

Drupal Performance and Scalability Checklist

Source: Drupal Performance Agency

Pages: 9

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Description: Carefully work through the following checklist to define an effective strategy for scaling your Drupal powered website.

This checklist was designed by the Drupal Performance Agency. For more information, email perf@tag1consulting.com.

Business Goals

Determine which business goals are motivating this performance tuning, check the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ Growth rate.
- ☐ Ad impressions.
- ☐ Business unit measurements: _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Quantitative Goals

Determine which quantitative goals are motivating this performance tuning.

- ☐ Page load times (anonymous/logged in): _____/_____
- ☐ Number of monthly page views: _____
- ☐ Number of monthly anonymous users: _____
- ☐ Number of monthly authenticated users: _____

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☐ Number of subscriptions:

☐ Number of feeds:

☐ Page load time for first time visitors

☐ Time to submit content:

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Risk Managment Goals

Determine which risk management goals are motivating this performance tuning.

☐ High availability

☐ Acceptable data loss window:

☐ Acceptable down time:

☐ Data recovery window:

☐ Recovery from catastrophic failure

☐ _____

☐ _____

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Other Goals

Determine any other goals that are motivating this performance tuning.

- ☐ Accurately measure site's current performance.
- ☐ Find and document site's performance bottlenecks.
- ☐ Solve site's performance bottlenecks.
- ☐ Addressing specific known performance and scalability problems:

- ☐ Improve the performance of the core Drupal CMS, contributing improvements back to the project under the GPL.
- ☐ _____.
- ☐ _____.
- ☐ _____.

Monitoring

The second step is to ensure that you have sufficient monitoring in place.

- ☐ Actively monitoring the local health and performance of all systems with the following tool(s):
 - ☐ Cacti
 - ☐ Splunk
 - ☐ YSlow Firefox plug-in
 - ☐ MySQL Enterprise Monitor
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____

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- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

- ☐ Remotely monitoring the regular health and performance of the following critical web pages:

- ☐ Front page (anonymous / logged in).

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

- ☐ Remotely monitoring the above web pages with the following tools:

- ☐ Gomez

- ☐ Keynote

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

- ☐ Regularly analyzing the following log files, specify tool(s) used:

- ☐ Apache access_log

- ☐ Squid access_log

- ☐ MySQL slow query log

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

- ☐ _____

- ☐ _____

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Availability

Prior to making any changes to your infrastructure, it is critical that you first implement and test an effective backup strategy.

- ☐ Storing all configuration files in source control system.
Details: _____
 - ☐ Regular database backups, backing up every _____, retaining _____ copies.
 - ☐ Storing backups off site. Details: _____
 - ☐ Database replication. Details: _____
 - ☐ How many hours of data can you afford to loose in the event of a catastrophic database failure: _____
 - ☐ Hard drive RAID
 - ☐ Hardware _____
 - ☐ Software _____
 - ☐ Network redundancy: _____
 - ☐ Last validated backups: _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
-

Applications

This section is designed to collect complete details about applications used in your infrastructure.

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- ☐ Using web server(s)
 - ☐ Apache Version(s): _____
 - ☐ Collect *httpd.conf* and applicable vhost configuration files
 - ☐ Collect output of “*apache2 -M*”
 - ☐ Collect output of “*apache2 -l*”
 - ☐ Lighttpd Version(s): _____
 - ☐ Collect *lighttpd.conf*
- ☐ Using PHP Version(s) _____
 - ☐ Collect output from *phpinfo()*
 - ☐ Collect *php.ini*
 - ☐ Using opcode cache Name(s) _____ Version(s) _____
- ☐ Using Squid Version(s) _____
 - ☐ Collect *squid.conf*
 - ☐ Collect implementation details
- ☐ Using MySQL Version(s) _____
 - ☐ Collect *my.cnf*
 - ☐ Collect “*SHOW STATUS*” from privileged user
 - ☐ Collect “*SHOW VARIABLES*” from privileged user
 - ☐ Collect “*mysqlreport*” from live system(s)
 - ☐ Collect “*mysqlsa*” from recent slow query log
- ☐ Using NFS OS/Version(s) _____
 - ☐ Collect */etc/exports*
 - ☐ Collect */proc/net/rpc/nfsd*
- ☐ Using memcached Version(s) _____
 - ☐ Details: _____
- ☐ Using Drupal Version(s) _____
 - ☐ Collect list of all enabled core modules
 - ☐ Collect list of all patches applied to core
 - ☐ Collect list of all enabled contrib modules

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- ☐ Collect list of all custom modules
 - ☐ Page cache enabled. Settings: _____
 - ☐ Other relevant details: _____

 - ☐ Other applications and their details
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
-

Systems

This section is to collect a per-server understanding of your existing infrastructure.

- ☐ Linux servers
 - ☐ Purpose(s): _____
 - ☐ Distribution(s): _____
 - ☐ Collect 'vmstat 3 20' from all servers
 - ☐ Collect 'top -c2'
 - ☐ Collect 'ps auxww'
 - ☐ Collect 'netstat -in'
 - ☐ Collect 'df -h'
 - ☐ Collect 'mount'
 - ☐ Collect 'cat /proc/meminfo'
 - ☐ Collect 'cat /proc/cpuinfo'

- ☐ BSD servers Flavor(s): _____ Version(s): _____
 - ☐ Purpose(s): _____

- ☐ Windows servers: Version(s): _____
 - ☐ Purpose(s): _____

- ☐ Load balancer(s)

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- ☐ Details: _____
 - ☐ Firewall(s)
 - ☐ Details _____
 - ☐ Other server(s)
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
-

Network

This section is designed to collect complete details about your networking infrastructure.

- ☐ Collect up-to-date network diagram
- ☐ Using Switches _____
- ☐ Using Hubs _____
- ☐ Ethernet speed _____
- ☐ Connection to ISP _____
- ☐ Redundancy _____
- ☐ Manage own DNS _____
- ☐ Load balancer(s) _____
- ☐ Firewall(s) _____
- ☐ Using CDN _____

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Process

This final section is designed to understand the processes used to manage your web site.

- ☐ Development server(s) _____
- ☐ Staging server(s) _____
- ☐ Formal process for deploying new code _____
- ☐ Internal mailing list(s) _____
- ☐ Bug tracking system(s) _____