

NET-Slides

Developmental Version A-online
by Brendon, 12/29/2019.

Includes FREE usage guide!

How to Use

1. Pick a slide, an object, or multiples of each from the selection panel.

<-- SELECTION PANEL

2. Pick the set of its property to edit (e.g. shadow). The form pages can be accessed with the menu bar.

HINT: As usual, the menu bar is at the top of the page!

How to Use (cont'd)

3. Edit whatever property as you would normally. It's that simple!

...or is it?

Fun Fact: The menu bar is actually a CSS drop down menu based of the W3Schools tutorial, but with a touch of hierarchical design.

Manual Updates

The main Achilles's heel of using NET-Slides

This is a section slide, by the way.

Manual Updates

4a Tap on the UPDATE buttons to apply your edits

4b You MUST do this RIGHT AFTER you are satisfied with your edits

4c Any change in the selection pane destroys all pending edits

Trivia: You can see my attempt to implement an auto-update feature with a declaration of the "autoUpdate" variable in the "Application" module.

Multi-Edit

A common, yet powerful feature to have in NET-Slides is the ability to apply your edits to multiple slides OR multiple objects in a slide.

Just don't forget to tap on the Update ([↑]) buttons once you're done with your edits.

I personally love this feature and its implementation!

Saving Your Work

5. Finally, you can save your work anytime you want in two ways! Just like your solar-powered calculators:

Save either locally to disk, or online to the NET server*.

[Menu -> File -> Save to...] for more details.

*Due to a design oversight, the NET server can handle up to 20 empty-slides worth of data per request. Beyond that, you can only save locally--which is odd for an online webpage.

The Backstory

Mainly, how did I come up with such a crazy idea to design, develop, prettify and sleep (and cry) over NET-Slide.

I didn't actually cry though I was heavily stressed.

I was once a happy PowerPoint customer until it got significantly cloudy in the 2013 version.

I tried LibreOffice Impress as part of my commitment to FOSS. While it's good within FOSS standards, I'm not impressed with its sluggish performance. I still use my copy of PowerPoint 2010.

I use Google Slides for collaborative projects, which I have no major problems with.

When I was tasked with a project component for Langara's CPSC 2261, I recently completed a project that uses Google Slides. So naturally, the idea of making a FOSS-equivalent of it came to fruition.

So nothing too crazy.

Fun Fact: modal.js, a logging assistant, is a port of the Java version I use for my Java projects. This port only allows printing to the console, though.

I knew I had a lot of tasks on hand. Starting from the UI, which is pure HTML+CSS. I may have built my own UI toolkit.

The object model whose design I had to finalize, as this is something I can't drastically change over the years. This involved lots of decision-making hours.

The client back-end: UI manager; the application itself; canvas painter; networking client--or should I call it NET-working, and lastly the server back-end which includes the database manager.

For the painter, I took into account that canvas is raster-based by implementing an equivalent to high-DPI scaling. To my surprise, the end result is better than what Windows had offered in 2017. I skipped over SVG because it takes a lot of DOM manipulation, and using canvas means that I will eventually come up with "smart" rendering algorithms! Though for now it redraws the entire slide from scratch every single time it needs to.

Remember, this is a one-man project. So the things that we love can go wrong and/or be missing.

Otherwise I am really happy on how this turns out

...minus the Manual Update flaw, which as you can guess I'm annoyed with. Strange to be frustrated with my own software produce.

~fin

and thanks to everyone who helped me in whatever way! This includes contributors to MDN Web Docs, W3Schools and StackOverflow.

And now . . .

Get ready to be blown away by this original feature you have never experience before, available exclusively to NET-Slides.

6. In the selection pane, you can double-tap on a slide or object to view its contents; no longer do you need to use the menu for this.

That is it.

Thanks for reading, and welcome to NET-Slides!

This slide deck is 100% NET-Slides-goodness.

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End of slide show. Now try saving it to a file.