# M2 CPFED 3. Page Layouts / LESS / Deploy

**John Hughes** 

Head of Magento - Fisheye Media Ltd.





### Overview.

- Page layouts
- etc/view.xml configuration
- LESS basics
- Magento 2 LESS usage
- Magento 2 LESS UI library
- Deployment modes and developer process





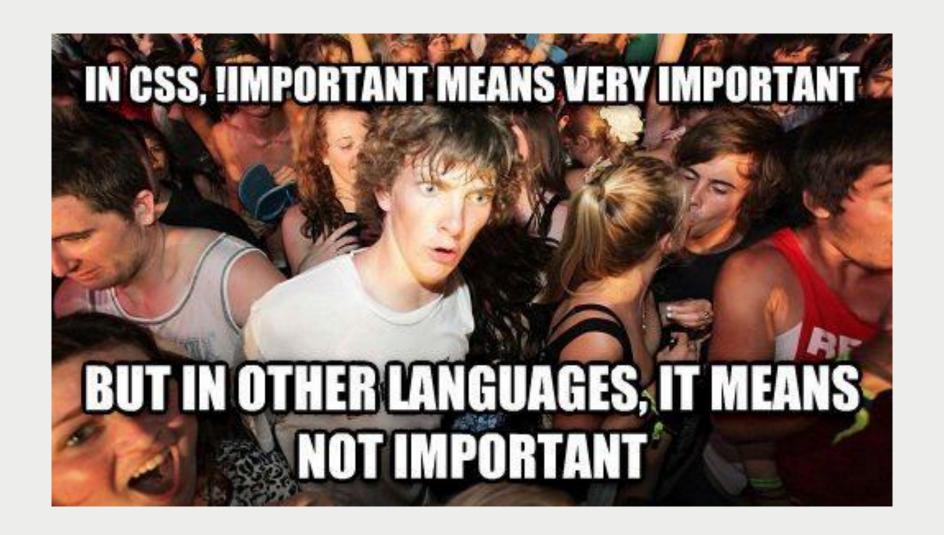


#### **Humanity's victories:**



land probe perfectly on a comet 310 million miles away, using science

get stuff on a web page to align properly using CSS



# Page layouts





- What are page layouts?
- How do you set a page layout in XML?
- Where can you override page layouts in the admin?

#### What are page layouts?

- To allow for creation / reuse of common structural elements for a page e.g. defining:
  - the header, footer and main content areas
  - the number of columns within the main content area
- No features (blocks), just structure (containers) allowed



What are page layouts?

How do you set a page layout in XML?

Where can you override page layouts in the admin?



How do you set a page layout in XML?

- Within standard layout XML files
- In the <page/> node using the layout attribute



#### <some\_handle>.xml



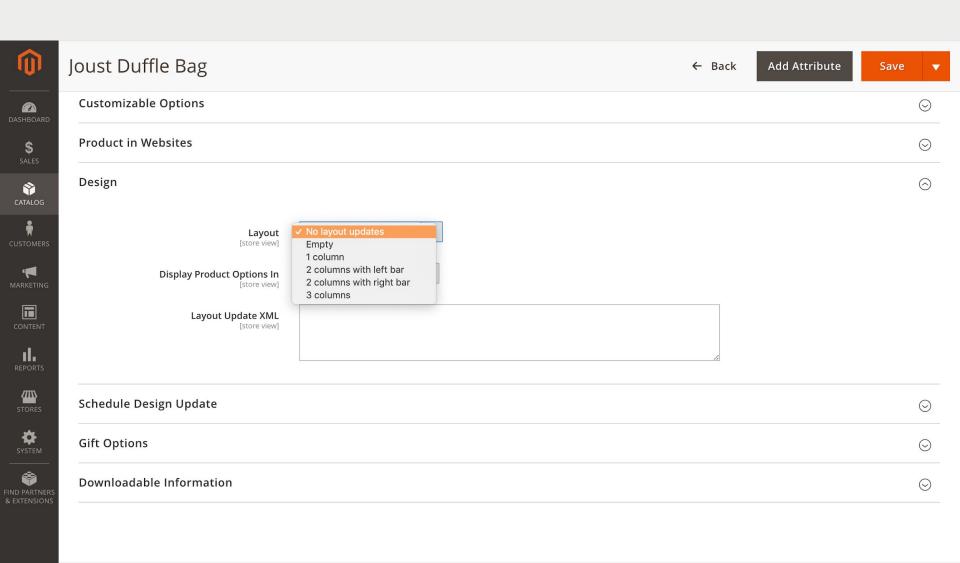
- What are page layouts?
- How do you set a page layout in XML?
- Where can you override page layouts in the admin?

