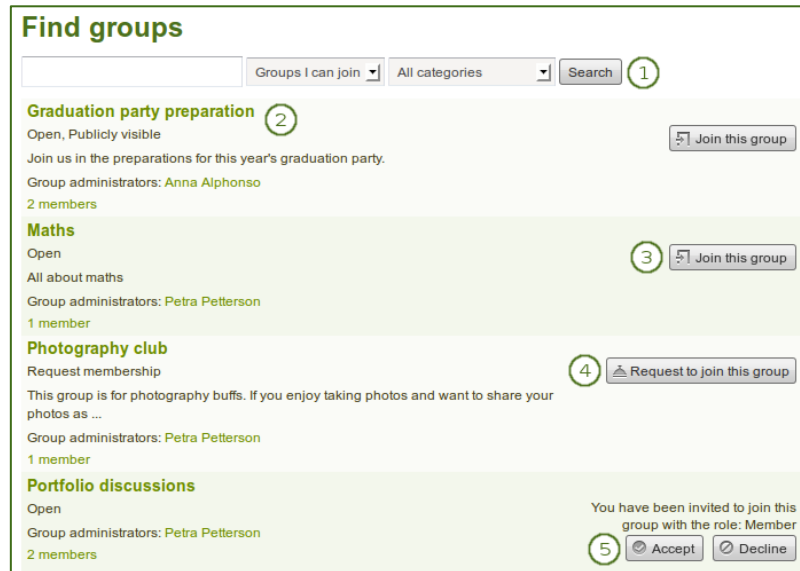


5. Groups

5.2. Find groups

[Groups](#) > [Find groups](#)

You see groups and get basic information about them. If a group administrator decided to hide a group, you will not be able to see it unless you have been invited to it.



A list of groups and certain actions you can perform

1. Search for a certain group using a word / words from its title or description. You can limit your search results to a certain group category if group categories exist. You can search for
 - groups you can join. This is the default value and only shows those groups that you are not a member of **and** that you can join. Thus, it does not show any groups that have controlled membership.
 - groups you are not in.
 - groups you belong to.
 - all groups.
2. You can find out more about a group by
 - clicking on the group name to see the group homepage.
 - clicking on the name of the group administrator to get to their profile page.
 - clicking on the member link to see who is already a member of this group if the administrator discloses this.

Users who are staff or administrators in Mahara can hide groups. Thus, you may not be able to see all groups that exist in the system.

3. If you want to become a member of an open group, click the **Join this group** button, and you will be a member immediately.
4. If you want to join a group that needs the approval of the group administrator, click the **Request to join this group** button next to the group. The administrator will receive a notification and decide about admitting you to the group.
5. If you have been invited to a group, either **Accept** or **Decline** the membership invitation.

Usually, you do not see forums, group pages, group collections and group files unless you are a member of a group. If a group is publicly available, you do see the forum discussions.