STATIC SITES WITH MIDDLEMAN

WHAT ARE STATIC SITES?

WHAT ARE STATIC SITE GENERATORS?

WHY ARE THEY USEFUL?

DEV-OPS

- ▶ **Simplicity**
  - ▶ **Speed**
- ▶ **Caching**
- ▶ **Security**

WORKFLOW

▶ **Templating**

▶ **Content Models**

▶ **Asset Pipeline**

▶ **Extensibility**

WHO IS USING STATIC SITE GENERATORS?

- ▶ Google
- ▶ Vox Media
- ▶ MailChimp
- ▶ Carrot
- ▶ Instrument

WHAT ABOUT DYNAMIC FEATURES?

WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS?

STATIC SITE OPTIONS

1. Jekyll
2. GitBook
3. Hexo
4. Hugo
5. Octopress
6. Pelican
7. Brunch
8. Middleman

STATIC SITE GENERATOR COMPARISON

- ▶ Jekyll
- ▶ Middleman
- ▶ Roots
- ▶ Hugo

JEKYLL

Jekyll is a simple, blog-aware, static site generator.
— Jekyll Documentation

▶ Templating Engine - Liquid

▶ Content - HTML, Markdown, YAML, JSON, or CSV

▶ Asset Pipeline - Sass and CoffeeScript.

▶ Extending - Extensions Available

ROOTS

Roots clearly comes from the world of Node.js-based front-end tools.
— Smashing Magazine

▸ Templating Engine - Jade

▸ Content - None

▸ Asset Pipeline - CoffeeScript and Stylus

▸ Extending - Extensions Available

HUGO

Simple to install and update.
— Smashing Magazine

▸ Templating Engine - Go's Package Template

▸ Content - Strong Content Model

▸ Asset Pipeline - No Asset Pipeline

▸ Extending - Built-in functionality.

MIDDLEMAN

Middleman was built as a framework for more advanced marketing and documentation websites.
— Smashing Magazine

▸ Templating Engine - Ruby (ERb)

▸ Content - Site Map Resource & Collections

▸ Asset Pipeline - Sprockets or External Pipeline

▸ Extending - Extensions Available

MIDDLEMAN

REQUIRES RUBY...

INSTALLING RUBY

AFTER RUBY IS INSTALLED...

```
$ gem install middleman
$ gem install middleman-blog
```

MIDDLEMAN COMMAND LINE INTERFACE

MIDDLEMAN DEVELOPMENT CYCLE

```
$ middleman init
$ middleman server
$ middleman build
```

ALSO

```
$ middleman console
```

SITE SETUP

```
$ middleman init NEW_MIDDLEMAN_PROJECT_NAME
```

OR

```
$ middleman init NEW_MIDDLEMAN_BLOG_NAME --template=blog
```

MIDDLEMAN DIRECTORY STRUCTURE

```
mymiddlemansite/
+-- Gemfile
+-- Gemfile.lock
+-- config.rb
+-- source
    +-- images
    ¦    +-- background.png
    ¦    +-- middleman.png
    +-- index.html.erb
    +-- javascripts
    ¦    +-- all.js
    +-- layouts
    ¦    +-- layout.erb
    +-- stylesheets
        +-- all.css
        +-- normalize.css
```

MIDDLEMAN BLOG DIRECTORY STRUCTURE

```
mymiddlemanblog/
+-- Gemfile
+-- Gemfile.lock
+-- config.rb
+-- source
    +-- 2012-01-01-example-article.html.markdown
    +-- calendar.html.erb
    +-- feed.xml.builder
    +-- index.html.erb
    +-- layout.html.erb
    +-- tag.html.erb
```

IMPORTANT DIRECTORIES

▸ Source - Contains files to be built.

▸ Build - Compiled static site files.

▸ Data - Local data in `.yml`, `.yaml`, or `.json` formats.

▸ Lib - Ruby modules containing "helper" classes and methods.

MIDDLEMAN SERVER PAGES

▸ Middleman Local Development Server - http://localhost:4567/

▸ Middleman Configuration Options

▸ Middleman Sitemap

RUBY CODE MIXED WITH HTML

ERB, MIDDLEMAN'S DEFAULT TEMPTING LANGUAGE, ENABLES RUBY DIRECTLY INSIDE HTML FILES.

RUBY CODE IS ADDED BETWEEN THE <% OR <%= OPENING TAGS AND %> CLOSING TAG.

LAYOUTS & PARTIALS FOR CODE REUSE

```
<%= yield %>
```

AND

```
<%= partial "name" %>
```

EXAMPLE PAGE

Creating Placeholder Text

July, 18 2016

Williamsburg DIY small batch, tousled bitters vice meh nesciunt neutra pabst. Ad tempor cold-pressed, quis tofu ethical cliche. Polaroid squid helvetica sartorial, jean shorts pariatur meggings. Proident readymade assumenda, kombucha yuccie portland...