Where can you override page layouts in the admin?

- CMS pages
- Categories
- Products

Note: under the 'Design' tab





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- What are the standard page layout types?
- Where would you find them?
- What is the 'empty' page layout?

What are the standard page layout types?

- empty
- 1column
- 2column-left
- 2column-right
- 3column



What are the standard page layout types?

• Where would you find them?

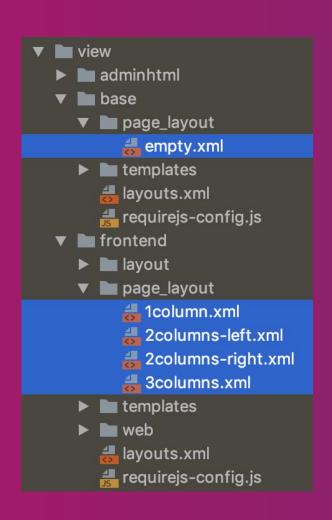
• What is the 'empty' page layout?



#### Where would you find them?

- In Magento\_Theme module under:
  - view/frontend/page\_layout/\*

\*'empty' is found under the base area





- What are the standard page layout types?
- Where would you find them?
- What is the 'empty' page layout?



#### What is the 'empty' page layout?

- A completely blank page
- No header / footer
- The base all other page layouts inherit from



- What files are required to create a page layout?
- What is the structure of a page layout file?
- How do you register a page layout file?
- How do you extend from other page layouts?



What files are required to create a page layout?

- page\_layout/<file-name>.xml
- layouts.xml



- What files are required to create a page layout?
- What is the structure of a page layout file?
- How do you register a page layout file?
- How do you extend from other page layouts?



#### my\_page\_layout.xml



#### my\_page\_layout.xml



#### my\_page\_layout.xml



- What files are required to create a page layout?
- What is the structure of a page layout file?
- How do you register a page layout file?
- How do you extend from other page layouts?



How do you register a page layout file?

In layouts.xml



#### layouts.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<page_layouts xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"</pre>
              xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="urn:magento:framework:
              View/PageLayout/etc/layouts.xsd">
    <layout id="my_page_layout">
        <label translate="true">My Page Layout</label>
    </layout>
                                           Specific XSD file
</page_layouts>
                  <page_layouts>
```

#### layouts.xml

id must match page layout file name



- What files are required to create a page layout?
- What is the structure of a page layout file?
- How do you register a page layout file?
- How do you extend from other page layouts?



How do you extend from other page layouts?

- Use <handle/>
- Same principle as with standard layout files



#### layouts.xml



# etc/view.xml configuration





## etc/view.xml configuration.

What is etc/view.xml for?

- How do you customise etc/view.xml?
- How can you retrieve values set in etc/view.xml?
- How does inheritance for etc/view.xml work?

## etc/view.xml configuration.

#### What is etc/view.xml for?

- Theme configuration values
  - Image sizes
  - Product gallery settings
  - JS bundling exclusions (files and folders)



- What is etc/view.xml for?
- How do you customise etc/view.xml?
- How can you retrieve values set in etc/view.xml?
- How does inheritance for etc/view.xml work?



#### How do you customise etc/view.xml?

- Copy the file to your current theme\*
- Change the values required

\*You can also add etc/view.xml in modules



- What is etc/view.xml for?
- How do you customise etc/view.xml?
- How can you retrieve values set in etc/view.xml?
- How does inheritance for etc/view.xml work?

How can you retrieve values set in etc/view.xml?

Use \$block->getVar()



#### <some-file>.phtml

