

21 Aug. 2012



What I Wish Someone Had Told Me At the Beginning

Joe Shindelar - @eojthebrave

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drupalize.me



We've got about 45 minutes so **here's the plan***.

1. Why this session exists ...
2. Jargon
3. Finding Modules
4. Localhost, VCS and testing
5. Firehose
6. Community
7. Q & A

** Subject to change without notice.*

IF YOU'VE ONLY GOT 5 MINUTES

Google is your friend.

There's a module for that ...
and it's probably called views.

Copy & Paste ... it's open source!

You Don't Know What You Don't Know

And a lot of times that's the hardest part.

Learn the Jargon

Your chances of finding the bathroom are much better when you know how to ask where it is.

core and **contrib**

I extended Drupal *core* using a module from *contrib*.

Node

Nodes, and **Entities**, and **Fields** oh my!

And **Content Types**, **Bundles** and **Instances** galore.

locks

Secondary page content, or a really
really simple layout tool?

Modules

Module's extend Drupal's core functionality by implementing **hooks**.

Theme

Provide the *look, feel, and UX* for your site.

Path

The configurable portion of the URL of any given page in Drupal.

[http://example.com/**node/123**](http://example.com/node/123)

[http://example.com/**contact**](http://example.com/contact)

tokens

Like [variables] for your user
entered text.



chx, xjm, sun ...

Internet Relay Chat



Name that Module

There's about **1.6 billion modules**
here's how you find the ones that
don't suck.

#1: Ask someone you trust

#2: Search drupal.org and order by **most installed**. Popular modules tend to be popular because they work.

Download & Extend

Download & Extend Home | Drupal Core | Distributions | Modules | Themes

Views

View | Version control

Posted by meirshach on November 25, 2011 at 8:34pm

What is Views

The Views module provides a flexible method for Drupal site designers to control how lists and tables of content, users, taxonomy terms and other data are presented.

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.

Among other things, Views can be used to generate reports, create summaries, and display collections of images and other content.

You need Views if

- You like the default front page view, but you find you want to sort it differently, for example, alphabetically.
- You use /search, but you want to restrict it to posts of a certain type.
- You like the idea of the 'article' module, but it doesn't display articles the way you like.
- You want a way to display a block with the 5 most recent posts of some particular type.
- You want to provide 'unread forum posts'.
- You want a monthly archive similar to the typical Wordpress Type/Wordpress archives that displays a link to the in the form of "Month, YYYY-DD" where Y is the number of posts that month, and display them in a block. The links lead to a simple list of posts for that month.

Views can do a lot more than that, but these are some of the obvious uses of Views.

Views for Drupal 8

We're trying to get Views into Drupal Core in Drupal 8. If you want to help with this effort, or to contribute to Views in general, please see the chapter to the right.

Recommended versions of Views!

For new installs of Drupal 6, we recommend the 6.x-3.x branch. We have not changed the recommended version you see below, because there is an upgrade bug in 6.x-2.x that causes upgraded views to break. We don't want anyone getting a surprise breakage of their site.

The 6.x-2.x branch of Views is in critical security maintenance mode only. If we can fix the upgrade issue, that will absolutely be fixed and the branch will officially be deprecated at that point. Support efforts will be concentrated on the 3.x branch.

Dependencies

The Drupal 7 version of Views requires the [Chain Test Suite](#) also known as CTsuite.

Views' bug squad

The [Views' bug squad](#) is a group of people who have dedicated a few hours a week to help provide support and fix bugs in the issue queue. They are the first line for answering questions and properly filing issues. Anyone who wishes to join the Bug Squad to help others may do so to help contribute to the Drupal community!

Views documentation

- Views 3
- Views 2 (This link goes to the Advanced Help project page. All Views documentation is included with its installation. For your convenience, you may also visit [http://www-help.bley.org](http://www.help.bley.org). This site may or may not be fully up to date at any given time.)
- Views 2 API (Generated from Views 2 source. Only useful to developers.)
- Views 3 documentation hasn't been updated completely yet. Items of note are:
 - Only [SQL](#) can import a View.

