

Drupal 8 Theming

Exercise 4:

The .info.yml file

To create a new theme for Drupal 8, the only real requirement is to make sure you have implemented the .info.yml file (YaML, like Camel). Drupal 8 runs off of YaML files much the way that Drupal 7 ran off of .info files.

As long as you have your .info.yml file in place with a few keys in place, you have a theme (although if thats all you have in place, it's not going to be a pretty theme).

Create the theme folder and "YaML" file

1. Locate the */themes* folder in your Drupal installation. In Drupal 8, Contrib and Custom modules and themes, are saved at the root level */modules* and */themes* folders.
2. Create a new folder and call it `acme`

```
$ cd MYDRUPAL
$ mkdir themes/acme
```

1. In that folder create a new file. It should be called *acme.info.yml*

```
$ touch themes/acme/acme.info.yml
```

1. Add the following lines to that file

```
name: Acme
description: My first Drupal 8 theme.
type: theme
base theme: classy
core: 8.x
version: VERSION

regions:
  header: Header
  primary_menu: 'Primary menu'
  secondary_menu: 'Secondary menu'
  breadcrumb: Breadcrumb
  help: Help
  highlighted: Highlighted
  content: Content
  sidebar_first: 'Left sidebar'
  sidebar_second: 'Right Sidebar'
  footer: Footer
  page_top: 'Page top'
  page_bottom: 'Page Bottom'
```

2. Go to /admin/appearance and under the Acme theme choose "Install and set as default".

Things we might find in a .info.yml file

The following keys are items that we will often find in a *.info.yml file. Some are optional, some are required. These keys provide meta-data about your theme, and define some of the basic functionality.

1. `name` **Required** The human readable name will appear on the Appearance page, where you can activate your theme.
2. `description` **Required** The description is displayed on the Appearance page.
3. `type` **Required** The type key indicates the type of extension, e.g. module, theme or profile. For themes this should always be set to "theme".
4. `base theme` The theme can inherit the resources from another theme by defining it as a base theme. Not declaring this, will default to using "Stable" as the base theme.
5. `core` **Required** The core key specifies the version of Drupal core that your theme is compatible with.
6. `version` For modules hosted on drupal.org, the version number will be filled in by the packaging script. You should not specify it manually, but leave out the version line entirely.

7. `regions` Regions are declared as children of the regions key. You are required to have a content region. The regions we just declared are also the default regions that are enabled by core if you do not declare any regions in your `.info.yml` file.

Other items

1. `regions_hidden` will allow you to remove default regions from the output if you don't specifically declare any regions.
2. `screenshot: IMAGE_NAME.png` With the screenshot key you define a screenshot that is shown on the Appearance page. If you do not define this key then Drupal will look for a file named 'screenshot.png' or 'screenshot.svg' in the theme folder to display.
3. The `libraries` key can be used to add asset libraries to all pages where the theme is active.

```
libraries:  
  - THEMENAME/global-styling  
  - THEMENAME/LIBRARY-NAME
```

Theme libraries contain css and/or javascript. Theme libraries are declared in another type of YaML file (THEME.libraries.yml). We will go over libraries in later exercises.

4. The `libraries-override` and `libraries-extend` keys can be used to take control over the components of a library, remove items or the complete library, or add additional elements to a library.
5. The `stylesheets-remove` key is used to stop the addition of css components for core and contrib modules. However, it is better to do this with `libraries-override`.

```
stylesheets-remove:  
  - core/assets/vendor/normalize-css/normalize.css  
  - '@classy/css/components/tabs.css'
```

6. `ckeditor_stylesheets` will allow you to have custom ckeditor styles attached to your theme
7. `quickedit_stylesheets` will allow you to have custom styles and javascript attached to the quickedit functionality

Questions you may have...

- What happens if I don't declare any regions?

- Why are some regions in `' '` and others not?

Done 😊