```
$block->getVar($name, $module = null)
```

```
$block->getVar('some_var', 'Vendor_Module')
```



- What is etc/view.xml for?
- How do you customise etc/view.xml?
- How can you retrieve values set in etc/view.xml?
- How does inheritance for etc/view.xml work?



#### How does inheritance for etc/view.xml work?

- Same as standard theme inheritance
  - Child theme -> Parent theme(s) -> Module(s)
- Full file contents must be copied
  - XML is NOT merged like layout files



# LESS basics





• What is LESS?

- What are the main CSS files in Magento 2?
- How are LESS/CSS files included on a page?



#### What is LESS?

- LEaner Style Sheets
- CSS Preprocessor
- Provides features such as variables, nesting, mathematical operations and mixins (functions)



What is LESS?

What are the main CSS files in Magento 2?

How are LESS/CSS files included on a page?



File	Purpose
styles-m.css	Mobile viewport styles
styles-I.css	Desktop viewport styles (for 768px and greater)
print.css	Print styles



#### What are the main CSS files in Magento 2?

- These main files are compiled from multiple 'component' LESS files across modules and themes
- 'Component' LESS files usually begin with an underscore to denote they are not individually output



What is LESS?

What are the main CSS files in Magento 2?

How are LESS/CSS files included on a page?



#### How are LESS/CSS files included on a page?

- Via layout XML in the <head/> section using .css
- Can use <css/> or <script/> tag
- Normally included in default\_head\_blocks.xml handle
- .less files will automatically be compiled to .css



#### default\_head\_blocks.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<page xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"</pre>
      xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="...">
   <head>
       <css src="css/local-theme-styles.css" >
       <css
src="FisheyeAcademy_Training::css/my-styles.css"
       <css
src="https://www.example.com/external-styles.css"
   </head>Local files must be placed within a web/
</page> subdirectory, whether in a theme or module
```



- @import directive
- Variables
- Mixins
- Nesting
- Calculations

#### @import directive

- To include other LESS files
- Relative to current file



#### styles-m.less

```
@import 'source/_reset.less';
@import '_styles.less';
@import (reference) 'source/_extends.less';
```



- @import directive
- Variables
- Mixins
- Nesting
- Calculations

#### **Variables**

Assign values for future use



```
// Assign variable
@my-favourite-colour: orange;

// Use variable
body {
   background-color: @my-favourite-colour;
}
```



- @import directive
- Variables
- Mixins
- Nesting
- Calculations

#### **Mixins**

- Like a method or function
- DRY principle (write it once, use it multiple times)
- Written in plain CSS (or LESS)
  - Then called by adding ()
  - Can also pass parameters



```
// Create mixin (standard CSS)
.mixin-class {
   background-color: orange;
// Use mixin elsewhere
.another-class {
   .mixin-class();
// Plain CSS output of above
.another-class {
   background-color: orange;
```



```
// Create mixin (with parameter)
.mixin-class(@color) {
   background-color: @color;
// Use mixin and pass value for parameter
.mixin-class {
   .some-class(pink);
// Plain CSS output of above
.another-class {
   background-color: pink;
```



