

Maintaining Your Drupal Site

Content Management

- Manage your site content at /admin/content/node
- Bulk operation can be performed on content
- If comments require approval visit /admin/content/comment/approval to approve or delete
- Revisit your taxonomy structure (Use http://drupal.org/project/taxonomy_manager)
- Make sure you have custom 403 and 404 pages /admin/settings/error-reporting (Turn off screen errors for production websites)
- Strongly consider adding Caphca to all public facing forms

Security and permissions

- Audit input settings /admin/settings/filters/list
- Verify permission settings, be consistent, and grant lowest privilege possible Update Access control and set rules /admin/user/rules/add
- Remove CHANGELOG.txt file (Road map for vulnerabilities)
- Change user 1 password periodically and use strong password 10 characters plus
- Perform Drupal security upgrades

Checking logs and Status Report

- Go to /admin/reports/dblog
- Logs shows recent site activity from content additions, comments updates, page not found's, user access, cron, php errors, warnings, search results, etc.
- Monitor these logs so you know what is going on with Drupal
- Visit the Drupal status report at /admin/reports/status
- Database problems, server issues, general warnings, and addition information will appear here
- Revisit logs and status report page when you enable or install new modules

Updates

- Core and module updates for Drupal can be seen at /admin/reports/updates
- Modules upgrades can be bug fixes, new features, security-related, or a combination of these
- Read the release notes before upgrading
- Make sure your theme has a maintenance-page.tpl.php and offline-page.tpl.php
- It's recommended you stay current with your upgrades, especially security releases in order to protect your website
- You can customize email alerts at /admin/reports/updates/settings

Upgrading Drupal Contributed Modules

1. Login and visit the available updates page: /admin/reports/updates/list
2. Read the module release notes (Usually important information about the release is stated there)
3. Create a backup of your site (site files and database)
4. Verify your backup contains usable data in case you need to use it
5. Download and unpackage the newest module release
6. Set an admin theme if you don't have one enabled (Choose a core theme like Garland)
7. Put the site in maintenance mode: /admin/settings/site-maintenance
8. Delete the old module folder
9. Upload the newest release of the module
10. Run the update.php script (www.example.com/update.php)
11. Go to the available updates page and verify the module is updated to the most current release
12. Check the status report page in case any more site modifications are needed:
/admin/reports/status
13. Put site back online
14. Log out and perform quality review as an anonymous user

Helpful

- http://drupal.org/project/admin_menu - Unless you know all the Drupal admin paths you should use it. Besides being a time saver for admins it works with the devel module.
- <http://drupal.org/project/admin> - Improved Drupal 6 admin interface.
- Drupal admin themes: <http://drupal.org/project/rootcandy>, <http://drupal.org/project/nerdlistic>, and http://drupal.org/project/admin_theme
- Spam reduction: <http://drupal.org/project/captcha>, <http://drupal.org/project/recaptcha>, <http://drupal.org/project/mollom>