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# Django introduction

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## Overview: Django

In this first Django article, we answer the question "What is Django?" and give you an overview of what makes this web framework special. We'll outline the main features, including some of the advanced functionality that we won't have time to cover in detail in this module. We'll also show you some of the main building blocks of a Django application (although at this point you won't yet have a development environment in which to test it).

**Prerequisites:** Basic computer literacy. A general understanding of [server-side website programming](#), and in particular the mechanics of [client-server interactions in websites](#).

**Objective:** To gain familiarity with what Django is, what functionality it provides, and the main building blocks of a Django application.

## What is Django?

Django is a high-level Python web framework that enables rapid development of secure and maintainable websites. Built by experienced developers, Django takes care of much of the hassle of web development, so you can focus on writing your app without needing to reinvent the wheel. It is free and open source, has a thriving and active community, great documentation, and many options for free and paid-for support.

Django helps you write software that is:

### Complete

Django follows the "Batteries included" philosophy and provides almost everything developers might want to do "out of the box". Because everything you need is part of the one "product", it all works seamlessly together, follows consistent design principles, and has extensive and [up-to-date documentation](#).

### Versatile

Django can be (and has been) used to build almost any type of website — from content

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