- @import directive
- Variables
- Mixins
- Nesting
- Calculations

#### **Nesting**

- Allows writing styles for adjacent or child elements in a nested sections
- No limit to how many levels of nesting can be used, but best practice is to go no more than 3 levels deep



```
// Child elements - Plain CSS
.element {
   color: orange;
.element .child-element {
   color: pink;
```



```
// Child elements - LESS nesting
.element {
   color: orange;
   .child-element {
       color: pink;
```



```
// Concatenation - Plain CSS
.element {
   color: orange;
.element.active {
   color: pink;
```



```
// Concatenation - LESS nesting
.element {
   color: orange;
   &.active {
       color: pink;
```



```
// Media queries - plain CSS
   .element {
                                                    color: orange;
@media screen and (min-width: 768px) {
                                                       .element {
                                                                                                                          color: pink;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                PROFESSIONAL solutions partner should be shoul
```

```
// Media queries - LESS
.element {
   color: orange;
   @media screen and (min-width: 768px) {
       color: pink;
```



- @import directive
- Variables
- Mixins
- Nesting
- Calculations

#### **Calculations**

- Allows using mathematical operators
- Powerful when combined with variable



#### <\_my-file>.less

```
// Plain CSS
.element1 {
   border-width: 1px;
.element2 {
   border-width: 2px;
.element3 {
   border-width: 3px;
```



#### <\_my-file>.less

```
// LESS
@border-width__one: 1px;
@border-width__two: 2px;
.element1 {
   border-width: @border-width__one;
.element2 {
   border-width: @border-width__two;
.element3 {
   border-width: @border-width__one + @border-width__two;
                                                     :fisheye
```

## Magento 2 LESS usage





- What is the @magento\_import directive?
- Where can Magento's implementation be found?
- What is the custom Magento processing step?
- What is the developer workflow for LESS files?



#### What is the @magento\_import directive?

- Customised version of the @import directive
- Allows scanning for specified file paths across predefined directories (modules)



#### styles-m.less

```
//@magento_import 'source/_my-styles.less';
```



#### What is the @magento\_import directive?

- Must be commented out (//) to avoid conflict with actual LESS directives / compilation
- Example Looks for 'source/\_my-styles.less' in every module and theme
  - Module: view/<area>/web/css/source/\_my-styles.less
  - Theme: Magento\_Catalog/web/css/source/\_my-styles.less
  - Theme: web/css/source/\_my-styles.less



- What is the @magento\_import directive?
- Where can Magento's implementation be found?
- What is the custom Magento processing step?
- What is the developer workflow for LESS files?



Where can Magento's implementation be found?

- Classes: \Magento\Framework\Css\....
- Filepath: vendor/magento/framework/Css/\*



- What is the @magento\_import directive?
- Where can Magento's implementation be found?
- What is the custom Magento processing step?
- What is the developer workflow for LESS files?



#### What is the @magento\_import directive?

- When Magento looks for all .less files to convert to .css it also resolves all the //@magento\_import directives to actual files
- Files are then compiled into the final styles-m.css,
   styles-l.css and print.css files



- What is the @magento\_import directive?
- Where can Magento's implementation be found?
- What is the custom Magento processing step?
- What is the developer workflow for LESS files?



#### What is the developer workflow for LESS files?

- New files, run: bin/magento dev:source-theme:deploy
- Existing files: refresh your browser
- Ideally use inbuilt support for grunt task runner
- Note: all files are symlinked in developer mode



- What are \_module.less, \_widgets.less, \_extend.less?
- What are they for?
- When / how should they be overridden?
- What is \_extends.less?



What are \_module.less, \_widgets.less, \_extend.less?

- Default files included via //@magento\_import directive
  - i.e. files that are available to be placed in any module or theme
     (see previous slides) under the web/css/source directory
- Then resolved via Magento's custom LESS processing



- What are \_module.less, \_widgets.less, \_extend.less?
- What are they for?
- When / how should they be overridden?
- What is \_extends.less?



File	Purpose
_module.less	Core module styles
_widgets.less	Styles for Magento widgets
_extend.less	To make minor changes to a modules styles (loaded after _module.less)



- What are \_module.less, \_widgets.less, \_extend.less?
- What are they for?
- When / how should they be overridden?
- What is \_extends.less?

