



chapter THREE

2325 3rd Street, Suite 319. San Francisco, California 94107
1-888-822-4273 www.chapterthree.com

(Project) Development Plan

Site Spec

Generally it's a good idea to mirror some important content from a spec/RFP document here in a development plan. It allows people reading the plan to understand context, and see at a glance how drupal intends to solve these problems. It is especially worthwhile if you can translate content into "drupal lingo" rather than just copy/pasting from an existing document.

User Scenarios

User 1: Anonymous

- description: what they can do on the site in narrative form
- bullets of available features

User 2: Logged-in user

- ...

User 3: Admin User

- ...

Functional Requirements

These elements should be the measurable deliverables -- things which are clearly done or not -- which will drive the production schedule and specific TODO lists for developers.

Feature 1

- Specific Deliverable A
- Specific Deliverable B
- Specific Deliverable C

Feature 2

• ...
Feature n
• ...

Production schedule

We generally drive our production schedule around three planned major deliverables: prototype, beta and release candidate versions of the site. Depending on the scope and scale of your project, as well as your taste for iterative development, you may want more major milestones.

Prototype: mm/dd/yyyy

X feature complete

Y level of design implementation

- Week 1: goals
- Week 2: goals
- Week n: goals

Beta: mm/dd/yyyy

X feature complete

Y level of design implementation

- Week 1: goals
- Week 2: goals
- Week n: goals

Release Candidate: mm/dd/yyyy

X feature complete

Y level of design implementation

- Week 1: goals
- Week 2: goals
- Week n: goals

Sitemap

Flowchart-style representation of primary pages with key numbers that can be referenced elsewhere. Should contain a representative item for each screen/url which will have novel design/functionality.

Ideally, this sitemap will also specify the desired URL structure for the site.

Drupal CMS Spec

Major Module Inventory

The module inventory should contain all custom modules, as well as modules related to the functional requirements of the site. Basic infrastructure modules (e.g. CCK, Views, Pathauto) are not necessarily listed here unless they are being used in a novel or specific

way.

Module 1:

- Drupal.org url
- Version to implement
- What it does to meet functional requirements
- Places it may need to be tuned via Drupal APIs

Module 2:

- Drupal.org url
- Version to implement
- What it does to meet functional requirements
- Places it may need to be tuned via Drupal APIs

Node Types

List all node types. For very basic node types (e.g. normal content page) a simple stub is ok, but a master directory is important.

Type 1:

- Purpose
- Important fields
- Driving modules
- Teaser view theming
- Full view theming
- Other theming

Type 2:

- Purpose
- Important fields
- Driving modules
- Teaser view theming
- Full view theming
- Other view theming

Taxonomy Vocabularies

Vocab 1:

- Type:
- Purpose:
- Node scope:

Vocab 2:

- Type:
- Purpose:
- Node scope:

User Roles:

Role 1:

- Permissions/access of note
- User experience notes

Role 2:

- Permissions/access of note
- User experience notes

Navigation/Menu

Account for how navigation elements will be driven:

- Information Architecture
- Display
- Administration

Major Functional Pages:

Sitemap Reference A:

- Data sources
- Forms / Functionality
- Driving module (e.g. views, panels, node/view)
- Blocks to note

Sitemap Reference B:

- Data sources
- Forms / Functionality
- Driving module (e.g. views, panels, node/view)
- Blocks to note

Drupal Theme Development Spec

- Any special design implementation notes for novel or tricky elements
- Block regions
- Anticipated tpl.php files
- Views style plugins
- Custom panel layouts
- Custom javascript functionality
- Theme overrides (keep list as they develop)
 - Functions
 - Forms
 - Templates

Drupal Custom Module Spec (one per custom module)

- Functional requirements
- Dependencies
- Node type (if any)
- Drupal Hook Implementations:
 - `hook_menu()`
 - `hook_nodeapi()`
 - `hook_form_alter()`
 - `hook_user()`
- Javascript functionality
- Other development notes (e.g. external libraries, APIs, web services, etc)