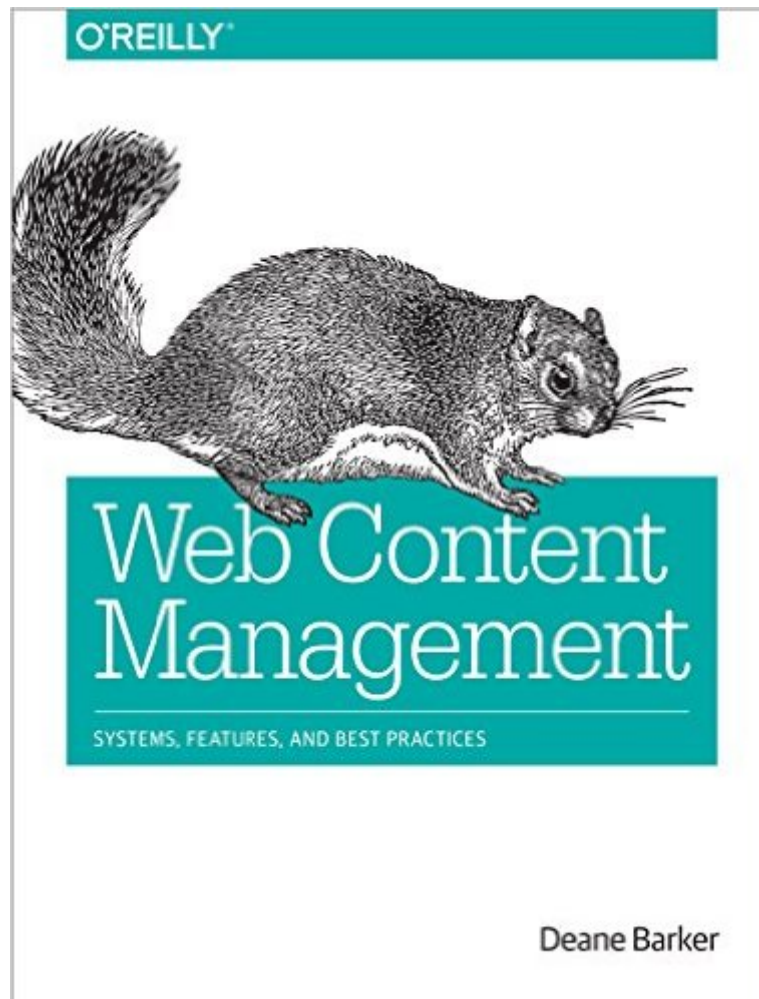


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Web Content Management: Systems, Features, And Best Practices



Synopsis

Looking to select a web content management system (CMS), but confused about the promises, terminology, and buzzwords? Do you want to understand content management without having to dive into the underlying programming? This book provides a clear, unbiased overview of the entire CMS ecosystemâfrom platforms to implementationsâin a language- and platform-agnostic manner for project managers, executives, and new developers alike. Author Deane Barker, a CMS consultant with almost two decades of experience, helps you explore many different systems, technologies, and platforms. By the end of the book, youâll have the knowledge necessary to make decisions about features, architectures, and implementation methods to ensure that your project solves the right problems. Learn what content is, how to compare different systems, and what the roles of a CMS team are. Understand how a modern CMS models and aggregates content, coordinates workflow, and manages assets. Explore the scope and structure of a CMS implementation project. Learn the process and best practices for successfully running your CMS implementation. Examine the practice of migrating web content, and learn how to work with an external CMS integrator.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a technical overview of the entire Web Content Management System (CMS) ecosystem. It is targeted towards readers who want to understand what a CMS is, how it might work in a larger context, and any underlying problems that a CMS will need to resolve. If you are looking for a

technical programming manual, or a user guide of a particular CMS implementation, such as Drupal or Joomla, this book is not for you. The book has an in-depth coverage of the basics, functions and modules of CMS, as well as the scope and structure of a CMS implementation project. It is designed to be language and platform independent. Readers will learn how to make decisions about features, architecture and implementation that will provide the right solution to their specific problems. Overall, the book does a great job of providing a technical overview of CMS in general, without pushing a particular technology, platform or methodology. If you are either a manager, designer, developer or a contributor in a CMS related project, this book will provide you with the knowledge and perspective to make your project successful.