File	Overridden
_module.less	Only if you want to completely replace / change the styles for a module
_widgets.less	If you want to change / replace the widget styles
_extend.less	To make minor changes to a modules styles (loaded after _module.less)



#### When / how should they be overridden?

- Files can be overridden by placing them in the same location in the currently active theme
  - Within the relevant module or theme web/css directory
- i.e. see theme fallback from workshop 1



- What are \_module.less, \_widgets.less, \_extend.less?
- What are they for?
- When / how should they be overridden?
- What is \_extends.less?

What is \_extends.less?

- Does NOT use //@magento\_import
- Contains a list of abstract selectors that can be 'extended' from as well as mixins







- What is the Magento 2 UI library?
- Where is the UI library located?
- How can you use / extend / customise it?

#### What is the Magento 2 UI library?

- A library of mixins for reuse to simplify theming
- https://devdocs.magento.com/guides/v2.2/frontend-devguide/css-topics/theme-ui-lib.html



What is the Magento 2 UI library?

Where is the UI library located?

How can you use / extend / customise it?



Where is the UI library located?

lib/web/css/source/lib



- What is the Magento 2 UI library?
- Where is the UI library located?
- How can you use / extend / customise it?



#### How can you use / extend / customise it?

- New variables should be placed in lib/web/css
- Overrides of existing variables should be declared in:
  - <theme\_dir>/web/css/ source/\_theme.less



#### How can you use / extend / customise it?

- You can also copy files into your theme to override them
  - Under lib/web/css e.g. lib/web/css/\_dropdowns.less
- Use sparingly!



# Deployment modes and developer process





- What are the 3 modes Magento 2 can be run in?
- How does each mode differ / when should they be used?
- How do you view / switch between modes?

What are the 3 modes Magento 2 can be run in?

- default
- developer
- production



- What are the 3 modes Magento 2 can be run in?
- How does each mode differ / when should they be used?
- How do you view / switch between modes?

Mode	Characteristics
default	Static view files symlinked and cached Errors / exceptions logged
developer	Static view files symlinked, not cached Verbose errors / logging / debugging Code (PHP) compiled 'on the fly'
production	Static view files copied (do not change) Errors / exceptions logged Code (PHP) compiled and cached

<sup>\*</sup>There is also 'maintenance' mode (503 holding page)



Mode	Use case
default	NEVER (shared hosting / DIY merchants)
developer	When developing Magento extensions / themes
production	On production (live) servers for maximum performance



## Magento modes.

- What are the 3 modes Magento 2 can be run in?
- How does each mode differ / when should they be used?
- How do you view / switch between modes?

# Magento modes.

#### How do you view / switch between modes?

- Via CLI (command line interface)
  - Or editing value in app/etc/env.php (not advised)
- Using bin/magento
- You can't switch back to default mode



# see the current mode

```
bin/magento deploy:mode:show

# switch to different mode
bin/magento deploy:mode:set <mode>
bin/magento deploy:mode:set developer
bin/magento deploy:mode:set production
```



## Cache management.

- How can you manage cache in the admin panel?
- How can you manage cache on the CLI?

# Cache management.

How can you manage cache in the admin panel?

- SYSTEM > Tools > Cache Management
- Note: cache can't be disabled in the admin panel when in production mode



## Cache management.

- How can you manage cache in the admin panel?
- How can you manage cache on the CLI?

# see which caches types enabled / disabled
bin/magento cache:status



```
# enable cache type(s)
bin/magento cache:enable <type>
bin/magento cache:enable block_html
```

# enable all cache types
bin/magento cache:enable



```
# disable cache type(s)
bin/magento cache:disable <type>
bin/magento cache:disable config layout
```

