



I Have a Great Idea For a Drupal Module! Now What?

How to bring your idea to life and foster adoption by the community



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Code of Conduct Contacts

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Contribution Day

Saturday, February 20, 2021

12:00pm - 3:30pm

First-time contributor workshop • Mentored contribution • General contribution

#DrupalContributions

<https://www.fldrupal.camp/conference/contribution-day>



Contribution Day

Saturday, February 20, 2021

12:00pm - 3:30pm

Planned Workshops

- First-time contributor workshop
- Introduction to Merge Requests
- Mentored Tooling

Planned Initiatives

- Olivero Theme
- SimplyTest
- Drupal Recipes

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MARTIN

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digital echidna

A **NORTHERN** Company

THIS TALK

- Based on my own experience, YMMV
- Intended to help you better define what your module should do, and why
- A resource guide
- Amount of code === NULL

THE BIG IDEA

- What problem are you trying to solve?
- [Jakob's Law](#)
 - What mental models exist in the space?
- Toolkit vs. Solutions
 - Sometimes both are needed!

PROOF OF CONCEPT (OPTIONAL)

- Implement the simplest possible, core idea of what you want to achieve
- Motivating to see your idea take shape
- A great way to test the overall concept, and collect early feedback

RESEARCH

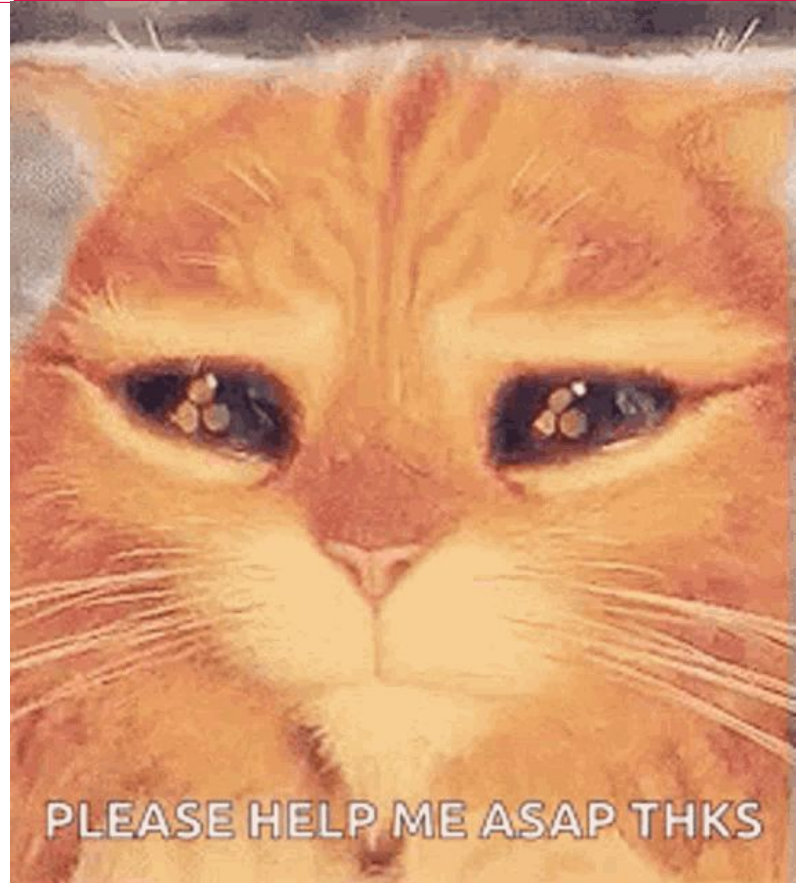
- Does this already exist? What similar modules are available?
 - Could a library get me part way?
 - Search drupal.org (and google), use synonyms
- Could this be a new feature on an existing module?
- Are there analogous modules I can use for reference?

PLAN

- What functionality is needed?
 - User stories?
 - What should be configurable?
- What existing functionality can I extend?
 - Identify classes or hooks
- What needs to be stored?
 - Config or content entities?
 - Or DB tables?

GET HELP

- Your local DUG
- Slack: #module-development
- [Contrib Half Hour](#)
- Forums or Stack exchange
- Collaborators?



