

Overview:

We see areas to improve the quality and presentation of distributions on Drupal.org under the following sections:

- Home page
- Get started - <http://drupal.org/start>
- Download and Extend - <http://drupal.org/download>

Why:

Drupal's biggest competitors aren't nearly as far along on distributions as Drupal is, making it a point of major competitive advantage for the platform and the community. The new drupal.org site is an important opportunity to show both power users and novices alike that distributions allow you to extend Drupal in ways that cannot be reached with other platforms.

Specific Suggestions:

- 1. Branch out concept of Distro:** Branch out the concept of a full fledged distro from installation profiles: on D.o so they would be listed in separate sections on those two pages with distributions being the first and primary way to either "get started" or "download and extend" (after Drupal core of course) but before installations and themes in the column order.

Suggested display of branched out distro area on drupal.org

Download & Extend

Download & Extend Home | [Drupal Core](#) | [Modules](#) | [Themes](#) | [Translations](#) | [Installation Profiles](#) | [Distributions](#)

Download Drupal core files, and extend your site with modules, themes, translations and installation profiles.

Core	Distributions	Themes	Translations
Download Drupal 6.19	About Distributions Most Installed Distributions New Distributions Most Active Distributions	About Themes & Subthemes Most Installed Themes New Themes Most Active Themes Search for More Themes	Catalan French Hungarian Dutch All Translations
Other Releases More Information			

Suggested display of Distribution download button in Get Started section

Get Started with Drupal

1 Download Drupal

Drupal core is a collection of files that you download to get started with Drupal.

[Download Drupal 6.19](#)

Drupal distributions are pre-packaged collections of modules and themes, designed for specific types of sites.

[Download a Drupal Distribution](#)

2 Extend Drupal

Download hundreds of modules to customize and extend your site.

Most Popular Modules

[Views](#)
[Content Construction Kit \(CCK\)](#)
[Token](#)
[Pathauto](#)

All Modules

Most Popular Themes

[Zen](#)
[Fusion](#)
[Acquia Marina](#)
[Marinelli](#)

All Themes

Translations

[Catalan](#)
[French](#)
[Hungarian](#)
[Dutch](#)

All Translations

3 Documentation

Want more information before you begin using Drupal? Our extensive documentation will tell you how.

Most Popular Guides

[Installation Guide](#)
[Site Building Guide](#)
[Structure Guide](#)
[Theming Guide](#)
[Understanding Drupal](#)

All Documentation

Books



2. Education about Distributions: Include some help/education about what a distro and install profile are from these pages so users can understand what those terms/ concepts mean before downloading (Phase2 can contribute some content/diagrams to support this effort).

3. Merit-based listing: Create merit-based system for displaying distributions (and modules, we would suggest).

- a. Improve filters to expose the distress based upon agreed-upon criteria to highlight quality, professionalism, popularity, and community participation. These should be weighted according to importance. These may include:
 - Presence of Documentation
 - Presence of screen shots
 - Security / security team review
 - Track record
 - # of downloads

- # of active sites
 - Actively supported by a professional team
 - Relevance to search term
 - Newest
 - Recently updated
 - Most popular
 - Highest rated
- b. These fields/criteria would exist as metadata on each distro page as well.
 - c. Display distros according to their ranking, and/or create "featured distros" area that displays hand-picked distros (not unlike Apple's "New and Notable" apps, or Wordpress' "Featured Plugins"). Featured does not mean "paid placement."
 - d. Ensure that paid advertisements and display order of distro are kept completely separate to maintain integrity of distro listings.
 - e. Include merit-based data as metadata on distro profiles.

Outside example of merit-based display (wordpress.org/extend)

The screenshot shows the WordPress.org Plugins directory page. On the left, there are navigation links for 'Extend Home', 'Plugins', 'Themes', 'Ideas', and 'Kvetch!'. Below these are 'Popular Tags' such as 'widget (1983)', 'Post (1404)', 'plugin (1207)', 'posts (1056)', 'admin (1036)', 'sidebar (1002)', 'comments (762)', 'images (669)', 'twitter (612)', 'page (601)', 'google (585)', 'links (571)', and 'image (521)'. The main content area is titled 'Plugins can extend WordPress to do almost anything you can imagine...' and features a search bar with '12,064 PLUGINS, 129,575,240 DOWNLOADS, AND COUNTING'. Below the search bar are sorting options: Relevance (selected), Newest, Recently Updated, Most Popular, and Highest Rated. The 'Featured Plugins' section lists 'Wickett Twitter Widget', 'BuddyPress', 'WordPress.com Stats', 'WP Super Cache', and 'Get Recent Comments', each with a 'Download' button. On the right side, there are two sections: 'Most Popular' and 'Newest Plugins', both with '»' links. The 'Most Popular' section lists plugins like 'Akismet' and 'Contact Form 7' with their download counts. The 'Newest Plugins' section lists recently added plugins like 'Nome do Plugin' and 'Flash player widget'.

4. Advertisements on distro listing pages:

Ads could exist on the distro listings page, but not on the distro page itself, so as to avoid any conflict of community, conflict of interest issues. Advertisements should be clearly delineated as such -- there should be no question of what is an advertisement vs. a merit-based listing.

5. Introduce Distro concept on the Homepage:

Distributions should be added to search refinement options, as well as menu items.

Distro introduced Under "refine your search" on homepage



Distro discussed under "Develop with Drupal" on homepage

Develop with Drupal

7,169 Modules	This week
888 Themes	1,687 Code commits
3,787 Active devs	6,430 Issue comments
18 Distributions	