Absolute Beginner’s Guide to Drupal

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The “OSWay”

1. Introduction
2. Install
3. Create
4. Extend
5. Design
6. Practice

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Drupal

- **What?** A Content Management System
- **When?** Started in 2000 by Dries Buytaert, a student at a university in Belgium.
What is a Content Management System (CMS)?

• a software platform that aids in the management of content on a Web site.
  http://www.anvilmediainc.com/search-engine-marketing-glossary.html

• a software application that makes it possible for non-technical users to publish content to a website. A CMS serves as a store for a wide range of information assets, including text, image databases and so on.
  www.publiclife.co.uk/glossary.html
What is a Content Management System (CMS)?

**Content**

Creative Writing, Editing, HTML

**Creative Design**

Site Design and Page Layout, Information Architecture, Usability Design

**Technical Design**

Custom Programming, Database, PHP, AJAX, JavaScript, etc.

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The Drupal Business Model

Drupal is free.

How is that possible? Drupal is run by volunteers working for Drupal businesses.

Drupal is free: but Drupal sites often aren’t.
The Business Behind Drupal

Drupal is still led by it’s founder, Dries Buytaert.

His company Acquia runs much of Drupal’s products, services and support.
What Does Drupal Mean?

Drupal is a misspelling of “drop” in Dutch.

That explains the logos:
Users: White House
Department of Commerce

Secretary Locke Announces Opening of CommerceConnect Office

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Department of Education
Major League Soccer
Rafael Nadal
No False Promises

• **HUGE** learning curve beyond the basics
No False Promises

• **HUGE** learning curve beyond the basics
• **Quicker**, but good sites still take time
• **Cheaper**, but may cost $XX,XXX or more
• **More Options**, but custom work often needed
No False Promises

Drupal is not right for every site

- **WordPress** = very easy, but few features
- **Joomla** = easier, but less flexibility
Why use Drupal 7?

• Drupal 5
  – Launched 2007. Updates have ended

• Drupal 6
  – Launched 2008. Still actively developed and used for 95% of sites.

• Drupal 7
  – Launched 2011.
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Installation #1 – Automatic

**Short description:** An advanced portal with collaborative book, search engines friendly URLs, online help, roles, full content search, site watching, threaded comments, version control, blogging, news aggregator.

**Homepage:** [http://drupal.org/](http://drupal.org/)

**Drupal support forum**
(We are not associated with the support forum)

**New Installation** (7.0)
- Disk space required: 14.18 MB
- Disk space available: 472.5 MB
Installation #2 ... Manual

1. Enter server, username, password
2. Click QuickConnect
3. Drag files from local disk on left pane to remote server on right
Installation #3 … Cloud

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Installation #4 ... Desktop
Admin Area

Username: admin
Password: admin
Admin Area
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Content Workflow

1) Content types
2) Fields (if extra data needed)
3) Taxonomy (if categories needed)
   • Vocabulary
   • Terms
4) Create Content
Content Workflow

1) Content types

- Control over how content is added to your site.
- Goes way beyond the typical “Title” and “Body” fields.
- Allows for custom data fields to be attached to Drupal entities (content nodes, users, taxonomy vocabularies, etc.) and takes care of storing, loading, editing, and rendering field data. (Fields Module)
2) Fields

- Where content is added to your site.
- Can be sorted, selected, presented in any setting.
- Allow for customizing your content for maximum flexibility.
Content Workflow

3) Taxonomy

Categorization

Set up Master Categories = Vocabulary
Set up Sub Categories = Terms

Drupal then creates master links for each term
Content Workflow

4) Create Content
Planning
The “OSWay”

1. Introduction
2. Install
3. Create
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6. Practice
A. Modules Workflow

1) Download
2) Install
3) Enable
4) Configure
You can also view an alphabetical list of projects that includes all projects but only their names.

Contributed (contrib) modules are plugins for Drupal that extend, build or enhance Drupal core functionality. Use matching versions (modules released for Drupal 5.x will not work for Drupal 6.x). Contributed modules are not part of Drupal core releases and may or may not have optimized code/functionality. If a module solves your needs please consider joining forces and helping the maintainer. You can view module usage statistics for all modules to view the most popular modules used by the Drupal community.

Views
By merlinofchaos on the 25th of November, 2005

The Views module provides a flexible method for Drupal site designers to control how lists and tables of content (nodes in Views 1, almost anything in Views 2) are presented. Traditionally, Drupal has hard-coded most of this, particularly in how taxonomy and tracker lists are formatted.

