



Drupal

YaleSites: Moving from D6 to D7

Team

- Small group of seasoned web developers, designers and content strategists

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Drupal Developer

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Designer and CSS

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Testing QA

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Training and Communication



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What is YaleSites?

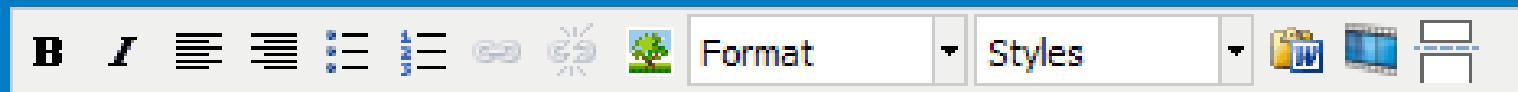
- Self-service offering that provides...
 - A way for the Yale community to create a simple website for departments or organizations with little technical or design expertise required
 - A set of features and functionality that enable you to start building your site immediately
 - Pre-designed templates based on Yale web guidelines to facilitate design
 - Workflow for power users to build complex custom sites



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What YaleSites D6 provided

- Out of the box configuration for commonly-used modules
- Basic Content types
 - Page
 - Blog
 - Gallery
 - Calendar
- Basic WYSIWYG options
 - Bullets/numbered lists
 - Bold/Italic
 - Indent
 - Links
 - Upload images
 - Embedded media



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What YaleSites D6 provided

- Basic themes
 - Standard theme – General theme for all [🔗](#)
 - FAS theme – Academic departments [🔗](#)
 - Yale.edu (“Blue Site”) theme – Office of the Secretary [🔗](#)
- Limited options
- Not very flexible for non-technical users



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What we learned

- Drupal is not for the faint of heart
 - Especially D6
 - Sharper learning curve than we expected
 - Site builders were less technical than we expected
- What they wanted was:
 - EASY
 - Fancy design

