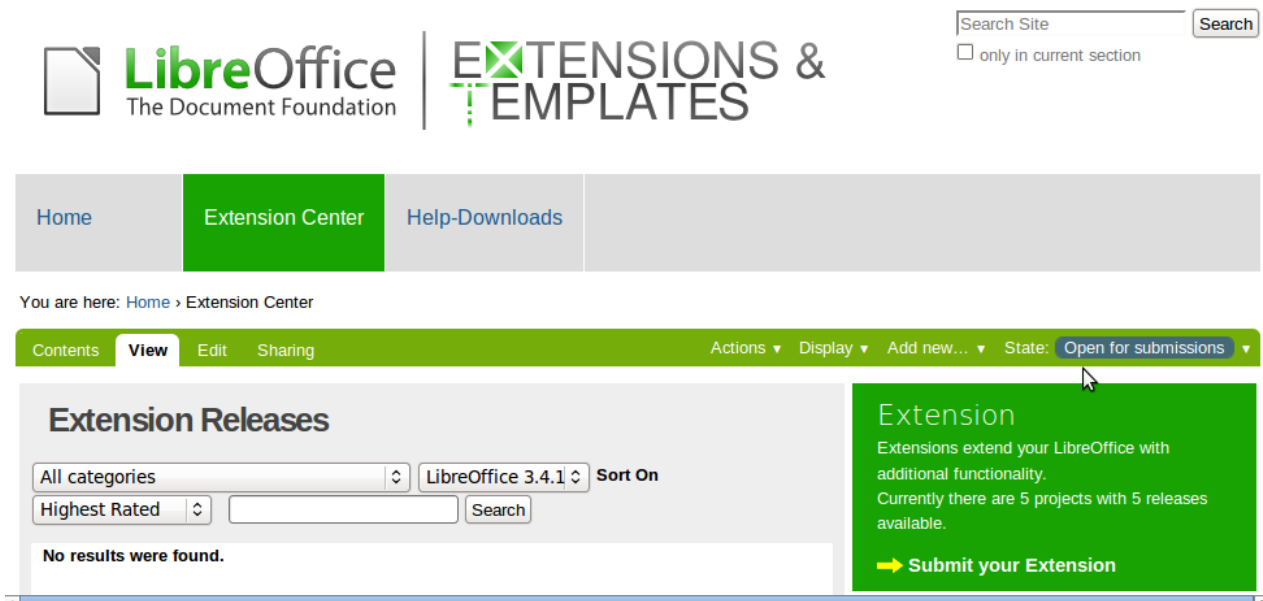
The background shows the LibreOffice Extensions website navigation and content.

After your registration process is complete, you will be able to log in and create a new extension project.

In the right upper corner, click on **Log in** to start.




Next, click on *Extension Center* and, after that, on **Submit your Extension**, on the green block to the right.



The *Add Software Project* form will appear.

In this form, you have some mandatory fields in the **Default** tab: **Title**, **Categories**, **Project Summary**, **Full Project Description** and **Contact address**. Each one has a short description below the field name.



**Caution** It is not recommended to use special characters like ">>", "<<", "&", "ç", "é" or anything similar in the **Title** field. Please use only plain English text.

In **Categories**, you can select more than one option by pressing *Ctrl*.

You can see a list of categories and their explanation in the table below.

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Example</b>
All modules	Extensions for all program modules	Extensions that could be used with any program module.
Gallery Contents	Extensions for all program modules	Pictures, Backgrounds, ...
Language Tools	Extensions for all program modules	Dictionaries and similar
Writer	Extensions for Writer	Extensions that could be used to extend the word processor module.
Calc	Extensions for Calc	Extensions that could be used to extend the spreadsheet module.
Impress	Extensions for Impress	Extensions that could be used to extend the presentation module.
Draw	Extensions for Draw	Extensions that could be used to extend the drawing module.
Base	Extensions for Base	Extensions that could be used to extend the database module.
Math	Extensions for Math	Extensions that could be used to extend the module for formula.

In **Contact address**, Use *mailto:* prefix for e-mail contact or *http://* prefix for a external web site.

