A statically generated blog example using Next.js and ButterCMS

This example showcases Next.js's [Static Generation](#) feature using [ButterCMS](#) as the data source.

Demo

https://next-blog-buttercms.vercel.app/

Deploy your own

Once you have access to [the environment variables you'll need](#), deploy the example using [Vercel](#):

▲ Deploy

Related examples

- [WordPress](#)
- [DatoCMS](#)
- [Sanity](#)
- [TakeShape](#)
- [Prismic](#)
- [Contentful](#)
- [Agility CMS](#)
- [Cosmic](#)
- [Strapi](#)
- [Storyblok](#)
- [GraphCMS](#)
- [Kontent](#)
- [Ghost](#)
- [Umbraco Heartcore](#)
- [Blog Starter](#)
- [Builder.io](#)

How to use

Execute `create-next-app` with [npm](#) or [Yarn](#) to bootstrap the example:

```
npx create-next-app --example cms-buttercms cms-buttercms-app
# or
yarn create next-app --example cms-buttercms cms-buttercms-app
# or
pnpm create next-app -- --example cms-buttercms cms-buttercms-app
```

Configuration

Step 1. Create an account on ButterCMS

First, [create an account on ButterCMS](#).

After signing up, you'll be presented with the API key. We'll use this in the next step.

Step 2. Set up environment variables

Copy the `.env.local.example` file in this directory to `.env.local` (which will be ignored by Git):

```
cp .env.local.example .env.local
```

Then set each variable on `.env.local`:

- `BUTTERCMS_API_KEY` should be set as the API key.
- `BUTTERCMS_PREVIEW_SECRET` can be any random string (but avoid spaces), like `MY_SECRET` - this is used for [Preview Mode](#).

Step 3. Run Next.js in development mode

When you sign up to ButterCMS, it creates an example blog post automatically. You can run Next.js in development mode to view a blog containing this example post.

```
npm install
npm run dev

# or

yarn install
yarn dev
```

Your blog should be up and running on http://localhost:3000! If it doesn't work, post on [GitHub discussions](#).

Step 4. Try preview mode

To try preview mode, [create a blog post](#):

- Set the **Title** as `Draft Post Test`.
- Fill the content and summary with dummy text.
- Set the **Featured Image** by downloading some image from [Unsplash](#).

Most importantly, **do not publish** the blog post. Instead, click **Save Draft**.

Now, if you go to the post page on localhost, you won't see this post because it's not published. However, if you use the **Preview Mode**, you'll be able to see the change ([Documentation](#)).

To enable the Preview Mode, go to this URL:

```
http://localhost:3000/api/preview?secret=<secret>&slug=draft-post-test
```

- `<secret>` should be the string you entered for `BUTTERCMS_PREVIEW_SECRET`.

You should now be able to see the draft post. To exit the preview mode, you can click **Click here to exit preview mode** at the top.

Tip: [You can set the preview URL on ButterCMS](#).

Step 5. Deploy on Vercel

You can deploy this app to the cloud with [Vercel](#) ([Documentation](#)).

Deploy Your Local Project

To deploy your local project to Vercel, push it to GitHub/GitLab/Bitbucket and [import to Vercel](#).

Important: When you import your project on Vercel, make sure to click on **Environment Variables** and set them to match your `.env.local` file.

Deploy from Our Template

Alternatively, you can deploy using our template by clicking on the Deploy button below.

▲ Deploy