



CMS Made Simple

An Introduction

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How CMSMS Works

So how is a web-site created with CMS Made Simple?

There are a couple of terms that are central to understanding this.

You first need to have templates, which is the HTML code for your pages. This is styled with CSS in one or more style sheets that are attached to each template. You then create pages that contain your websites content using one of these templates.

That doesn't sound too hard, does it? Basically you don't need to know any HTML or CSS to get a site up with CMS Made Simple. But if you want to customize it to your liking, consider learning some CSS.



Templates and stylesheets

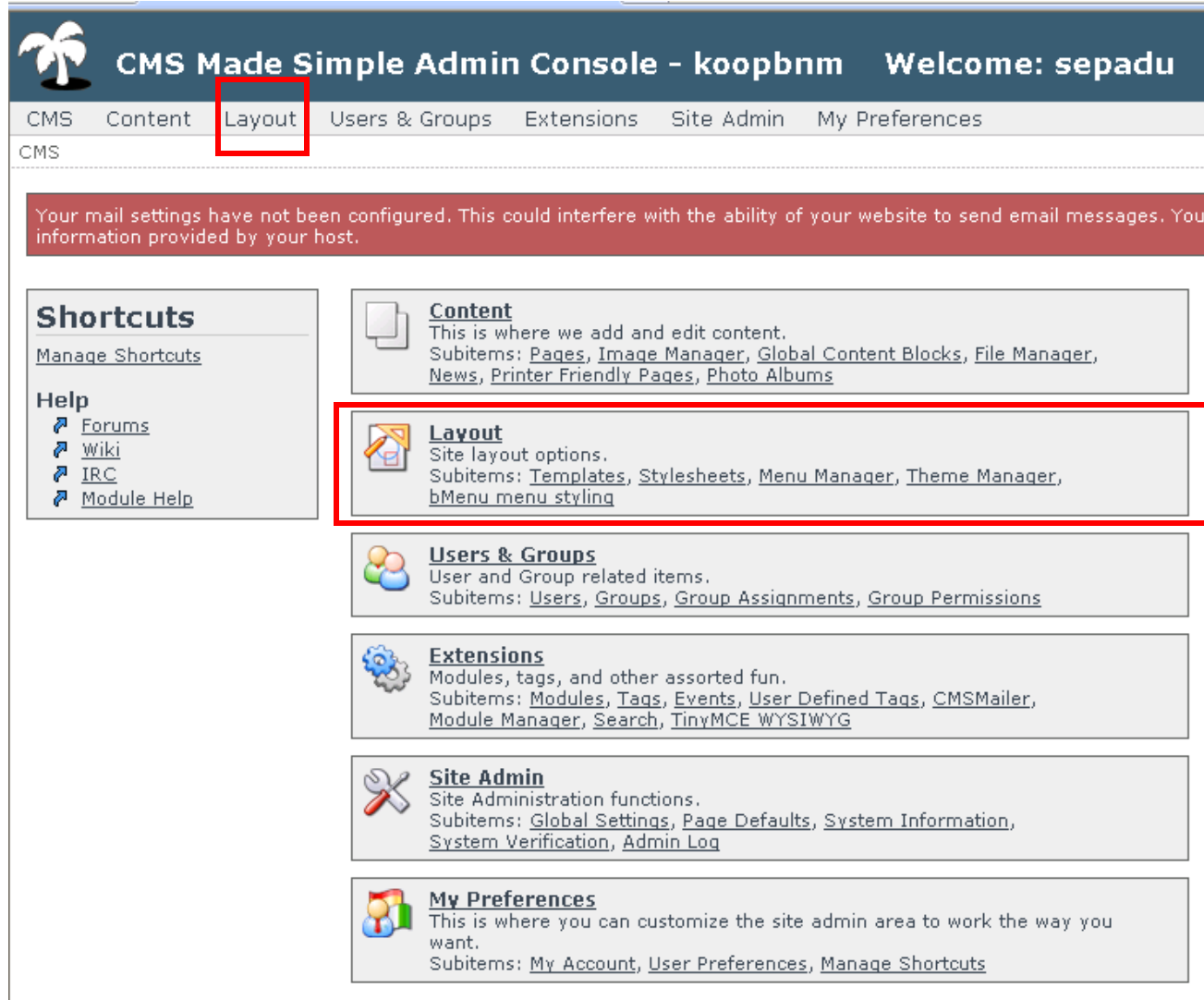
- **A *template*** is basically the **HTML layout, or the design**, of a page. This is the work of the designer. Whatever is in a template is used on every page that uses that template, meaning that the person editing the content doesn't need any web design skills.
- In the template there are **placeholders for content** and navigation areas. When a user is visiting your site the page is automatically generated from the template and the placeholders are filled with the content.
- The template is the HTML structure. It is then styled in one or more *style sheets* that are attached to each template. This styling is done with CSS. So to get a site look the way you want you should be familiar with HTML and CSS on at least a basic level. But don't worry, there are themes with ready-made templates and style sheets for you to download!
- **Templates and style sheets in the CMSMS Admin Panel** - You will find the templates and style sheets in the **Layout** menu.

