Drupal CMS

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For this paper I chose Drupal, a free and open-source CMS platform. Drupal was initially released on January 15, 2000. The latest stable version, Drupal 8, was released March 18, 2020. According to the usage statistics released by [w3techs.com](https://w3techs.com/technologies/details/cm-drupal), 1.6% of all websites use some version of Drupal.

Based on the Lamp stack, which consists of Linux, Apache, MySQL, and PHP, Drupal is designed to be modular. Users add or remove features from their website by using modules and can install themes to change the overall look and feel of their website. Drupal is designed to balance simplicity and flexibility for both experienced and inexperienced users. With built-in accessibility features and responsive design, it is easy to build, design, and publish a small static website using Drupal.

While there are clear similarities between the two platforms, WordPress and Drupal both have benefits and disadvantages. WordPress is the clear winner in terms of beginner-friendly setup. While WordPress offers the block system for adding and updating content, Drupal requires more knowledge and “tinkering” with HTML and PHP. Popularity is another factor to consider when choosing a CMS platform. WordPress, the overall favorite, is used on 35% of all websites. The increased popularity also means WordPress will have an edge on smaller platforms. While WordPress has thousands of professional-quality themes for free, there are significantly less available for Drupal. The same applies to available extensions. While there are many available plugins and extensions available for both platforms, WordPress maintains an edge because of its wider popularity. One area in which Drupal overtakes WordPress is speed. Lightweight and less resource-consuming, Drupal generally allows for faster loading and higher performance than WordPress. One of the biggest concerns these days is website security. Drupal outperforms WordPress in this area. This platform features monthly security updates to combat threats.