

The top 10 things I wish
someone would have told
me about Drupal*



*10 things that are probably documented someplace,
but who really reads that stuff anyway.



Name: Matt Kleve

AKA: vordude

Chops: Pork

Beer: Cold

Clothing: TRUE



The top 10...things I wish someone would have told me about Drupal.

There are
10 types
of people
in the world:

Those who
understand binary,
and those
who don't. |

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10. Clean URLs (and probably other stuff) will not work without an `.htaccess` file

- That Leading “.” on the filename will make it a “hidden file”
- You won't notice it's missing...but it needs to be there.

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9. Filters affect permissions.

- To the point that you won't be able to edit a node you created. (and you don't know why!)

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8. Disable a theme/module before you try to move it

- So, you finally realized you put your files in the wrong spot—then you move it...oops.
- <http://drupal.org/node/157632>

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7. Skipping a "dot upgrade" is okay

- But YOU wouldn't do that in a production environment anyway would you?
- And YOU want to keep up with security releases, don't you? <http://drupal.org/security>

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6. Doing a "dot upgrade" isn't rocket surgery.

- ...as long as you haven't hacked core.
- ...and as long as you test it first.
- **BACKUP, YOUR DATA, DARNIT!**

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5. Themes need the "primary" template file before the more granular one.

- `node-story.tpl.php` will NOT work without `node.tpl.php`
- <http://drupal.org/node/279573>

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4. Testing while logged in as user #1 is silly.

- The first user you create (user #1) is a true administrator account.
- You WILL miss permissions configuration problems, since you can see everything you're looking to see.

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3. Run Cron (...not just when you first install drupal)

- It's really not that hard.
<http://drupal.org/cron>
- If you're still scared?
<http://drupal.org/project/poormanscron>

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2. dpm() is reason enough to install the devel module

- ...even for themers who are scared of “functions” and “PHP” and “code” and getting “too geeky”
- ...but did you know, there's more?

<http://ratatosk.backpackit.com/pub/1836982-debugging-drupal>

The top 10...things I wish someone would have told me about Drupal.

1. Read the readme files

- ...even though we've been conditioned not to.
- If I had started reading readme files, I probably wouldn't have had a presentation today.

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0. There is no magic.

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Worst List Ever.



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**"It's the latest innovation in office safety.
When your computer crashes, an air bag is activated
so you won't bang your head in frustration."**

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Questions?

Comments?

Smart Remarks?