

XOOPS Documentation Roadmap

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Revision History

Revision Revision 1.0

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HS

The first revision

What we aspire to build documentation-wise to make XOOPS a superb product.

The XOOPS Documentation Team's objectives

The **XOOPS** Documentation Team is in charge of:

- Setting standards for all official documentation, both for developers and for end users.
- Writing, with the help of all other teams, whatever documentation is needed to illustrate in depth the features that **XOOPS** offers to all.
- Managing the preparation and availability of language packs for the core and the modules.
- Managing user's input and participation in the process of documenting **XOOPS**.
- Creating and managing the templates for all official documentation.

Needs

What do we need to accomplish the things proposed in this document? A lot!

- Enough time to build templates and documents. This will be an incremental effort, and we'll need to take our time if we want quality products.
- A lot of feedback, positive feedback from everybody.
- A lot of help, both to write, to edit, to review and to produce drafts and final documents.
- A **XOOPS** site, centered on a Wiki to receive users' ideas and to write early drafts, and with a document repository to include alpha versions of the final documents, which should be housed in the main **XOOPS** site with links in the other network sites.

Naming conventions

I propose the use of a convention to designate different documents, as a way of keeping some order. At first it will seem overhead, but over time it'll show its value. A possible format has the following structure:

XG-0001-0903-0.90

The meaning is as follows:

X	A letter that indicates this is XOOPS documentation.
G	A letter to indicate the type of document:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D for developer • U for general user • N for newbie • R for reference • L for legal • A for auxiliary • G for general • O for other
0001	A consecutive numeral to indicate the document's position in the official repository.
0903	The month and year number for the document in its present version ^a .
0.90	A two decimal number to indicate the document's present version ^a .

^aIn the current implementation the month and year and the version is omitted.

Formats

The base format for the official documents is DocBook XML (UTF-8 coded). From these base files the different outputs are generated by a special build process. The different output formats are as follows:

- **XHTML** - A XHTML output which is converted from the original XHTML for online presentation on the **XOOPS** site.
- **XHTML** - It's in a chunked (one file per chapter or section) XHTML version.
- **CHM** - This is a compressed HTML, also known as HTML-Help.
- **PDF** - At the moment it is only A4 double sided. We hope we can add also letter, and maybe both as single and double sided versions.

Target audience

The general principle behind the documentation effort rests on the idea of creating different documents for different users. We need to see after the needs of:

- Developers (core, theme and module developers)
- General users (webmasters with live sites running **XOOPS**)
- Newbies (first time users)

Core Documentation

This would be the core set of documents we need to be strongly positioned. Of course we can start with a lot less, but I'd say we do need a target to aspire to, and this list seems to be a very worthy target:

General Documents

- (XR-001) What is **XOOPS**?
- (XR-002) A brief history of **XOOPS**
- (XR-003) The **XOOPS** Universe
- (XL-001) The **XOOPS** GNU/GPL License

- (XL-002) Terms and conditions of use
- (XL-003) **XOOPS** Privacy Statement
- (XL-004) The **XOOPS** Foundation Charter
- (XR-005) **XOOPS** Contributors

Documents for developers and power users

NOTICE: For this particular area this is a proposal to the developers. The more technical documents would be under the devs' direct control, as asked by the devs themselves. This is an area I don't know much about, so this is mainly a kind of wish list. Please be aware that these lists include both long and short documents. Some of the documents proposed here are only a few paragraphs long, while others are booklets or complete handbooks.

Roadmaps

- (XD-001) **XOOPS** Core Development Roadmap
- (XD-002) **XOOPS** Modules Roadmap
- (XD-003) **XOOPS** Themes Roadmap
- (XD-004) **XOOPS** Quality Control Roadmap
- (XD-005) **XOOPS** Support Roadmap
- (XD-006) **XOOPS** Documentation Roadmap
- (XD-007) **XOOPS** Community Relations Roadmap
- (XD-008) **XOOPS** Product Development Roadmap

Technical documents

- (XD-101) **XOOPS** Core Functions
- (XD-102) **XOOPS** Base Documents - phpDocs
- (XD-103) **XOOPS** Base Documents - phpXRef
- (XD-104) **XOOPS** API
- (XD-104) **XOOPS** Javascript Functions

Standards

- (XD-201) **XOOPS** Coding Standards
- (XD-202) **XOOPS** File Headers
- (XD-203) **XOOPS** Theme Documentation
- (XD-204) **XOOPS** Theme Certification
- (XD-205) **XOOPS** Module Documentation

- (XD-206) **XOOPS** Module Certification

Documents for general users

Installation and usage

- (XU-001) **XOOPS** Requirements
- (XU-002) **XOOPS** Installation Guide
- (XU-003) **XOOPS** Operations Guide
- (XU-004) Troubleshooting **XOOPS**

Development at user level

- (XU-101) **XOOPS** Module Development Guide
- (XU-102) **XOOPS** Theme Development Guide
- (XU-103) **XOOPS** CVS Access Guide

Assorted subjects

- (XU-201) The **XOOPS** Module Registry
- (XU-202) The **XOOPS** Theme Registry
- (XU-203) **XOOPS** Hacks
- (XU-204) An introduction to **XOOPS** and Smarty
- (XU-205) The **XOOPS** Glossary
- (XU-206) Best of **XOOPS'** Forums
- (XU-207) An assortment of **XOOPS** FAQs
- (XU-208) Favorite Code Snippets

Documents for new users

Visual introductions

- (XN-001) A visual introduction to **XOOPS**
- (XN-002) A **XOOPS'** Webmaster Basic Manual

Anatomy Series

- (XN-101) Anatomy of a **XOOPS** Site
- (XN-102) Anatomy of a Module
- (XN-103) Anatomy of a Theme
- (XN-104) Anatomy of a theme.html file
- (XN-105) Anatomy of a style.css file

How do I... Series

- (XN-201) How do I... install **XOOPS**?
- (XN-202) How do I... customize a site using **XOOPS**?
- (XN-203) How do I... manage modules?
- (XN-204) How do I... manage blocks?
- (XN-205) How do I... manage users?
- (XN-206) How do I... manage content?
- (XN-207) How do I... manage themes?
- (XN-208) How do I... manage images?
- (XN-209) How do I... create multilingual sites?