



# Superlists for osTicket

by **Cartmega**

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**The Ultimate in**  
Smart Dynamic Lists

**Superlists can be interlinked & grouped, populated with AJAX and even tailored to individual clients!**

▶ for osTicket ◀  
▶ includes motherload ◀

*'It is finally here... the holy grail in the ticket creation process!'*

**Superlists**  
plugin for osTicket  
(includes osTicket Motherload)

**INTERLINKED, GROUPED, DYNAMIC, AJAX LISTS FULLY PROGRAMMABLE!**

**SUPPORT CENTER**  
Support Ticket System

Open a New Ticket

Please fill in the form below to open a new ticket.

**Contact Information**

Email Address \*

Full Name \*

Job Title

Phone Number  Ext.

**Help Topic**

**SuperLists Form**

Topic

Form

Fields

sup\_Topic

sup\_Form

sup\_Field

## INTRODUCTION

[Superlists](#) is a plugin that allows for smart, dynamic, interlinked and grouped ajax custom lists in forms that appear on the 'new ticket' pages, both for clients and agents and are updated with ajax from any database.

Superlists are interlinked such that each list is fed the user selection of the previous list using ajax. Superlists can even be tailored to individual clients!

Every superlist is bound to a ticket field which collects the user selection that will eventually end up in the ticket created. Each superlist ticket field can individually collect either the key or value of the superlist selection as required.

- Requires 'osTicket Motherload' (a plugin controller for osTicket) which is included in this software bundle.
- Requires PHP version 7.2.x or higher. Proper operation cannot be guaranteed with earlier versions.
- No core file modifications necessary!



## ONLINE DEMO

Did you know that there is an online demo of Superlists?  
If you have not had a chance to try Superlists, you can check it out right now!

When you click the button below you will be taken  
to the [Cartmega demo website](#), where you can test drive Superlists.





# INSTALLATION

Click the play button below to watch the [installation video](#) or follow the instructions on the following page.

**cartmega**

**INSTALLATION** ✓  
**CONFIGURATION** ✓  
**TESTING** ✓

Visit [ostdemo.cartmega.com](http://ostdemo.cartmega.com) for a test drive.

[www.cartmega.com](http://www.cartmega.com)

1. Superlists is available online here:

<https://www.cartmega.com/superlists-for-osticket.html>

**Product Download**

DOWNLOADS (1)

Superlists for osTicket

1.12.x » 1.16.x

Version: 1.4.1

Updated: 26/05/2022



2. Download & Unzip.

- a. Download our plugin.  
(superlists\_for\_osTicket\_motherload\_v.x.x.x\_bundle.zip)
- b. Extract its contents onto your hard drive.

<input type="checkbox"/> Name	Date modified
motherload_for_osTicket_v.1.4.3.zip	22/05/2022 16:15
superlists_for_osTicket_motherload_v.1.4.1.zip	26/05/2022 17:58
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> superlists_for_osTicket_motherload_v.1.4.1_bundle.zip	26/05/2022 17:58

3. Upload Motherload first.

- a. Extract the contents of motherload\_for\_osTicket\_v.x.x.x.zip, onto your hard drive.

- b. Open the folder 'UPLOAD' where you just extracted the zip file.

- c. FTP into your osTicket installation & find the osTicket root directory.

- d. Select all files & folders within the 'UPLOAD' folder (on your computer) and upload all to the osTicket root directory of your FTP server.

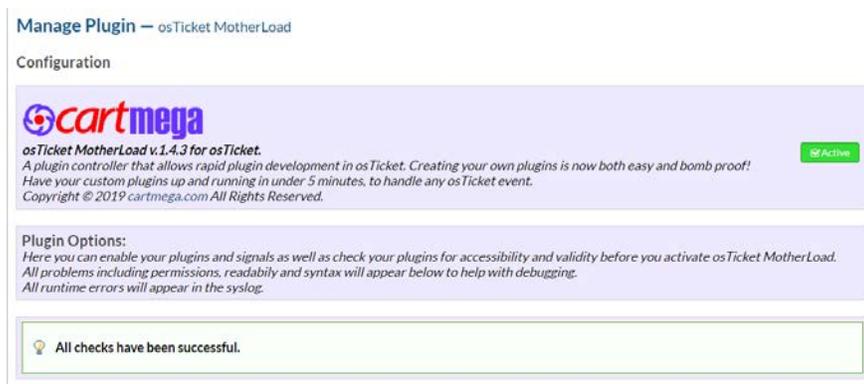
<input type="checkbox"/> Name	Date modified	Type
include	07/02/2022 03:58	File folder
scp	07/02/2022 03:58	File folder

Name	Size	Changed	Rights
api		26/04/2022 19:26:51	rw-r--r--
apps		21/04/2022 15:52:54	rw-r--r--
assets		21/04/2022 15:52:54	rw-r--r--
css		21/04/2022 15:52:54	rw-r--r--
images		21/04/2022 15:52:54	rw-r--r--
include		28/04/2022 00:28:36	rw-r--r--
js		21/04/2022 15:52:57	rw-r--r--
kb		21/04/2022 15:52:57	rw-r--r--
pages		21/04/2022 15:52:57	rw-r--r--
scp		25/05/2022 02:25:49	rw-r--r--
account.php	6 KB	20/04/2022 14:21:06	rw-r--r--
ajax.php	2 KB	20/04/2022 14:21:06	rw-r--r--
avatar.php	2 KB	20/04/2022 14:21:06	rw-r--r--
bootstrap.php	16 KB	19/05/2022 20:04:18	rw-r--r--
captcha.php	1 KB	20/04/2022 14:21:06	rw-r--r--

4. Install Motherload in osTicket.

- a. Login into osTicket.
- b. Go to Admin panel > Manage > Plugins.
- c. Click 'Add New Plugin' & click 'Install' next to 'osTicket Motherload'.
- d. To enable the plugin, place a check mark next to 'osTicket Motherload'. Click the 'More' button and click 'Enable'.
- e. Click on 'osTicket Motherload' to enter the plugin settings. Just make sure that there are no errors reported.