Sponsorship

- This project is sponsored by [KPI](#). We provide specialist consulting services in Enterprise Drupal, Views & Panels. Visit us at www.kpi.be or [Contact us](http://Contact-us).

Our book

- Our book, [Drupal's Building Blocks](#) is now available. [Buy it on Amazon.com](#).

Downloads

Recommended releases

Version	Downloads	Date	Links
7.x-3.3	Get it (1,146) API (1,146)	2012-Feb-22	Notes
6.x-2.5b	Get it (1,146) API (1,146)	2012-Nov-14	Notes

Other releases

Version	Downloads	Date	Links
6.x-3.0	Get it (1,146) API (1,146)	2012-Jan-04	Notes

Development releases

Version	Downloads	Date	Links
7.x-3.x-dev	Get it (1,146) API (1,146)	2012-Aug-17	Notes
6.x-3.x-dev	Get it (1,146) API (1,146)	2012-Jul-27	Notes

Project information

Maintenance status: **Actively maintained**
 Development status: **Under active development**
 Reported issues: **483587** also currently report using this module. [View usage statistics.](#)
 Downloads: 2,375,379
 Automated tests: Enabled
 Last modified: June 16, 2012

[View all releases](#)

Maintainers for Views

- [benjytray](#) - 342 commits
last: 4 hours ago, first: 1 year ago
 - [davefraser](#) - 2292 commits
last: 3 hours ago, first: 2 years ago
 - [bepretz](#) - 58 commits
last: 11 months ago, first: 1 year ago
 - [sachin](#) - 128 commits
last: 13 weeks ago, first: 1 year ago
 - [meirshach](#) - 3246 commits
last: 23 weeks ago, first: 6 years ago
- [View all maintainers](#)
[View commits](#)

Issues for Views

To avoid duplication, please search before submitting a new issue.

Search

Advanced search

All issues

1913 open, 10791 total

Bug reports

692 open, 6708 total

[Subscribe via e-mail](#)

Resources

[Read documentation](#)

[View project translations](#)

Development

[View pending patches](#)

[Repository viewer](#)

[View commits](#)

[Report a security issue](#)

[View change records](#)

Related projects

[Panel: Everywhere](#)

[Panel: Core](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Views: Cloud](#)

[Follow-up](#)



Recommended releases

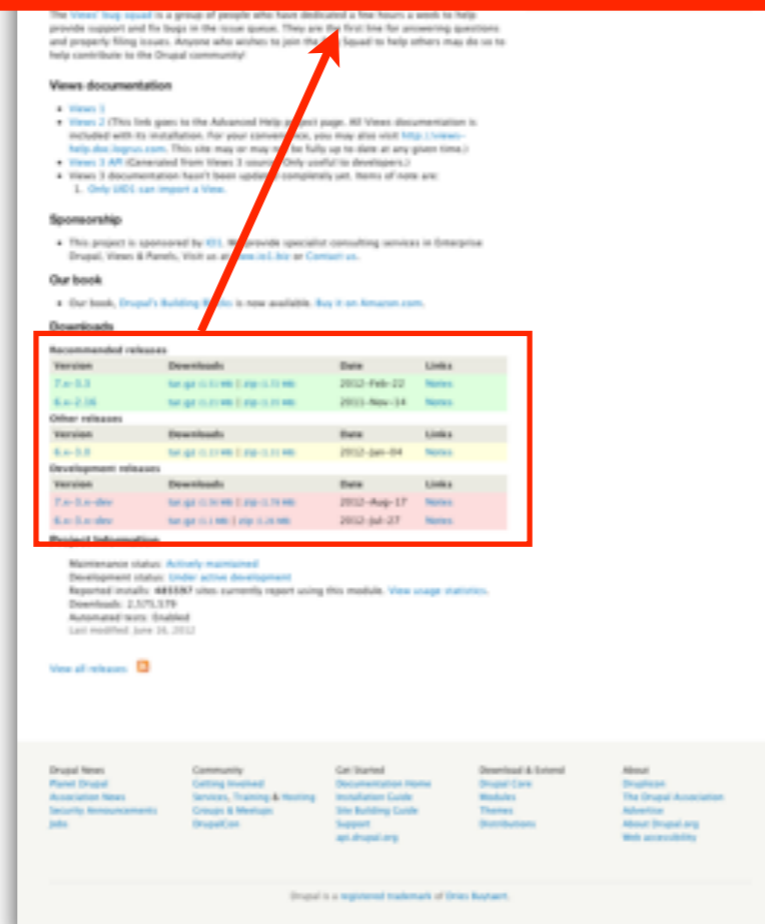
Version	Downloads	Date	Links
7.x-3.3	tar.gz (1.51 MB) zip (1.72 MB)	2012-Feb-22	Notes
6.x-2.16	tar.gz (1.21 MB) zip (1.35 MB)	2011-Nov-14	Notes

