

Controlling Page Layouts

Learning Objectives

Learn how to customize page layouts.

Tasks to Accomplish

- Understand layout templates and how to use them
- Create a layout template using npm tools

Exercise Prerequisites

- Java JDK installed to run Liferay
 - Download here: <https://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/jdk8-downloads-2133151.html>
 - Instructions on installation here: https://www.java.com/en/download/help/download_options.xml
- Unzipped module exercise files in the following folder structure:
 - Windows: `C:\liferay`
 - Unix Systems: `[user-home]/liferay`
- A Liferay DXP or CE 7.4 instance up and running

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Create a Layout Template

Exercise Goals

- Create a Layout Template using the NPM Theme Generator to define the number of rows and columns
- Include a custom layout icon in the project
- Deploy the layout to the platform

Generate a Layout Template

1. **Go to** the *liferay* folder in your *Command Line/Terminal*.
 - Windows: *C:\liferay*
 - Unix Systems: *[userhome]/liferay*
2. **Run** the `yo liferay-theme:layout` command.
3. **Type** in *Hotel Front Page* for the layout when prompted for a name.
4. **Press** the *Enter* key to accept the default id.
5. **Press** *Enter* to accept the 7.4 version of Liferay.

Add the First Row with One Column

1. **Type** in *1* to add 1 column to the first row.
2. **Press** *Enter* to accept the 100% width for the row.

Choose the Second Row and Three Columns

1. **Choose** *Add row* to add another row.
2. **Type** in *3* to add 3 columns to the second row.
3. **Choose** the *4/12* option for the first column.
4. **Choose** the *4/12* option for the second column.
5. **Press** *Enter* to accept the only available option for the last column.

Add a Third Row with Two Columns

1. **Choose** *Add row* to add another row.
2. **Type** in *2* to add two columns to the row.
3. **Choose** the *4/12* option for the first column.
4. **Choose** the *8/12* option for the second column.

Add the Last Row with One Column

1. **Choose** *Add row* to add another row.
2. **Type** in *1* to add one column to the row.
3. **Press** *Enter* to accept the 100% width for the row.
4. **Choose** the *Finish layout* option.

Point to the App Server

1. **Press *Enter*** to accept the *Local App Server* as your deployment strategy.
2. **Type** in the path to your Tomcat server.
 - **Windows:** `C:\liferay\bundles\liferay-dxp-[version]\tomcat-[version]`
 - **Mac/Unix:** `~/liferay/bundles/liferay-dxp-[version]/tomcat-[version]`
3. **Press *Enter*** to accept the default URL (localhost:8080) for your site.
4. **Run** `cd hotel-front-page-layouttpl` in your *Command Line/Terminal* to go to the layout template folder.

Note: Liferay layouts created with the theme generator are bundled with Gulp. In order to run Gulp locally from the command line, we must add a script to the package.json file. Additionally, some setups run into issues running scripts with npm. If this is the case, try creating a .npmrc file in the root of your project and add the ignore-scripts=false configuration.

Deploy the Layout Template

1. **Go to** your `hotel-front-page-layouttpl` folder.
2. **Copy** the `hotel_front_page.png` file from the module exercise folder.
3. **Paste** the file into the `hotel-front-page-layouttpl\docroot` folder.
 - This will replace the existing file in the folder.
4. **Run** the `npm run deploy` command in the Terminal or Command Line.

Verify Layout Deployment

1. **Go to** `localhost:8080` in your browser.
 2. **Go to** `Site Builder > Pages` in the *Site Administration* panel.
 3. **Click** the *Add* button at the top right.
 4. **Choose** *Public Page*.
 5. **Click** *Widget*.
 6. **Type** `Hotel Front Page` as the *Name*.
 7. **Click** *Add*.
 8. **Click** the *General* tab.
 9. **Choose** the *Hotel Front Page* layout near the bottom of the page.
 10. **Click** the *Save* button at the bottom of the page.
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Bonus Exercises

1. Go to the new Hotel Front Page and add some widgets to see the layout in action.
2. Create a new custom layout for Hotel Room pages.
3. Add a Layout to a Theme and configure it to deploy with that theme.

Controlling Page Layouts Module Quiz

1. What grid system are custom layout templates created with that makes the column widths responsive by default?
 - A. Foundation
 - B. Simple Grid
 - C. Bootstrap
 - D. Flexbox Grid

2. Which of the following can be used to create a Layout Template? (Choose two.)
 - A. The Liferay layout generator.
 - B. Defining column containers in a .ftl file.
 - C. Using the Layout Designer in the DXP UI.
 - D. CSS files.
 - E. Any templating language.

3. Layout Templates allow you to set any number of rows and columns on a page to determine where content can be placed.
 - A. True
 - B. False

Answer Key

1. C
2. A, B
3. False