In the next table, the *Add Software Project* form fields are listed.

<b>Field</b>	<b>Description</b>
Title	Title of the software project.
Categories	Categories that this item should appear in.
Project Summary	A short summary of the project.
Full Project Description	The complete project description.
Contact address	Contact address for the project. Use <code>mailto:</code> or <code>http://</code> prefix depending on what contact method you prefer.
Home page	If the project has an external home page, enter its URL.
URL of documentation repository	If the project has externally hosted documentation, enter its URL.
URL of version control repository	If the project has a code repository, enter its URL.
Issue tracker URL	If the project has an external issue tracker, enter its URL.
Support mailing list or forum URL	URL of mailing list information page/archives or support forum, if the project has one.
Logo	Add a logo for the project (or organization/company) by clicking the 'Browse' button. Max 150x75 pixels (will be resized if bigger).
Logo link	The URL the logo should link to, if applicable.
Screenshot	Add a screenshot by clicking the 'Browse' button. Max 800x600 (will be resized if bigger).

After filling in the form, click **Save**.

**Caution**



Please make sure that the **Language** field on the *Metadata* page of your project is **Language neutral!** Otherwise the project will not be visible to users with another language setting in their browser.

Your Extension project will be created. However, at this time, you can not add releases, documentation or feature proposals. To achieve that, you need to submit your project for approval. To do this, click on **State: Submit for approval** link, in the right side of the green bar.

The screenshot shows the LibreOffice Extension Center interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Home, Extension Center (highlighted in green), and Help-Downloads. Below this, a breadcrumb trail reads 'You are here: Home > Extension Center > Fixed values for Calc'. A secondary navigation bar contains 'Contents', 'View' (highlighted), 'Edit', 'Sharing', 'Actions', 'Display', 'Add new...', and 'State: Unapproved project'. The main content area features the title 'Fixed values for Calc' by Gustavo Pacheco, last modified on Aug 11, 2011. A description states: 'This extension creates two menu items in Calc to insert current date or current time in the selected cell as a fixed value.' Below the description, a message informs the user: 'You can not add releases, documentation or feature proposals until the project itself is approved, make sure you submit it for approval when the relevant project information has been entered.' There are 'Like' and 'Dislike' buttons with a count of '0 likes, 0 dislikes'. A 'Project Description' section follows, explaining that after installation, users should go to 'Insert > Fixed Values' and choose 'Date or Hour'. The 'Current Release' section indicates 'No stable release available yet.' At the bottom, an 'All Releases' section contains a table with columns for Version, Released, Description, Compatibility, License, and Status.

The status of your project will be changed to **State: Pending approval**, until it is approved by a reviewer. It is possible that the approval will take a few days.

After approval, the status will be changed to **State: Public** and you can add releases, documentation and feature proposals.

### Note

You will not be notified about the project approval. You should verify the project status at the website.

## Adding a Release section

After approval, go to **Add new > Release section** to create a new workspace for your releases information and files.

The screenshot shows the 'Fixed values for Calc' extension page in the LibreOffice Extension Center. The navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Extension Center', and 'Help-Downloads'. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home > Extension Center > Fixed values for Calc'. The page title is 'Fixed values for Calc' by Gustavo Pacheco, last modified Aug 11, 2011 04:05 PM. The description states: 'This extension creates two menu items in Calc to insert current date or current time in the selected cell as a fixed value.' Below the description is a 'Project Description' section explaining the installation and usage. The 'Current Release' section indicates 'No stable release available yet.' At the bottom, there is an 'All Releases' table with columns for Version, Released, Description, Compatibility, License, and Status. A dropdown menu is open, showing options for 'Documentation Section', 'Releases Section', and 'Roadmap Section'.

At the *Add Releases Section* form, on the *Metadata* tab, you need to set the language to **Language neutral**, to have this section visible for all users. Then just click on **the Save** button.