Other releases

Version	Downloads	Date	Links
6.x-3.0	tar.gz (1.13 MB) zip (1.31 MB)	2012-Jan-04	Notes

Development releases

Version	Downloads	Date	Links
7.x-3.x-dev	tar.gz (1.56 MB) zip (1.78 MB)	2012-Aug-17	Notes
6.x-3.x-dev	tar.gz (1.1 MB) zip (1.26 MB)	2012-Jul-27	Notes





Project Information

Maintenance status: **Actively maintained**

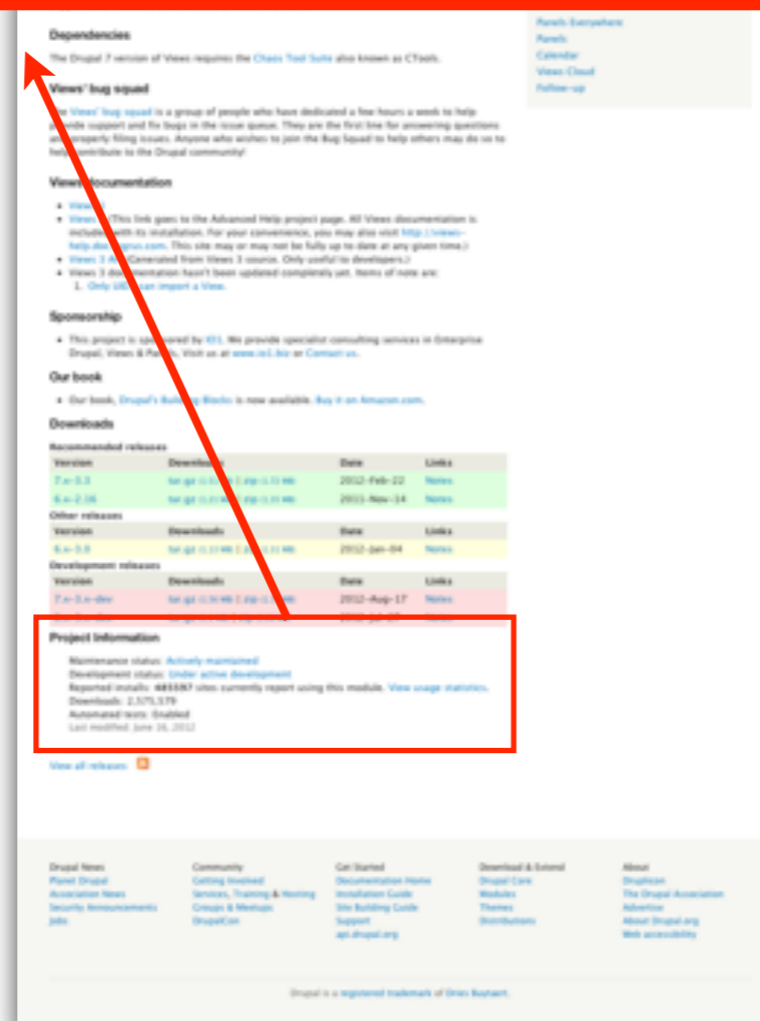
Development status: **Under active development**

Reported installs: **485597** sites currently report using this module. [View usage statistics.](#)