5. Upload Superlists.

- a. Extract the contents of superlists\_for\_osTicket\_motherload\_v.x.x.x.zip, onto your hard drive.
- b. Open the folder 'UPLOAD' where you just extracted the zip file.
- c. FTP into your osTicket installation & find the osTicket root directory.
- d. Select all files & folders within the 'UPLOAD' folder (on your computer) and upload all to the osTicket root directory of your FTP server.

Name	Date modified	Type
include	07/02/2022 03:51	File folder
scp	07/02/2022 03:51	File folder
ajax_superlists.php	26/05/2022 17:58	PHP File
ajax_superlists_config.php	24/05/2022 02:17	PHP File

Name	Size	Changed	Rights
api		26/04/2022 19:26:51	rwXr-Xr-X
apps		21/04/2022 15:52:54	rwXr-Xr-X
assets		21/04/2022 15:52:54	rwXr-Xr-X
css		21/04/2022 15:52:54	rwXr-Xr-X
images		21/04/2022 15:52:54	rwXr-Xr-X
include		28/04/2022 00:28:36	rwXr-Xr-X
js		21/04/2022 15:52:57	rwXr-Xr-X
kb		21/04/2022 15:52:57	rwXr-Xr-X
pages		21/04/2022 15:52:57	rwXr-Xr-X
scp		25/05/2022 02:25:49	rwXr-Xr-X
account.php	6 KB	20/04/2022 14:21:06	rw-r--r--
ajax.php	2 KB	20/04/2022 14:21:06	rw-r--r--
avatar.php	2 KB	20/04/2022 14:21:06	rw-r--r--
bootstrap.php	16 KB	19/05/2022 20:04:18	rw-r--r--
captcha.php	1 KB	20/04/2022 14:21:06	rw-r--r--

## 6. Install Superlists in osTicket.

- a. Login into osTicket.
- b. Go to Admin panel > Manage > Plugins > osTicket MotherLoad.
- c. In Allowed Signals: add 'session.close' & 'ticket.create.before'.
- d. In Enabled Plugins: add 'plugin\_superlists'.
- e. Click [Save]. You should see no errors being reported in the debugger.

 All checks have been successful.

<p><b>Allowed Signals:</b> Choose the signals that your plugins are allowed to service.</p>	<span style="border: 1px solid #ccc; border-radius: 3px; padding: 2px 5px;">x session.close</span> <span style="border: 1px solid #ccc; border-radius: 3px; padding: 2px 5px;">x ticket.create.before</span>
<p><b>Enabled Plugins:</b> Only enabled plugins will be allowed to run.</p>	<span style="border: 1px solid #ccc; border-radius: 3px; padding: 2px 5px;">x plugin_superlists</span>
<p><b>Valid Plugins:</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Plugins that passed all tests</p>	<p><b>Valid Plugins:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>plugin_demo</b> [ticket.create.before] <small>/demo/plugin_demo.php</small></li><li>2. <b>plugin_manipulateTicketByEmail</b> [ticket.create.before] <small>/demo/plugin_manipulateTicketByEmail.php</small></li><li>3. <b>plugin_manipulateTicketByForm</b> [ticket.create.before] <small>/demo/plugin_manipulateTicketByForm.php</small></li><li>4. <b>plugin_superlists</b> [ticket.create.before, session.close] <small>/superlists/plugin_superlists.php</small></li><li>5. <b>plugin_topicLists</b> [session.close] <small>/topiclists/plugin_topicLists.php</small></li></ol>
<p><b>Disable Plugin Syntax Checking:</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Default: OFF</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Syntax checking is currently enabled</b></p>
<p><b>Debugger:</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Health check!</p>	<p>Everything is looking good!</p>

Save ChangesResetCancel

## 7. Configure Superlists database connection.

- a. FTP into your osTicket installation & find the osTicket root directory.
- b. Edit the file 'ajax\_superlists\_config.php'.
- c. Find the following line...

```
$this->__db = mysqli_connect("local host", "username", "password", "database");
```

... and modify it to reflect your own database connection.

Congratulations. You have completed the installation of Motherload & Superlists. You can also uninstall it by just deleting the '/motherload/plugins/superlists' folder, without any issues whatsoever.

You can now proceed to test the Superlist demo.

# Prepare osTicket for the Superlist Demo

## osTicket configuration

1. In osTicket, create a New Custom Form called 'SuperLists Form'.
2. Create the following 3 fields on the form:

<i>Label</i>	<i>Variable (only required for this demo)</i>	
<i>sup_0_v_Topic</i>	sup_Topic	'Short Answer Field'
<i>sup_0_k_Form</i>	sup_Form	'Short Answer Field'
<i>sup_0_v_Field</i>	sup_Field	'Short Answer Field'

The screenshot shows the configuration for a custom form titled 'SuperLists Form'. It includes a rich text editor for instructions and a table of form fields. The table has columns for Label, Type, Visibility, Variable, and Delete. Three fields are listed: 'sup\_0\_v\_Topic', 'sup\_0\_k\_Form', and 'sup\_0\_v\_Field', all of type 'Short Answer' and visibility 'Optional'.

