

# CMS Smack Down

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Feature	Cushy CMS	WordPress	Movable Type	Expression Engine	Drupal
<b>The Basics</b>					
<b>Price</b>	Free - \$28/month	Free	Free - \$1500	Free - \$550	Free
<b>Hosted/Installed</b>	Hosted	Installed	Installed	Installed	Installed
<b>Platform</b>	NA	PHP, MySQL	Perl, MySQL	PHP, MySQL	PHP, MySQL
<b>Setup</b>	Super Easy	Super Easy	Could be easier	Easy	Easy-ish
<b>Community</b>					
<b>Themes</b>	None	Tons!	A few	Some	A lot
<b>Plugins</b>	None	Tons!	Tons!	Some	Tons!
<b>Support</b>	Paid	Community	Community/Paid	Community/Paid	Community
<b>Documentation</b>	Good	Good	OK	Great	OK
<b>Developers</b>	NA	Tons!	Quite a few	Quite a few	Tons!
<b>Features</b>					
<b>Multiple Sites</b>	Out of the box	Difficult	Out of the box	Paid Add-on	Difficult
<b>Custom Fields</b>	None	Out of the box	Out of the box (Paid Version)	Out of the box	Free Add-on
<b>Member Management</b>	None	Paid Add-on	Out of the box (Paid Version)	Out of the box	Add-on
<b>User Generated Content</b>	None	Add-on	Out of the box (Paid Version)	Out of the box	Add-on
<b>WYSIWYG</b>	Out of the box	Out of the box	Out of the box	Add-on	Add-on
<b>Forums</b>	None	None	None	Paid Add-on	Out of the box

# The Bottom Line

## Cushy CMS

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Pros: Super easy to setup. Interface is not intimidating for non-techies.

Cons: No bells and whistles. Creating new pages requires FTP.

Skills Needed: Anyone can edit pages. Need to know HTML & CSS and comfortable with FTP to create pages.

Perfect For: A relatively static site that you're not adding new pages to every week

## WordPress

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Pros: Setup is easy. Tons of themes and plugins. Switching themes is easy. Great control panel.

Cons: Can't easily support multiple sites or user generated content.

Skills Needed: FTP for install. Anyone can start a site using a stock theme. Must be comfortable with HTML, CSS and PHP for customization.

Perfect For: A blog or corporate site that will be updated frequently.

## Movable Type

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Pros: Enterprise support. Handles multiple sites very well. Customizable.

Cons: Many community features are an expensive add-on. Pages need to be rebuilt frequently.

Skills Needed: FTP for install. Need HTML, CSS to customize themes. Perl for building add-ons.

Perfect For: A large corporation that needs many blogs/sites.

## Expression Engine

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Pros: Support for multiple sites, custom data types, and user generated content out of the box. Easily extended using PHP.

Cons: Themes are non-existent and tough to switch.

Skills Needed: FTP for install. Need HTML, CSS to customize themes. PHP for add-ons.

Perfect For: Community sites with members and user generated content.

## Drupal

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Pros: Very customizable. Lots of non-blog features. Active community.

Cons: Documentation could be better.

Skills Needed: FTP for install. Point and click for simple theme, layout changes. PHP for customization.

Perfect For: Larger, custom sites.