

Drupal 10+ Theming - How to convert an HTML template to a Drupal theme

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Preface

Drupal is a popular open-source content management system (CMS) that allows individuals and organizations to create and manage websites, web applications and digital content. At the time of this writing, Drupal 10 (released in Dec 2022) is the latest major release of Drupal. It builds on Drupal 8 and Drupal 9, offering new features, improvements, and updates that enhances the CMS's functionality, performance, and user experience.

Note: At this eBook publication date (Sept 2024), Drupal 11 has been released (Aug 1 2024). This eBook uses Drupal 10.1 but the material and information contained within is applicable to any Drupal 10.x or Drupal 11 site.

In *Drupal 10+ Theming - How to convert an HTML template to a Drupal Theme*, we focus on Drupal 10 theming. Starting with an HTML template and a vanilla Drupal 10 site, we'll go step-by-step through the process of creating a Drupal 10 theme from scratch. Most theming courses and tutorials theme a basic site, in this eBook we'll be theming a fairly complex site.

In the following sections we'll use "Drupal" generically to refer to Drupal versions 8+. We'll use Drupal 10 or the abbreviation "D10", if a particular topic or feature only applies to Drupal 10. We won't cover topics or features unique to Drupal 11.

Who this eBook is for

Drupal 10+ Theming - How to convert an HTML template to a Drupal Theme is mostly intended for website developers involved with Drupal but also for anyone interested in Drupal theming.

It assumes knowledge of HTML, CSS and familiarity with the [Twig](#) templating language. Basic knowledge of PHP is helpful as we'll be writing a bit of PHP code. JavaScript knowledge is helpful but not necessary as we won't be writing any custom JavaScript. The HTML template uses Bootstrap 5, therefore [Bootstrap 5](#) knowledge is advantageous.

To get the most out of this book, prior experience with Drupal and basic Drupal site building is helpful.

In particular:

- You should be familiar with Drupal site administration, this includes:
 - Navigating the Drupal administration UI
 - Using composer to install and remove modules and themes
 - Enabling and configuring modules
 - Working with the theme Appearance screen to enable, disable and configure themes
 - Using the command line and [Drush](#)
- You should know how to work with Drupal Content types and Fields to create content.
- You should be familiar with Drupal core components like Blocks, Taxonomy, Views, View modes, Image styles etc. and how to configure them.
- You should have basic understanding of how Drupal configuration management works.

It would also be helpful to already have a local development environment setup on your computer. In this book we use [DDEV](#) but you're free to use your development environment of choice. Other popular development environments are [Lando](#) and [MAMP-Pro](#).

In Chapter 2 -Setting up a Development Environment (using DDEV), we cover the basics of setting up local development environment using DDEV.

Lastly you should be familiar with [Git](#). Git is essential knowledge for Drupal development. It also would be helpful to know how to use [GitHub](#).

What you need for this eBook

To install the required software (DDEV local development environment, Drupal 10 codebase etc.), you'll need a computer meeting the following requirements:

- OS: macOS, Windows or Linux
- 2GHz+ Dual-core CPU
- At least 8GB RAM (16GB preferred)
- Minimum 256GB free hard drive space

In this book we use macOS but you're free to use any other OS of choice (i.e. Windows or Linux). You'll also need a text editor (or preferably) an IDE such as [Visual Studio Code](#) or [PhpStorm](#).

What you will learn

In *Drupal 10+ Theming - How to Convert an HTML Template to a Drupal Theme*, you'll begin on a journey to master the art of Drupal theming. Through detailed, step-by-step instructions, you'll learn how to transform an HTML template into a fully functional Drupal 10 theme while building a complex business website.

- Learn how to set up a Drupal local development environment using DDEV.
- Learn how to install a local Drupal site using DDEV and Composer.
- Configure a local Drupal development environment for theme development.
- Understand the essentials of Drupal theming, including the structure of themes, theme components, and the role of Twig templates.
- Starting from scratch, build out basic theme files and set up theme directories.

- Understand the basics of Drupal configuration management. Install and use helpful configuration management related contrib modules.
- Learn how to dissect and analyze an HTML template, section by section and identify the Drupal components (Content types, Blocks, Views, Image styles etc.) needed to build and theme the section.
- Install and use site building related Drupal contrib modules such as Paragraphs, Pathauto, Webform, Block Field, Views Reference Field and others.
- Learn how to incorporate HTML template CSS, JavaScript and other asset files into a Drupal theme.
- Become proficient at theming site Headers / Footers, Hero banners, Navigation menus, Image sliders and Drupal components such as Paragraphs, Blocks, Content nodes, Views and Webforms.
- Learn how to use the browser inspector to identify the Twig template(s) being used to display site content.
- Learn how to override default Twig templates and write custom markup to style content.
- Write custom CSS and preprocess functions for a theme.
- Learn about the Twig dump() and Devel module dsm() debug commands and how to use them during theme development.
- Use the Twig Tweak and Fences Drupal contrib modules to help streamline Twig template code development.

By the end of this eBook, you will have the skills and confidence to convert any HTML template into a fully customized Drupal theme, equipping you to handle any complex Drupal theming project with ease.

What this eBook covers

Drupal 10+ Theming - How to convert an HTML template to a Drupal Theme is a practical and detailed guide for Drupal developers looking to convert HTML templates into Drupal themes. It provides step-by-step instructions, best practices, and tips to ensure a smooth theming process.

Chapter 1 - The Website We'll Be Building discusses the website (and its features) that will be built and themed throughout this eBook. The website is a business site built using the [Arsha](#) template from [BootstrapMade](#).