Label	Type	Visibility	Variable	Delete
sup_0_v_Topic	Short Answer	Optional	sup_Topic	<input type="checkbox"/>
sup_0_k_Form	Short Answer	Optional	sup_Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
sup_0_v_Field	Short Answer	Optional	sup_Field	<input type="checkbox"/>

**PLEASE NOTE:** Superlists work with the basic "Short Answer" Field only!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Superlists will not obey any configuration done via the 'Config' button on the 'Update form section'! Leave those settings at their defaults.

3. Create a New Help Topic 'SuperLists' and assign the 'SuperLists Form' to it.

The screenshot shows the 'Update Help Topic' interface for 'SuperLists'. It features tabs for 'Help Topic Information', 'New ticket options', and 'Forms'. The 'Forms' tab is active, showing a table of assigned forms. The table has columns for Enable, Label, Type, Visibility, and Variable. Three forms are listed: 'sup\_0\_v\_Topic', 'sup\_0\_k\_Form', and 'sup\_0\_v\_Field', all enabled and of type 'Short Answer'.

Enable	Label	Type	Visibility	Variable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sup_0_v_Topic	Short Answer	Optional	sup_Topic
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sup_0_k_Form	Short Answer	Optional	sup_Form
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sup_0_v_Field	Short Answer	Optional	sup_Field

Ticket Details: Please Describe Your Issue

Enable	Label	Type	Visibility	Variable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Issue Summary	Short Answer	Required	subject
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Issue Details	Thread Entry	Required, Immutable	message
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Priority Level	Priority Level	Internal, Optional	priority

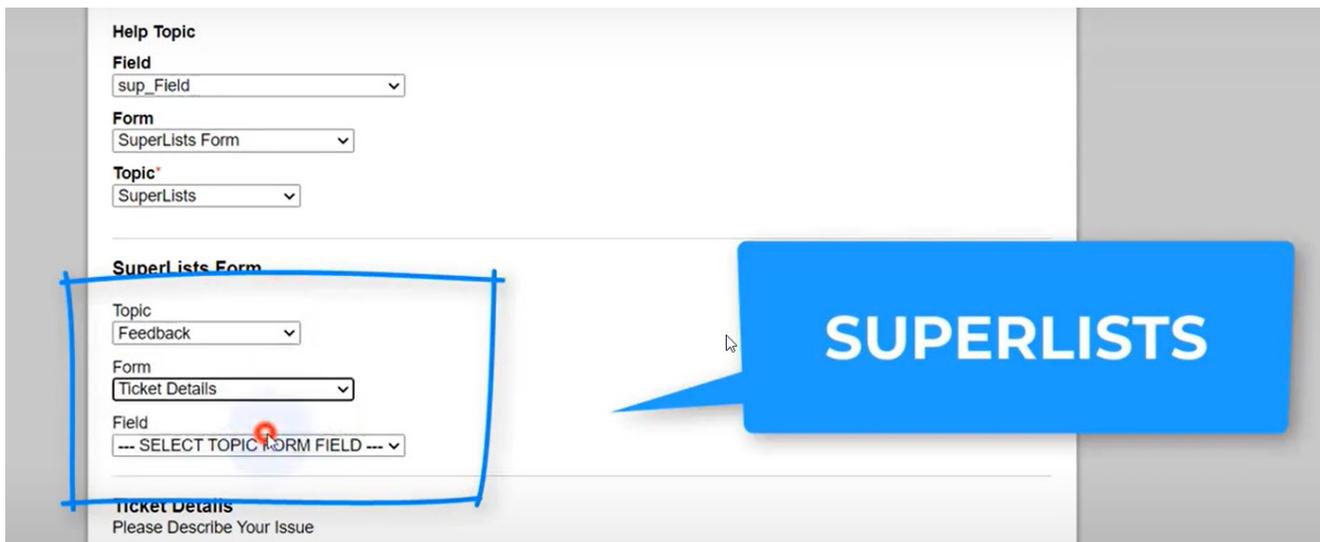
Add Custom Form:

Now, we can test the demo.

# TESTING

## Client Side Demo

Visit the client side of your osTicket installation and click 'Open a New Ticket'. Choose the Help Topic 'SuperLists' which will load the 'SuperLists Form'.



The screenshot displays the 'Help Topic' configuration area with the following settings:

- Field: sup\_Field
- Form: SuperLists Form
- Topic: SuperLists

The 'Superlists Form' section is highlighted with a blue box and contains:

- Topic: Feedback
- Form: Ticket Details
- Field: --- SELECT TOPIC FORM FIELD --- (indicated by a red circle)

A blue callout box labeled 'SUPERLISTS' points to the 'Superlists Form' section.

You should see 3 Superlists shown. If not, then please check your database connection in 'ajax\_superlists\_config.php'.

In the demo,

- choosing a Topic yields all the Forms contained in that Topic,
- choosing a Form, yields all Fields contained in that Form,
- choosing a Form-Field name, concludes the user choices.

