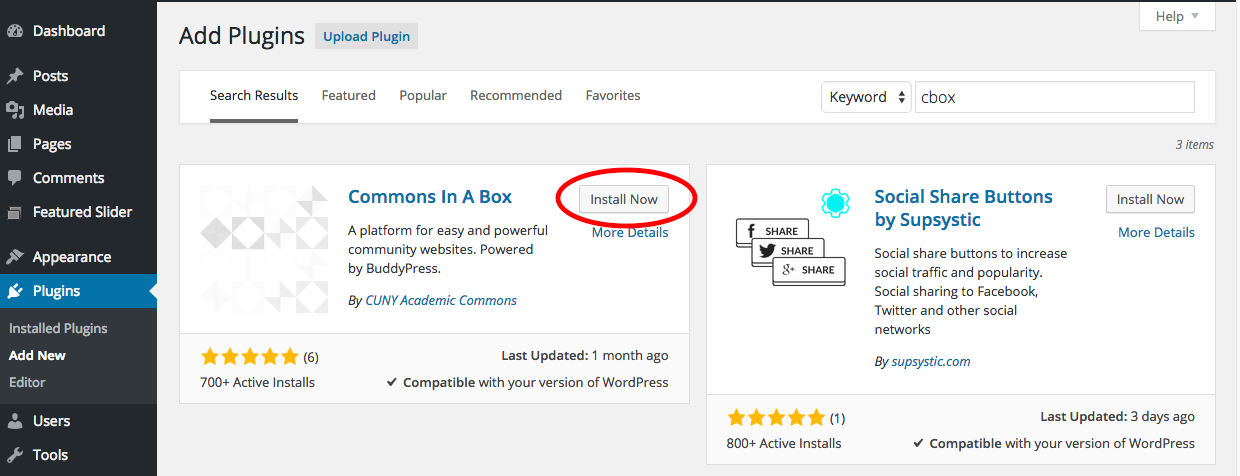
**Installation Guide**

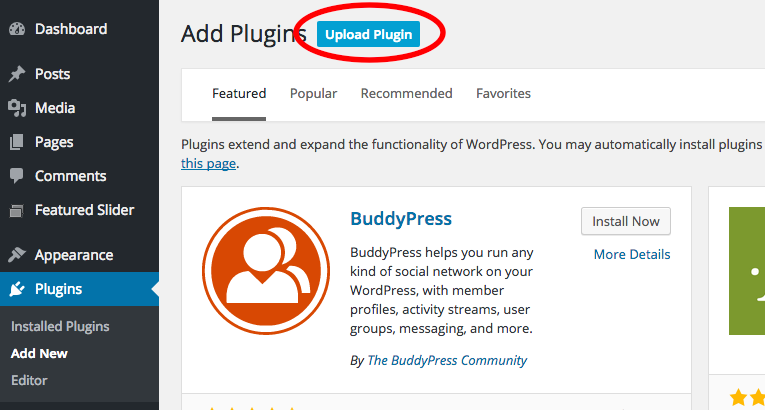
**Step One**

As our [Download](http://commonsinabox.org/download) page describes, you can either install CBOX directly from the WordPress repository or download the CBOX software from the [repository page](http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/commons-in-a-box/) and save it on your computer.

**Step Two**

Go to your WordPress dashboard and navigate to **Plugins>>Add New**.  If you have downloaded the file, click on **Upload Plugin** and click on **Browse** to find the CBOX zip file you saved in Step One.  If installing directly from its [repository page](http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/commons-in-a-box/), navigate there. Then, in either case, click **Install Now**.  This will install the CBOX plugin onto your site.