Chapter 2 - Setting Up a Development Environment (using DDEV) details the process of setting up a local development environment for Drupal using DDEV. DDEV leverages [Docker](#) to create a virtual environment with a web server, PHP engine, and database server.

Chapter 3 - Install the Site focuses on the process of installing our Drupal site using DDEV and configuring the necessary settings needed for development. We also download and enable several useful Drupal contrib modules.

Chapter 4 - Configuration Management briefly discusses Drupal configuration management and introduces the Configuration Split and Config Ignore contrib modules. These two modules greatly enhance configuration management functionality.

Chapter 5 - Git Setup and Initial Commit provides guidance on setting up Git. We create a workable `.gitignore` file and perform an initial commit. We then perform an initial site database backup and DDEV environment snapshot.

Chapter 6 - Drupal 10 Theming Overview provides an overview of Drupal 10 theming, detailing the options available when selecting a theme. Theme administration and theme components (theme files, regions and blocks) are then discussed. Lastly we cover site configuration and setup needed for theme development.

Chapter 7 - Arsha Theme Prep delves into the initial steps required to prepare the Arsha theme for our Drupal site. It involves creating an initial set of theme files and setting up theme directo-

ries. We then create a theme screenshot and install the Arsha theme as the site frontend theme.

Chapter 8 - Design Mockup Review outlines the process of analyzing the Arsha Bootstrap 5 template design. The chapter begins with adding the Arsha template files to our project. We then perform a front page, section-by-section, analysis and discuss the Drupal components (and other theming considerations) we'll need for building and theming the section.

Chapter 9 - Building Out the Theme Files begins the process of building out the theme files. Building from the files created in *Chapter 7 - Arsha Theme Prep*, we update the two main theme configuration files. We also create the top level Twig template files. These latter files define the overall site page structure.

Chapter 10 - Theming the Header and Navbar focuses on building and theming the site Header, navigation bar (Navbar) and main menu links.

Chapter 11 - Building Out the Page Structure focuses on building out the basic structure of our site pages. We create a placeholder front page with dummy content. This allows us to see the overall page structure as we build and theme the various page sections. We then theme the Primary tab block.

Chapter 12 - Front Page Theming (Part 1) covers building and theming the front page Hero and Footer sections our site. Creating and configuring the section components, adding section content and styling the section is covered in detail.

Chapter 13 - Front Page Theming (Part 2) covers building and theming the front page Clients, About Us, Why Us and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sections of our site. Creating and configuring the section components, adding section content and styling the section is covered in detail.

Chapter 14 - Front Page Theming (Part 3) covers building and theming the front page Skills, Services and Call to Action (CTA) sections of our site. Creating and configuring the section components, adding section content and styling the section is covered in detail. We get our first taste of working with and theming Views. We create, configure and theme of view for Services content. Theming Views is discussed in detail.

Chapter 15 - Project Page and Portfolio Section Theming covers theming the Portfolio project pages and the front page Portfolio section. Creating and configuring the project pages and Portfolio section components, adding content and styling the pages and section is covered in detail. We also get more practice working with and theming Views with the Projects view.

Chapter 16 - Front Page Theming (Part 4) covers theming the remaining front page sections, Team, Pricing and Contact . Creating and configuring the section components, adding section content and styling the section is covered in detail. We create, configure and theme views for Team and Pricing table content.

Appendix A - Drupal Component Configuration covers in detail creating and configuring all the Drupal components used to build the site. Screenshots and other details are provided for creating and configuring Blocks, Content types, Image styles, Paragraphs, Views and all other components.

Appendix B - Project GitHub Repo covers the site's GitHub code repo. The repo has a Git tag that "snapshots" the state of the site (files and database) at the conclusion of each eBook chapter. This allows one to "jump in" at any point in the site's development and grab the file set and database.

Appendix C - Contrib Modules provides a chapter by chapter list of Drupal contrib modules used in the site.

Appendix D - Resources provides a list of documentation resources.

Chapter 1 - The Website We'll Be Building

We'll be building a business website using the Arsha template from [BootstrapMade](#).

BootstrapMade provides free and pro versions of Bootstrap 4 / 5 templates for many types of websites. Go to [Arsha - Free Corporate Bootstrap HTML Template](#) and click the "Live Demo" button to see the Arsha template in action.

Note: This eBook uses the Arsha template available in late 2023. At eBook publication date (Sept 2024) some updates have been made to the template. Some of these changes slightly alter the look of the site. For example new content has been added and some images and icons have changed. Also the latest template version uses Bootstrap version 5.3.3 while previous versions used 5.3.2 .

A “snapshot” of the Arsha template files (from late 2023) is included in the Git repo, [Drupal-10-Theming](#), that accompanies this eBook. The site build will be based on these files.

The Arsha template has the following main features:

- Fully responsive design using Bootstrap 5.3.2
- Single page design
- Fixed navigation menu bar
- Mobile menu
- Scroll to top button
- Portfolio section with Lightbox
- Contact form
- Animation effects

- [Remix Icons](#)

Licensing

In this book, we'll be using the free version of the Arsha template in a local D10 site for demonstration purposes. For commercial use of BootstrapMade templates, check out the [BootstrapMade Licensing and Pricing](#) page.

Summary

This chapter introduced the website we'll be building. The site is based the Arsha template from BootstrapMade. The Arsha template, designed with Bootstrap 5.3.2, is a single-page design, is fully responsive and features a fixed navigation bar, mobile menu, scroll-to-top button, portfolio section with Lightbox, contact form, and animation effects.