**NOTE:** You will notice that Superlists always retain their values between page posts (when a page is submitted). This is also true with all fields on the page such as the 'Details' text editor field, which is quite useful.

## Logic behind the demo

We needed a demo that would be available to all osTicket installations and we needed to display 3 interlinked lists for this purpose.

We went looking within the osTicket installation for data which was already linked to other data 3-levels deep. We chose the following:

- a) **Topics**, each contains...
- b) Multiple **forms**, each containing...
- c) Multiple **form-fields**.

This is an ideal (1 -> many -> many) relationship in relational databases.

So from a single Topic we eventually filter down to one specific Form Field ie.

**Topics -> Forms -> Form-fields.**

We chose these fields because they were a convenient way to show 3 interlinked pieces of information which already exist within all osticket installations.

## Agent Panel Demo

Visit the agent panel of your osTicket installation and click 'New Ticket'.

SLA Plan:

Due Date:  (EEST) *Time is based on your time zone (Europe/Helsinki)*

Assign To:

**SuperLists Form:**

Topic:

Form:

Field:

**Ticket Details:**  
Please Describe Your Issue

Issue Summary:

<> **A** Aa B / U S -

Details on the reason(s) for opening the ticket.

As in the client demo, you should see 3 Superlists shown.

Everything should function exactly the same as in the client demo.

# CUSTOMIZATION

All customization is done inside the file 'ajax\_superlists\_config.php'.

**NOTE:** If the data used to populate your lists contains **Unicode characters**, make sure that your 'ajax\_superlists\_config.php' file is saved in UTF-8 encoding.

## A. Configuration Functions (ajax\_superlists\_config)

You will notice that there exist 3 functions whose names begin with 'getList\_'.

1. getList\_Topic
2. getList\_Form
3. getList\_Field

These are responsible for generating the 3 Superlists in the demo.

**NOTE:** It is important to note that within this file, they are in the same sequence as they appear in the browser however this is of no consequence. These functions can appear in any order you prefer. Their order in the browser is only determined by the order they appear on your osTicket form!

In the demo, we only make use of 3 Superlists, however you may declare as many lists as your solution requires. The only limit is the power and capabilities of your server and the power of the client's PC which will have to render the results (as well as the connection between the two).

### Function naming convention

You can define your functions like this:

protected function [getList]\_[field name]

[getList] : the superlist function prefix (do not change).

[field name \*] : The field name & the label that will be shown to the user.

e.g. The '**Topic**' Superlist must share its name with the '**getList\_Topic**' function.

**Topic\***

\* (if your field name contains spaces, replace ' ' with '\_' in field name)

## Function arguments

You will notice that all functions take only one argument:

`[$prevChoice]` : When the user makes a selection in the previous Superlist, the selected key will be held in this variable and used as a function argument for the next Superlist.

Basically, `$prevChoice` is the glue that binds the Superlists together in an unbreakable chain.

Whenever a user makes a selection on a Superlist, his choice is loaded into `$prevChoice` and it is carried over and fed into the next Superlist, in order to prepare its own entries.

All this is done behind the scenes inside the browser, while the user is making choices – this communication between the browser and the server uses a particular technology called AJAX. Whenever a new choice is made, the browser asks the server and the functions within 'ajax\_superlists\_config.php' answer.

### Superlists Form

Topic `$prevChoice=null`

Access Issue

Form `$prevChoice='Access Issue'`

Ticket Details

Field `$prevChoice='Ticket Details'`

message



## Superlist header

You will notice that one of the very first lines within each function is this:

`$title=' TOPIC FORM FIELD' ;`

This corresponds to the header of each Topic list i.e. what the user sees when no selection has yet been made.

### Superlists Form

Topic

--- SELECT TOPIC ---

Form

--- SELECT TOPIC FORM ---

Field

--- SELECT TOPIC FORM FIELD ---



**NOTE:** To further customize your headers, you can modify variable `$headerFormat` in file 'include/plugins/motherload/plugins/superlists/plugin\_superLists.php'.

## Populating Superlists

Get your fields with SQL statements from a database or define them manually.

**NOTE:** Knowledge of MySQL & PHP is needed to pull data from a database!

### 1. Populate lists with MySQL

You will notice that each `getList_` function contains an SQL section like so:

```
a. $sql = " SELECT topic_id, topic FROM ost_help_topic ORDER BY
    topic_id; ";
b. $stmt = $this->__db->prepare($sql);
c. //$stmt->bind_param('i', $prevChoice);
d. if (!$stmt->execute()) {return array($title);}
e. $recs=array();
f. if (($res=$stmt->get_result()) && ($res->num_rows)) {
g. while ($rec=$res->fetch_assoc()) {$recs[$rec[topic_id]]=$rec[topic];}
h. }
```

- This is the SQL statement in the `getList_Topic` function.
- Prepare the statement for execution (do not change this).
- If you will use the variable `$prevChoice` in your SQL statement, uncomment this line. The 'i' here states that `$prevChoice` will contain an integer ('s' corresponds to 'string' etc). You can pass more than one variable to your SQL statement. [click here for more info on bind\\_param...](#)

In the `getList_Form` function, we use `$prevChoice` in the **WHERE** clause (**where topic\_id=?**). The value of `$prevChoice` is substituted into the '?' at runtime. In this case `$prevChoice` is actually an 'integer' (`$stmt->bind_param('i', $prevChoice);`) because it comes from the key of the array in the previous function (`getList_Topic`) which selects `$rec['topic_id']` as the key for each array record returned.