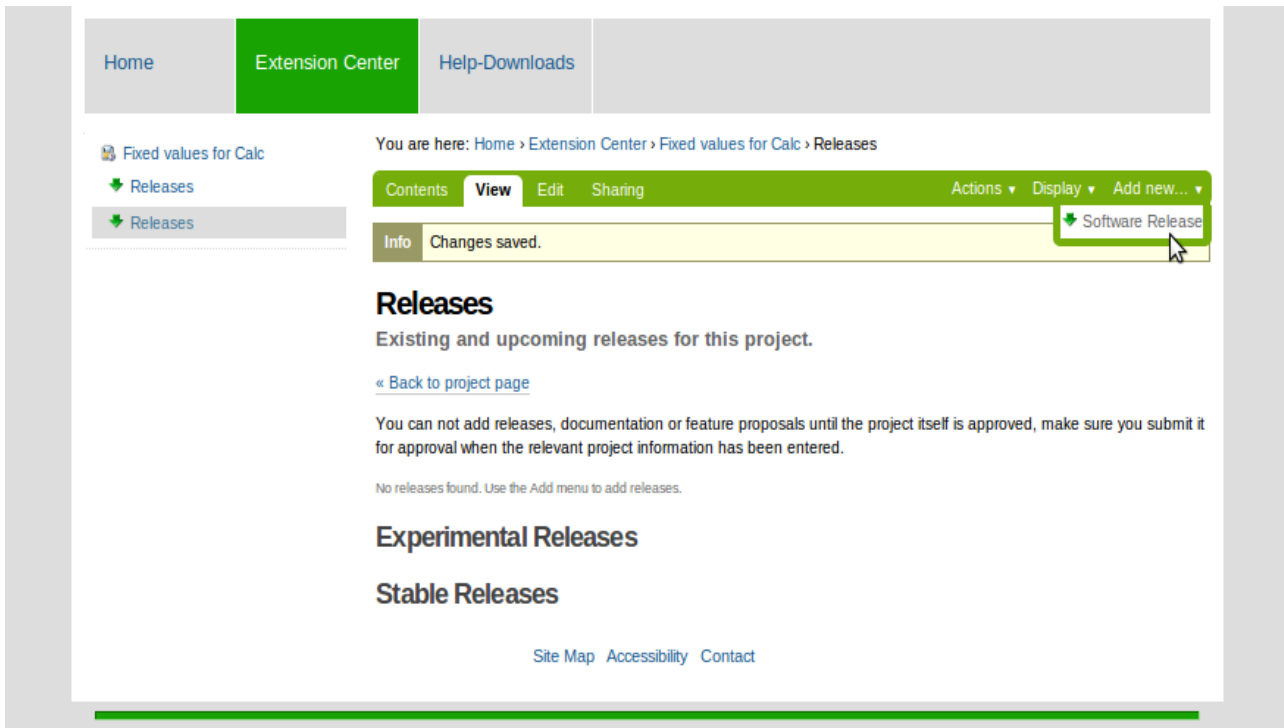
The screenshot shows the 'Add Releases Section' form in the LibreOffice Extension Center. The navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Extension Center', and 'Help-Downloads'. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home > Extension Center > Fixed values for Calc > Releases'. The form title is 'Add Releases Section' with the subtitle 'Folder type for holding releases.' The form has two tabs: 'Default' and 'Metadata'. The 'Title' field is labeled 'Enter a title for the container' and contains the text 'Releases'. The 'Description' field is labeled 'Enter a description of the container' and contains the text 'Existing and upcoming releases for this project.' At the bottom of the form are 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons.