In the next chapter, we'll go through the process of setting up a local development environment for our site using DDEV.

Chapter 2 - Setting Up a Development Environment (using DDEV)

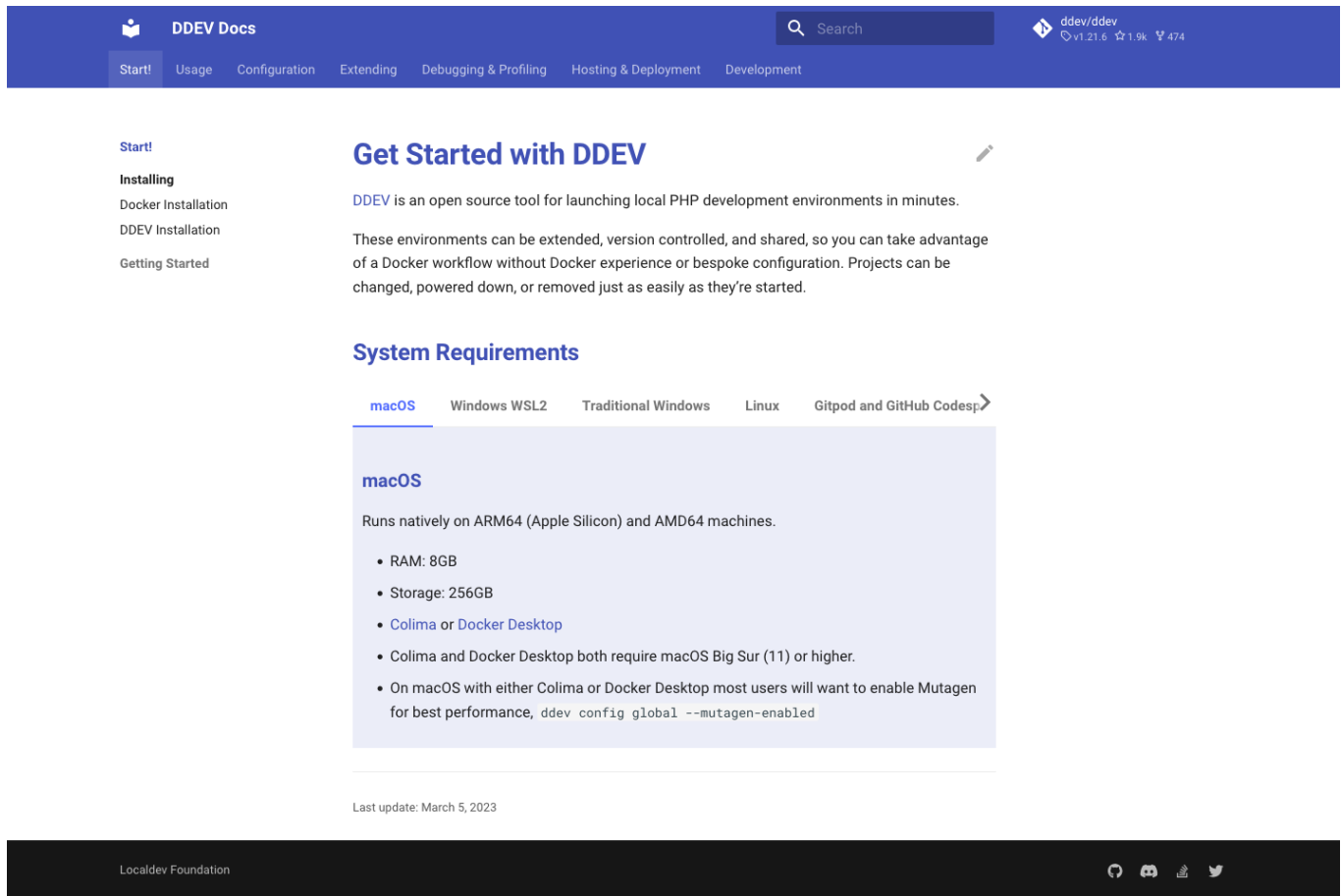
DDEV uses [Docker](#) under the hood. You must install Docker before installing DDEV. This software combination provides a virtual environment with a web server, PHP engine and database server along with other tools that are needed to run Drupal.

Note: [Local Web Development with DDEV Explained](#) is a great resource that gives background on DDEV, installation instructions and other information. (The author refers to DDEV as DDEV-Local but they are one of the same.)

In the rest of this chapter we'll refer to the official DDEV documentation to set up our local development environment.

Docker and DDEV Installation

- Navigate to [Get Started with DDEV](#). See below screenshot.



Note: The DDEV Docs UI and pages are occasionally updated. The screenshots in this chapter were taken in late 2023. The DDEV Docs pages as of this eBook publication date (Sept 2024) may look different. In any case, the DDEV installation instructions should be easy to follow.

- Under “System Requirements” click on the tab for your OS and see RAM and storage requirements.
- On the left-side pane (*you may need to widen your browser window to see the pane*), the “Docker Installation” and “DDEV Installation” links will take you to installation instructions.
- In my particular case, I’m using macOS and Colima.
- Once you’ve installed Docker and DDEV, you can move on to installing Drupal.

Note: DDEV versions may differ slightly in the commands and command options they support. In this eBook we initially started with DDEV version v1.21.6 and upgraded along the way and finished with version v1.23.3. Using DDEV version v1.21.6 and up should pose no issues.

Drupal 10 Installation

From the [Get Started with DDEV](#) page in the left pane, click on the [CMS Quickstarts](#) link and then on the Drupal link on the right pane. Under Drupal 10, you'll see the set of DDEV commands needed to install a Drupal 10 site.