**NOTE:** `$prevChoice` is always the key of the previously selected entry. The first list always receives a `$prevChoice=null`.

- Here the SQL statement is executed (do not change this).
- We prepare an array to hold the records we got from DB (do not change this).
- We check if we got any data back from the DB (do not change this).
- This line loops through the returned data and adds it to our array.
 

**NOTE:** `topic_id` & `topic` are the fields we are pulling from the DB using our SQL statement (see a.). Here, we assign the `topic` as the value for the particular array key. e.g. `recs[2]='Feedback'`.

In practice, this results in the following HTML code in the browser:

```
<option value="0">--- SELECT TOPIC ---</option>  
<option value="1">General Inquiry</option>  
<option value="2">Feedback</option>  
<option value="10">Report a Problem</option>  
<option value="11">Access Issue</option>  
<option value="12">SuperLists</option>
```

h. The end (do not change this).

**WARNING:** Each Superlist includes a **header** which has a key of '0' (zero). It is important to avoid adding entries to your lists which have a key of '0' (zero). If this happens, your header may be replaced with your own entry and the list will not function as expected.



**TIP:** It may be desirable at an early stage of the process, to build one SQL statement to include all data you will need for all of your Superlists. ie. Build a query to return all Topics, joined to all Forms, joined to all Fields. Use this query as a template in all your Superlists, making slight modifications each time to filter out what you do not want, based on [SprevChoice](#).

## 2. Populate lists manually

**IMPORTANT:** Since we will not be using the DB, make sure you disable the 2 lines referring to *\$this->\_\_db* in your config file otherwise you will get 500 errors.

It is quite easy to just use plain PHP arrays to populate your superlists.

In this example we will create a set of Superlists 3-levels deep showing car makes, models and years of manufacture for each major release.

**NOTE:** For the sake of simplicity we will only use a few records.

Here is a table of the data:

<i>id</i>	<i>make</i>	<i>model_id</i>	<i>model</i>	<i>year</i>
1001	BMW	201	1 serie	2015
1002	BMW	202	2 serie Active Tourer	2014
1003	BMW	203	3 serie	2015
1004	Kia	301	Quoris	2015
1005	Kia	301	Quoris	2014
1006	Kia	302	Soul	2014
1007	Kia	302	Soul	2016
1008	Kia	303	Venga	2014

We will name our 3 Superlists as follows: make, model, year.

Our functions will be declared as follows:

- getList\_make
- getList\_model
- getList\_year

Our first task is to declare these names as our labels and variables in our osTicket form.

Form Fields fields available where this form is used						
Label	Type		Visibility	Variable	Delete	
sup_0_v_Make	Short Answer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Config	Optional	sup_Make	<input type="checkbox"/>	
sup_0_k_Model	Short Answer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Config	Optional	sup_Model	<input type="checkbox"/>	
sup_0_v_Year	Short Answer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Config	Optional	sup_Year	<input type="checkbox"/>	
+	Short Answer		Optional			

```
protected function getList_Make($prevChoice) {
    global $ost, $cfg;

    $title=' CAR MAKE' ;

    $recs=array(
        'bmw' =>' BMW' ,
        'kia' =>' KIA'
    );

    return array($title, $recs);
}

protected function getList_Model ($prevChoice) {
    global $ost, $cfg;

    $title=' CAR MODEL' ;

    switch($prevChoice) {

        case 'bmw':
            $recs=array(
                '201' =>' 1 serie' ,
                '202' =>' 2 serie Active Tourer' ,
                '203' =>' 3 serie' ,
            );
            break;

        case 'kia':
            $recs=array(
                '301' =>' Quoris' ,
                '302' =>' Soul' ,
                '303' =>' Venga' ,
            );
            break;

    }

    return array($title, $recs);
}

protected function getList_Year($prevChoice) {
    global $ost, $cfg;

    $title=' CAR YEAR' ;

    switch($prevChoice) {

        case '201':
            $recs=array(
                '1001' =>' 2015' ,
            );
            break;

        case '202':
            $recs=array(
                '1002' =>' 2014' ,
            );
            break;

        case '203':
            $recs=array(
```

```
                ' 1003'      => ' 2015' ,
            );
            break;

        case ' 301' :
            $recs=array(
                ' 1005'      => ' 2014' ,
                ' 1004'      => ' 2015' ,
            );
            break;

        case ' 302' :
            $recs=array(
                ' 1006'      => ' 2014' ,
                ' 1007'      => ' 2016' ,
            );
            break;

        case ' 303' :
            $recs=array(
                ' 1008'      => ' 2014' ,
            );
            break;

    }

    return array($title, $recs);
}
```

### SuperLists Form

Make

BMW

Model

2 serie Active Tourer

Year

2014

The method couldn't be simpler. We are just working with arrays here. Depending on what `$prevChoice` we receive, we return a particular array. Superlists takes care of the rest.

**NOTE: If the data used to populate your lists contains Unicode characters, make sure that you 'ajax\_superlists\_config.php' file is saved in UTF-8 encoding.**

## Returning Superlist arrays

Every function we have studied previously always returns an array back to the user browser. This is the last line of each function.

```
return array($title, $recs);
```

The \$title is used to complete the header of the Superlists.

The \$recs are of course our array of data for the Superlist's content.

There is however a third option you can use here.

