

Be Like A Drop

Contributing to Drupal
Free(dom) and Open Source

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Overview

- * Benefits of contributing
 - * exchange, share and learn
 - * personal glory and karma points
 - * give back / pay it forward
- * Different methods of contributing
 - * helping on irc, forums, documentation, blogging
 - * attending, volunteering at drupalcamps
 - * contributing a theme, module, patch

Benefits of Contributing

- * exchange, share and learn
- * move away from creating one-offs and managing unmaintainable code
- * help support the tools that you are using, and help to ensure longevity
- * personal glory, karma points
- * give back / pay it forward
- * enable [contributor block](#) in user profile

Communicating ideas

- * always do a simple search first.
- * irc channels; drupal-support, drupal.
- * write up a blog post.
- * talk to local drupalists in your area.
- * forum posts.
- * interact with other drupalists in the issue queue system.
- * communication required to make sure ideas, changes are as usable as possible.

Dealing with the public

- * Realize that you will be interacting with all types of people, at different skill levels, different backgrounds and different understanding and insights.
- * Need to develop a thick skin.
- * Don't be discouraged if you receive negative responses, quite normal.
- * If you don't agree on a solution, suggest an alternate solution.
- * Provide clear instructions as much as possible.

Documentation

- * [February Docs challenge](#) incorporate comments into handbook pages
- * add / edit handbook pages directly
- * [submit an issue](#) to suggest an update or ask for feedback
- * commenting on existing pages
- * email the [documentation mailing list](#)

How are changes implemented?

- * an itch to scratch, an idea to improve
- * do research to find out if a solution exists
- * tests out current solutions, modules, recipes
- * if solution does not fit well; talks, blogs, chats in irc, forums, mailing list
- * checks issue queue for bugs, feature requests
- * **add an issue**, patch to improve upon a module, theme, core
- * contributes a module, theme to source control

What are patches?

- * a little code snippet that demonstrates the changes to be made
- * used to help discuss proposed changes in a clear and concise manner
- * [check out the patch queue](#), and for [newbies](#)
- * to test and create patches, need a development environment with cvs
- * gnu linux/unix, [lampp](#), wamp, [mamp](#)/xcode

```
$ patch -p0 < patch/filename.patch
```

```
$ cvs diff -up > 12345.patch
```

Process for reviewing patches

- * read through the comments in the issue
- * Does the proposed change make sense
- * Test the functionality
- * Examine the usability
- * Review the code / patch (patch - CNR, patch - CNW, patch - RTBC)
- * Look for security issues
- * Look for scalability issues

Task List / Bug Database

project

drupal website, installation profiles, modules, themes, theme engines, translations

category

bug report, task, feature request, support request

priority

critical, normal, minor

status

active, patch, fixed, duplicate, won't fix, by design, closed

Revision Process

Issue Created

and submitted to the issue database

Patch attached

to the issue, by the issuer or another person

Patch reviewed

by a different person than the patch creator

Code change applied

by the module maintainer(s)

CVS

- * version control used by drupal.org
- * anonymous users can have read access
- * authenticated users can contribute, maintain modules and themes
- * alternate route for installing drupal, modules and themes with anonymous cvs
- * [cvs deploy module](#) to show update status

CVS commands

To checkout drupal, use

```
cvcs -d
```

```
":pserver:anonymous:anonymous@cvs.drupal.org:/cvs/drupal" checkout -r <HEAD|tag-name> drupal
```

e.g. `cvcs checkout -r DRUPAL-6 drupal`

To checkout drupal modules, themes, use

```
cvcs -d
```

```
":pserver:anonymous:anonymous@cvs.drupal.org:/cvs/drupal" checkout -r HEAD contributions/modules/<module-name>
```

e.g. `cvcs checkout -r DRUPAL-6--2 -d cck contributions/modules/cck`

e.g. `cvcs checkout -r DRUPAL-6--2-0 -d basic contributions/themes/basic`