We won't follow these instructions verbatim and instead customize them for our project.

The screenshot shows the DDEV Docs website. The top navigation bar includes 'Start!', 'Usage', 'Configuration', 'Extending', 'Debugging & Profiling', 'Hosting & Deployment', and 'Development'. A search bar is also present. The left sidebar lists various topics, with 'CMS Quickstarts' highlighted. The main content area is titled 'CMS Quickstarts' and lists several CMS options: Craft CMS, Django, Drupal (highlighted), ExpressionEngine, Laravel, Magento, and Moco. Under the 'Drupal' section, 'Drupal 10' is highlighted. The 'Drupal 10 via Composer' section contains a code block with the following commands:

```
mkdir my-drupal10-site
cd my-drupal10-site
ddev config --project-type=drupal10 --docroot=web --create-docroot
ddev start
ddev composer create drupal/recommended-project
ddev composer require drush/drush
ddev drush site:install --account-name=admin --account-pass=admin -y
ddev drush uli
ddev launch
```

The right sidebar contains a 'Table of contents' with links to various topics, including 'Drupal' which is highlighted.

Use the following set of instructions to configure DDEV for Drupal 10 and install Drupal 10.

- From your home directory, create `Projects/drupal-sites/arsha` directory and `cd` to that directory.

```
$ pwd
```

```
/Users/<your-user-name>

$ mkdir -p Projects/drupal-sites/arsha

$ cd !$

~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ pwd

/Users/<your-user-name>/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha
```

- Execute `ddev config` command

```
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev config --project-type=drupal10 --
docroot=web --create-docroot --webserver-type=apache-fpm --php-ver-
sion="8.2" --database=mariadb:10.4
```

Note: Check that you're using DDEV version `>= v1.21.6` otherwise the php and database versions you specify may not be supported.

We're setting the Drupal 10 source code directory to `~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha`. If you have multiple local websites (Drupal and non-Drupal) on your system like I do, it helps to organize them in a specific directory.

We also explicitly specify web sever type (we chose Apache vs the default Nginx), php version, database engine and docroot.

After the command is run you may see the warning :

You have specified a project type of `drupal10` but no project of that type is found in...

You can safely ignore this.

You can check DDEV configuration for your site in file `.ddev/config.yaml` . Below is the first few lines of the file.

```
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ cat .ddev/config.yaml

name: arsha
```

```
type: drupal10
docroot: web
php_version: "8.2"
webserver_type: apache-fpm
router_http_port: "80"
router_https_port: "443"
xdebug_enabled: false
additional_hostnames: []
additional_fqdns: []
database:
  type: mariadb
  version: "10.4"
nfs_mount_enabled: false
mutagen_enabled: false
use_dns_when_possible: true
composer_version: "2"
web_environment: []
nodejs_version: "16"
```

- Next, run `ddev start` to start the Docker containers.

```
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev start
Starting arsha...
Network ddev-arsha_default Created
Container ddev-arsha-web Started
Container ddev-arsha-dba Started
```

```
Container ddev-arsha-db Started
Starting mutagen sync process... This can take some time.
Mutagen sync flush completed in 5s.
For details on sync status 'ddev mutagen st arsha -l'
Container ddev-router Running
Successfully started arsha
Project can be reached at https://arsha.ddev.site
https://127.0.0.1:32796
```

Note: If the `ddev start` command fails, run `ddev restart` command. (In my experience, Docker / Colima performance on MacOS isn't the best).

- Next download the Drupal 10 code with `ddev composer create` command.

```
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev composer create drupal/recommended-project:10.1.0 --no-interaction
```

We specify Drupal 10.1, *which when this eBook was started was the latest Drupal 10 version*. The site we're building should work with any Drupal 10 or Drupal 11 version but to set a baseline Drupal core version for the site, we're using version 10.1.

- Next install [Drush](#).

```
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev composer require "drush/drush:^12.0"
```

Summary

In this chapter we setup a Drupal 10 local development environment using DDEV.

- First we installed Docker and DDEV using the DDEV Docs online documentation.

- We then configured DDEV for Drupal 10, explicitly specifying the web server, PHP version, database engine and other settings.
- We then downloaded the Drupal 10 core code using composer.
- We ended by downloading Drush. Drush is an essential command-line tool for managing a Drupal site.

In the next chapter we'll move on to actually installing our Drupal site and also install some useful contrib modules.

Chapter 3 - Install the Site

Note: All files in this chapter and subsequent chapters are available in the project Git repo ebook directory [Drupal 10 Theming eBook](#). Navigate to the corresponding chapter_xx directory.

Before installing the site, run `ddev describe` to get the site's url, and view web server info, database info, php info as well as other details.

```
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha (main) $ ddev describe
```

