## How to build a website: A decision flowchart

1. What do you need the website for? a) Do you want to publish some information, e.g. about your project [digital publication]?

A website build with a content management system, e.g. wordpress will do.

A static website, e.g. with *jekyll* works perfectly – except when you data doesn't have a uniform format (see point 3).

You'll need a semi-dynamic or dynamic website, depending on your data's format. Go to 3 to find out.

b) Do you want to publish digital objects, e.g. handwritten letters?

You are fine with a static website for digital editions such as omeka or jekyll and its theme ed.

If it's likely that you add a tab structure + files to download, you should make yourself familiar with the column on the right.

You need a dynamic or semi-dynamic website.

Go to 3 + 4 to find out if it is better to ask a web developer for help.

2. What kind of data do you want to publish?

Plain text

Plain text
+ more than one page [tab structure]

Plain text
+ more than one page [tab structure]
+ files to download

3. Do your files have a uniform format?

4. Scalability: Is it likely that your website will grow in terms of "you are going to add text/data"?

Perfect. You are fine.

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If you are adding plain text, you can still go ahead with a content management system like wordpress.

If it is likely that you add a tab-structure, you should use a scalable tool from the start, e.g. *jekyll*.

If you add plain text + tabs you can still go ahead with a static website builder like *jekyll*.

You can still manage on your own, depending on...

- ... your skills (e.g. can you already code?)
- ... your capacities (e.g. do you have plenty of time to make yourself familiar with coding or do you have staff to do it for you? 

  time and/or manpower?)
- ... your budget, e.g. do you have a budget for a web developer great! Go for it!

Your life will be easier with a web developer.

5. How to publish?

Buy a host or get a git.

If you use *wordpress*, buy a host.

If you use jekyll, you can publish your website via github/github pages. You don't need a separate host or server.

6. Sustainability

We believe in open systems, e.g because they are more sustainable than everything else. Therefore we recommend if possible to use jekyll and github/gitpages. In Europe you can use the EOSC from 2020.

## Definitions + basic information

STATIC WEBSITE: contains web pages with fixed content | content of each page does not change unless it is manually updated (https://techterms.com/definition/staticwebsite)

DYNAMIC WEBSITE: contains web pages that are generated in real-time | includes web scripting code, such as PHP | when the page is accessed, the code within the page is parsed on the web server, resulting HTML is sent to the client's web browser | pages access information from a database (https://techterms.com/definition/dynamicwebsite)

CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM: a software tool that allows you to create, edit, and publish content. [https://techterms.com/definition/cms]

Tools mentioned above: worpress.org | omeka.org | pages.github.com | jekyllrb.com | github.com | Other useful tools: teipublisher.com | evt.labcd.unipi.it

Find this poster on *github* https://github.com/Bockwinkel/how-to-build-a-website

## About