

# Building A Tasty Backend

Or...

How spending a small amount of time to polish your admin areas can keep you, and your clients, sane.

# Whoami

- Jeni
- Jennifer
- Delicious Creative
- USA
- Liverpool
- Drupal 2006-2007ish

# What Is This All About?

- Drupal is very powerful
- That's why we LOVE Drupal
- But...
- We're not normal

# Power Can Be Powerful

- This can overwhelm some users
- Drupal provides a good start
- But the defaults are only OK
- What happens when we need more?
- We can do better!

# We Must ~~KILL~~ Help All Humans!

- Our content admins are human
- We can simplify how people add content
- We can simplify how people manage content
- We can simplify how people get around
- We don't have to recreate the wheel to do this

# Creating Content

- For New Clients This Is Everything
- Vertical Tabs Helped Clean Things Up
- Basic Forms Might Be OK

[Home](#) » [Add content](#)

## Create Basic page

**Title \***

**Body (Edit summary)**

**Text format** Filtered HTML ▾

[More information about text formats ?](#)

- Web page addresses and e-mail addresses turn into links automatically.
  - Allowed HTML tags: <a> <em> <strong> <cite> <blockquote> <code> <ul> <ol> <li> <dl> <dt> <dd>
- Lines and paragraphs break automatically.

**Menu settings**

Not in menu

Provide a menu link

**Revision information**

No revision

**URL path settings**

No alias

**Comment settings**

Closed

**Authoring information**

By admin

**Publishing options**

Published

Save

Preview

# Vertical Tab Everything!

- Yes, EVERYTHING!




# Vertical Tab Everything!

Add content Manage Content Menus My account Log out

[Home](#) » [Add content](#)

## Create Page

**Mum \*** 


**Images**

**Menu settings**  
Not in menu

**URL path settings**  
Automatic alias

**Meta tags**  
Using defaults

**Publishing options**  
Published



Save

# Vertical Tab Everything!

- Need Field group  
d.o/project/field\_group
- Shortens the forms
- Simplifies things so your clients don't recoil in fear
- Hides long lists of references, taxonomy terms, etc.
- Can add in more fields without making the form look huge. This can be used for front content, etc.

# Further Node Add Cleansing

- Disable the preview button
  - Doesn't really theme well
  - Clients expect something else when using an admin theme
  - If previewing is needed save the content and don't publish it

# Further Node Add Cleansing

- If it's on the page, and it really doesn't need to be, get rid of it!
  - No need for hook\_form\_alter
  - Rules/Rules Forms Support can clean up unwanted elements and more.

# Managing Content

- Default content page just isn't up for the task
  - Too many clicks
  - Not specific enough information
- Views Bulk Operations to the rescue!  
[d.o/project/views\\_bulk\\_operations](https://d.o/project/views_bulk_operations)

# You Down With VBO?

- Create admin screens that suit the content
- Show relevant information on complex content types
- Gives clients easy access to relevant information
- Gives YOU access to relevant information
- Better understanding all around

# Where Do These Views Live?

- Context Admin  
d.o/project/context\_admin
- Create Manage Content Section at  
admin/manage/content
- Our new family home holds all our lovely  
VBO children
- Now I'm just getting silly

# Contextual Administration

- Can be used to create admin areas that users wouldn't normally be able to get to
  - Edit taxonomy terms and vocabularies without “Administer vocabularies and terms” permission
  - Users will need the edit/delete permissions for the vocabulary
    - Makes those permissions make sense!



# Administration Menus

- Default placement of navigation menu can complicate your site
- Not all pages have traditional "Sidebars"
- Get admin menus out of your front-facing theme!
- Why not use Admin Menu module?
- What do we do?

# Quickbar

- Underloved, but works great.
- Easy as F\*DGE to understand
- Minimises page loads
- Everything is always on the page
- Uses any menu you want
- Customisable per role

# Users

- Content admins sometimes need to be “User admins”
- Views Bulk Operations and Context Admin can also be used to manage users
- Control Access to User Settings  
d.o/project/user\_settings\_access
  - Ability for admins to add/edit users, but not adjust global user settings

# Users

- More useful user modules
  - d.o/project/role\_delegation
    - Allows you to select which roles can assign which roles.
      - Doesn't work with context admin just yet, but otherwise it's pretty sweet

# Tasty Backend Feature

- [d.o/sandbox/jeni\\_dc/1555218](https://d.o/sandbox/jeni_dc/1555218)
- Standard Install
- Some configuration necessary after install
  - Quickbar Menu
  - Documentation coming (I swear!)

# Thanks For Listening!

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