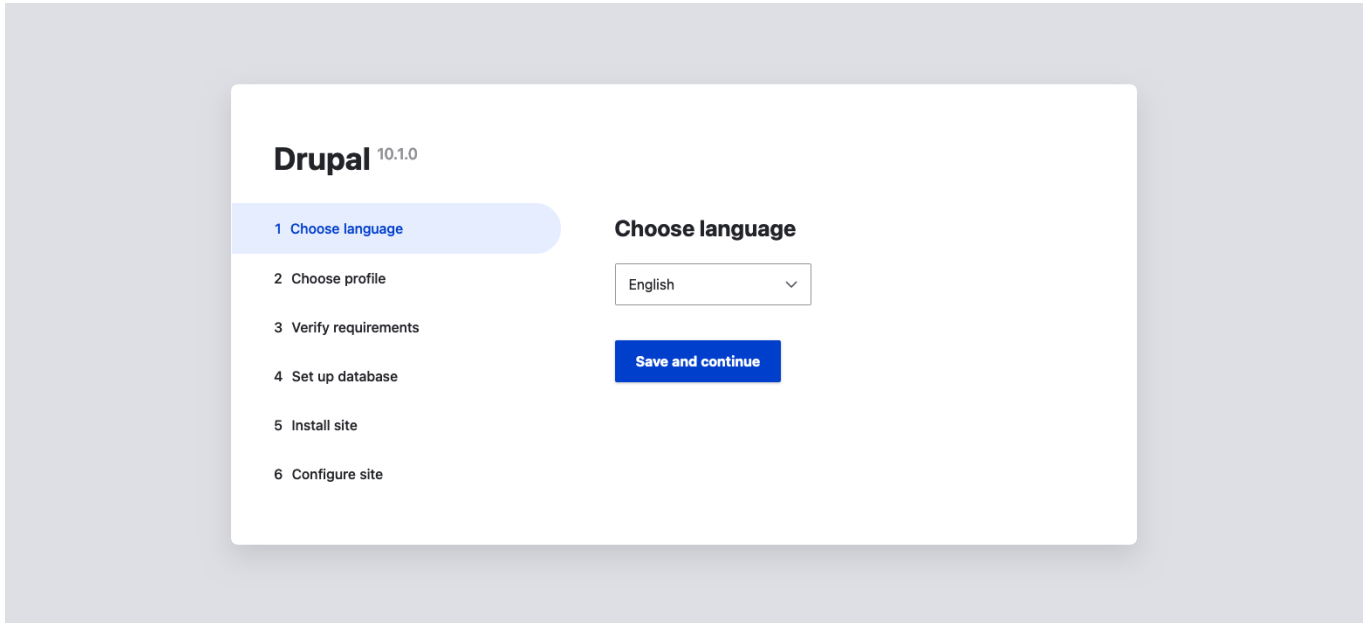
Project: arsha ~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha https://arsha.ddev.site Docker platform: colima Router: traefik			
SERVICE	STAT	URL/PORT	INFO
web	OK	https://arsha.ddev.site InDocker: web:443,80,8025 Host: 127.0.0.1:32778,32779	drupal10 PHP8.2 apache-fpm docroot: 'web' Perf mode: mutagen NodeJS:16
db	OK	InDocker: db:3306 Host: 127.0.0.1:32777	mariadb:10.4 User/Pass: 'db/db' or 'root/root'
Mailpit		Mailpit: https://arsha.ddev.site:8026 Launch: ddev mailpit	
All URLs		https://arsha.ddev.site, https://127.0.0.1:32778, http://arsha.ddev.site, http://127.0.0.1:32779	

We see that we can access the site at url <https://arsha.ddev.site> or <http://arsha.ddev.site>. Also note a database user (db), and name (db) has been setup.

To install the site we have two options:

Option #1

Point your browser to the site's url (`https://arsha.ddev.site`) and manually go through the installation steps using the Drupal installation wizard. The first screen of the installation wizard is shown below.



Option #2

Use `ddev drush site:install` command to streamline the process and skip the manual steps. This is the method we'll use.

- From your project directory, execute the command as shown below.

```
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev drush site:install -y standard --  
site-name=arsha --account-name=admin --account-pass=admin
```

You are about to:

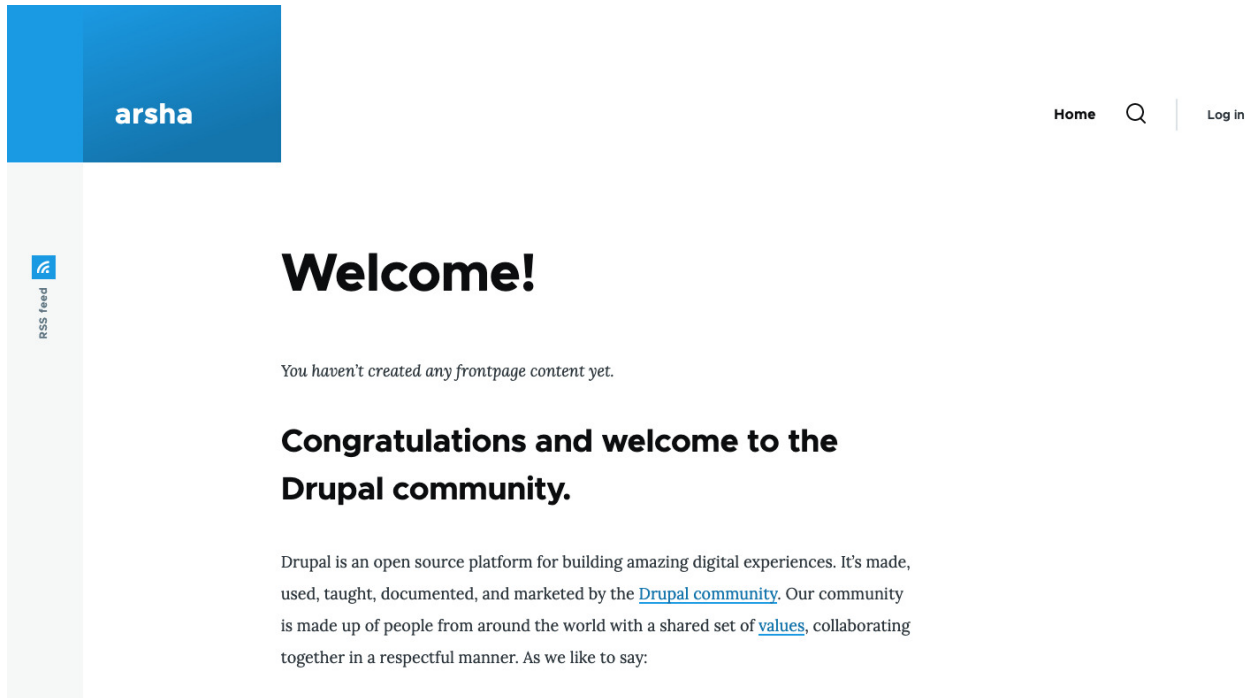
- * DROP all tables in your 'db' database.

```
// Do you want to continue?: yes.
```

```
[notice] Starting Drupal installation. This takes a while.
```

```
[notice] Performed install task: install_select_language
[notice] Performed install task: install_select_profile
[notice] Performed install task: install_load_profile
[notice] Performed install task: install_verify_requirements
[notice] Performed install task: install_verify_database_ready
[notice] Performed install task: install_base_system
[notice] Performed install task: install_bootstrap_full
[notice] Performed install task: install_profile_modules
[notice] Performed install task: install_profile_themes
[notice] Performed install task: install_install_profile
[notice] Performed install task: install_configure_form
[notice] Performed install task: install_finished
[success] Installation complete.
```

