Node Templating

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Node Template Creation

- node.tpl.php
- node-story.tpl.php

- Copy the default node template and modify
- Remove or rearrange the contents
- Be clean! Mind your white space.
CCK Display Field Settings

Labels

Full node / teaser

CCK formatters
Themeable functions

theme_links
theme_node_submitted
theme_username
theme_user_picture
Use it for its intended purpose, not as a 'shortcut' for your markup problems

display: none; is for losers

You usually have all the div classes you need to theme without modifications.
Add / modify node variables

THEME_preprocess_node

reference modules/node/node.tpl.php
  or dsm($vars)

always modify vars instead of butchering templates

if ($vars['node']->type == 'story') {
  $vars['my_cool_var'] = 'whatever';
}
Deconstruct \$node->content

Use Devel
  Devel load vs Devel render

Sanitize any raw values
  check_plain
  check_markup

Ask yourself if there is a way to avoid taking control of \$content
  ● Makes your templates complex
  ● Must be manually updated
  ● Room for error
Contemplate module

Typically a beginner's learning tool

Using file-based templates is generally preferable
  ● Faster to edit
  ● Use your text editor
  ● Avoid broken code in your database syndrome

Contemplate does have file-based mode
Panels 2 Module

Take over node displays with a node/% panel

Separate content / display settings for each content type

Put CCK fields / fieldgroups in their own panes!

Great alternative to deconstructing $node->content in many cases
CCK Fields and Formatters

CCK field templates

Roll your own formatters

Reference the CCK Handbook
Handy API functions & flags

- hook_view
- hook_nodeapi
- truncate_utf8
- user_access
- views_get_current_view

Variables:

- $is_front
- $page
- $teaser
- $is_admin