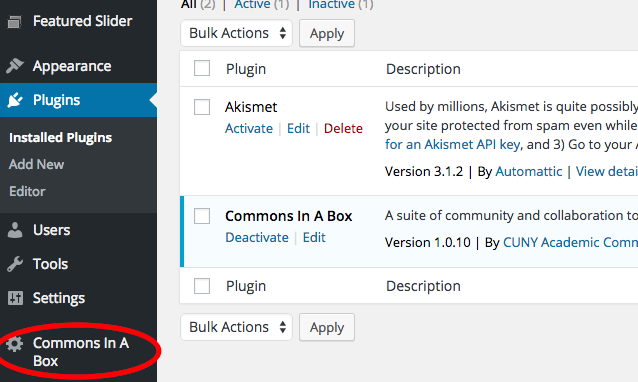
**Step Three**

Next, you need to activate the CBOX plugin.  Following install, you should see the following:

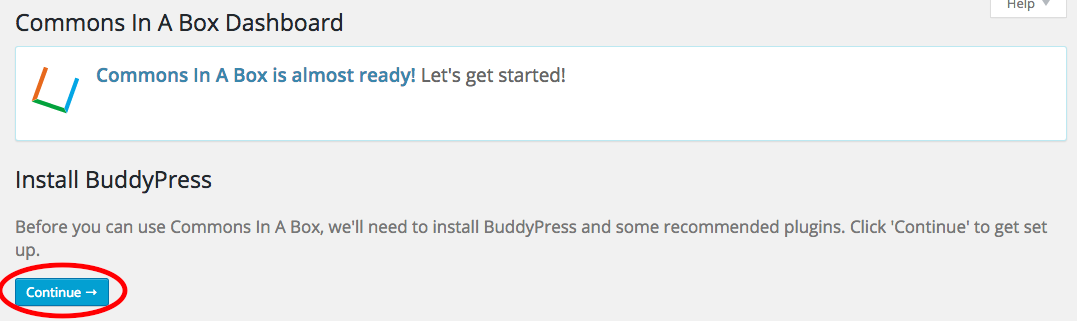


Click on **Activate Plugin**.  You now have CBOX on your site, but you still need to configure its settings.  You will be taken back to your Plugins page, but need to go through a few more steps for CBOX to be fully up and running.

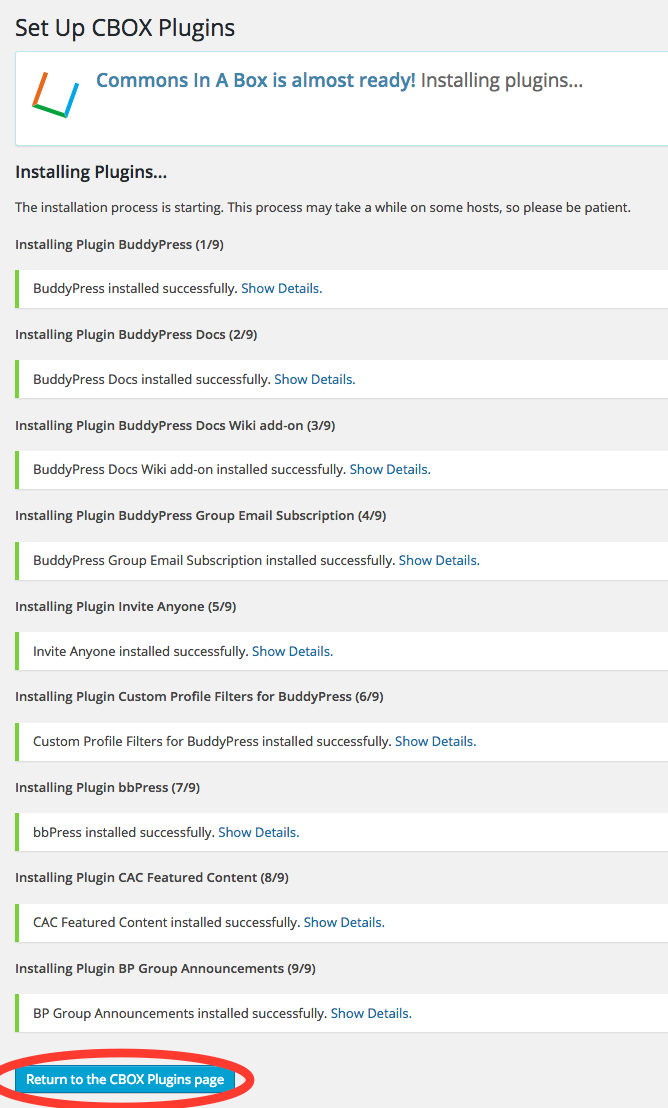
Click on **Commons in a Box** in the left-hand menu:



Click on **Continue** to install BuddyPress and other CBOX plugins.



