Node Templating

Jody Hamilton

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

CSS

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 $is_front

hook_nodeapi $page

truncate_utf8 $teaser

user_access $is_admin

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views_get_current_view