- Navigate to <https://arsha.ddev.site> and voila!, your site is up and ready to go. See below screenshot. (Only the top portion of the site is shown).



- Login to the site with Username: admin, Password: admin

docroot and webroot

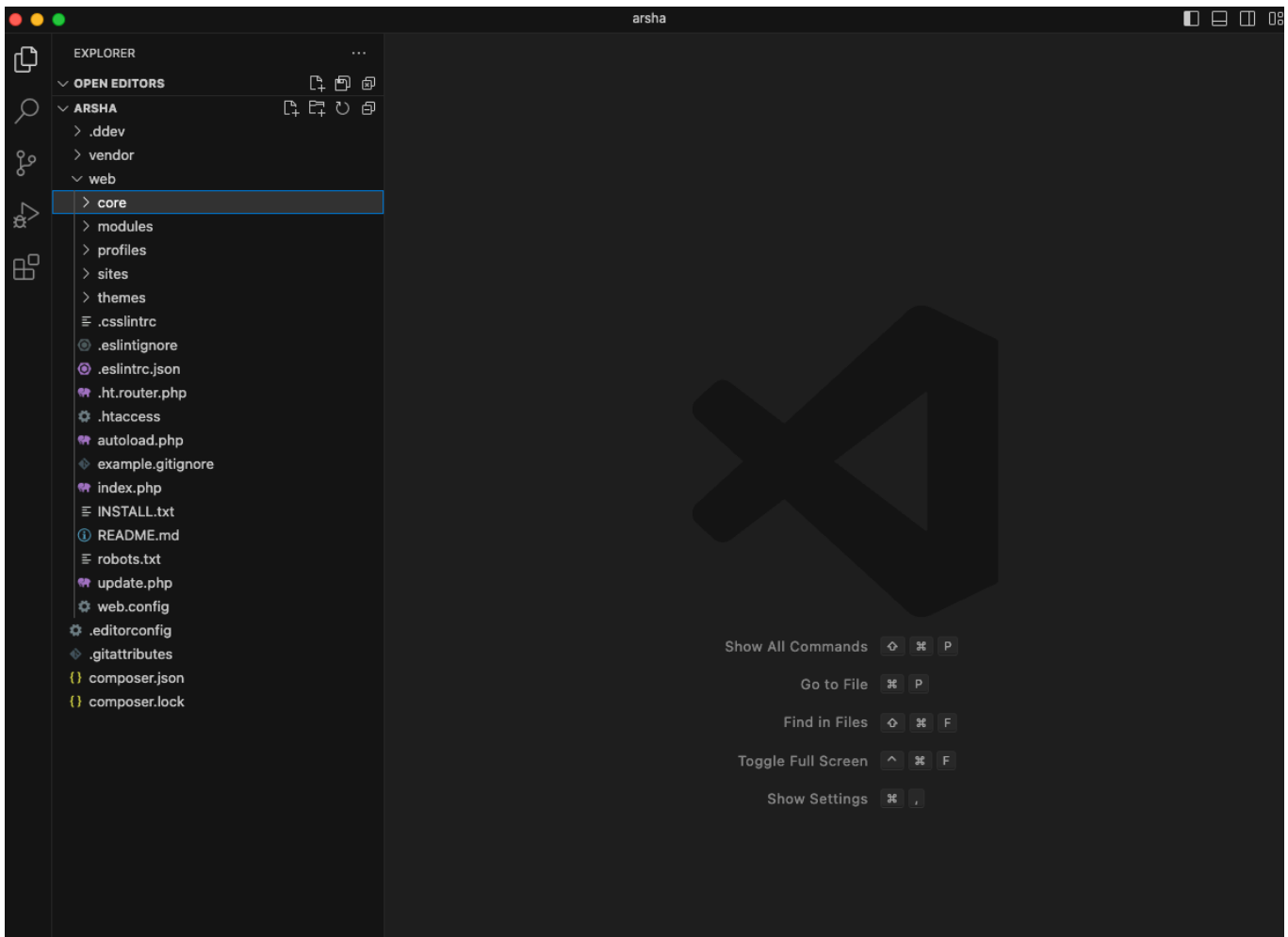
Throughout this book we may refer to the site's docroot and webroot.

docroot is the top level directory where the Drupal source code is located. In *Chapter 2 - Setting up a Development Environment (using DDEV) -> Drupal 10 Installation*, we installed our Drupal site at `~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha`.

