TYPO3 versus Drupal

Comparison Card: TYPO3 versus Drupal

Product Overview

- Drupal is an open source content management system written in PHP and it's published under the GNU General Public License, which means, that – same to TYPO3 – there are no licensing fees when it comes to using the base code. Drupal comes with a variety of standard features and can be built and extended modularly. It's scalable, performant and even comes with several premade themes and bundles. It can also be easily extended by using the open API's to link to external services and applications. Drupal is being developed by a massive community of over 1,000,000 developers, trainers, designers and editors and really pushes the open source movement.

THEIR KEY STRENGTHS	WHY PEOPLE WOULD CHOOSE TYPO3 INSTEAD?
Drupal out-of-the-box comes with a wide variety of modules and predefined distributions.	TYPO3 has more functionalities and features already merged in the core without the need of adding any modules, which makes TYPO3 installations sleeker.
Drupal supports multidomain management.	One of TYPO3's key features is the multisite approach. You can easily set up a variety of domains and websites in one singular TYPO3 installation without the need for additional modules.
Drupal comes with out-of-the-box frontend editing.	Frontend editing isn't included in the TYPO3 core, but it can be implemented by installing extensions. TYPO3 puts a bigger focus on creating structured content and wants to encourage people to think about the intent of the output, instead of the WYSIWYG thought.
Drupal puts mobile first – delivering mobile responsive themes, responsive images and mobile administration out-of-the-box.	There are several mobile friendly themes and packages available online, which enable clean mobile solutions. TYPO3 also comes with an image cropping for device breakpoints for responsive images.
Drupal puts a high priority on accessibility and ensures, that all its features and functions conform with the World Wide Web Consortium guidelines WCAG, WAI-ARIA and ADA out-of-the-box.	TYPO3 is putting enormous efforts into meeting accessibility guidelines in future versions. The TYPO3 Accessibility team is working hard on immensely improving accessibility in the upcoming TYPO3 v11 LTS release.

Product Features

- Drupal allows integrators (site builders) to build "views" to list content, without needing a programmer,
- Multilingual and multidomain support,
- E-Commerce features: Currencies, multiple stores, order workflows, payments, taxes, etc.,
- Marketing Automation

THEIR WEAKNESSES	WHY PEOPLE WOULD CHOOSE TYPO3 INSTEAD?
Drupal's release cycles and dates aren't as strictly defined and not always on time.	TYPO3 announces the release dates of new major and minor versions months and even years ahead and always releases on the announced dates. Also, TYPO3 offers up to 6 years support with ELTS plans, which is something no other CMS can offer.
Content editing and menu editing must be done in two separate sections, which means double the effort when things need to be changed.	The TYPO3 page tree provides unified menu editing and content organization. When a page is renamed, the corresponding menu item will be updated automatically as well.
The Drupal file browser doesn't store metadata and you cannot search for files in the system.	TYPO3's media library comes with with metadata presets, makes managing meta data easy peasy and files are searchable by file name.
If you want to edit images after they have been uploaded to the system, you will need to download them, edit them offline and re-upload/re-link them.	TYPO3 comes out-of-the-box with image manipulation tools, such as image cropping for device breakpoints (responsive images).
With Drupal, you have to use contributed modules to add certain functionalities, which increases the complexity of the system.	TYPO3 has almost all essential content management features included in the core, such as scheduled publishing and expiration of content.

Comparison Card: TYPO3 versus Drupal - In context

When do we compete?

- TYPO3 and Drupal compete when it comes to massive multisite, multilingual websites with several integrations such as CRMs, shop systems and product information systems.
- TYPO3 performs better with media libraries with metadata, the possibility to edit images online and content management like scheduled publishing and expiration of content.

Sector and verticals

Industry, Governments, Media, Universities
Drupals primary target group: big, multinational enterprises, who are looking for a way to present their company in a multisite, multilingual website structure

Customer challenge	Competitor approach	TYPO3 approach
I want to enable my editors to manage content via frontend editing.	Drupal comes with out-of-the-box frontend editing.	There is an TYPO3 extension available, which enables frontend editing. However, TYPO3's focus is laid on creating structured content.
We want content builders to have a UI for creating content models.	In Drupal, you can build custom content models, with fields, etc. It means you don't *necessarily* need a developer in order to create a website. This however creates a problem with configurations that are saved in the database. Configuration management becomes more complex with updates, testing, continuous integration, local development, etc. *You'll still need a developer.*	While you do need a developer in order to set up a TYPO3 installation, you mainly need them for the initial setup and configuration of the installation. You can provide your editors with backend page layouts, which make creating structured content within a given frame and layout really easy.
We are looking for a CMS, which is easy and intuitive. We don't want a lengthy onboarding process.	Drupal's onboarding process looks different for every Drupal installation, since there isn't one specific backend layout. Once people are onboarded onto a specific backend, they are able to navigate pretty intuitively.	The backend layout for TYPO3 versions has been pretty much the same since version 7. Navigating the backend has been made easy by incorporating meaningful icons for the different modules and unimportant modules can easily be filtered out in the user rights. There are a lot of tutorials for editors available online, which improve the onboarding process immensely. Since all TYPO3 backends rely on the same backend layout, editors only need to be onboarded once in order to be able to use the TYPO3 backend.
I need a CMS which comes with world-wide support options.	Drupal has one of the biggest developer communities and you will quite likely find support almost everywhere worldwide.	While TYPO3 certainly has the biggest user base in the DACH-region, the community and thereby also professional support is ever growing – with lots of support possibilites in India, Spain, Romania, the Netherlands, Sweden and even the United States and Canada!

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