# disable all cache types

bin/magento cache:disable

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```
# clean cache type(s)
bin/magento cache:clean <type>
bin/magento cache:clean full_page
bin/magento cache:clean block_html layout
```

# clean all cache types

bin/magento cache:clean

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# flush entire cache storage
bin/magento cache:flush



- What are static assets and where would you find them?
- How and when would you deploy static assets?
- Explain asset minification, merging and static signing
- What common issues can occur?
- How do the LESS compilation modes work / differ?

What are static assets and where would you find them?

- Files requested in the browser (client side)
  - e.g. stylesheets, javascript, images, fonts
- Static assets are compiled to:
  - o pub/static/<area>/<theme-package>/<theme-name>/<locale>
  - e.g. pub/static/frontend/FisheyeAcademy/training/en\_GB



- What are static assets and where would you find them?
- How and when would you deploy static assets?
- Explain asset minification, merging and static signing
- What common issues can occur?
- How do the LESS compilation modes work / differ?

How and when would you deploy static assets?

- In production mode ONLY to copy / compile files
  - In developer mode these are symlinked / auto updated
- Static assets are deployed using bin/magento CLI tool



```
# deploy static content
bin/magento setup:static-content:deploy
bin/magento s:s:d # shorthand version
```



```
# deploy for specific theme
bin/magento s:s:d --theme[=THEME]
bin/magento s:s:d --theme=FisheyeAcademy/training
# deploy for specific locale (language)
bin/magento s:s:d --language[=LANGUAGE]
bin/magento s:s:d --language=en_GB
```



- What are static assets and where would you find them?
- How and when would you deploy static assets?
- Explain asset minification, merging and static signing
- What common issues can occur?
- How do the LESS compilation modes work / differ?

Explain asset minification, merging and static signing

- Minification reduces file size and therefore download time
- Merging combines all files together reducing the number of requests, but increasing overall download size



Explain asset minification, merging and static signing

- Static file signing adds a versioning number as a pseudo directory to all static asset requests
- This version is updated every time static files are deployed
- This forces assets to be redownloaded in users browsers (i.e. not be returned from local browser cache)



#### Explain minification and merging of assets

- Settings can be managed in the admin panel
- STORES > Settings > Configuration
  - ADVANCED > Developer
    - Javascript Settings
    - CSS Settings
    - Static Files Settings



- What are static assets and where would you find them?
- How and when would you deploy static assets?
- Explain asset minification, merging and static signing
- What common issues can occur?
- How do the LESS compilation modes work / differ?

#### What common issues can occur?

- Not using an automated deployment tool (e.g. capistrano)
  - To mitigate / reduce downtime
- Wrong theme or locale deployed (or missed)
- Not using static file signing (to version files)
- Not using minification or merging where relevant
- Running bin/magento s:s:d in developer mode



- What are static assets and where would you find them?
- How and when would you deploy static assets?
- Explain asset minification, merging and static signing
- What common issues can occur?
- How do the LESS compilation modes work / differ?



How do the LESS compilation modes work / differ?

- Server side (PHP) and client side modes
- Server side compiled using PHP LESS library
- Client side compiled in browser on every page load
  - VERY VERY SLOW!



How do the LESS compilation modes work / differ?

- Mode can be set in the admin panel
- STORES > Settings > Configuration
  - ADVANCED > Developer > Frontend Developer Workflow



# Wrap up / resources



## Code challenge 1.

- Add a new page layout for product pages that adds an additional container
- Add another block to your new page layout container
- Remove the message on configurable product pages only



# Code challenge 2.

- Modify gallery settings in etc/view.xml and review impact on product page
- Add a new variable to etc/view.xml and output in a template file



# Code challenge 3.

- Add a new CSS file via layout XML
- Create a LESS file that matches the file added in layout
- Change body colour using a variable (and a mixin)
- Implement nesting and calculations to change the colour at a different breakpoint (screen size)

# Code challenge 4.

- Override a modules \_module.less and modify the styles
  - Try removing bulk of styles to see how bad the page looks
- Revert above and use <u>\_extend.less</u> to make minor changes



# Code challenge 5.

- Read up on Magento LESS UI library
- Override variables using \_theme.less
- Override a default component from the library and modify

#### Credit / Resources / Thanks.

- Official Magento Study Guide
- Swift Otter Study Guide
- Magento DevDocs