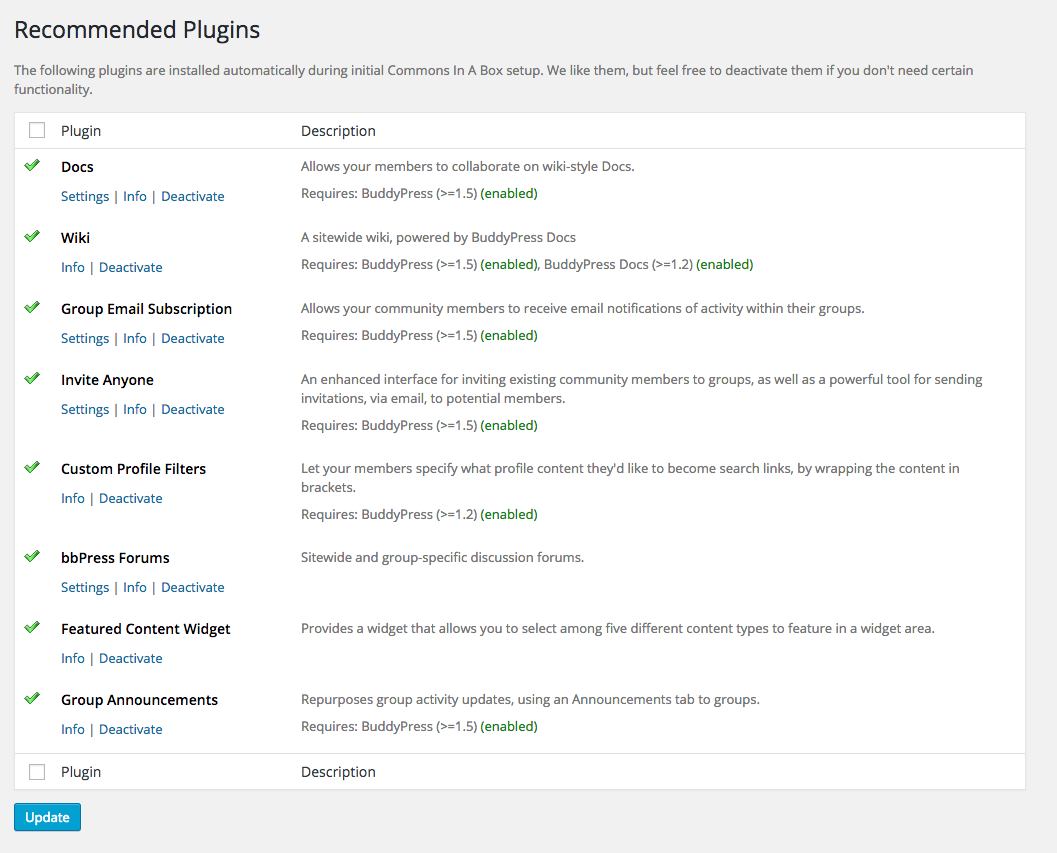
You should see the following:



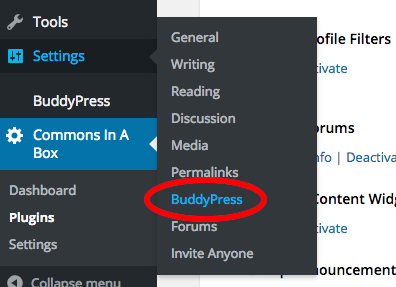
Click on **Return to the CBOX Plugin Page.**

**Step Four**

You’re taken to the Commons in a Box Plugins page where you can manage the plugins that were installed with CBOX. [BuddyPress](http://commonsinabox.org/documentation/plugins/buddypress-plugin) is a required plugin, but all of the other Plugins on this page can be deactivated if you choose.

