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Drupal 7 Theme Hook Suggestions

Last updated May 8, 2012. Created by [Carolyn](#) on March 11, 2011.

Edited by [Cottser](#), [sepehrmm](#), [JohnAlbin](#), [madmatter23](#). [Log in to edit this page.](#)

Theme hook suggestions:

What's a theme hook suggestion? It's an alternate template (.tpl.php) file that you have created to override the base or original template file..

Custom Theme Hook Suggestions

Custom suggestions beyond the ones listed below can be created. See the page [Working with template suggestions](#).

Default Theme Hook Suggestions in Core

`block--[region][module|--delta].tpl.php`

base template: [block.tpl.php](#)

Theme hook suggestions are made based on these factors, listed from the most specific template to the least. Drupal will use the most specific template it finds:

1. `block--module--delta.tpl.php`
2. `block--module.tpl.php`
3. `block--region.tpl.php`

"module" being the name of the module and "delta", the internal id assigned to the block by the module. For example, "block--block--1.tpl.php" would be used for the first user-submitted block added from the block administration screen since it was created by the block module with the id of 1. "region" will take effect for specific regions. An example of a region-specific template would be `block--sidebar_first.tpl.php`. If you had a block created by a custom module called "custom" and a delta of "my-block", the theme hook suggestion would be called "block--custom--my-block.tpl.php".

`comment--node-[type].tpl.php`

base template: [comment.tpl.php](#)

Support was added to create `comment--node-type.tpl.php` files, to format comments of a certain node *type* differently than other comments in the site. For example, a comment made on an article-type node would be "comment--node-article.tpl.php".

`comment-wrapper--node-[type].tpl.php`

base template: [comment-wrapper.tpl.php](#)

Similar to the above but for the wrapper template.

`field--[type]name[--content-type]|content-type].tpl.php`

base template: [field.tpl.php](#)

Theme hook suggestions are made based on these factors, listed from the most specific template to the least. Drupal will use the most specific template it finds:

1. `field--field-name--content-type.tpl.php`
2. `field--content-type.tpl.php`
3. `field--field-name.tpl.php`
4. `field--field-type.tpl.php`

Note that underscores in a Field's machine name are replaced by hyphens. Also remember to include "field-" in custom field names, e.g: `field--field-phone.tpl.php`.

`forums--[container|topic]--forumID].tpl.php`

base template: [forums.tpl.php](#)

Theme hook suggestions are made based on these factors, listed from the most specific template to the least. Drupal will use the most specific template it finds:

For forum containers:

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Drupal 7.x

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 - ▶ [How the Drupal theme system works](#)
 - ▶ [Working with CSS](#)
 - ▶ [Advanced theming](#)
 - ▼ [Core templates and suggestions](#)
 - [Core templates](#)
 - [Drupal 7 Theme Hook Suggestions](#)
 - [Drupal 6 Template Suggestions](#)
 - ▶ [Overriding themable output](#)
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1. forums--containers--forumID.tpl.php
2. forums--forumID.tpl.php
3. forums--containers.tpl.php

For forum topics:

1. forums--topics--forumID.tpl.php
2. forums--forumID.tpl.php
3. forums--topics.tpl.php

html.tpl.php

base template: [html.tpl.php](#)

See [html.tpl.php](#) in the Drupal API documentation for more information.

maintenance--page--[offline].tpl.php

base template: [maintenance--page.tpl.php](#)

This applies when the database fails. Useful for presenting a friendlier page without error messages. [Theming the maintenance page](#) must be properly setup first.

node--[type|nodeid].tpl.php

base template: [node.tpl.php](#)

Theme hook suggestions are made based on these factors, listed from the most specific template to the least. Drupal will use the most specific template it finds:

1. node--nodeid.tpl.php
2. node--type.tpl.php
3. node.tpl.php

See [node.tpl.php](#) in the Drupal API documentation for more information.

page--[front|internal/path].tpl.php

base template: [page.tpl.php](#)

The suggestions are numerous. The one that takes precedence is for the front page. The rest are based on the internal path of the current page. Do not confuse the internal path to path aliases which are not accounted for. *Keep in mind that the commonly used Path auto module works its magic through path aliases.*

The front page can be set at "Administration > Configuration > System > Site information." In Drupal 6, at "Administrator > Site configuration > Site information." Anything set there will trigger the suggestion of "page--front.tpl.php" for it.

The list of suggested template files is in order of specificity based on internal paths. One suggestion is made for every element of the current path, though numeric elements are not carried to subsequent suggestions. For example, "http://www.example.com/node/1/edit" would result in the following suggestions:

1. page--node--edit.tpl.php
2. page--node--1.tpl.php
3. page--node.tpl.php
4. page.tpl.php

Also see [page.tpl.php](#) in the Drupal API documentation for more information.