Themes

- Allows you to import and export templates and their attached stylesheets as "themes". This allows you to share your look and feel with other cms users.
- You can manage themes using ThemeManager in CMSMS.
- Sample CMSMS themes are available at:

<http://themes.cmsmadesimple.org/>

CMSMS Admin Panel - Layout



The screenshot displays the CMSMS Admin Panel interface. At the top, there is a dark blue header with a palm tree icon on the left, the text "CMS Made Simple Admin Console - koopbnm" in the center, and "Welcome: sepadu" on the right. Below the header is a navigation bar with the following items: CMS, Content, Layout (highlighted with a red box), Users & Groups, Extensions, Site Admin, and My Preferences. Underneath the navigation bar, the word "CMS" is displayed. A red banner message states: "Your mail settings have not been configured. This could interfere with the ability of your website to send email messages. You information provided by your host." The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a "Shortcuts" section with a "Manage Shortcuts" link and a "Help" section with links to "Forums", "Wiki", "IRC", and "Module Help". The right column contains several menu items, each with an icon, a title, a description, and a list of subitems. The "Layout" menu item is highlighted with a red box. The "Layout" menu item includes the following subitems: [Templates](#), [Stylesheets](#), [Menu Manager](#), [Theme Manager](#), and [bMenu menu styling](#). Other menu items include "Content", "Users & Groups", "Extensions", "Site Admin", and "My Preferences".

CMS Made Simple Admin Console - koopbnm Welcome: sepadu

CMS Content **Layout** Users & Groups Extensions Site Admin My Preferences

CMS

Your mail settings have not been configured. This could interfere with the ability of your website to send email messages. You information provided by your host.

Shortcuts
Manage Shortcuts

Help
[Forums](#)
[Wiki](#)
[IRC](#)
[Module Help](#)

Content
This is where we add and edit content.
Subitems: [Pages](#), [Image Manager](#), [Global Content Blocks](#), [File Manager](#), [News](#), [Printer Friendly Pages](#), [Photo Albums](#)

Layout
Site layout options.
Subitems: [Templates](#), [Stylesheets](#), [Menu Manager](#), [Theme Manager](#), [bMenu menu styling](#)

Users & Groups
User and Group related items.
Subitems: [Users](#), [Groups](#), [Group Assignments](#), [Group Permissions](#)

Extensions
Modules, tags, and other assorted fun.
Subitems: [Modules](#), [Tags](#), [Events](#), [User Defined Tags](#), [CMSMailer](#), [Module Manager](#), [Search](#), [TinyMCE WYSIWYG](#)

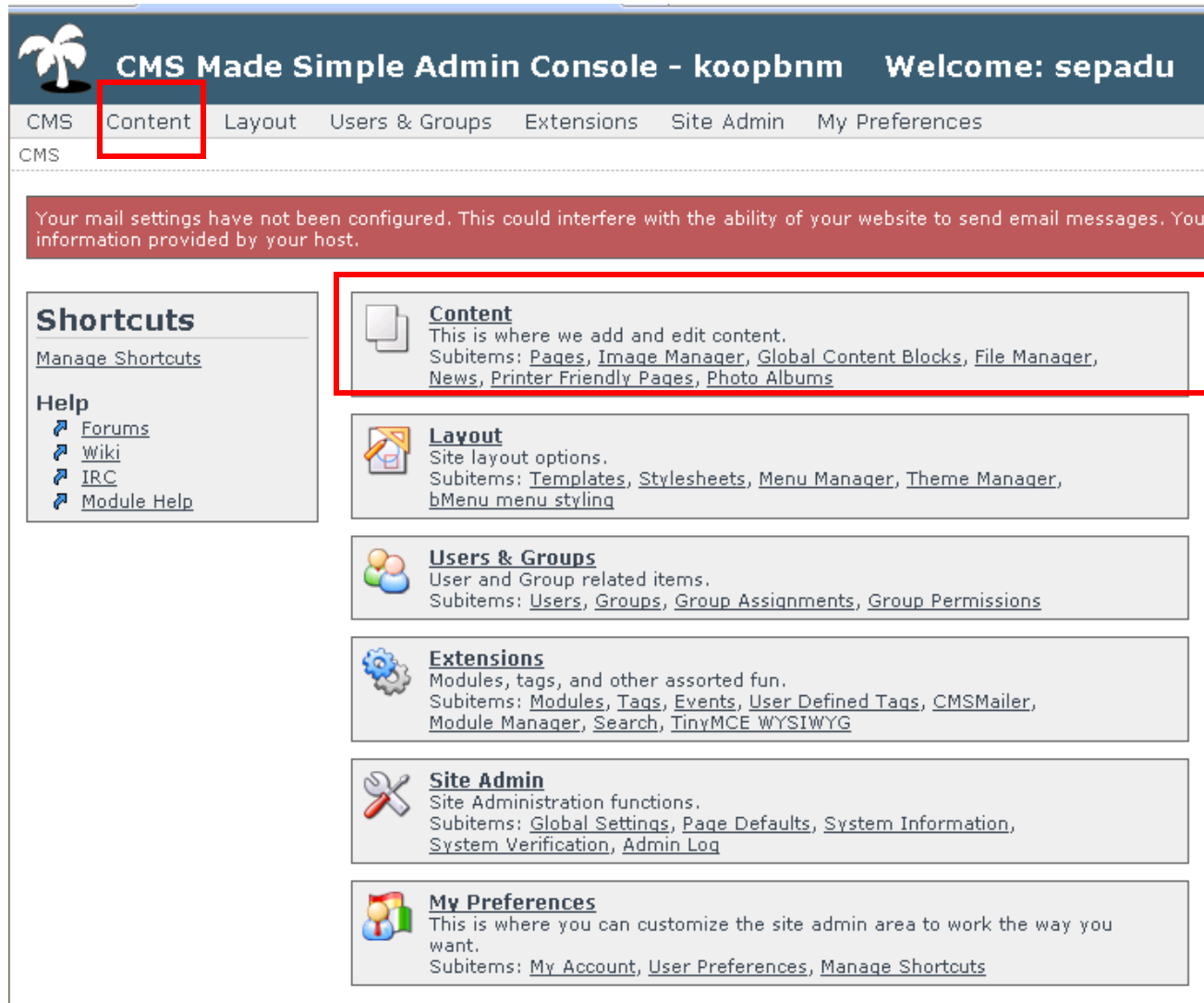
Site Admin
Site Administration functions.
Subitems: [Global Settings](#), [Page Defaults](#), [System Information](#), [System Verification](#), [Admin Log](#)


