

Drupal Interview Preparation – Difference Between Drupal 7 and Drupal 8

Q1: What are the major differences between Drupal 7 and Drupal 8?

Drupal 7 and Drupal 8 differ significantly in architecture, development approach, and modern standards support.

1. Architecture:

Drupal 7 follows a procedural programming approach, while Drupal 8 uses Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) and is built on Symfony components.

2. Symfony Framework:

Drupal 8 integrates Symfony framework components, enabling modern PHP practices, routing system, and dependency injection. Drupal 7 does not use Symfony.

3. Twig Templating:

Drupal 8 uses Twig templating engine, which is more secure and cleaner than PHPTemplate used in Drupal 7.

4. Configuration Management:

Drupal 8 introduced Configuration Management (YAML-based export/import). Drupal 7 lacks built-in configuration management.

5. Web Services:

Drupal 8 is API-first with RESTful web services built into core. Drupal 7 requires contributed modules for similar functionality.

6. Multilingual Support:

Drupal 8 has built-in multilingual support in core. In Drupal 7, multiple contributed modules were required.

7. Database Layer:

Drupal 8 uses an improved database abstraction layer and supports modern PHP versions. Drupal 7 supports older PHP versions.

8. Routing System:

Drupal 7 uses `hook_menu()` for routing. Drupal 8 uses YAML-based routing with controllers.

9. Entity API:

Drupal 8 has a more powerful and extensible Entity API compared to Drupal 7.

10. Performance & Caching:

Drupal 8 introduced Dynamic Page Cache, BigPipe, and improved cache tags system. Drupal 7 had basic page and block caching.

In summary, Drupal 8 is a modern, enterprise-ready framework compared to Drupal 7, offering better scalability, security, maintainability, and performance.