How Drupal determines page theme hook suggestions based on path

Here is another explanation based on the [theme_get_suggestions\(\)](#) function:

The list of possible templates for a given page is generated by Drupal through the [theme_get_suggestions\(\)](#) function, which is called by the [template_preprocess_page\(\)](#) function.

The [Drupal path](#) of the page is first broken up into its components. As mentioned above, the Drupal path is not any of its aliases: there is one and only one Drupal path for a page. For the examples "http://www.example.com/node/1/edit" and "http://www.example.com/mysitename?q=node/1/edit", the Drupal path is node/1/edit, and its components are "node", 1, and "edit".

Next, the prefix is set to "page". Then, for every component, the following logic is followed:

1. If the component is a number, add the prefix plus "%%" to the list of suggestions.
2. Regardless of whether the component is a number or not, add the prefix plus "_" plus the component to the list of suggestions.
3. If the component is *not* a number, append "_" plus the component to the prefix.

After the list of components is iterated through, if the page is the front page (as set through "Administration > Configuration > System > Site information."), then "page__front" is added to the list of suggestions.

Note that eventually, to turn a suggestion into an actual file name, "-" gets turned into "--", and ".tpl.php" gets appended to the suggestion. Thus, for node/1/edit, we get the following list of suggestions:

1. page.tpl.php (this is always a suggestion)
2. page--node.tpl.php (and prefix is set to page__node)
3. page--node--%.tpl.php
4. page--node--1.tpl.php (prefix is not changed because the component is a number)
5. page--node--edit.tpl.php (and prefix is set to page__node__edit)
6. page--front.tpl.php (but only if node/1/edit is the front page)

When the page is actually rendered, the *last* suggestion is checked. If it exists, that suggestion is used. Otherwise the next suggestion up is checked, and so on. Of course, if none of the overriding suggestions exist, page.tpl.php is the final suggestion. This also explains why page--front.tpl.php, if it exists, overrides any other suggestion for the front page: it is always the last suggestion for the page designated as the front page.

poll-results--[block].tpl.php

base template: *poll-results.tpl.php*

The theme function that generates poll results are shared for nodes and blocks. The default is to use it for nodes but a suggestion is made for rendering them inside block regions. This suggestion is used by default and the template file is located at "modules/poll/poll-results--block.tpl.php".

poll-vote--[block].tpl.php

base template: *poll-vote.tpl.php*

Similar to poll-results--[block].tpl.php but for generating the voting form. You must provide your own template for it to take effect.

poll-bar--[block].tpl.php

base template: *poll-bar.tpl.php*

Same as poll-vote--[block].tpl.php but for generating individual bars.

profile-wrapper--[field].tpl.php

base template: *profile-wrapper.tpl.php*

The profile wrapper template is used when browsing the member listings page. When browsing specific fields, a suggestion is made with the field name. For example, <http://drupal.org/profile/country/Belgium> would suggest "profile-wrapper--country.tpl.php".

region--[region].tpl.php

base template: *region.tpl.php*

The region template is used when a page region has content, either from the Block system or a function like `hook_page_build()`. Possible region names are determined by the theme's [.info file](#).

search-results--[searchType].tpl.php

base template: *search-results.tpl.php*

search-results.tpl.php is the default wrapper for search results. Depending on type of search different suggestions are made. For example, "example.com/search/node/Search+Term" would result in "search-results--node.tpl.php" being used. Compare that with "example.com/search/user/bob" resulting in "search-results--user.tpl.php". Modules can extend search types adding more suggestions of their type.

search-result--[searchType].tpl.php

base template: *search-result.tpl.php*

The same as above but for individual search results.

taxonomy-term--[vocabulary-machine-name|tid].tpl.php

base template: *taxonomy-term.tpl.php*

Theme hook suggestions are made based on these factors, listed from the most specific template to the least. Drupal will use the most specific template it finds:

1. taxonomy-term--tid.tpl.php
2. taxonomy-term--vocabulary-machine-name.tpl.php
3. taxonomy-term.tpl.php

Note that underscores in a vocabulary's machine name are replaced by hyphens.

Cache issue

When working with theme hook suggestion, there is a possibility that Drupal use its cache rather than the new templates as suggested. Remove the cache if you experience this problem. To clear the cache, choose one of the methods described in [Clearing Drupal's cache](#).

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Comments

Putting template files in custom module directory

Posted by [petek](#) on *May 3, 2011 at 6:15pm*

I'm working on a custom module and I want to keep my template file in my module directory (as opposed to a theme directory)

This approach worked for me: <http://www.metachunk.com/blog/adding-module-path-drupal-7-theme-registry...>

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To add page.tpl.php depending on content (node) type.

