

# Layout vs. Theme

The Backdrop CMS Layout System

Olaf Grabienski, DrupalCamp Ruhr, May 2023

Intro

# About me

Olaf Grabienski

- Since 2009 web development with Drupal
- For individuals, small business, non-profits, education + research institutions
- Since 2016 interested in Backdrop CMS
- Today most sites running on Backdrop
- Backdrop PMC member

# About Backdrop

## The Drupal Fork

- Forked from D7, actually early D8
- Simple, lightweight and easy to use CMS
- For professional and comprehensive websites
- Less backward-looking than many would expect
- Many user interface improvements
- Configuration management, Views, CKEditor, Pathauto, Token, Rabbit Hole, Scheduler, Project Browser, Self Updates ...

# Layouts

# Drupal Layouts

D7 and D8-10

- Panels / Panelizer
- Context
- View modes, Display Suite
- Paragraphs
- Theme, Regions + Blocks, Grid systems
- Template files
- D8-10: Layout Builder, Layout Paragraphs

# Backdrop Layout

- Backdrop core system
- Layout template + Blocks
- Whole page, incl. header and footer
- For site architects (not editors)

# Layout + Blocks

## Quick Demo?

- Add a Layout, choose a context
- Choose a layout template, or build one
- Place and configure your blocks
  - Title
  - Style: classes, markup
  - Visibility
  - Admin info
  - More, dependent of context



# Use cases for different Layouts

- Home vs. Default
- Default Admin + Dashboard
- Node content vs. Taxonomy vs. User accounts
- Content types
- Landing pages
- Login page

# Useful Modules

(There are more.)

- Layout Wildcard
- Copy Blocks
- Mini Layouts

# Layout Conclusion

And challenges.

- Accept the Layout system, don't work against it.  
(You'll love it.)
- Use different Layouts, but not too many.
- Find your own Layout approach.

# Themes

# Backdrop Themes

in contrast to Drupal

- **No** blocks
- **No** layout
- **Just** CSS  
(plus Theme settings + Template overrides)

# Comparison

## Drupal vs. Backdrop

	<b>Drupal</b>	<b>Backdrop</b>
<b>Layout is</b>	Optional	Required
<b>Layout affects</b>	Main content area	Page
<b>Regions + Blocks</b>	Theme	Layout
<b>Styling</b>	Theme	Theme

# Questions

# Ask a question

Or pick a topic

- [backdropcms.org/demo](https://backdropcms.org/demo)
- Admin bar > This page
- Template code, e.g. Moscone flipped
- Flexible Layout builder
- Content types > Fields
- Existing / hidden path content, e.g. Card
- Login page (e.g. gew)
- 404 (upcoming)
- Switch themes



# That's it!

Thanks for your patience.

Olaf Grabienski, Contact: [olafski.de](mailto:olafski.de)