### Caution

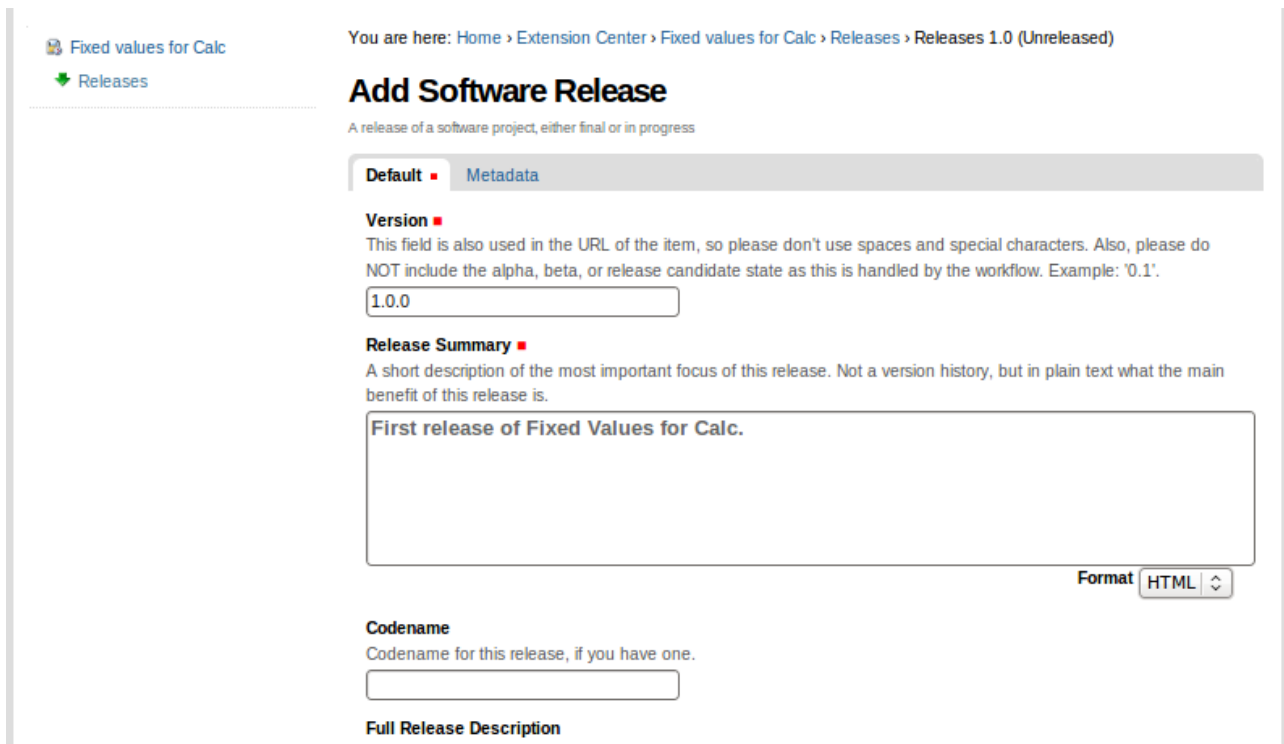


It is not recommended to use special characters like ">>", "<<", "&", "ç", "é" or anything similar in the **Title** field. Please use only plain English text.

The *Releases* folder will be created and you can add a new release clicking on **Add new > Software Release**.



Now you need to fill in the *Add Software Release* form.



Some fields on the **Default** tab are mandatory: **Version**, **Release Summary**, **License** and **Compatibility**.

All fields of the *Add Software Release* form are described on the list below:

<b>Field</b>	<b>Description</b>
Version	This field is also used in the URL of the item, so please don't use spaces and special characters. Also, please do NOT include the alpha, beta, or release candidate state as this is handled by the work flow. Example: '0.1'.
Release Summary	A short description of the most important focus of this release. Not a version history, but in plain text what the main benefit of this release is.
Codename	Codename for this release, if you have one.
Full Release Description	The complete release text.
Changelog	A detailed log of what has changed since the previous release.
Release Manager	Release manager for this release.
Release Manager Contact E-mail	Contact e-mail for Release Manager.
Proposals freeze date	Date after which no more Improvement Proposals will be associated with the release
Feature freeze date	Date after which no new features will added to the release
(Expected) Release Date	Date on which a final release is expected to be made or was made
License	Release License: Please examine carefully which license you choose for your contribution. You can't change it after the release. The options are: GPL - GNU General Public License LGPL - GNU Lesser General Public License MPL – Mozilla Public License BSD License (revised) Public Domain Other OSI Approved You need to select at least one licence, but you can choose up to three.
Compatibility	Tested and working with the selected versions
Associated feature proposals	Related improvement proposals for features going into this release.
Repository branch	URL of version control repository branch for this release.

