

Drupal 8

DrupalACT – March 2012

Christopher Skene

A LITTLE FLASHBACK...

Drupal 4.7

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User login

Username: *

Password: *

- [Create new account](#)
- [Request new password](#)

Who's new

- [56f9f88906aebf4...](#)
- [5fa9e41bfec0725...](#)
- [059fdcd96baeb75...](#)
- [e06f967fb0d3555...](#)
- [af3303f852abecc...](#)

Syndicate



Drupal 4.7

- Release May 1, 2006
- “I tried installing it, but it wasn’t very good, so I built my site with HTML instead”
 - By today’s standards, primitive
 - Introduced the Forms API, PHPTemplate, Page regions, RSS feeds
 - Mostly focused on making Drupal 4 not suck as much
 - Slow

Drupal 5

The image displays two overlapping screenshots of the Drupal 5 user interface. The background screenshot shows the 'Database configuration' page, which includes a form for setting up the database. The foreground screenshot shows the Drupal admin interface with a sidebar and a content area.

Database configuration

Basic options

To set up your Drupal database, enter the following information.

Database type: *

- mysql
- mysql
- pgsql

The type of database your Drupal data will be stored in.

Database name: *

The name of the database your Drupal data will be stored in. It must exist on your server before Drupal is installed.

Database username: *

Database password:

[Advanced options](#)

Drupal Admin Interface

Home [Edit primary links](#)

admin

- ▶ Create content
- My account
- ▶ Administer
- Log out

Content Item: Lorem ipsum [View](#) [Edit](#)

Sat, 03/03/2012 - 10:11 — [admin](#)

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[Add new comment](#)

Drupal 5

- Released January 15th, 2007
- “I tried building a business site on it, but had to write my own template engine”
 - Custom content types
 - Caching
 - jQuery
 - An admin section
 - Web-based installer
 - Garland!
- Faster

Drupal 6



Drupal

- ✓ Choose language
- ✓ Verify requirements
- ✓ Set up database
- ✓ Install site
- ▶ **Configure site**
- Finished

Configure site

All necessary changes to `./sites/drupal6.local` and `./sites/drupal6.local/settings.php` have been made. They have been set to read-only for security.

To configure your website, please provide the following information.

Site information

Site name: *

Site e-mail address: *

The *From* address in automated e-mails sent during registration and new password requests, and other notifications. (Use an address ending in your site's domain to help prevent this e-mail being flagged as spam.)

Administrator account

The administrator account has complete access to the site; it will automatically be granted all permissions and can perform any administrative activity. This will be the only account that can perform certain activities, so keep its credentials safe.

Username: *

Spaces are allowed; punctuation is not allowed except for periods, hyphens, and underscores.

E-mail address: *

All e-mails from the system will be sent to this address. The e-mail address is not made public and will only be used if you wish to receive a new password or wish to receive certain news or notifications by e-mail.

Password: *

Drupal 6

- Released February 14th, 2008
- “The first decent, enterprise-level release.”
 - Excellent theming tools
 - Internationalisation
 - Role-based permissions
 - Command line support
 - Fixed many of the issues with Drupal 5
 - Slower, but easier to cache

Drupal 7

Select an installation profile



Standard
Install with commonly used features pre-configured.

Minimal
Start with only a few modules enabled.

Save and continue

► Choose profile

- Choose language
- Verify requirements
- Set up database
- Install profile
- Configure site
- Finished

The screenshot shows the Drupal 7 installation process. On the left, the 'Select an installation profile' screen is visible, with the 'Standard' profile selected. Below the profile selection, a list of steps is shown: 'Choose profile', 'Choose language', 'Verify requirements', 'Set up database', 'Install profile', 'Configure site', and 'Finished'. A 'Save and continue' button is present. On the right, the resulting default Drupal 7 installation page is shown. The page has a blue header with the Drupal logo and 'drupal7.local'. A navigation menu is visible at the top, including 'Dashboard', 'Content', 'Structure', 'Appearance', 'People', 'Modules', 'Configuration', 'Reports', and 'Help'. The main content area features a search bar, a 'Home' button, and a 'Welcome to drupal7.local' message. Below the welcome message, it states 'No front page content has been created yet.' and provides a link to 'Add new content'. At the bottom of the page, it says 'Powered by Drupal'.