Deane Barker is a hero. He has tackled an area – “Content Management Systems” – that has long been the province of tool publishers, marketers, platform zealots and the well-meaning, but ignorant. To the detriment of many, Content Management Systems is one of those areas where everyone has an opinion, but every opinion must be carefully scrutinized. Tool publishers boost their platform. Zealots laud their favorites and denigrate others because – “well, just because” is often the limit of their rationality. Those familiar with one CMS will slam others they know nothing about. Barker moves from start to finish, subject by subject, topic by topic across 338 well-written, amply illustrated pages. This is the book that may get me to venture beyond WordPress as my CMS of choice because I really didn’t understand why others would be a better fit for even my little league efforts. Seriously, if you have anything to do with development of websites that go beyond the simplest needs, you want to add this book to your library. Very well done, Mr. Barker. Jerry

In my 40 years of reading survey-type of technical books, this author is the best stylistic writer. It’s crystal clear, light-feel reading. Yet, I don’t know who this book is written for. Its 340 pages is filled with substance and is too detailed for a typical buyer of a CMS. Such buyers, in my opinion, needs a framework so as to ask questions of vendors or builders. This is such a framework book, but too lengthy. The book is also too broad or not detailed enough for builders or workers on CMS. It is an excellent primer for someone who wishes to become a comparative CMS consultant. Or for an experienced CMS consultant to ask questions of other CMS systems. And it is excellent for the super-fast reader who wants to read a detailed book and then do detailed shopping instead of simply finding a comparative CMS consultant for answers. Overall a 5 star book – the author wrote excellently on a topic he knows expertly.

This book is a well rounded overview of online (web) content management for the various stakeholders within a company who will be involved with it at different levels. This is not however a technical how-to type of a book. It focuses at a general level, not the Xs and Os. It only occasionally mentions actual systems by name, and that's by design. For a technology book, it is quite readable, but it won't flow like a thriller or a page-turning book of fiction. There are various down to earth practical examples, and occasional goofiness with Mike Tyson and Rumsfeld's famous knowns and unknowns quote. It is mostly text but there are some diagrams and tables and screenshots, so consider this if you are deciding whether to read this on an e-ink e-reader (tablets should be fine). There is also a 193 word glossary available online, referenced in the last page of the Afterword at the back of the book.

If you or your organization has a website that needs to be updated on a daily or constant basis, then you will most likely benefit from having a content management system. Well, you'll benefit from it the moment you know how to set it up, operate it, and delegate the roles needed to maintain your CMS. This book will guide you through the syntax you need to know, the components of CMS, and how to set it up and operate it. The real value in this book is that it can save you from unneeded costs of going for an overpriced SaaS system, when you could have just made do with an open source option, or if needed something more powerful. The book is pretty thorough and answered about 95 percent of the questions I was going to have to Google to find. Even the topics of permissions and templates are in here. This book is an obvious choice for you or your office.

If you want a general introduction to CMS, some of the more popular packages, and to learn how to use them and what they can do - this isn't the book for you. Unfortunately, I'm in that category, so this book was not very useful for me. But for the target audience, organizational stakeholders in the decision to implement CMS, then this book is for you. Whether you are a technical lead/director, or anyone in the organization who will be affected by an implementation of CMS, you should read this book. That goes even for people who control the purse strings. How else will they be able to fully understand the potential ROI? Even if you have peripheral involvement, but you have to attend meetings on the subject for situational awareness, you want to know what's in this book. The writing is straightforward and concise, the coverage not too deep, but it touches on everything.

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