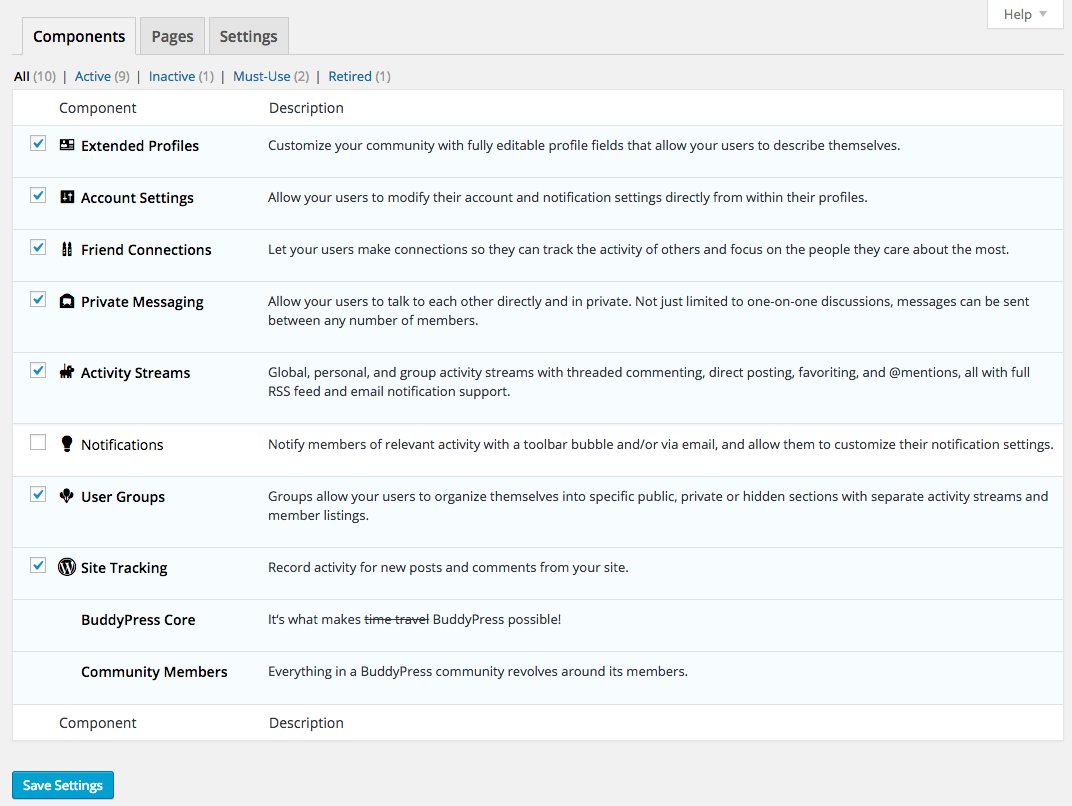


Buddypress provides a configuration panel for how it operates. To get to this, hover over **Settings** and then click on **BuddyPress.**

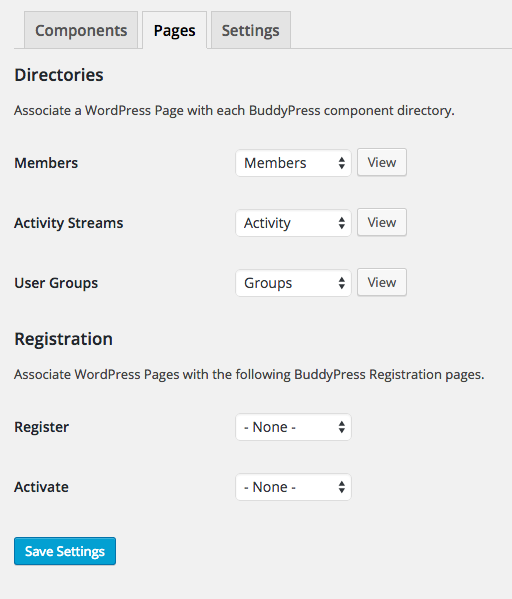


There are three tabs, and you’ll need to go through each to tailor BuddyPress functionality to your site’s needs.  After finishing each tab, and before clicking the next tab, click **Save Settings**  (These settings can always be changed from the CBOX Dashboard, after initial setup