After filling in the *Add Software Release* form, click **Save**.

**Caution**



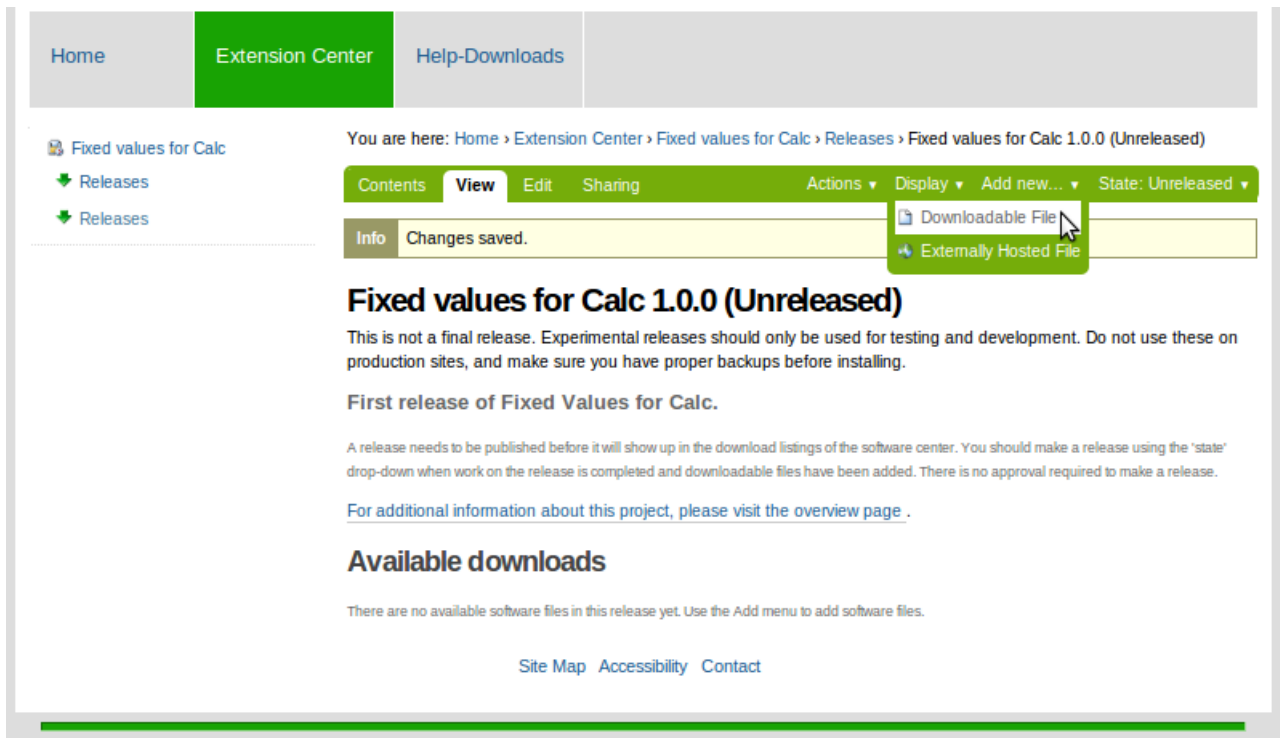
Please make sure that the **Language** field on the *Metadata* page of your release is **Language neutral!** Otherwise the release will not be visible to users with another language setting in their browser.

## Adding files

Now, after creating the Release folder, you have two options for the files of the release: add a downloadable file or add a link for an externally hosted file. These options are detailed in the next two sections.

### Adding a downloadable file

For the first option, click **Add new > Downloadable File** on the green bar.