Downloads: **2,575,579**

Automated tests: **Enabled**

Last modified: **June 16, 2012**



Drupal

Download & Extend

Views

Maintainers for Views

tim.plunkett - 142 commits
last: 2 hours ago, first: 1 year ago

dawehner - 2292 commits
last: 3 hours ago, first: 2 years ago

bojanz - 58 commits
last: 11 weeks ago, first: 1 year ago

esmerel - 118 commits
last: 15 weeks ago, first: 1 year ago

merlinofchaos - 3241 commits
last: 23 weeks ago, first: 6 years ago

[View all committers](#)
[View commits](#)

Issues for Views

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Advanced search

All issues
1955 open, 16951 total

[Bug reports](#)
692 open, 6506 total

[View all committers](#)
[View commits](#)

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Other releases

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Development releases

Version	Downloads	Date	Links
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6.x-3.x-dev	tar.gz zip diff	2012-Jul-27	Notes

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#3: Sometimes the best solution is
3 modules **not the one behemoth**
that appears to do it all already.

#4: Just download and
test some modules.

Please, for the love of all
that you hold dear in this
world, and any other world
for that matter, pretty
please, with cherries and
whip cream on on top. Do
your testing on a
development environment.

Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Gundersen", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and stylized.

http://localhost/

Acquia Dev-Desktop

LAMP / MAMP / WAMP



If only we could **go back** in time ...

Ready to install that module you just found?
There's a right place and wrong place to put it.

sites/all/modules & sites/all/themes



KEEP CALM
AND
CLEAR CACHE

Keeping your code up-to-date

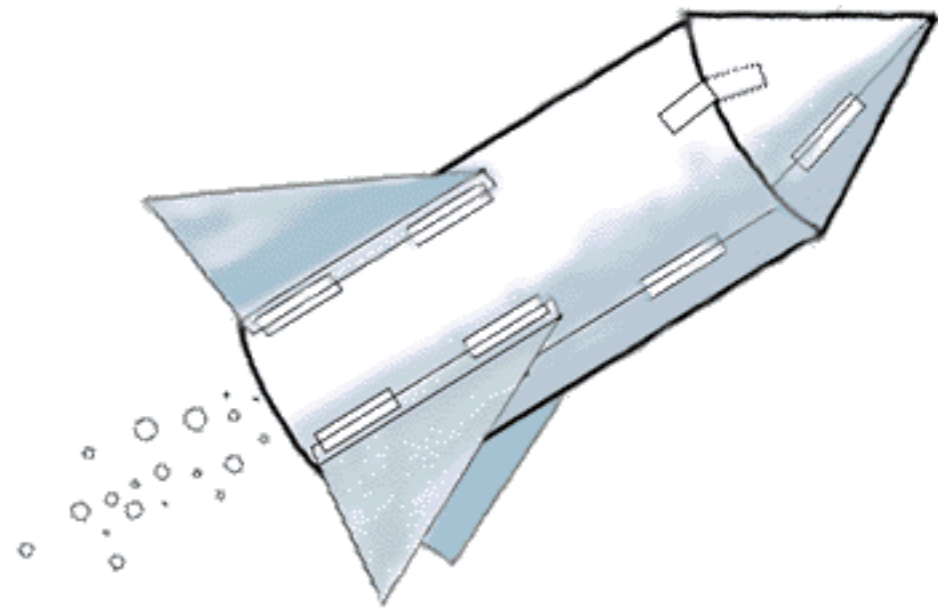
There is no harm in missing a *point release* as long as you understand what you're missing.

Remember to turn on update notifications

<http://drupal.org/mailing-lists>

 **@drupalsecurity**

Point release upgrades
are **not** rocket surgery.



Multi-site seems like a really good idea but **understand the implications** it has on upgrades before you go that route.

Testing Is Important

You don't have to test everything
just the things that have to work



Drupal / SimpleTest

<http://drupal.org/simpletest/>



Selenium

<http://seleniumhq.org/>

CasperJS

CasperJS

<http://casperjs.org/>

Do not do your testing as User One



KEEP CALM
AND
CLEAR CACHE

Version Control is actually really easy.

