Backbone.js for Mobile Websites

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Who am I?

- Torsten Walter (@nerdgore)

- Senior Frontend Developer
- With mobile.de since 11/2011
- iOS apps and HTML5/CSS3 since 2009
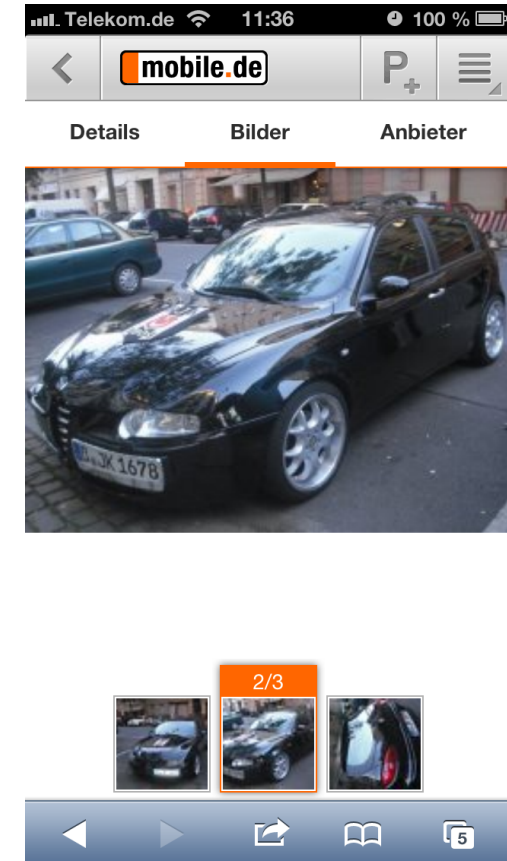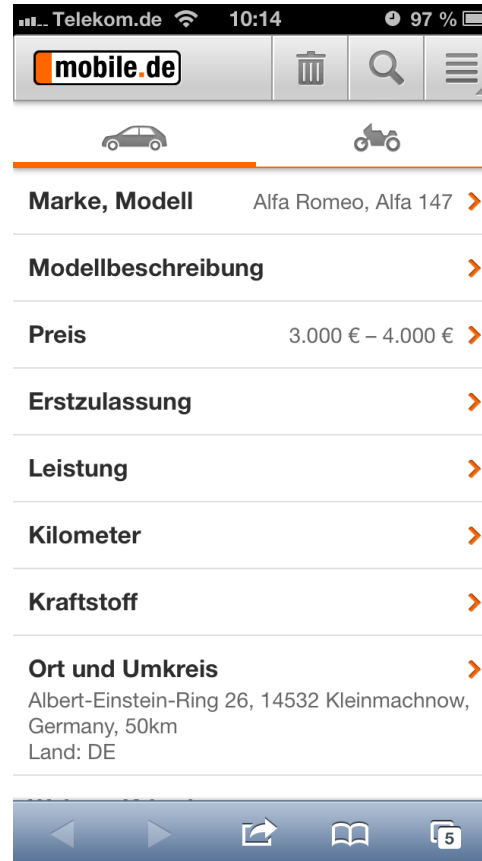- Doing design and web related work since 2000

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What is this about?

- Mobile.de Mportal
- Why Backbone
- Live Examples

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mobile.de Mportal: Goals

- Android/iOS only
- Use modern APIs
  - Local Storage
  - Geolocation
- Clientside rendering
- JSON Backend
- Fast

mobile.de Mportal: Facts

- Small footprint
- Zepto.js
- Dust.js
- Custom MVC for the rest
  - Custom event bus
  - Custom Hash-navigation handling
- Jasmine and Webdriver for testing

But why invent the wheel again?

Backbone.js

What it has

- Models
- Views
- Collections
- Event Bus
- Router(s)
- Plugins like Localstorage, ModelBinder
- Extensions like Marionette, Gepetto

What it lacks

- Eye candy, pure JavaScript
- Complex views
- Memory management

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Backbone.js

„Backbone.js gives structure to web applications by providing **models** with key-value binding and custom events, **collections** with a rich API of enumerable functions, **views** with declarative event handling, and connects it all to your existing API over a RESTful JSON interface."

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Backbone.js: Example

What's the scope

- Connect to Github
- Show a single issue
- Show title, author, body

What's used

- Backbone.Events
- Backbone.Model
- Backbone.View

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Backbone.js: Example 2

What's the scope

■ Connect to Github

■ Show a single issue

■ Show title, author, body

■ Show a list of issues

What's used

■ Backbone.Events

■ Backbone.Model

■ Backbone.View

■ Backbone.Collection

■ Backbone.Router

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Backbone.js

- Small focused Objects
- Reusable code
- Great flexibility
- Works with jQuery, Zepto or vanilla DOM
- Works alongside other frameworks

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Questions?

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Examples: https://github.com/nerdgore/TechTalk-Backbone

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Resources

- http://underscorejs.org
- http://backbonejs.org
- https://github.com/jeromegn/Backbone.localStorage
- https://github.com/theironcook/Backbone.ModelBinder
- http://akdubya.github.com/dustjs/
- http://zeptojs.com
- http://pivotal.github.com/jasmine/
- http://ricostacruz.com/backbone-patterns/

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