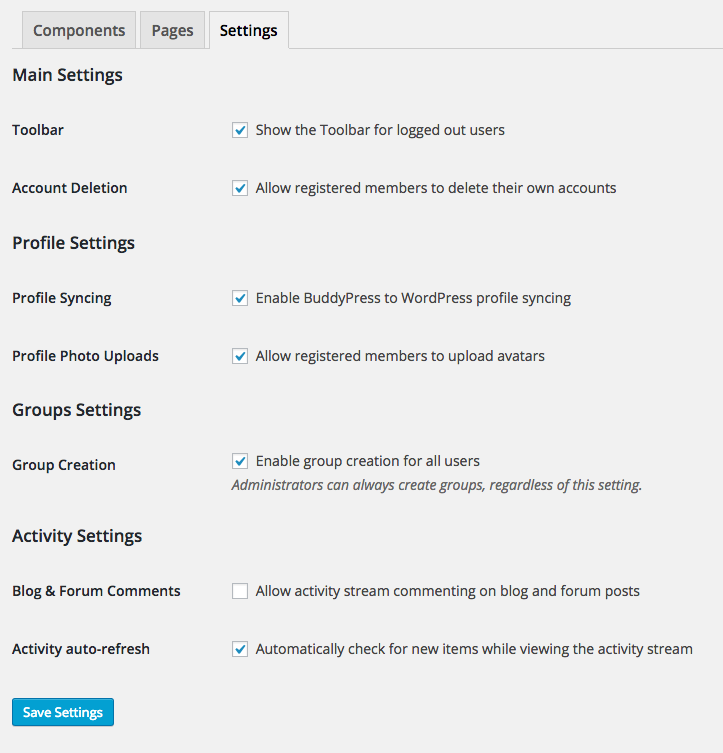
Below is the first tab, **Components**:



The second tab, **Pages**:



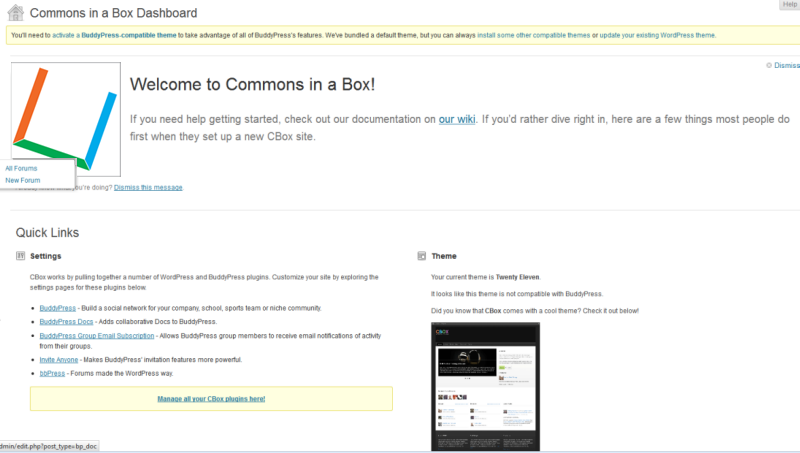
The third tab, **Settings:**



Once you have reviewed and saved each tab, your BuddyPress settings will be correctly configured for your site.

**Step Five**

If your existing theme is not a BuddyPress compatible theme, you will need to install one.  CBOX provides a default theme – but you can choose any theme which is BuddyPress compatible.  You will get the following warning if your theme does not work with CBOX:

[](http://commonsinabox.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/cbox-install-2.png)

**Congrats!**

At this point CBOX is fully functional, and you can click on the CBOX tab in your dashboard to manage CBOX plugins and configure the CBOX theme.  See [CBOX Dashboard](http://commonsinabox.org/cbox-dashboard) for more information