Drupal 7

- Released Jan 5th, 2011
 - User experience improvements
 - Fields in core
 - Better accessibility
 - Image support
 - Automated code testing
 - New Database API
 - RDFa
- Bartik & 7
- Slower, but easier to offload slow components

DRUPAL 8

Better...

- Performance
- Developer experience
- Utility
- Mobile usability
- Site building experience
- Deployment

Drupal 8 major initiatives

- Web services and core context
- Layouts
- Plugins
- Configuration management
- HTML5
- Design for core
- Mobile

Mobile

- Core architecture properly supports HTML, JSON, RSS, etc. etc.
- Core themes support mobile devices
- Mobile friendly administration interfaces

Layouts, Blocks et al

- Layouts, *ala Panels*, in core
- Everything is a block – place any content anywhere
- Layout manager in core..

Design & theming

- HTML5 everywhere
- A core base theme
- More control through the UI (less PHP to learn)
- All core themes are Responsive

Other changes

- Better multilingual/language capabilities

DRUPAL 8 FOR DEVELOPERS

The request object

- New Request object handles all responses & routing
 - Structured request/response pipeline
 - Infrastructure for building web services (menu/router system)
 - Different response types (HTML, JSON, XML per URL; former delivery callbacks)
 - Restful API to perform CRUD operations
 - Based on Symfony 2's `HTTPKernelInterface`

What's in the Request?

- loaded menu router arguments
- superglobals (`$_GET`, `$_POST`, `$_SERVER`, etc.)
- **Drupal-specific request information**
(`$_GET['q']`, `request_path()`, URL alias)
- **other context data currently being global variables** (e.g., current `$user` session, interface `$language`, and `$language_content`, etc)

RESTful router system

- **Built-in content type negotiation**
(based on HTTP Accept header or file format extension).
- **Native support for other response content types other than HTML (e.g., JSON, XML)**
- **HTTP method (GET, POST, PUT, DELETE) specific router information per URL**

What does that mean?

- Every piece of content can be requested separately (via its own URL)
 - e.g. `GET /system/block/user/whos-online` returns the HTML fragment for User module's *Who's online* block.
- A "page" contains many pieces of content from different requests
- Each URL's response can be cached

Plugins

- Ctools-like plugin system
- Plugins provide:
 - Layouts
 - Blocks (i.e. *all* content delivery)
 - Fields
 - Widgets
 - etc...
- A plugin is just a PHP class, it has no configuration
- Every plugin has the full request context passed to it
- If you use ctools plugins, you already know how these work

Entity API

- All objects are child classes of the parent `Entity` class
- Full CRUD support
- Revision and language aware
- (Hopefully) supported by a Property API
 - Translatable properties
 - Property-level access checks
 - Property-level value validation
 - Property value formatters (-> Entity display)
 - Property value widgets (-> Entity form)

Entities example

```
<?php
-
-   // Create a new comment entity.-
-   $comment = entity_construct('comment', array(-
-       'nid' => $node->nid,-
-       'subject' => 'New comment',-
-   ));
-
-   $comment->save();
-
?>
```

Other improvements

- Export any configuration to XML (*a la* Features)
- Dependency injection (via Pimple?)
- Bootstrap lazy-loading (using PSR-0 standard)
- PHP namespaces
- UUIDs for everything

What's missing?

- Media management
- Inline editing/WYSIWYG in core
- Useful content administration

- Christopher Skene
- chris@xtfer.com
- drupal.org/user/31698
- @xtfer

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Further reading

- PHP Dependency Injection
<http://www.potstuck.com/2009/01/08/php-dependency-injection/>