The screenshot shows the LibreOffice Extension Center interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Extension Center' (highlighted in green), and 'Help-Downloads'. Below this, a breadcrumb trail reads: 'You are here: Home > Extension Center > Fixed values for Calc > Releases > Fixed values for Calc 1.0.0 (Unreleased)'. The main content area has a green header with 'Contents', 'View' (selected), 'Edit', 'Sharing', 'Actions', 'Display', 'Add new...' (with a dropdown arrow), and 'State: Unreleased'. The 'Add new...' dropdown menu is open, showing two options: 'Downloadable File' (with a document icon) and 'Externally Hosted File' (with a link icon). Below the dropdown, there is a yellow notification bar that says 'Info Changes saved.'. The main title is 'Fixed values for Calc 1.0.0 (Unreleased)'. Below the title, there is a warning: 'This is not a final release. Experimental releases should only be used for testing and development. Do not use these on production sites, and make sure you have proper backups before installing.' followed by 'First release of Fixed Values for Calc.' and a paragraph explaining that a release needs to be published before it shows up in the download listings. There is also a link to 'For additional information about this project, please visit the overview page .'. Below this is the section 'Available downloads' with the text 'There are no available software files in this release yet. Use the Add menu to add software files.' At the bottom, there are links for 'Site Map', 'Accessibility', and 'Contact'.

In the *Add Downloadable File* form shown below, you have just chosen your extension file in the **File** field and need to define the operating system in **Platform** field.

The screenshot shows the 'Add Downloadable File' form in the LibreOffice Extension Center. The form is titled 'Add Downloadable File' and contains the following fields and controls:

- File Description:** A text input field for describing the file.
- File:** A text input field containing the file path `/home/gbpacheco/Área de Trabalho/Anot` and a button labeled 'Enviar arquivo...'. A mouse cursor is pointing at the button.
- Platform:** A dropdown menu with the text 'All platforms' and a downward arrow.
- Buttons:** 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons at the bottom of the form.

At the end of the form, click **Save**.

### Caution



Please make sure that the **Language** field on the *Metadata* page of your downloadable file is **Language neutral!** Otherwise the project will not be visible to users with another language setting in their browser.

