

# Your Introduction to Panels 2

*A Beginner's Guide To Using Panels 2 to  
Revolutionizing Your Site Building Skills*

DrupalCamp Vancouver 2008  
Gregory Heller



<http://civicaactions.com>

**CivicActions**  
Empowered

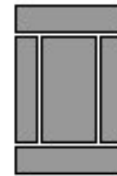
# What is Panels

- Panels 2 Beta 3 is a contributed module by Earl Miles (merlinofchaos)
- Allows you to create arbitrary page layouts
- Position content (views, blocks, nodes, custom) within that page layout
- Harness the power of arguments to filter your content based on args passed through the url
- Contexts (more advanced)

# Arbitrary Page Layouts

- Variety of columns and rows
- Flexible columns and rows
- Create your own

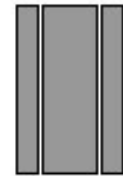
Choose a layout for your new page from the list below.



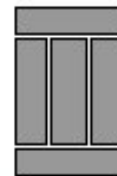
Flexible



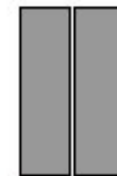
Single column



Three column  
25/50/25



Three column  
33/34/33 stacked



Two column



Two column bricks

# Add & Position Content

- Add views
- Add blocks
- Add custom content
- Move it all around!

Home > Administer > Panels > Panel pages

Test Panel

Preview

Layout

Settings

Layout settings

Advanced

Context

**Content**

Export

Grab the title bar of any pane to drag it to another panel. Click the add pane button in any panel to add more content. Click the configure button on any pane to re-configure that pane.

Hide all

Show all

Cache settings

The screenshot displays the 'Content' tab of the 'Test Panel' configuration interface. It shows a grid layout with five panes:

- Top:** Contains a 'Custom (Welcome to the test)\*' block with a sub-pane 'Welcome to the test'.
- Left side:** Contains a 'DHTML: Navigation\*' block with a sub-pane 'admin'.
- Middle column:** Contains a 'Recent posts\*' block with a sub-pane 'Recent posts'.
- Right side:** Contains a 'Recent comments\*' block with a sub-pane 'No title'.
- Bottom:** An empty pane.

Each pane has a title bar with a plus sign (+) on the left and configuration (gear) and delete (X) icons on the right. The panes are separated by dashed lines, indicating they can be moved.

Save

Cancel

# Using Arguments

- This is where it gets confusing
- Check out my blog  
<http://www.civicactions.com/topic/panels>
- To use arguments, you must first add a view pane within the panels module, and add an argument there first. This is NEW in Panels2 beta 3.

# And Now To The Sites

- I will now show you how to actually do this stuff using some of the sites we are working on.
- You can see some of these sites:
  - <http://cbuilding.org>
  - <http://justcauseit.com>

# See You In Seattle!



- June 27-28 2008 Seattle, WA
- <http://groups.drupal.org/drupalcamp-seattle>