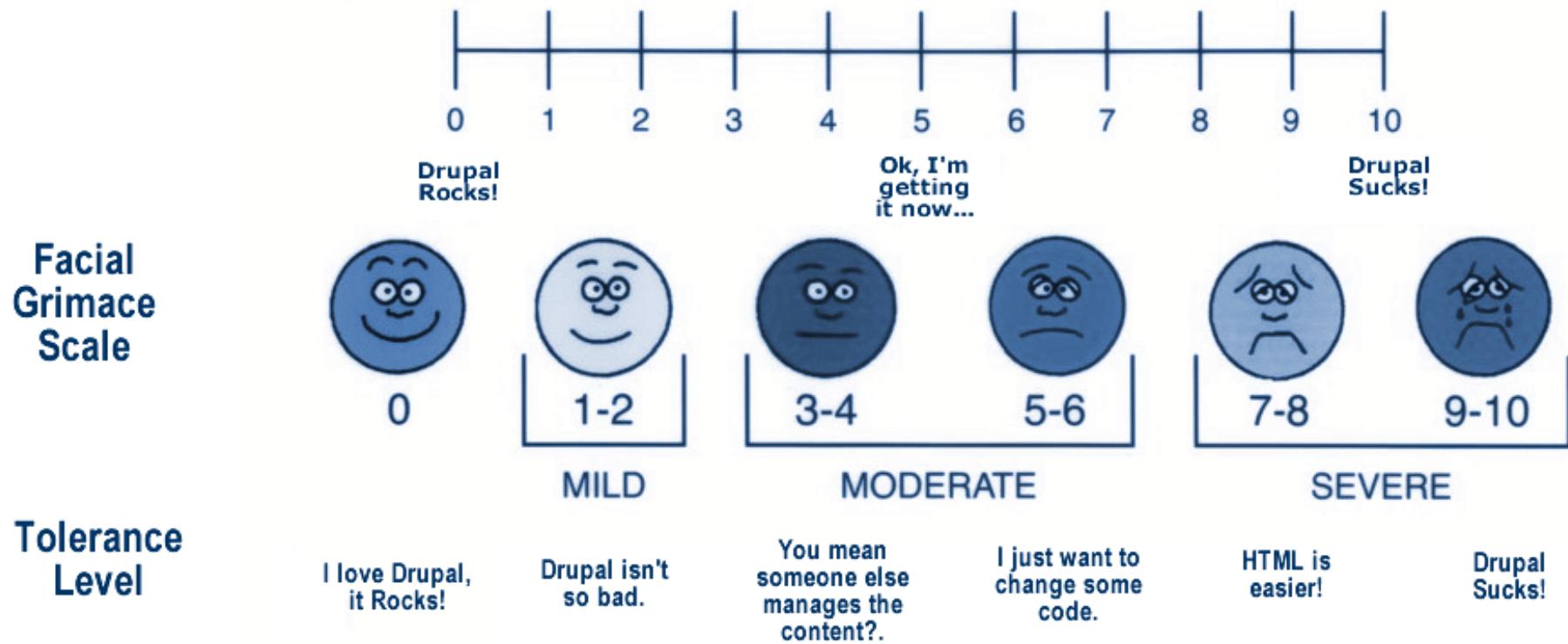


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Drupal Pain-o-meter

UNIVERSAL DRUPAL FRUSTRATION ASSESSMENT TOOL

This Drupal frustration assessment tool is intended to help the new Drupal developer/designer determine where s/he fits in the learning curve that can be ever so painful. This self assessment tool uses the faces below to interpret expressed pain when a developer/designer cannot communicate his/her level of frustration.



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What we did right

- Ability to easily set up a dynamic website
- Content was easy to maintain if the site was built correctly
- Webforms, rotating banners, RSS feeds were relatively easy to add to site
- Features to bundle configuration to create a ‘base site’
- Version control to manage Drupal code
- Reusable, forward-thinking infrastructure
- Implemented a training and support program 
- Built partnerships with outside vendors



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Why D7?

- Needed to improve the YaleSites offering
- Community was asking for D7
- Keep up with technology
- It was time – Drupal 7 had matured



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YaleSites D7 - Improvements

- Allow non-technical users to create a nicer site more easily
- Provide the features that people really want
- Change the look and feel with more attractive options
- Sites that are mobile ready, out of the box
- Dedicated infrastructure, more use of Drush, Varnish
- Improved developer workflow
 - Github Enterprise
 - ‘Pull’ vs ‘checkout’ offers very fast code deployment



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YaleSites D7 - Features

- Easier way to add and display different types of content
 - News [🔗](#)
 - Videos [🔗](#)
 - Photo Galleries [🔗](#)
 - Rotating Images [🔗](#)
 - People: staff and faculty listings, LDAP attributes (name, title, address, email, phone)
 - Calendar with optional Bedework integration [🔗](#)



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YaleSites D7- Themes

- Standard Yale Themes based on Omega 
 - Yale 978 Grid: expanded 960 Grid, HTML5 Starterkit, Omega Tools
 - Delta & Context modules for alternate homepage layouts
 - Responsive design for all devices including images/slideshows
 - “Content first”: improved accessibility and better mobile experience
 - Theme graphics replaced with CSS3 properties wherever possible
 - Clean design, plenty of white space allows content to stand out
 - 3 standard Yale sub-themes
 - A range of accent colors and 2 block heading styles
 - Yale typeface: embedded web font for site titles and headings
- Sub-themes more easily created with Yale Omega Base theme