Posted by [flowbyte](#) on *May 4, 2011 at 5:41pm*

Use the following:

For D6:

```
<?php
function themeName_preprocess_page(&$vars, $hook) {
  if (isset($vars['node'])) {
    // If the node type is "blog" the template suggestion will be "page-
    blog.tpl.php".
    $vars['template_files'][] = 'page-'. str_replace('_', '-', $vars['node']-
    >type);
  }
}
?>
```

For D7:

```
<?php
function themeName_preprocess_page(&$vars, $hook) {
  if (isset($vars['node'])) {
    // If the node type is "blog" the template suggestion will be "page--
    blog.tpl.php".
    $vars['theme_hook_suggestions'][] = 'page__'. str_replace('_', '--',
    $vars['node']->type);
  }
}
?>
```

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Perhaps Drupal 7 changed the

Posted by [JamieR](#) on *June 27, 2011 at 9:01pm*

Perhaps Drupal 7 changed the name handling, because I did not need to do the string replacement. Otherwise this worked perfectly. The behavior that I saw with Drupal 7.2 was that the `theme_hook_suggestions` variables contain all underscores, and that those underscores are all translated to hyphens when it looks to pick up the template file. Here's the code that worked for me:

```
<?php
function themeName_preprocess_page(&$vars, $hook) {
  if (isset($vars['node'])) {
    // If the node type is "blog_madness" the template suggestion will be
    "page--blog-madness.tpl.php".
    $vars['theme_hook_suggestions'][] = 'page__'. $vars['node']->type;
  }
}
?>
```

Thanks for you help. Cheers!

Node specific page layout in drupal 7

Posted by [suman.jis](#) on *October 15, 2011 at 2:10pm*

Following code worked for me in D7.

In this example i have specified 2 different layout page for 2 different Node.

page__contact will be converted to page--contact.tpl.php

page__about will be converted to page--about.tpl.php

So create 2 file inside your working named page--contact.tpl.php,page--about.tpl.php for 2 different layout.

*Replace "MYTHEME" with your working theme.

*Do not forget to **Clear all caches**

```
<?php
function MYTHEME_preprocess_page(&$variables, $hook) {
  //Add multiple suggestions for pages based on Node
  if(arg(1) == 3) { //For node 3
    $variables['theme_hook_suggestions'][] = 'page__contact';
  } if(arg(1) == 4) { //For node 4
    $variables['theme_hook_suggestions'][] = 'page__about';
  }
}
?>
```

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Really works!

Posted by [golubovicm](#) on *March 21, 2012 at 4:08pm*

Great, this really works.

I used your solution to achieve different page template for specific content type:

```
<?php
function theme_preprocess_page(&$vars) {
  if ($vars['node']->type == 'contact'){
    $vars['theme_hook_suggestions'][] = 'page__contact';
  }
}
?>
```

It's a shame that this feature is not supported by default in Drupal 7.

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Worked like a charm! I did

Posted by [xjibex](#) on *April 25, 2012 at 7:38am*

The code provided by [JamieR](#) (<http://drupal.org/node/1089656#comment-4662688>) worked like a charm!

I did not need the string replacement neither and this function does exactly what I was looking for!

Thank you mate!

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This is great documentation!

Posted by [ShaneOnABike](#) on *September 1, 2011 at 7:08pm*

This is great documentation! I'd note a few things that I found a bit of problems with...

Don't forget to add **field** to your name convention for most fields.. it's easy to miss.

Also, there isn't any documentation referencing taxonomy terms wonder if we can just rename them based on specific vocabularies?

Cheers

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for taxonomy you can

Posted by [sinn](#) on *December 28, 2011 at 2:14pm*

for taxonomy you can use:

`taxonomy-term--[vocabulary_machine_name].tpl.php`

`taxonomy-term--[tid].tpl.php`

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So...

Posted by [ckmedia](#) on *September 25, 2011 at 11:15am*

So if I wanted a page template for all nodes/comments of a forum node type, would I change the code:

```
$vars['theme_hook_suggestions'][] = 'page__'. $vars['node']->type;
```

To

```
$vars['theme_hook_suggestions'][] = 'page__'. $vars['node']->forum;
```

Thanks, I'm a noob.

ckmedia.ca

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This code here worked good

Posted by [end user](#) on *September 29, 2011 at 2:59pm*

This code here worked good for me

```
function THEMENAME_preprocess_page(&$variables, $hook) {
  // Page template suggestions based off of content types
  if (isset($variables['node'])) {
    $variables['theme_hook_suggestions'][] = 'page__type__'.
$variables['node']->type;
    $variables['theme_hook_suggestions'][] = "page__node__" .
$variables['node']->nid;
  }

  // Page template suggestions based off URL alias
  if (module_exists('path')) {
    $alias = drupal_get_path_alias(str_replace('/edit','',$_GET['q']));
    if ($alias != $_GET['q']) {
      $template_filename = 'page';
      foreach (explode('/', $alias) as $path_part) {
        $template_filename = $template_filename . '__' . $path_part;
        $variables['theme_hook_suggestions'][] = $template_filename;
      }
    }
  }
}
```

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This worked for me as well

Posted by [Molson_Ice](#) on *October 7, 2011 at 12:27pm*

@ future assassin: Thanks!!