### Default selection

```
return array($title, $recs, 'kia');
```

This third option affects the default selection of our Superlist when the page is first loaded. 'Kia' will therefore always be the default selection.

#### SuperLists Form

Make

Model

Year

Furthermore if we also specify `return array($title, $recs, 303);` in function `getList_Model`, we will also have a default value for the model Superlist.

#### SuperLists Form

Make

Model

Year

**NOTE:** Specifying a default option will not allow Superlists to retain their selected values across page submissions. Without specifying this option, when the user submits the page, the Superlists will retain their selected values from the previous page.

**NOTE:** An easy way of returning an empty list is by `return array($title);` without an array specified. This may be useful when some error will not allow to return any records.

## Further Customization / Personalized Lists

Each function begins with:

```
global $ost, $cfg;
```

These are osTicket global variables and are being pulled into your function in case you may decide to use them. A description of each variable is beyond the scope of this manual.

Just like these variables, osTicket maintains many others. One such useful variable is `$thisclient`, which contains information on the currently active client.

In order to use this variable in your function, you should first allow exposure to it:

1. uncomment this command in your 'ajax\_superlists\_config.php' file:

```
require('client.inc.php');
```

2. change your global declaration within your function to include it.

```
global $ost, $cfg, $thisclient;
```

You can now use something like this to extract information from the active logged-in client who is interacting with your application.

```
if ($thisclient && $thisclient->isValid()) {$clientLoggedIn=true;}  
// Get logged in user info  
$org=false;  
if ($clientLoggedIn) {$userId=$thisclient->getId();} else {$userId=false;}  
if ($clientLoggedIn) {$userName=$thisclient->getUsername();} else {$userName=false;}  
if ($clientLoggedIn) {$userType=$thisclient->getUserType();} else {$userType=false;}  
if ($clientLoggedIn) {$userEmail=$thisclient->getEmail();} else {$userEmail=false;}  
if ($clientLoggedIn) {$org=$thisclient->getOrganization();} else {$org=false;}  
if ($clientLoggedIn && $org) {$orgName=$org->getName();} else {$orgName=false;}  
if ($clientLoggedIn) {$orgId=$thisclient->getOrgId();} else {$orgId=false;}  

```

You can then use some of this information in your SQL statements to present your client with personalized Superlists.

e.g. you can present your client with a list of order numbers based on his email address registered in osTicket.

```
$sql = "SELECT `order_id` FROM `oc_order` WHERE `email`=? ORDER BY `order_id`";  
$stmt = $this->__db->prepare($sql);  
$stmt->bind_param('s', $userEmail);
```

## B. osTicket Form Configuration

**PLEASE NOTE:** Superlists work with the basic "Short Answer" Field only!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Superlists will not obey any configuration done via the 'Config' button on the 'Update form section'! Leave those settings at their defaults.

Title:

Instructions:   

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*Form Fields fields available where this form is used*

Label	Type	Visibility	Variable	Delete
sup_0_v_Topic	Short Answer	Optional	sup_Topic	<input type="checkbox"/>
sup_0_k_Form	Short Answer	Optional	sup_Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
sup_0_v_Field	Short Answer	Optional	sup_Field	<input type="checkbox"/>

For the demo we used the above configuration. Of course the name of the form is immaterial, just as long as you add it to one of your Topics so that the Superlists get generated.

### Labels

The form fields must be named according to the following naming convention:

**[sup]\_[group number]\_[collector]\_[field name]** e. g. **sup\_0\_v\_Order ID**

Part	Options	Description
<b>[sup]</b>		superlist indicator (do not change)
<b>[ 0 ]</b>	int	the group number for a group of interdependent superlists
<b>[ v ]</b>	k or v	collect the key or value of the superlist in this field
<b>[field name]</b>		the name of the field

### Groups (integer)

In our demo, we make use of 3 Superlists which belong to the same group (0). All 3 work together, one feeding the other. You could however define as many Superlist groups as you like, just by changing the **[group number]** and of course give each of

them a different `[field name]` so that there is no clash with other Superlists. Each group is independent and can take any number of Superlists.

## Field Names

Used as field label on the webpage and used in the field names of the HTML elements themselves. Must be used in the function names that populate the fields.

## Collector (k or v)

This flag can take either one of two letters 'k' or 'v'.

The purpose of the collector is to decide which one of the 2 possible values to pass over to osTicket for the purpose of saving it in the ticket.

As we are well aware, we have arranged to populate each Superlist with key/value pairs from our arrays. osTicket cannot keep both of these values in a single field (even though it is possible it is generally undesirable).

With this flag, we tell Superlists which one of these 2 options we would prefer to keep in our ticket – the key or the value.

The screenshot displays the osTicket interface for Ticket #952222. The ticket status is 'Open', priority is 'Normal', and department is 'Support'. It was created on 6/4/22 at 6:58 PM. The user is identified as (2) (Manage Collaborators) and the source is 'Phone'. The assigned user is also (2) (Manage Collaborators). The help topic is 'SuperLists', and the last message was sent on 6/4/22 at 6:58 PM. The due date is 6/7/22 at 5:00 PM. Below the ticket details, the 'SuperLists Form' section shows the following data:

Field Name	Value
sup_0_v_Topic:	SuperLists
sup_0_k_Form:	7
sup_0_v_Field:	sup_Field

A callout box with a red arrow points to the 'SuperLists Form' section, containing the text: **Superlist data collected in the ticket.**

At the bottom of the interface, there are two tabs: 'Ticket Thread (2)' and 'Tasks'.