Directory `~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha` is the site docroot.

The site webroot located at `~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha/web`. webroot consists of publicly accessible files served by the web server. Directories and files located above webroot aren't publicly accessible and are a good place to hold private data and configuration.

The screenshot below shows the Drupal code (docroot) directory structure (using VScode). webroot files and directories are under the `web/` directory.



Settings Files

Drupal has a main site settings file , `settings.php`, (located at `web/sites/default/settings.php`) that holds site specific configuration.

DDEV automatically creates a `settings.php` and a `settings.ddev.php` file. `settings.php` includes `settings.dev.php`. Both of these files have site configuration settings. In particular, `settings.ddev.php` contains the site database settings and configuration directory setting.

Important: Open the `settings.ddev.php` file. The screenshot below shows the first few lines of the file. **Remove** the entire `@file` annotation block at the top of the file. This “trick” en-

sures that any changes we make to `settings.ddev.php` are not overwritten whenever we restart the site (using the `ddev start` or `ddev restart` command).

```
1  <?php
2
3  /**
4   * @file
5   * #ddev-generated: Automatically generated Drupal settings file.
6   * ddev manages this file and may delete or overwrite the file unless this
7   * comment is removed. It is recommended that you leave this file alone.
8   */
9
10 $host = "db";
11 $port = 3306;
12 $driver = "mysql";
13
14 // If DDEV_PHP_VERSION is not set but IS_DDEV_PROJECT *is*, it means we're
15 // running (drush) on the host,
16 // so use the host-side bind port on docker IP
17 if (empty(getenv('DDEV_PHP_VERSION')) && getenv('IS_DDEV_PROJECT') == 'true')) {
18     $host = "127.0.0.1";
19     $port = 32806;
20 }
```

After removing the `@file` annotation block from `settings.ddev.php`, the first few lines of the file should look as below.

```
1  <?php
2
3  $host = "db";
4  $port = 3306;
5  $driver = "mysql";
6
7  // If DDEV_PHP_VERSION is not set but IS_DDEV_PROJECT *is*, it means we're
8  // running (drush) on the host,
9  // so use the host-side bind port on docker IP
10 if (empty(getenv('DDEV_PHP_VERSION')) && getenv('IS_DDEV_PROJECT') == 'true')) {
11     $host = "127.0.0.1";
12     $port = 32806;
13 }
```

Next, open the `settings.php` file. At the bottom of the file is code to include `settings.local.php`. If this section is commented out, un-comment it. See below.

```
if (file_exists($app_root . '/' . $site_path . '/settings.local.php')) {
```

```
include $app_root . '/' . $site_path . '/settings.local.php';  
}
```

Lastly, we need to create the `settings.local.php` as that file is not automatically created.

To create it, copy file `web/sites/example.settings.local.php` to `web/sites/default/example.settings.local.php` and rename it `settings.local.php`.

```
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ cp web/sites/example.settings.local.php  
web/sites/default/settings.local.php
```

Shown below are all the files that should be in the `web/sites/default` directory.

```
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha$ ls web/sites/default/  
default.services.yml default.settings.php settings.ddev.php settings.lo-  
cal.php settings.php
```

Accessing The Site Database

DDEV includes the [phpMyAdmin](#). Use this tool to access the site database. As previously noted, use `ddev describe` to get site information. From this output, phpMyAdmin information will be displayed.

Launch phpMyAdmin by executing `ddev launch -p` from `docroot` or by pointing your browser to `https://arsha.ddev.site:8037`.

Note: For for DDEV versions > v1.21.6 you may get the following when `ddev launch -p` is run.

```
/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha (main) $ ddev launch -p  
  
phpMyAdmin is no longer built into DDEV, please 'ddev get ddev/ddev-php-  
myadmin' and use 'ddev phpmyadmin' to launch phpMyAdmin  
  
Failed to run launch -p; error=exit status 2
```


Follow the instructions given to launch phpMyAdmin.

Download and Install Contrib Modules

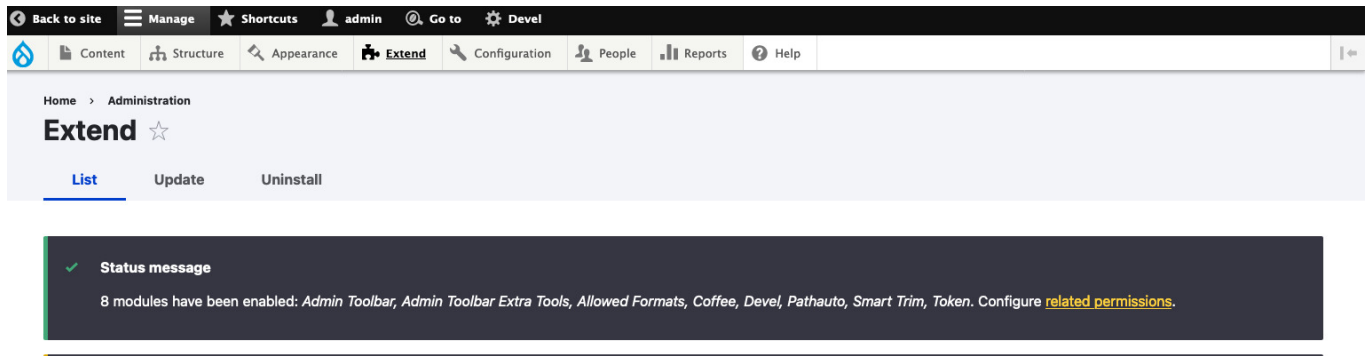
There are several Drupal contrib modules that are very useful for any type of site being built. From docroot, (~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha), download the following modules with composer.

```
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev composer require drupal/admin_toolbar  
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev composer require drupal/coffee  
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev composer require drupal/pathauto  
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev composer require drupal/smart_trim  
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev composer require drupal/allowed_formats  
~/Projects/drupal-sites/arsha $ ddev composer require --dev drupal/devel
```