PHP Learn some.

You don't need to be an expert, but it'll help a lot to have a basic understanding.

After you learn PHP, stay far
far away from **PHP.module**

Don't. Hack. Core.

Read and understand **theme ()**
and the related workflow.

Filters affect permissions

And poor permissions can lead to security threats

To the point that you won't be able to edit a node that you created and it'll be really confusing.

Run Cron

Automation

and automating your automation

Drush

Command Line Everything


```
root$ drush dl views devel
```

```
Project views (7.x-3.x-dev) downloaded to [success]  
/Users/jeff/platforms/d7-a6/sites/a.d7.dev/modules/views.
```

```
Project devel (7.x-1.0-beta2) downloaded to [success]  
/Users/jeff/platforms/d7-a6/sites/a.d7.dev/modules/devel.
```

```
root$ drush en views devel
```

```
The following projects will be enabled: views, devel
```

```
Do you really want to continue? (y/n): y
```

```
views was enabled successfully.
```

```
[ok]
```

```
devel was enabled successfully.
```

```
[ok]
```

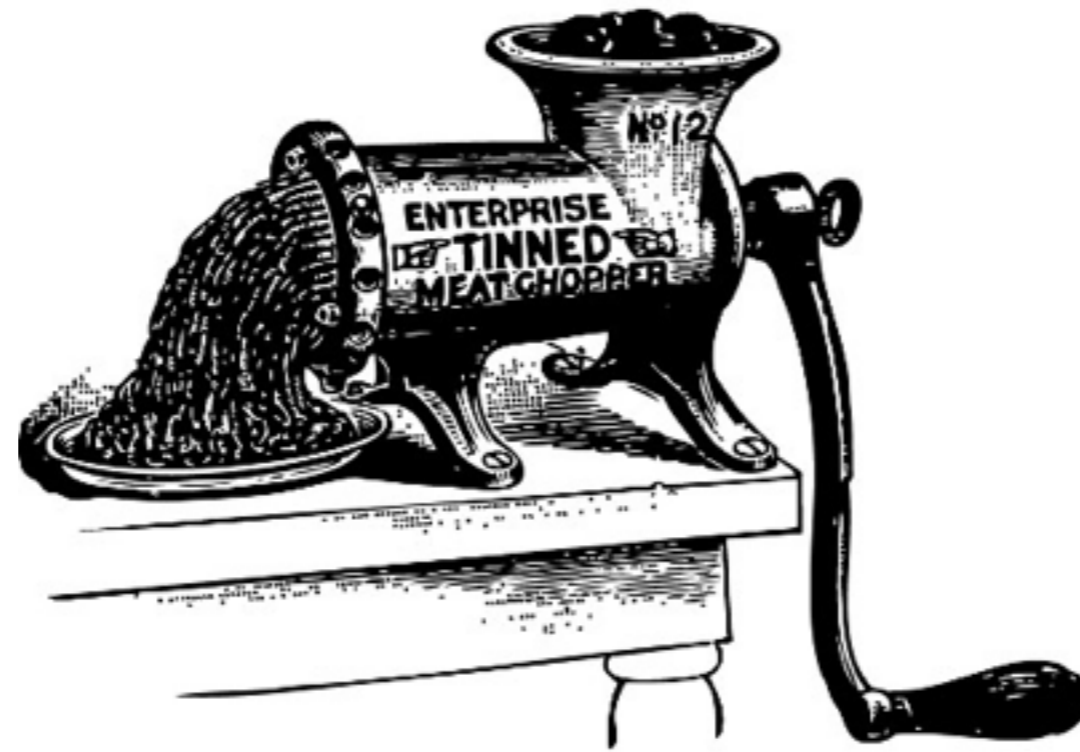

root\$ drush status

```
Drupal version           : 7.0-alpha6
Site URI                 : http://a.d7.dev
Database driver         : mysql
Database hostname      : localhost
Database name          : site_203
Database                : Connected
Drupal bootstrap       : Successful
Drupal user            : Anonymous
PHP configuration      : /private/etc/php.ini
Drupal root            : /Users/jeff/platforms/d7-a6
Site path              : sites/a.d7.dev
File directory path    : sites/a.d7.dev/files
```

```
root$ drush cache-clear all
```

```
'all' cache was cleared
```

```
[success]
```



