

The Power of Custom Post Types

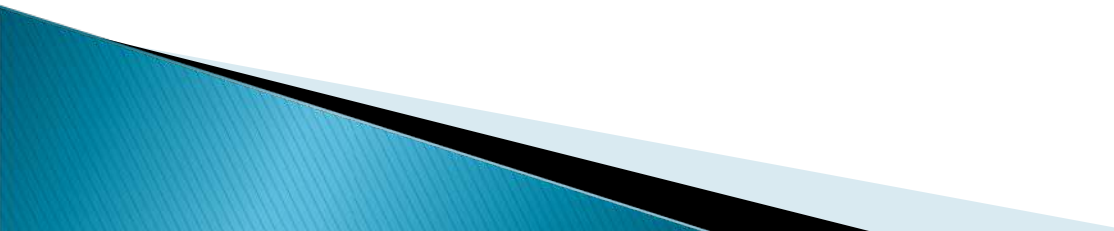
John Havlik (@mtekkmonkey)



About Me

- ▶ WordPress user since 2005
 - ▶ Plugin developer since 2006
 - Breadcrumb NavXT (~600k downloads)
 - ▶ Administrator for Weblogs.us
 - ▶ WordPress expert for Ingroup Design
 - ▶ Personal site: mtekk.us
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Agenda

- ▶ Motivation
 - ▶ Basic Usage
 - ▶ (More) Advanced Usage
 - ▶ CPT Showcase (Demos)
 - bbPress
 - WP E-Commerce
 - Meteor Slides
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A Problem

- ▶ Creating a site with a portfolio
 - Must keep projects separate from a news section
 - Try categories
 - Resort to “hidden” categories to keep things straight
- ▶ This doesn't work well with plugins

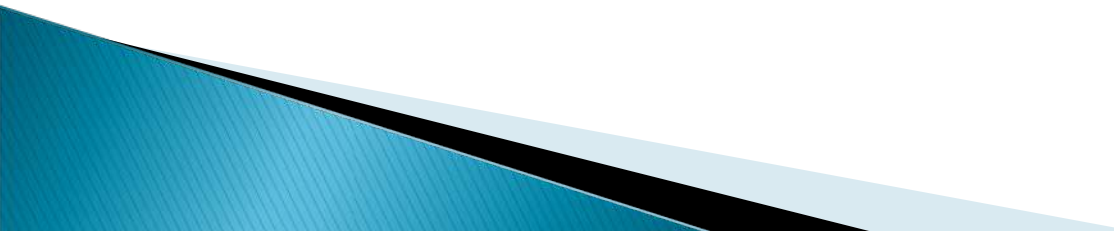
Use a Custom Post Type

» (and some custom taxonomies)

What is a CPT?

- ▶ Custom Post Types (CPTs) are post types you define.
 - Posts, pages, attachments, custom menus are types WordPress defines
- ▶ Come in 2 flavors
 - Hierarchical
 - Flat

Plugins that use CPTs

- ▶ bbPress 2.0+
 - ▶ WP e-Commerce 3.8+ (GetShopped)
 - ▶ Meteor Slides
- 

How to Create a CPT

- ▶ Use `register_post_type($post_type, $args);`
 - `$post_type` is the unique post type string (20 char max, no uppercase or spaces)
 - `$args` is the array of arguments to customize the CPT
- ▶ Call using a hook into the init action
- ▶ Do this in a plugin
 - `functions.php` is not portable between themes

Example Code

```
add_action('init','create_my_project');
function create_my_project()
{
    register_post_type('project',
    array(
        'labels' =>
        array(
            'name' => __('Projects'),
            'singular_name' => __('Project')
        ),
        'public' => true,
        'has_archive' => true)
    );
}
```


Naming Your CPT

- ▶ Make it unique
 - **BAD**: projects
 - **GOOD**: mtekk_projects
- ▶ Max length of 20 characters
- ▶ No:
 - s p a c e s
 - UPPERCASE
 - wp_ prefix

The \$args

- ▶ Key attributes to look at:
 - labels – array of labels
 - show_ui
 - capabilities – array of permissions
 - supports – array of features
 - rewrite – array of rewrite related stuff
 - hierarchical
- ▶ Checkout the Codex for more:
http://codex.wordpress.org/Function_Reference/register_post_type

