



## How we built the FLDC 2015 website without a distro.

“Change is good if you’re brave enough to innovate”





## Jay Epstein

- Senior Developer
- Data Architect



5+ Years

### Speaker:

- Florida DrupalCamp
- S. Florida DrupalCamp
- Austin DrupalCamp
- Atlanta DrupalCamp
- Brevard Users Group

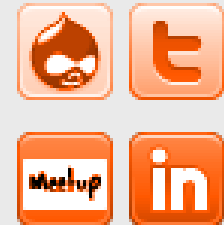
### Community:

- Co-Organizer: BDUG
- E-Book: Relativity

### Mentor:

- Drupal Career Starter

### Social:





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### Q: So... what is a distro?

A distro, or, distribution is a collection of Drupal core and a group of specific modules that aim to be a self-contained solution for a particular use case or industry segment.

### Q: Why use a distro?

Upon inspection, you feel it is “as close to” a perfect fit as possible for your website needs.

▶ Experience is not a prerequisite for change, determination is. ◀





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### Q: Why doesn’t everyone use a distro?

While distros can fit the needs of some websites, they are meant to be an “out of the box” solution. Changing functionality can have adverse results.

### Q: What if a distro has more negatives than positives?

1: identify. 2: evaluate. 3: create. 4: share.

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### Size up your challenge and get psyched!:

- Do we really need all the complexity, size and overhead
- Can it be done with a much more streamlined approach
- Should we just “accept” known problem areas
- Can a beginning developer continue to improve, update and extend

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**They gave me a challenge.. This was my plan.. we rocked it**

- Tiny footprint relational data model (15 back end modules or less)
- No time consuming configurations
- Multi-Event management with custom UI’s for all
- Spin up a site in a few days, not weeks or months
- Smaller than the average cell phone app
- Simple to expand
- Lightning fast performance

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### 1: Identify :

Identify and understand explicit functionality for minimum viable launch.

### 2: Evaluate:

Elegant and simple solutions allow for longevity and are upgrade friendly. Have a plan for everything. Know your specifics. Ie; users, attendees, payment, scheduling, venues etc.

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### 3: Create :

Explicit documentation before Drupal. Then build from documentation.

### 4: Share:

Tell everyone! Encourage downloads. Present at user groups.

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### Minimum viable launch inventory:

- Mandatory content types.
- Identify data relationships
- Create IA (fields)
- Gather module inventory

# Step 1

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### Documentation:

- Document explicitly in a spreadsheet.

*Yes, a site builder CAN and SHOULD be a data architect... always!*

# Step 2

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### Build/Application:

- Build from documentation.

# Step 3

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Foundation	Relational Model	Interface & Experience
Ctools	Address Field	Context
Date	Auto Entity Label	Entity Reference View Widget
Entity API	Entity Connect	Field Group
Pathauto	Entity Reference	
Rules	Entity Reference Prepopulate	
Token	EventBrite (attendees)	
Views		

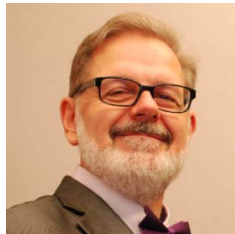




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### Credits:



**John Learned**  
Web team lead



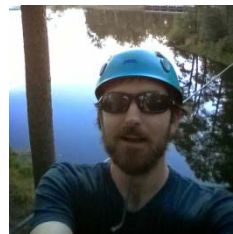
**Erik Baldwin**  
Creative & Front End



**Jay Epstein**  
Site builder



**Mike Herchel**  
Theming



**Alex McCabe**  
EventBrite Integration



**Dennis Solis**  
Views & Eventbrite





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<http://jay-epstein.com/relativity/overview>

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Begin online demo 

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