[Read more...](#)

Why I Decided to Learn Software Development

May, 14 2016

My journey to the Learn Verified program and learning software development has really been a journey of many steps. I've always enjoyed using and learning about technology, so technology has alway been a part of my life. However, software development...

[Read more...](#)

Middleman Blog with GitHub Pages

February, 4 2016

Middleman is a static site generation framework with an available blog extension package. I've tried to set up a blog with Middleman in the past, but I've always had trouble with deploying to GitHub pages. To me it's not as straight forward as it should be, but I think with a few tips it can easily be done. Here are the steps that worked for me.

[Read more...](#)

Recent Articles

1. [Creating Placeholder Text](#) Jul 18
2. [Why I Decided to Learn Software Development](#) May 14
3. [Middleman Blog with GitHub Pages](#) Feb 4

Tags

1. [middleman (1)](#)
2. [github (1)](#)
3. [github pages (1)](#)
4. [tutorial (1)](#)

By Year

1. [2016 (3)](#)

source/layout.erb

```erb
<!doctype html>
<html>
  <head>
    <%= partial "head" %>
  </head>
  <body>
    <div id="container">
      <header>
        <%= partial "nav" %>
      </header>
      <main>
        <div id="main" role="main">
          <%= yield %>
        </div>
        <% if current_page.path != "about.html" && current_page.path != "contact.html"  %>
          <aside>
            <%= partial "aside" %>
          </aside>
        <% end %>
      </main>
      <footer>
        <%= partial "footer" %>
      </footer>
    </div>
  </body>
</html>
```

source/partials/_nav.erb

```erb
<nav class="clearfix hidden-nav-menu">
  <h1>snsavage.com</h1>
  <h1 class="hidden-nav-trigger"><a href="#"><i class="fa fa-bars fa-lg" aria-hidden="true"></i></a></h1>
  <ul class="nav-menu">
    <%= partial "nav_links" %>
  </ul>
</nav>
```

source/partials/_nav_links.erb

```erb
<li><%= link_to "Home", "/" %></li>
<li><%= link_to "About", "about.html" %></li>
<li><%= link_to "Contact", "contact.html" %></li>
```

build/index.html

```html
<!doctype html>
<html>
<head>
  ...
</head>
<body>
  <div id="container">
    <header>
      <nav class="clearfix hidden-nav-menu">
        <h1>snsavage.com</h1>
        <h1 class="hidden-nav-trigger"><a href="#"><i class="fa fa-bars fa-lg" aria-hidden="true"></i></a></h1>
        <ul class="nav-menu">
          <li><a href="/">Home</a></li>
          <li><a href="/about.html">About</a></li>
          <li><a href="/contact.html">Contact</a></li>
        </ul>
      </nav>
    </header>
    ...
```

RUBY MIXED WITH HTML

TITLES BASED ON PAGE CONTENT

```
<title>
  snsavage.com<%= ' - ' + current_article.title unless current_article.nil? %>
</title>
```

RUBY MIXED WITH HTML

GENERATING LISTS OF ARTICLES

```
<ol>
  <% blog.articles[0...10].each do |article| %>
    <li>
      <%= link_to article.title, article %>
      <span><%= article.date.strftime('%b %e') %></span>
    </li>
  <% end %>
</ol>
```

MIDDLEMAN CONTENT MODEL
PAGES, FRONTMATTER, & LOCAL DATA

PAGES

ADD A NEW PAGE BY CREATING A NEW FILE IN THE SOURCE DIRECTORY.

ADD THE `*.erb` EXTENSION TO HAVE THE TEMPLATE PROCESSED.

ADD A NEW BLOG PAGE WITH `$ middleman articles ARTICLE_TITLE`

FRONTMATTER FORMAT

```
---
title: Middleman Blog with GitHub Pages
author: Scott Savage
date: 2016-02-04 02:40 UTC
tags: middleman, github, github pages, tutorial
published: true
---
```

USING FRONTMATTER DATA

```erb
<% wrap_layout :layout do %>
  <article>
    <h2><%= current_page.data.title %></h2>
    <h3><%= current_page.date.strftime('%B, %e %Y') %></h3>
    <h4>By <%= current_page.data.author %></h4>
    <%= yield %>
  </article>
<% end %>
```

LOCAL DATA

STORED IN THE DATA DIRECTORY. FILES IN THE `.yml`, `.yaml`, OR `.json` FORMATS.

HELPER METHODS

SIMPLY COMMON HTML TASKS.

▸ **Links**

▸ **Tags**

▸ **Forms**

▸ **Formatting**

MIDDLEMAN ASSET PIPELINE

RAILS ASSET PIPELINE (SPROCKETS) - V3

EXTERNAL PIPELINE - V4

MIDDLEMAN EXTENSIONS

RESOURCES

▸ Middleman

▸ Smashing Magazine - Why Static Website Generators Are The Next Big Thing

▸ Smashing Magazine - Static Website Generators Reviewed

▸ Static Webtech Meetup - Dynamic to Static

▸ Netlify

▸ Contenful

▸ YouTube - Middleman External Pipeline + Gulp