PLEASE HELP ME ASAP THKS

<CODE>



WRITING YOUR CODE

- Free tools available
 - [VS Code for Drupal](#)
- [Coding standards](#) are important
 - Lint as you go
- Write [automated tests](#)
- Get feedback early and often

YOUR DRUPAL.ORG PROJECT

- [Start as a sandbox](#)
- Promote to project when it's ready to share
 - Lint!
- Use the [README template](#)

YOUR DRUPAL.ORG PROJECT PAGE

- [Suggested content](#)
- Describe the problem you're trying to solve
- List key features
- Similar Modules
 - How is yours different?
- Fancy logo?
- Screen captures

RELEASES

- Start by doing a smaller number of things really well
- Stable releases!
- Grow features over time
 - Listen to user feedback
- Creating a release
- Alpha, beta, etc.
- Semantic versioning
- Opt into security coverage

SPREAD THE WORD

- The Weekly Drop
 - Maybe wait until stable, or at least beta
- Blog about it
- Get involved in relevant Slack channels
- Find other people with the problem you started out to solve
- Present!
 - DUGs and camps love new content

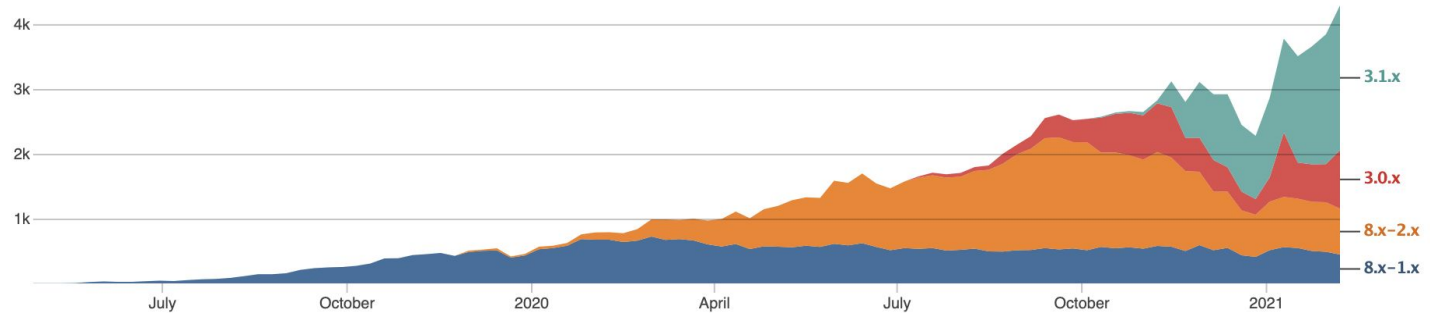
MAINTAINERSHIP

- Be the maintainer you wish all modules had
 - Be responsive
 - Make releases
 - [Write documentation](#)
 - Collaborate
- An opportunity to be “the boss”
- Follow your passion
- Learn!

SMART DATE



Weekly project usage



ORIGIN STORY

- Initial idea ~2009
 - Bring calendar conventions to Drupal, esp duration concept
- Decided to create a module in early 2019
- Researched existing solutions
 - Found some, reached out
 - Missed some, discussions later

NEED FOR A FIELD, MODULE

Editor UX

Performance

Formatting



TIMELINE

- Apr 3 2019 - sandbox: "Timestamp ranges"
- Apr 18 2019 - project: "Smart Date"
- Apr 19 2019 - alpha1 release
- May 6 - beta1
- ... other releases ...
- May 24 - blog, beta6
- May 30 - **The Weekly Drop**

TIMELINE

- Jun 10 - Decided output structure translation was a stable blocker
- Jun 19 - rc1 release added **custom config entities**
- Jul 4 - Fullcalendar View patch to support Smart Date
- Jul 11 2019 - **Stable release!**
- Feb 23 2020 - 2.0 - **Recurring dates, timezones**
- Apr 28 2020 - 2.4 - **Fullcalendar View** support
- Jul 13 2020 - 3.0 - Stable support for **core date fields**
 - Also improvements when using **Olivero, Claro, and Gin**
- Nov 16 2020 - 3.1 - Recur by hour, minute - “consecutive” events

KEYS TO SUCCESS

- Solved common problems
- Provided both tools and solutions
- Community contributions
- Made maintainership a focus
 - Listening to what users need
- Promoted through blogs, The Weekly Drop, presentations

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Drupalize.me [Drupal Module Development](#) Guide
- [Managing a drupal.org theme, module, or distribution project - Drupal.org](#)
 - [Maintainership](#)
- [drupalorg-cli](#)

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QUESTIONS COMMENTS

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THANKS!