This tool is essentially a smart query builder that, given enough information, can build the proper query, execute it, and display the results. It has four modes, plus a special mode, and provides an impressive amount of functionality from these modes.
Upload Modules

Files needed to be uploaded to either:

/sites/all/modules/ or:
/sites/default/modules/

*** do not upload to /modules/

OR

use the new installer!
B. Themes

Each theme has different block positions
Theme Sources

1) Free themes
2) Commercial themes ($50 to $250)
3) Theme Generator ($100)
4) Custom ($2000 and upwards)
1) Free Themes
Drupal.org/project/Themes

Themes allow you to change the look and feel of your Drupal site. You can use themes contributed by others or create your own to share with the community. Contributed themes are not part of any official release and may not have optimized code/functionality for your purposes. You can also create a sub-theme of an existing theme. A sub-theme inherits a parent theme’s resources. Read more about Sub-theme structure and inheritance. You can also view a full index of themes listing only their titles.

Zen
Posted by JohnAlbin on October 11, 2006 at 12:24am
Last changed: 5 weeks 6 days ago

Zen is the ultimate starting theme for Drupal. If you are building your own standards-compliant theme, you will find it much easier to start with Zen than to start with...
2) Commercial Themes

RocketTheme.com

FusionDrupalThemes.com

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3) Theme Generator

Artisteer.com
Layout Recap

2. Themes

4. Menus

1. Modules

3. Blocks

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Views Workflow

Displays

Page details

Display name: Page

- TITLE
  - Title: Latest Movies Page

- FORMAT
  - Format: Table | Settings

- FIELDS
  - Content: Title
  - Content: Release Date (Release Date)

- FILTER CRITERIA
  - Content: Published (Yes)
  - Content: Type (= Movies)

- SORT CRITERIA
  - Content: Release Date (desc)

PAGE SETTINGS
- Path: /latest-movies-page
- Menu: No menu
- Access: Permission | View published content

- HEADER
- FOOTER
- PAGER
  - Use pager: Full | Paged, 10 items

Advanced

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Panels Workflow

1) Panels > Choose page
2) Basic settings
3) Choose the layout
4) Place the content

Taco Bell mascot: "Yo quiero mi own show"
Submitted by Anonymous on Thu, 10/11/2007 - 04:21

Entertainment

What is this site?
This is a site primarily designed to demo a simple newspaper style site using Drupal with the modules Nodequeue and Panels. Click the about link in the primary nav for more information about this site.

You may log into this site as a demo administrator:
Username: demo
Password: demo

This site is reset every hour, so changes you make will not last. If you're mysteriously logged out, this is probably why.

World

Militant Belgian waffles take credit for chocolate explosion in Brussels; no injuries reported
Liechtenstein threatens Congo: "Get off our borders"
15 miners die in fake ID collapse in Euritania
Madagascar suddenly disappears; South African leader shows little interest
Rush on Tickle Me Elmo Doll causes 15 deaths in Qandahar; conspiracy theorists blamed

Entertainment

"Cavemen", Susan Lucci slighted at emmys; dissed on 12 nominations
"Dr. Phil" given 50 years after prescribing viagra
Tom Cruise marries, then devours Mandy Moore
Movie review: "Casablanca"; D- for predictable plot

Sports

Cubs win World Series; Jesus declines to return
Zombie Brett Favre still having fun in 93rd season with Packers
Tom Brady likes bacon; his illegitimate

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3. Blocks
User Workflow

1) Roles
2) Permissions
3) Users
4) Masquerade module to test user accounts
Things to Remember
Drupal Beginner Workflow

1) **Install** (4 ways)
2) **Create** (Content)
3) **Extend** (Modules)
4) **Design** (Views, Panels &Themes)
5) Practice, Practice, Practice
   (OSTraining.com)
Content Workflow

1) Content types
2) **Fields** (if extra data needed)
3) **Taxonomy** (if categories needed)
   - Vocabulary
   - Terms
4) Create Content
Extend/Design Workflow

1. Modules

2. Themes

3. Blocks

4. Menus

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Modules / Themes Workflow

1) Download
2) Install
3) Enable
4) Configure
User Workflow

1) Roles
2) Permissions
3) Users
4) Masquerade module to test user accounts
Put it all together...
Over to you …
Practice, Practice, Practice

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• Help via our support forum.
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Thank You