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No More Pain

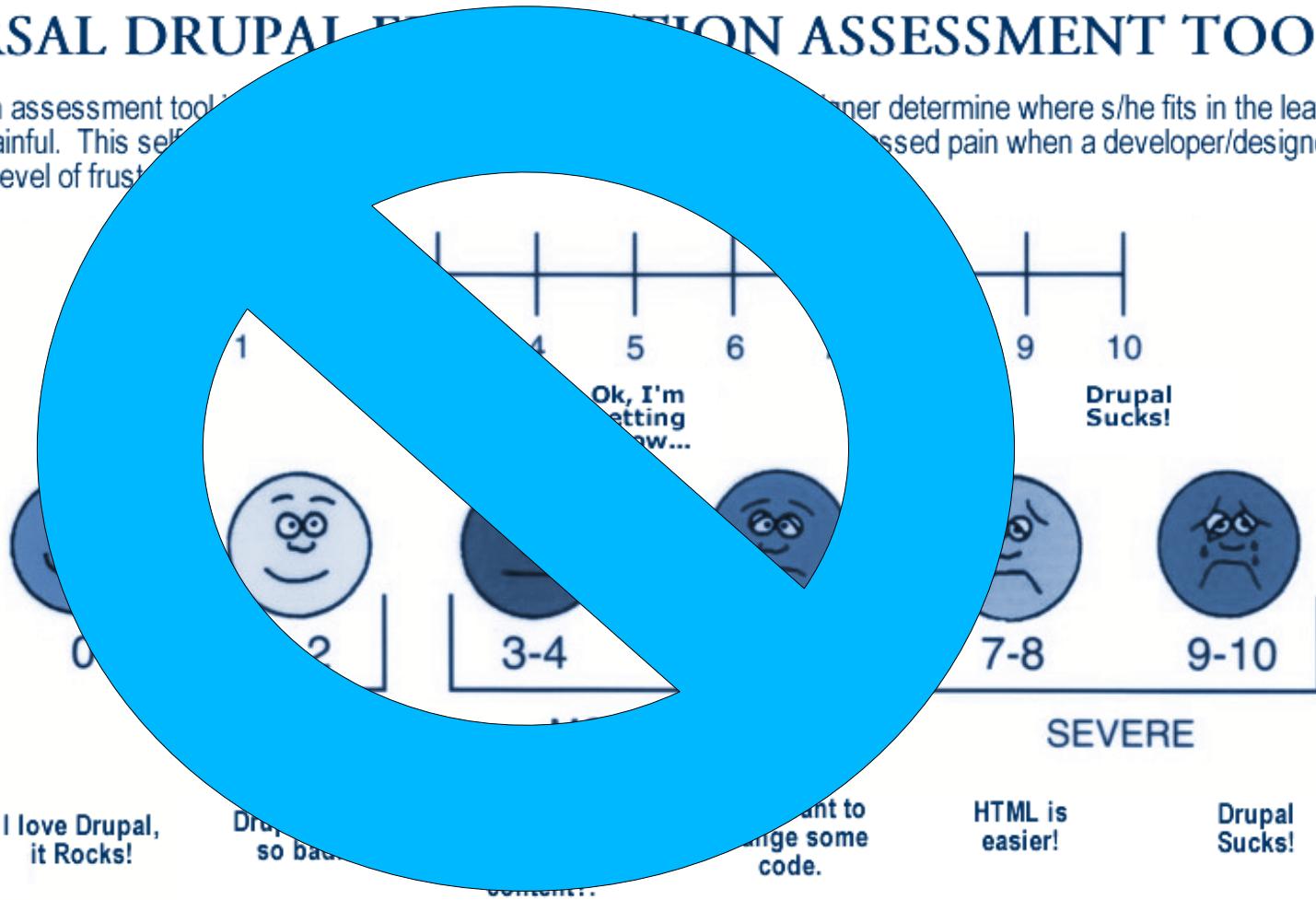
UNIVERSAL DRUPAL FRICTION ASSESSMENT TOOL

This Drupal frustration assessment tool is designed to help a developer/designer determine where s/he fits in the learning curve when faced with unassessed pain when a developer/designer cannot communicate his/her level of frustration.

This Drupal frustration assessment tool is designed to help a developer/designer determine where s/he fits in the learning curve when faced with unassessed pain when a developer/designer cannot communicate his/her level of frustration.

Facial
Grimace
Scale

Tolerance
Level



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Questions?

Email us:

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