

## CSS Frameworks : which is the best?

### 3. Bulma

There's a lot to love about Bulma, I came across it for the first time in a reddit group. Some members had played around with it and spoke very favourably of the framework so i decided to do the same.

In terms of aesthetic it is one of the best designs in my humble opinion. Stand out classes for me are the form designs especially the buttons. Another very cool feature is their tile system that allows users to effortlessly present a staggered pattern of wide, tall, square .. you name it blocks of content. This alone is worth downloading Bulma for.

I also think their navbar looks fantastic and very easy to position nav items and logo. The default settings for things like column gaps on their grid system are perfectly good already but the fact that all these little details are customizable through SASS variables makes the framework even more versatile and allows websites to take on a truly unique character and be less identifiable as bulma made.

This framework pulls off the kind of elegance you see in websites as exhibited in the link below:

<https://bulma.io/expo/>

For all the praises I can sing about this framework, there is a glaring hole in the framework. It's very limited in its features when compared to some of the better known go to frameworks such as Bootstrap. Whilst the core documentation does cover all the primary features quite well, to implement some of the further features requires you downloading the appropriate extensions. Whilst these extensions are recommended by Bulma their documentation isn't complete and you have to be quite creative with javascript to fully implement these features yourself - I know you may call me lazy, but isn't that what we use frameworks for? I encountered this issue when trying to use the date picker extension.

For the lack of completeness when compared against the more well known frameworks unfortunately Bulma does miss out on the top two spots.

### 2. Bootstrap4

Needs no introduction, considered the gold standard by many. Certainly many would argue that this should take first place however the fact that it is considered a "standard" is the very reason i wouldn't place it at the top. Yes it produces a very clean look and feel to your projects however this look is very recognizable and the feel is all too familiar.

Starting off with a moan like that you may ask why i would even place it at number 2. Well once that's off my chest its hard to argue with all that's so great about Bootstrap. The fact that its on its 4th generation says it all. It has a very easy to implement grid system, classes

are super readable and intuitive. The framework is well endorsed by twitter. And when judging a new framework it's almost impossible not to judge it against Bootstrap's merits.

## 1. Materialize