

What is Moodle?

Moodle is a free, open-source PHP web application that allows you to create powerful, flexible, and engaging online learning experiences.

Visit us at www.elearningminds.com

This document is the property of UIKnowledge Sdn and must not be copied in whole or part, without the consent of the Company ©2011

What is Moodle?

Many do not know how the word Moodle came about, or what it stands for. The word 'Moodle' is actually an abbreviation from "Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment".



In the early years, the letter 'M' stood for "Martin's", named after Martin Dougiamas, who is the original developer. Dougiamas started a Ph.D. to examine "The use of Open Source Software to support a social constructionist epistemology of teaching and learning within Internet-based communities of reflective inquiry".



Now, Moodle is commonly known as a Learning Management System (LMS). To others, it is also known as Course Management System (CMS) or Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). It is a free, open-source PHP web application that allows you to create powerful, flexible, and engaging online learning experiences.

Moodle is designed to support a style of learning called "Social Constructionist Pedagogy". This philosophy believes that people learn best when they interact with the learning material, create new material for others, and interact with other students / learners about the material. This style of learning is a discussion style and more interactive and engaging.



It has several features considered typical of an e-learning platform, plus some original innovations (like its filtering system). Moodle is widely used in the education sector, and corporate training and development sectors.

Some of the typical features of Moodle are:

- Assignment submission
- Discussion forum
- Files download
- Grading
- Moodle instant messages
- Online calendar
- Online news and announcement
- Online quiz
- Wiki

Many who have used Moodle loves the activity modules (e.g. forums, databases and wikis) to build richly collaborative communities of learning around their subject matter. Others prefer to use Moodle as a way to deliver content to students / learners, and assess their learning using assignments or quizzes.

As it is an open-source web application, Moodle has evolved with the assistance of open source programmers, contributing to the rapid development (plugins) and bug fixes. With ease, users can download applicable plugins to extend the original Moodle's structure. Thus, the term 'Moodler' is formed – representing anyone who uses Moodle.