Features / Exportables / CMI

Settings

Views

Content

Blocks

Flags

Types

Fields

ImageCache

Panels

Roles

Others



Features / Exportables / CMI

Settings

Views

Content

Blocks

Flags

Types

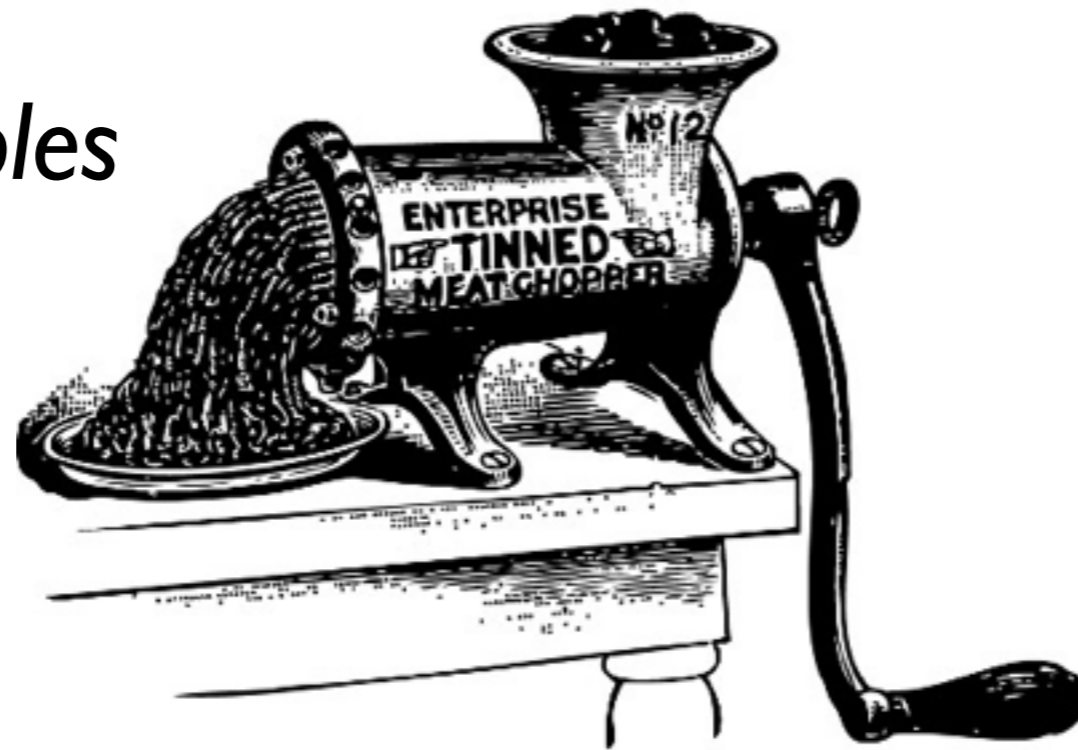
Fields

ImageCache

Panels

Roles

Others



`my_feature.module`

Features / Exportables / CMI

Resources there are so many places to get information. These are the ones I use and like.

<http://drupal.org/>

[http://**api**.drupal.org/](http://api.drupal.org/)
[http://**groups**.drupal.org/](http://groups.drupal.org/)

Books. Drupal.org can be overwhelming and un-focused. A good book can bring focus to a specific topic.



The Drupal Ladder

<http://drupalladder.org>

drupalize.me



<http://drupal.org/planet>

Read this page regularly.

Examples Project

<http://drupal.org/project/examples>



Come for the code, stay for the **community**



It's **open-source**. You would be amazed at what you can learn from **copy & paste** ...

Contribute.

Create a patch and **learn by doing.**

Attend the **Sprints on Friday**

Attend **local user groups** and teach others what you already know.

There is **no magic.**

Thanks.



@eojthebrave • Lullabot • Drupalize.Me