If un-familiar with these modules, be sure to head over to the [drupal.org](https://www.drupal.org/project/admin_toolbar) module page to get information about the module. For example navigate to https://www.drupal.org/project/admin_toolbar for information about Admin Toolbar.

TIP: Checkout [50 Drupal modules every Drupal professional should know about](#) for a comprehensive list of useful Drupal contrib modules. At this point in our development though, the modules listed above are adequate.

After the modules are downloaded, be sure to head over to the Extend screen (admin/modules) and enable the modules. The screenshot below shows a Status message after the modules have been enabled.



TIP: The coffee module is one of my favorite contrib modules and is extremely useful for navigating the Drupal site admin pages. Just type `Alt-d` and enter a search term. A list of links will be shown that match the search term.

Try it now:

- Type `Alt-d` and enter “text format”
- Click on “Text formats and editors”. This will take you right to the Text formats and editors page, `admin/config/content/formats`.

This is much faster than browsing through the various admin links to find the page you want.

For the remainder of this book, when accessing admin pages, we’ll almost always direct you to a certain admin page by providing the url. You can always take advantage of coffee module (`Alt-d` and search term) for faster navigation.

Over the next several chapters as we build out the site and implement the theme, we’ll install and enable additional modules as needed.

Development Site Settings

Next, there are a few settings we need to configure.

- Logging and errors

- Performance
- Regional settings

Logging and errors

- Navigate to `admin/config/development/logging` (or Alt-d, “logging”)
- Set “Error messages to display” to “All messages, with backtrace information”
- Click “Save configuration”

Performance

- Navigate to `admin/config/development/performance`
- Set “Browser and proxy cache maximum age” to “<no caching>”
- Uncheck checkboxes, “Aggregate CSS files” and “Aggregate JavaScript files”
- Click “Save configuration”

Regional settings

- Navigate to `admin/config/regional/settings`
- Set “Default country”, “First day of week”, “Default time zone” appropriate for your location
- Normally the “Users may set their own time zone” checkbox is left un-checked.
- Click “Save configuration”

Summary

In this chapter we installed our Drupal site. We opted to not use the Drupal installation wizard and instead used Drush to install the site.

- We identified our site webroot and docroot directories and setup our settings files.
- Next, we downloaded and enabled some useful contrib modules.
- Lastly, we configured several site settings for development.

In the next chapter we'll briefly discuss Drupal site configuration management and introduce a couple of useful contrib modules that enhance configuration management functionality. Drupal configuration management is essential knowledge even for the simplest sites.

Appendix C - Contrib Modules

Below is a chapter by chapter list of contrib modules used in the site we build.

Chapter 3 - Install the Site

- [Admin Toolbar](#)
- [Coffee](#)
- [Pathauto](#)
- [Smart Trim](#)
- [Allowed Formats](#)

Removed in *Chapter 11 - Building Out the Page Structure -> Add Dummy Content* and
Appendix A - Drupal Component Configuration -> Text Formats

- [Devel](#)

Chapter 4 - Configuration Management

- [Configuration Split](#)
- [Config Ignore](#)

Chapter 12 - Front Page Theming (Part 1)

- [Webform](#)
- [Social Media Links Block and Field](#)

Chapter 13 - Front Page Theming (Part 2)

- [Paragraphs](#)
- [Fences - Semantic field markup and classes](#)
- [Twig Tweak](#)

Chapter 14 - Front Page Theming (Part 3)

- [Current Page Crumb](#)

Chapter 16 - Front Page Theming (Part 4)

- [Formdazzle!](#)

Appendix A - Drupal Component Configuration

- [Simple Google Maps](#)
- [Weight](#)
- [Views Reference Field](#)
- [cweagans/composer-patches](#)
- [Block field](#)

Appendix D - Resources

This chapter lists some of the resources that were used in writing this eBook.

Bootstrap

- [How to... Bootstrap](#)
- [Bootstrap 5 documentation](#)

Twig

- [Twig](#)

Drupal.org Resources

- [Theme System Overview](#)
- [Theming Drupal](#)
- [Twig in Drupal](#)
- [Twig Template naming conventions](#)
- [CSS File Organization](#)
- [Preprocessing and modifying attributes in a .theme file](#)
- [Render API overview](#)

Drupal Development

- [Drupal at your fingertips](#)
- [Drupal Answers](#)

Miscellaneous Resources

- [Anatomy of a Drupal 8 Theme](#)
- [Drupal Theming Do's and Don'ts](#)
- [Managing CSS and JavaScript files in Drupal 8 with Libraries](#)
- [How to use Hooks for building Drupal 8 theme](#)
- [An Introduction to Drupal's Render Arrays](#)
- [Standard Drupal Render Array Properties](#)
- [Video | Aha! Understanding and Using Render Arrays in Drupal 8](#)
- [New to Drupal: Improved Dumping of Twig Variables!](#)