## Variables

The variable names can of course be used within osTicket itself but also are accessible within the Superlists plugin as will be revealed in the next section.

## C. plugin\_superLists.php

Below features are essential to Superlists functionality:

### signalConnect

The array of signals we are subscribed to (do not modify).

### \$headerFormat

Modify the wording of your Superlist headers.

Below features are provided to demo the Superlist capabilities available:

### if (\$\_POST) {...}

Execute code only after the ticket is submitted.

The whole of this code block can be removed if needed.

### \$enabledTopics

Can be `true` or `false` or `array('Topic A', 'Topic B');`

Whether to proceed based on the Help Topic chosen by the user.

### \$enabledGuests

Whether to proceed if the user is a guest (not a logged in client).

### \$enabledClients

Whether to proceed if the user is a logged in client.

## D. Motherload Capabilities (plugin\_superLists.php)

In the previous section we saw how we can create and populate our Superlists.

What if we wanted to react to what the user has selected in a list?

Motherload which is the plugin controller for Superlists gives us such capabilities.

```
$this->dbgecho(' message' )
```

Useful when you are forced to debug your plugin in a live environment without any clients seeing your debug messages.

The `$debug_ip` array controls who can see the messages.

- True (everyone can see)
- False (no one can see)
- array('xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx') (IP restricted)

```
$this->ostlog(LOG_WARN, ' Title' , ' Message' );
```

You can easily write to the osTicket syslog.

```
$this->addError(' Title' , ' Message' );
```

Add an osTicket error to its error array. The errors are shown by osTicket near the top of the page only if you disrupt a process like ticket.

e.g. when you attach your plugin to ticket.create.before, you can use the following code to induce an error in osTicket.

```
if ( $_POST ) {  
    $this->addError(' Title' , ' Message' );  
    return false;  
}
```

```
$this->addAlert(' Title' , ' Message' );
```

Show a JQuery skinned modal pop-up alert to the user.

```
$this->dbgecho(' <pre>' . print_r($this->ml , 2) . ' </pre>' );
```

Show all data in the Motherload object.

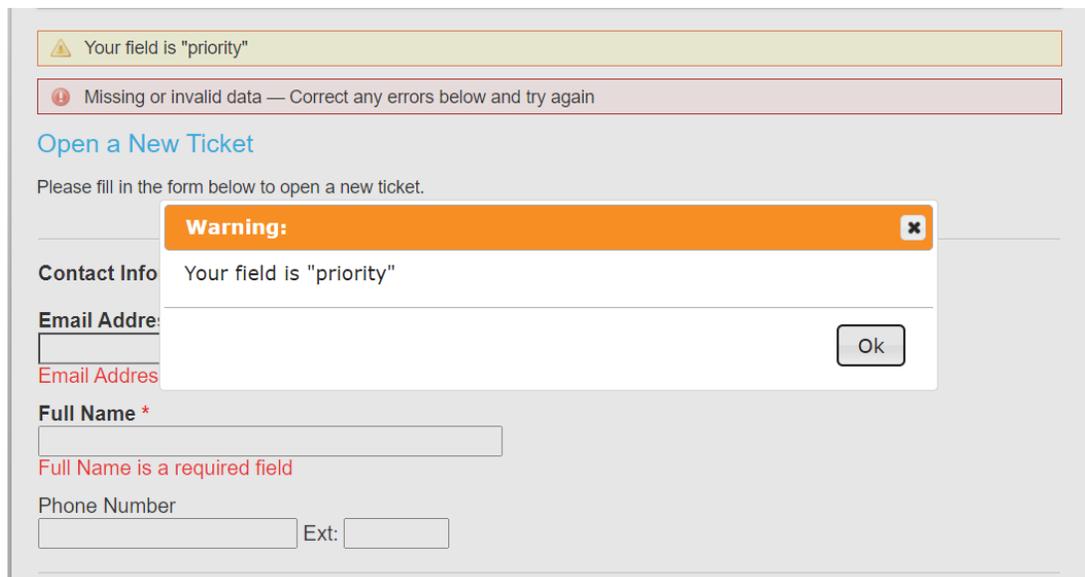
The above commands can only be used inside the file 'plugin\_superLists.php'.

**Example:** We can use the following script to pop an alert showing the value selected in the first Superlist after submitting it.

We paste our code after `$this->injectJSListGenerator();`.

We will be looking for our Superlist value in the `cdata` array. The name of the field is the variable name we specified on our osTicket form ie. `sup_Field` etc.

```
// -----
// FIELD VALIDATION AFTER POST
// -----
if ($_POST) {
    $field=isset($this->ml->cdata['sup_Field']['value']) ? $this->ml->cdata['sup_Field']['value'] : '';
    if ($field == 'priority') {
        $this->addAlert('Warning:', 'Your field is "'.$field.'"');
    }
}
```



Much useful information is also contained in the `$this->ml->_POST` array and of course in `$this->ml`.

They can be echoed on screen for scrutiny like this:

```
$this->dbgecho('<pre>'. print_r($this->ml, 2). '</pre>');
```

You will also notice the osTicket global variables are available in `function run()` and this means your options are endless. You can even customize the behavior of your Superlists based on URL, client, staff and much more!

## DATABASE SAFETY

### WARNING:

`$prevChoice` is coming from the wild and could be easily manipulated.

