**The top 10 Open Source Content Management Systems:**

1. Drupal  
2. WordPress  
3. Joomla  
4. Media Wiki  
5. Liferay  
6. TYPO3  
7. Moodle  
8. Dolphin  
9. Pligg  
10. Movable Type

Honorable Mention:  
Xoops, Geeklog, e107, Mambo, Nucleus

**1. Drupal:**

Drupal gets the top nod because of its ease of use, vast number of modules, great user, developer, and support community.  
License: GPL  
Programming Language: PHP  
Main advantages: core CMS, Views, CCK, Organic Groups, & huge library of contributed modules.  
Disadvantages: complex, needs more top quality themes, frequent security upgrades.  
Outlook: Huge potential to continue growth and expansion on this platform over time.  
Website: <http://www.drupal.org/>

**2. WordPress:**

WordPress is a simple and elegant CMS, perfect for single user blogs, with a large number of themes and modules available online.  
License: GPL  
Programming Language: PHP  
Main advantages: Easiest CMS to use, customize, and extend.  
Disadvantages: Lacks many of the social networking functions, ecommerce, forums, wikis, etc. used on more expansive sites.  
Outlook: Best for personal publishing, huge user community, will continue to be the preferred choice of bloggers for years.  
Website: <http://www.wordpress.org/>

**3. Joomla:**

Joomla has one of the largest user communities of any CMS, everything you need and more to develop social networks, ecommerce, & archive sites.  
License: GPL  
Programming Language: PHP  
Main advantages: Professional standards, internationalization, customization.  
Disadvantages: too many commercial products for Open Source development, difficult to learn.  
Outlook: Strong challenger for the top CMS spot, commercialization of extensions should continue to provide many income opportunities for 3rd party developers.  
Website: <http://www.joomla.org/>

**4. Media Wiki:**

Media Wiki invented a whole new way of working on the web, and is a CMS for collective authoring of documents, used to power the one of the largest and most popular sites on the internet, Wikipedia.  
License: GPL  
Programming Language: PHP  
Main advantages: If you need a wiki, it is the best.  
Disadvantages: Does not include many other functions / extensions of other CMS platforms, doesn’t theme well, most sites look the same.  
Outlook: Follows the model to success of doing one thing extremely well, has the support of the Wikipedia Foundation, very popular authoring model.  
Website: <http://www.mediawiki.org/>

**5. Liferay:**

Liferay is a popular new CMS that is great for building portals, and offers a professional look and feel that sets it apart from the other platforms.  
License: MIT  
Programming Language: Java, PHP, Ruby  
Main advantages: collaboration, calendars, internationalization, design.  
Disadvantages: More closely tied to a commercial outlook / corporate structure than most Open Source projects.  
Outlook: Not as well known or implemented as some of the other CMS platforms, but nice design & features to set your sites apart from the crowd.  
Website: <http://www.liferay.com/>

**6. TYPO3:**

One of the most complex and professional CMS platforms out of the box, TYPO3 is popular for business websites, especially with European companies.  
License: GNU  
Programming Language: PHP  
Main advantages: design, extensions, customizations, flexibility, professionalism.  
Disadvantages: too difficult to learn for most, too many proprietary conventions.  
Outlook: Strong CMS for web development, sure to continue with a core of specialized developers and corporate clients, but loosing support and market share to other platforms.  
Website: <http://www.typo3.com/>

**7. Moodle:**

Moodle is one of the most unique CMS platforms on this list, designed specifically for Course Management and Education, and used for online learning platforms.  
License: GNU  
Programming Language: PHP  
Main advantages: Huge user and development community, online education, no real competitors or similar products, extremely powerful.  
Disadvantages: not really applicable for most web design purposes.  
Outlook: Look for this “Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment” to continue to be the standard online operating system for education and spawn many interesting mashups with other CMS platforms as well as many more modules & extensions.  
Website: <http://www.moodle.org/>

**8. Dolphin:**

Boonex Dolphin is popular among web designers who want the latest in social networking, with an industry standard look and all of the features of the popular online communities out of the box.  
License: Creative Commons  
Programming Language: PHP  
Main advantages: Plug-n-Play user community with all the bells & whistles.  
Disadvantages: not really Open Source, must pay to remove ads, requires specific hosting requirements, difficult to install, buggy.  
Outlook: Look for Dolphin to continue to be a popular choice for social networking, though its “cookie cutter” design runs the risk of becoming stale with too many sites implementing the same design.  
Website: <http://www.boonex.com/products/dolphin/>

**9. Pligg:**

Pligg is a Digg clone that provides social bookmarking functionality for websites, allowing users to post links, vote them up or down, and leave comments.  
License: GPL  
Programming Language: PHP  
Main advantages: Best for Social Bookmarking, can be themed and extended to build top quality sites like Mixx, Redditt, Del.icio.us, etc.  
Disadvantages: difficult to install, mod rewrite problems, poor support on community boards, questionable Open Source future.  
Outlook: With the 1.0 release of Pligg upcoming within a couple of months, look for a big surge of use back to this platform but watch out for increased commercialization.  
Website: <http://www.pligg.com/>

**10. Movable Type:**

Movable Type is the main challenger to WordPress for a personal blog platform, and supports multiple users, Themes, and Tags.  
License: GNU  
Programming Language: Perl  
Main advantages: Blogs  
Disadvantages: Too closely tied to commercial products and services compared to most Open Source communities, Perl.  
Outlook: Look for MT to fall off the list as other of the blogging platforms below increase in popularity, but sustain development as PR for the company’s commercial offerings.  
Website: <http://movabletype.org/>