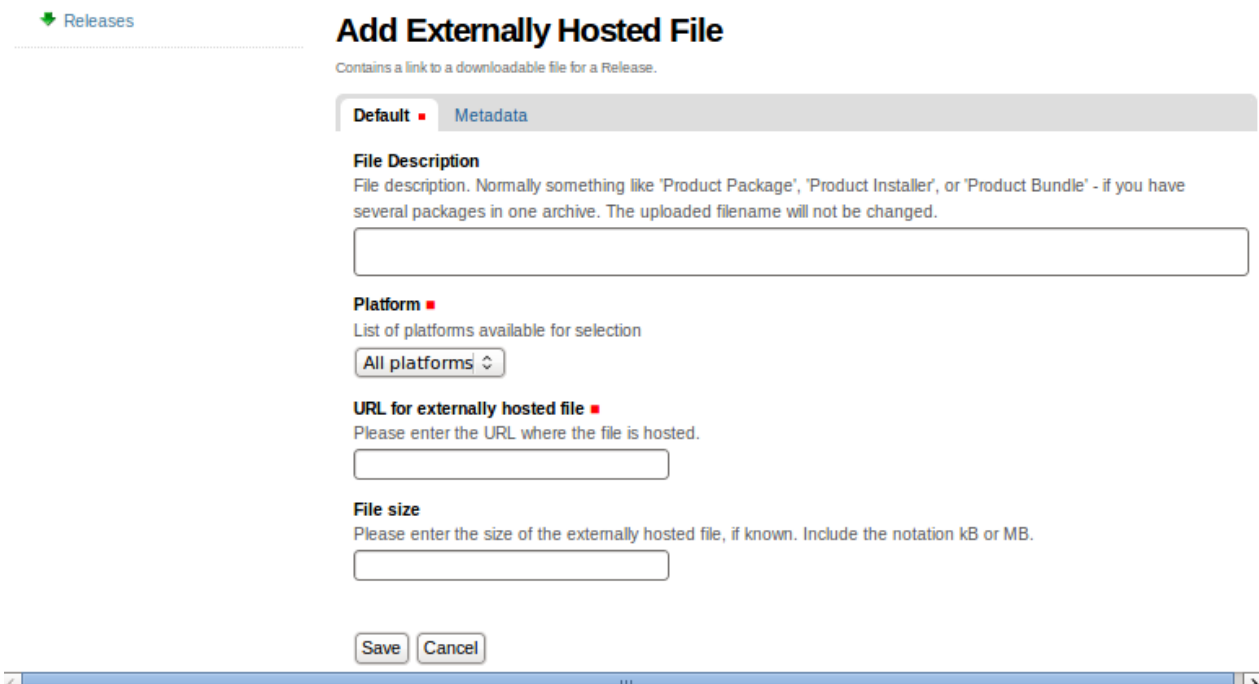
### Caution



Leave the **File Description** field empty. Otherwise the file will have this field for its name. You may set the file description afterwards on the *Contents* tab of the release, with the **Rename** button: *New Short Name* stands for the name of the file whereas *New Title* stands for the description of the file.

## Adding a link for an externally hosted file

To add an externally hosted file, just click **Add new > Externally Hosted File** on the green bar and fill the *Add Externally Hosted File* form. For externally hosted files, only the **Platform** and **URL** fields are mandatory.



Releases

### Add Externally Hosted File

Contains a link to a downloadable file for a Release.

Default Metadata

**File Description**  
File description. Normally something like 'Product Package', 'Product Installer', or 'Product Bundle' - if you have several packages in one archive. The uploaded filename will not be changed.

**Platform**  
List of platforms available for selection  
All platforms

**URL for externally hosted file**  
Please enter the URL where the file is hosted.

**File size**  
Please enter the size of the externally hosted file, if known. Include the notation kB or MB.

Save Cancel

Click **Save** to finish.