STAY SAFE & AVOID SQL INJECTIONS.

Use `prepare` / `bind_param` / `execute` in your functions.

Keep to the examples in 'ajax\_superlists\_config'!

## CSS STYLING

You can style your superlists with CSS by addressing any one of five available classes.

You can use the following classes as follows:

<i>Class</i>	<i>Application</i>
<code>.superlist</code>	Apply style to all superlists
<code>.tl_group_x</code>	Apply style to a whole group of superlists
<code>.tl_grp_index_x</code>	Apply style to a particular level in every group of superlists
<code>.tl_index_x</code>	Apply style to just a single superlist
<code>.form-control</code>	Accommodates styling in osTicket Responsive Theme & osTicket Bootstrap Theme

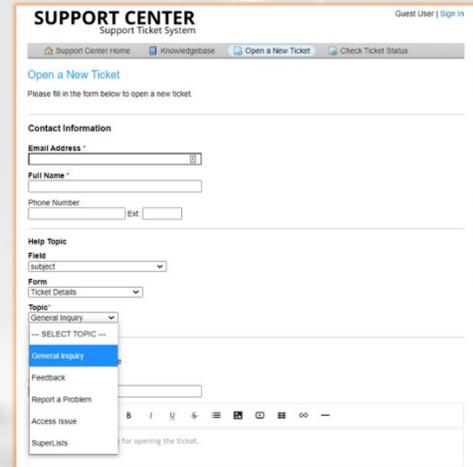
# THEME COMPATIBILITY

Theme	Compatibility
1. <a href="#">osTicket Awesome Theme</a>	
2. <a href="#">osTicket Responsive Theme</a>	
3. <a href="#">osTicket Bootstrap Theme</a>  <i>Depending on the version, this theme may need an updated bootstrap &amp; JQuery.</i>  <i>e.g. If you have osTicket 1.14 with this theme, and your Superlists are not working, you probably need some updates:</i>  <i>1. Make sure you have jquery-3.4.0.min.js in /js/ (the version that came with osTicket 1.14)</i>  <i>2. Make sure you have jquery-ui-1.12.1.custom.min.js in /js/ (the version that came with osTicket 1.14)</i>  <i>3. Make sure you have the right paths to the above files in:</i> <i>a. /include/client/header.inc.php</i> <i>b. /include/staff/footer.inc.php</i> <i>c. /include/staff/login.tpl.php</i>  <i>4. Make sure you have bootstrap.min.js (v3.3.7 or higher) in /assets/default/js/ (the version that can support JQuery 3.0+).</i>  <i>5. Superlists should work fine now.</i>	

**The Ultimate in**  
 Help Topic Categorization  
**Topiclists can be**  
**interlinked & nested**  
**& populated with AJAX**  
**and even tailored to individual clients!**

- ▶ for osTicket ◀
- ▶ includes motherload ◀

*'It is finally here...  
 the holy grail  
 in the ticket creation process!'*



# TOPICLISTS

What Superlists can do for Forms, Topiclists can do for Help Topics. Enhance your Help Topics with multiple, custom, smart, dynamic, interlinked and nested drop-down lists which are updated with ajax from any database.

Check out the video and online demo below:



# SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS



**PLEASE NOTE:** Superlists is a Motherload plugin. As such, you should also check the 'Common Problems' section in the Motherload readme file for possible errors and solutions.

*Problem:* Not working?

*Description:* Superlists need Ajax to work.

*Solution:* Check your **Admin Panel > Dashboard > Information > PHP Settings > `cgi.fix_pathinfo`** and make sure "1" is recommended if **AJAX is not working** is checked.

Always check the motherload plugin page and make sure there are no errors being reported.

*Problem:* A superlist gets populated correctly but does not contain a header "---SELECT blah blah ---".

Instead, the first entry in the list is shown immediately after the page loads.

*Description:* Your list contains an entry that has a '0' (zero) as its key. e.g. 0=>'BMW'.

This overrides the list's header which by design has also a '0' as its key. Your entry therefore takes the place of the header and breaks the header functionality.

*Solution:* Change your entry's key to some other value which is not '0'. You can use any other alphanumeric value.

*Problem:* You have followed the installation/configuration video, but the demo Superlists are not appearing or loading correctly.

*Description:* You need to do some basic digging to find the cause of the problem.

*Solution:*

1. Visit the Motherload plugin page and see if any errors are being reported. They could be due to some server misconfiguration or even a mistake in your coding. There should be no errors reported for normal function of Superlists. Be sure that these errors are eliminated before going further.
2. When you click F12 in your browser you can see error messages in red from the browser. Normally you should only be able to see the below messages from Superlists and no errors:

**SL: Initialized!**

**superlist\_generator.js: 130**

If you are seeing errors, disable Motherload and reload the page, and see if the errors reappear. If they reappear, then you must check to see if they can be fixed before running Motherload again. If the red error messages are affecting the functionality of JQuery, this may be impacting Superlists.

3. Are you using any special characters in your Superlists (e.g. Spanish/French/Greek)? Make sure the configuration file

ajax\_superlists\_config.php at the root of your osTicket installation is saved in UTF-8 format. If not, then some special characters in your arrays may be breaking the JSON functionality.

4. If the previous steps are OK but still Superlists are not loading correctly then this may be an indication that another addon/theme you have installed on osTicket may be affecting Superlists. In this case you should open a support ticket so we can investigate further.

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