More Complex Example

```
//Our lecture labels
$labels = array(
    'name' => __('Lectures', 'wp_courseware'),
    'singular_name' => __('Lecture', 'wp_courseware'),
    'add_new' => __('Add New', 'wp_courseware'),
    'add_new_item' => __('Add New Lecture', 'wp_courseware'),
    'edit_item' => __('Edit Lecture', 'wp_courseware'),
    'new_item' => __('New Lecture', 'wp_courseware'),
    'view_item' => __('View Lecture', 'wp_courseware'),
    'search_items' => __('Search Lectures', 'wp_courseware'),
    'not_found' => __('No lectures found', 'wp_courseware'),
    'not_found_in_trash' => __('No lectures found in Trash', 'wp_courseware'),
    'parent_item_colon' => '',
    'menu_name' => __('Lectures', 'wp_courseware')
);

//Our lecture capabilities
$capabilities = array(
    'edit_post' => 'wptc_edit_lecture',
    'edit_posts' => 'wptc_edit_lectures',
    'edit_others_posts' => 'wptc_edit_others_lectures',
    'publish_posts' => 'wptc_publish_lectures',
    'read_post' => 'wptc_read_lecture',
    'read_private_posts' => 'wptc_read_private_lectures',
    'delete_post' => 'wptc_delete_lecture'
);

//Assemble our post type arguments, keeping capabilities default until later
$args = array(
    'labels' => $labels,
    'public' => true,
    'publicly_queryable' => false,
    'exclude_from_search' => true,
    'show_ui' => true,
    'show_in_menu' => false,
    'menu_icon' => plugins_url('/lecture-icon-20x20.png', __FILE__),
    'capability_type' => 'lecture',
    'capabilities' => $capabilities,
    'map_meta_cap' => true,
    'hierarchical' => false,
    'supports' => array('title', 'page-attributes'),
    'taxonomies' => array('course'),
    'has_archive' => false,
    'rewrite' => false,
    'query_var' => true,
    'can_export' => true,
    'show_in_nav_menus' => false
);
register_post_type('lecture', $args);
```

- Dashboard
- Posts
- Media
- Links
- Pages
- Comments
- Appearance
- Plugins 3
- Users
- Tools
- Settings
- Courses
- Collapse menu

Edit Lecture [Add New](#)

Screen Options ▾

How to Peel a Head of Garlic

Lecture Video



<http://vimeo.com/29605182>

Followup Remarks

Visual HTML

B I U

Remember:

1. Don't use forehead to smash head of garlic

Publish

[Preview Changes](#)

Status: **Published** [Edit](#)

Visibility: **Public** [Edit](#)

Published on: **Mar 25, 2012 @ 18:21** [Edit](#)

[Move to Trash](#) [Update](#)

Courses

All Courses **Most Used**

- Cooking Basics
- Advanced Cooking
- Off-Sale
- On-Sale

[+ Add New Course](#)

Attributes

Order

An Easier Way

► Custom Post Type UI

- <http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/custom-post-type-ui/>

Create New Custom Post Type or Taxonomy · [Reset](#)

<p>If you are unfamiliar with the options below only fill out the Post Type Name and Label fields and check which meta boxes to support. The other settings are set to the most common defaults for custom post types.</p>	<p>If you are unfamiliar with the options below only fill out the Taxonomy Name and Post Type Name fields. The other settings are set to the most common defaults for custom taxonomies.</p>
<p>Post Type Name * <input type="text"/> ? (e.g. movies)</p>	<p>Taxonomy Name * <input type="text"/> ? (e.g. actors)</p>
<p>Label <input type="text"/> ? (e.g. Movies)</p>	<p>Label <input type="text"/> ? (e.g. Actors)</p>
<p>Singular Label <input type="text"/> ? (e.g. Movie)</p>	<p>Singular Label <input type="text"/> ? (e.g. Actor)</p>
<p>Description <input type="text"/></p>	<p>Attach to Post Type *</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Posts<input type="checkbox"/> Pages<input type="checkbox"/> No Taxonomy<input type="checkbox"/> Hierchy<input type="checkbox"/> Runs<input type="checkbox"/> Projects
<p>Advanced Label Options · Advanced Options</p>	<p>Advanced Label Options · Advanced Options</p>
<p>Create Custom Post Type</p>	<p>Create Custom Taxonomy</p>

Demo

- »» An advanced use of CPTs and custom taxonomies

Displaying CPTs

- ▶ Templates for the frontend:
 - `single-{posttype}.php` (since 3.0)
 - `archive-{posttype}.php` (since 3.1)
- ▶ Custom `WP_Query` instance:
 - `$projects = new WP_Query(array('post_type' => 'project', 'posts_per_page' => 10));`
 - `while($projects->have_posts){$projects->the_post(); /*your code here*/}`
 - Can do this anywhere
 - Can use `get_posts()` wrapper for `WP_Query`

When to Use a CPT

- ▶ When for anything “post” or “page” like
- ▶ Most things that would have required a custom table in the past
 - Products for a ecommerce site
 - Events for event calendars
- ▶ When you want WordPress to do most of the heavy lifting
 - Attachments, featured images, Dashboard UI, templates, etc.

Questions?

Twitter: @mtekkmonkey

Resources

<http://kovshenin.com/2010/extending-custom-post-types-in-wordpress-3-0/>

http://codex.wordpress.org/Function_Reference/register_post_type

http://codex.wordpress.org/Post_Types