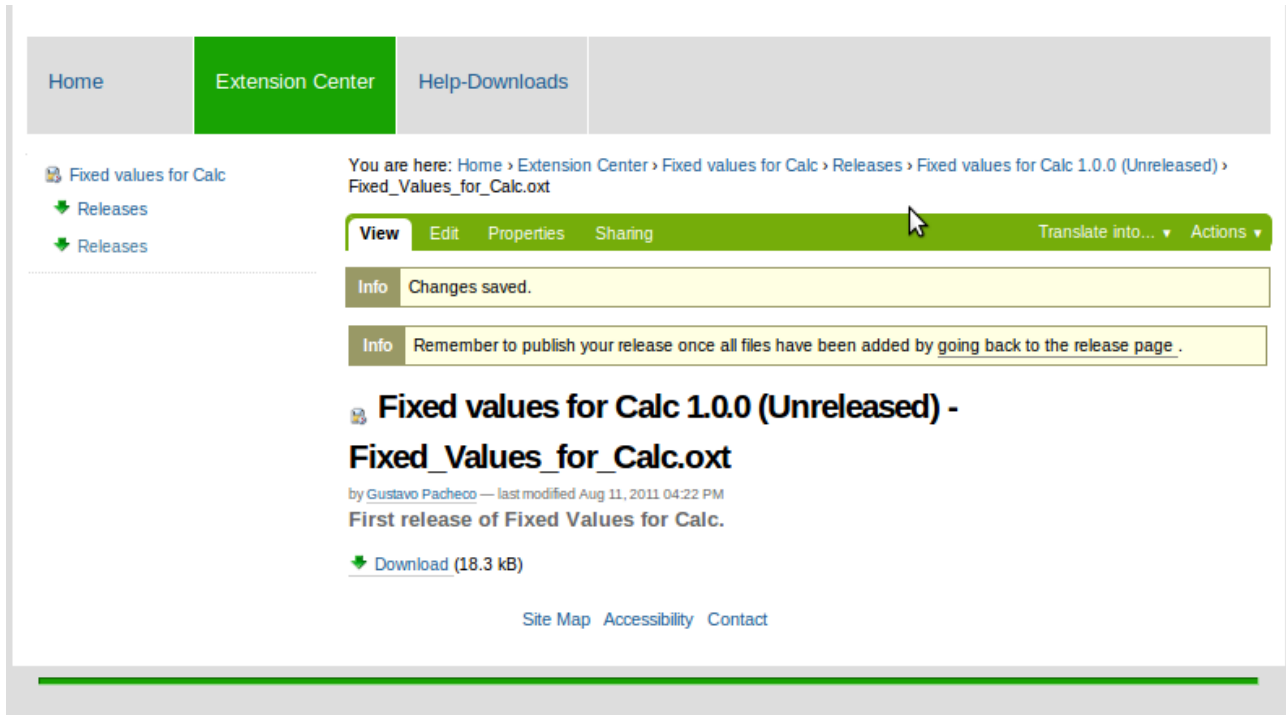
### Caution



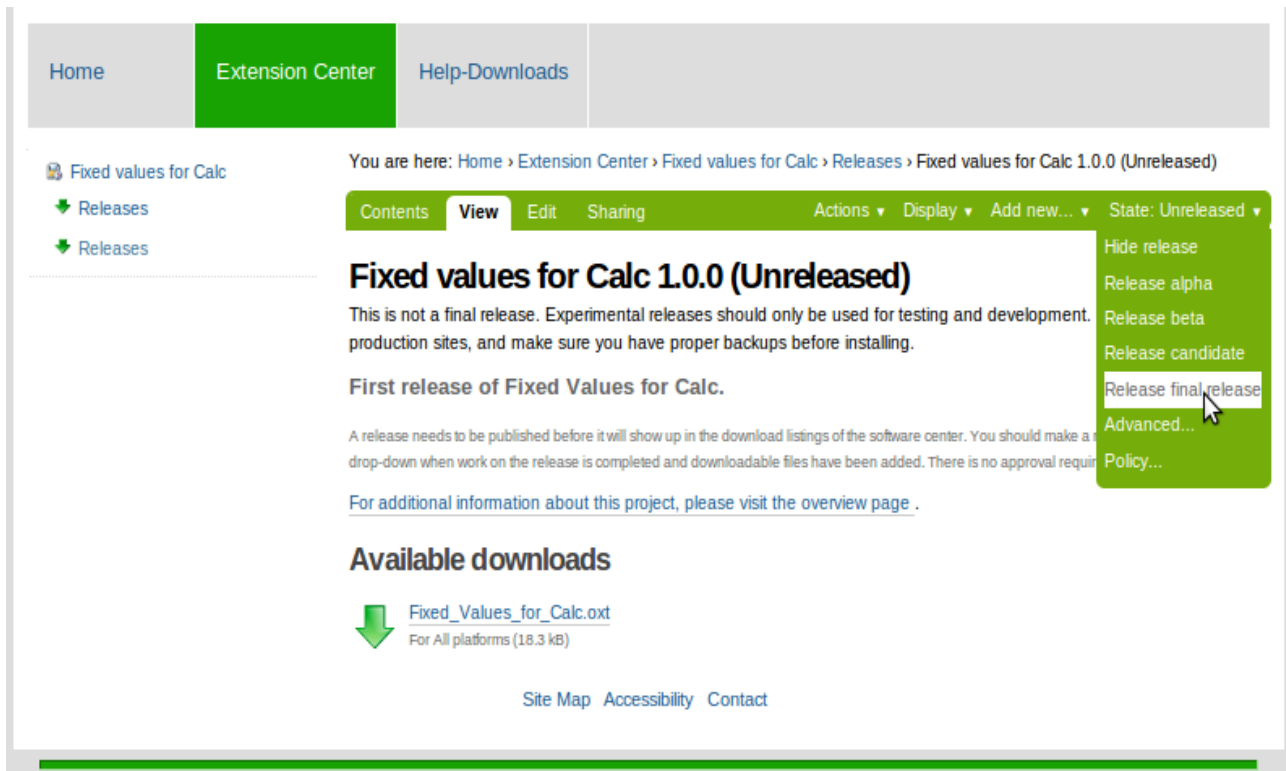
Please make sure that the **Language** field on the *Metadata* page of your externally-hosted file is **Language neutral!** Otherwise the project will not be visible to users with another language setting in their browser.

## Publishing a release

After adding a downloadable file or a link for an externally hosted file for the release, you will see the Extension release and the file(s).



Click on **going back to the release page** link to change the release status. To publish the release, go to **State: Unreleased** menu and define the new state, for example, **Release final release**.



Finally, log out and go to the new extension page to see your extension published!