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Magento Developer Certification Preparation Study Group

Participant Guide

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Overview

Welcome to the Program!

Welcome to the Magento Developer Certification (MDC) preparation study group program! Thank you for signing up to be a part of a study group to prepare for the Magento Developer Certification exam.

Two Magento Developer Certification Exam Choices

Magento Developer Certification is a mid-advanced level certification geared toward professional developers that have real-world experience with Magento implementations. The exams provide a way for qualified, experienced Magento developers to demonstrate and validate their skills. Developers who pass one of the exams can use the valued Magento Certified Developer credential in marketing their services.

There are two exams in the Magento Certified Developer portfolio.

Magento Certified Developer

Magento Certified Developer Plus

For more information about the Magento Developer Certification program, see the website at www.magentocommerce.com/certification/.

The final section of this guide provides next steps for how to sign up to take the test after you complete your study group meetings.

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About This Guide

The purpose of this guide is to give you access to the certification objectives and study group exercises for each meeting. In this guide, the certification objectives are grouped by the associated meeting of the study group.

The certification objectives are the same as those found in the Magento Certified Developer Exam *Study Guide*. You can request a PDF file of the *Study Guide* on the certification resources page at www.magentocommerce.com/certification/.

The questions related to the study guide objectives have been omitted from this guide to avoid confusion with the study group exercises. Please refer to the Magento Certified Developer Exam *Study Guide* to check your knowledge against those questions.

The main value of the study group comes from working through the exercises together with the other participants preparing for the exam.

Group Discussion Tool

The moderator of your study group will choose a group discussion tool for you and the other participants to use during the course of the study group. When you receive your study group information, your moderator should provide you with information about how to access and use the discussion tool. Please use the tool, both to ask questions and to give answers. This is a technique called social learning. The meetings serve as a focal point and to provide moral support and motivation in addition to the group discussions.

If you have any questions regarding the study group itself (in contrast to the technical content), please contact the group moderator. She or he will help, for example with technical support for the group discussion tool.

Code Examples

For some exercises, solutions will be provided during the meetings. Please be aware that the code from the exercise solutions is not production ready. It is distributed to serve as an educational example, but in some cases error checking or something similar might have been neglected.

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Meeting 1

Study Guide Objectives

This meeting doesn't cover any technical content, so there are no associated study guide objectives.

Exercises

This meeting doesn't cover any technical content, so there are no exercises.

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Meeting 2

Study Guide Objectives

The study guide sections covered in this meeting are **Basics** and **Request Flow**.

Basics

High-level Magento architecture

- Describe Magento code pools
- Describe typical Magento module structure
- Describe location of Magento templates and layout files
- Describe location of Magento skin and JavaScript files
- Identify and explain the main Magento design areas (adminhtml and frontend)
- Explain class naming conventions and their relationship with the autoloader
- Describe methods for resolving module conflicts

Magento configuration

- Explain how Magento loads and manipulates configuration information
- Describe class group configuration and use in factory methods
- Describe the process and configuration of class overrides in Magento
- Register an observer
- Identify the function and proper use of automatically available events, including `*_load_after`, etc.
- Set up a `cron` job

Internationalization

- Describe how to plan for internationalization of a Magento site
- Describe the use of Magento translate classes and translate files
- Describe the advantages and disadvantages of using subdomains and subdirectories in internationalization

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