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No problem took me a while to

Posted by [end user](#) on *October 7, 2011 at 5:24pm*

No problem took me a while to find it online but so far its worked perfectly. I should have added a link to where I found it
http://forrst.com/posts/Add_page_template_suggestionsDepending_on_conte...

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template based on url alias

Posted by [dzigner](#) on *May 14, 2012 at 12:14am*

Hi

This worked for me. But I want something more here. My site has dropdown menu, and I want the second level links to follow the tpl.php file of the main link. For eg. I have services, and under that link, I have implementations. So my service page takes the page--services.tpl.php file, but the implementations page goes back to page.tpl.php file. I want all the links under the services link to follow page--services.tpl.php file. Any suggestions and help would be appreciated.
thanks

ps: I found one solution – added services/implementations as the alias, instead of just implementations. Now it takes the page--services.tpl.php file as template. But any code here would be really appreciated.
thanks

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The following helped answer

Posted by [joshmiller](#) on *November 29, 2011 at 5:27pm*

The following helped answer my question about overriding the node.tpl.php file with long content type names in Drupal 7:

In Drupal 6, some template files could be overridden in a targeted way. For example, the theme could contain a "node-article.tpl.php" file which would be used for nodes of the article type only. In Drupal 7, these need to be renamed to use a double-hyphen. For example, "node--article.tpl.php". A single hyphen is still used to separate words: for example, "user-picture.tpl.php" or "node--long-content-type-name.tpl.php", so the double hyphen always indicates a more targeted override of what comes before the "--". As another example, in Drupal 7 the override of a page.tpl.php for node/17 is page--node--17.tpl.php (in Drupal 6 it would have been page-node-17.tpl.php).

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comment template does not work.

Posted by [chrisljs](#) on *December 14, 2011 at 8:21pm*

comment--[node-type].tpl.php

--drupal 7.9 installation.

comment.tpl.php works. however I have a content type 'media' that I created comment--node-media.tpl.php it never works. I tried it in many different ways like comment-node-media.tpl.php, comment-node--media.tpl.php, etc. not working.

Please advise me to use comment template.

Thanks in advance.

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Did you try

Posted by [overflowing](#) on *January 4, 2012 at 9:40pm*

Did you try "**comment--media.tpl.php**"? For me, if my content type's machine name is "xyz", then:

1. for the comment *wrapper* template I have to do: "**comment-wrapper--node-xyz.tpl.php**".
2. But for the comment template itself I have to do: "**comment--xyz.tpl.php**". Note the lack of the word "node".

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Ive got a bug raised in core

Posted by [mikeskull](#) on *January 5, 2012 at 8:47am*

Ive got a bug raised in core that seems to be confirmed at the moment:

<http://drupal.org/node/1392494>

but I am intrigued as to how yours is working when mine isnt....

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Using Drupal 7.10. Actually

Posted by [overflowing](#) on *January 7, 2012 at 12:54pm*

Using Drupal 7.10. Actually it's not working. I had been making so many changes to my site's theme functions and templates that I thought I was using a custom comment--xyz.tpl.php when in fact this file was an exact duplicate of the base comment.tpl.php. I just tried editing it now and my changes don't show up (with theme registry rebuilding on). The comment-wrapper override does work however.

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drupal 7.12

Posted by [tinny](#) on *April 7, 2012 at 9:13am*

Im using Drupal 7.12 and the following worked for me:

comment template per content type:
comment--node-[type].tpl.php
eg. comment--node-article.tpl.php

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thanks for that. comment

Posted by [tinny](#) on *February 17, 2012 at 6:53am*

thanks for that.

comment wrapper per content type is
eg. article content type
comment-wrapper--node-article.tpl.php

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Underscored machine names do not get hyphenated

Posted by [dminkovsky](#) on *January 27, 2012 at 11:25pm*

To extend upon <http://drupal.org/node/1089656#comment-5408170>:

If you have a module called **my_module**, the template theming blocks for that module is **block--my_module.tpl.php**. The underscore in "my_module" does not become a hyphen.

In block names (deltas), however, underscores *do* become hyphens. The template for theming the "my_block" block in the "my_module" module is **block--my_module--my-block.tpl.php**.

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Different caches for different themes?

Posted by [Wolfgang Reszel](#) on *May 16, 2012 at 2:35pm*

Hi,

I wan't the exact same URL render differently from a normal and an ajax request. When enabling caching Drupal always loads the first rendered content. Is there a workaround to let Drupal use different caches for different theme suggestions?

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