My Preferences
This is where you can customize the site admin area to work the way you want.
Subitems: [My Account](#), [User Preferences](#), [Manage Shortcuts](#)

Pages and navigation

- Pages determine the structure of your web-site (as seen in the admin Content » Pages page). Think of a web-site as a set of pages. These pages are accessed through a menu. You can also link to a page from within another page.
- **Navigation/Menu**
 - The navigation, or the menu, is a set of links that help the user to navigate through the pages on your web site. These links are automatically created by CMS Made Simple from the page structure. This hierarchy is what drives the menu you see on the left of this page.
 - Pages can be in several levels, like a tree of generations. The top level in the menu are the parent pages. Each parent page can have children pages, which in turn can be parents to other children.
 - The page template determines where on a page the navigation is placed.
- **Pages in the CMSMS Admin Panel**
 - You add pages, as well as other content, in the CMSMS Admin Panel from the Content » Pages menu.

CMSMS Admin Panel - Content



 **CMS Made Simple Admin Console - koopbnm** Welcome: [sepadu](#)

CMS **Content** Layout Users & Groups Extensions Site Admin My Preferences

CMS


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Shortcuts

[Manage Shortcuts](#)


Help

- [Forums](#)
- [Wiki](#)
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CMSMS Admin Panel

– Content | Pages



CMS Made Simple Admin Console - koopbnm Welcome: sepadu

[CMS](#) [Content](#) [Layout](#) [Users & Groups](#) [Extensions](#) [Site Admin](#) [My Preferences](#)

[Content](#) » [Pages](#)

Current Pages [Help](#) (new window)

[+ Add New Content](#) [Reorder Pages](#)

	Page	Template	Type	Owner	Active	Default
1	Laman Utama	main_bnm	Content	sepadu	✓	✓
▼ 2	Keanqqotaan	Keanqqotaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗
2.1	- Keanqqotaan Baru	Keanqqotaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗
2.2	- Berhenti Keanqqotaan	Keanqqotaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗
▼ 3	Perniagaan	Perniagaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗
3.1	- Barangan Elektrik	Perniagaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗
3.2	- Barangan Sukan	Perniagaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗
3.3	- Alat Telekomunikasi	Perniagaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗
3.4	- Kereta	Perniagaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗
3.5	- Motosikal	Perniagaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗
3.6	- Kesihatan	Perniagaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗
3.7	- Persekitaran	Perniagaan	Content	sepadu	✓	✗

CMSMS - Content

- The content is the information for the page. We have already mentioned that for each page on your site you choose what template to use. When you add content to a page, it is automatically placed in the placeholders of the template selected for that page.
- A template can define one or several content areas, or content blocks. To add more content blocks to your template, use `{content block='block name'}`. These blocks will then appear as text areas when you edit or add a page that uses that template.
- You can make a content block use only one line, instead of a full text area, by using the parameter `oneline=true`. That is, the full tag being: `{content block='block name' oneline=true}`. Read about more parameters in the help for the Content tag in the CMSMS Admin Panel, under Extensions » Tags.
- **Content Types** - There are currently 6 main content types in version 1.6.6 "Bonde". These content types determine the type of content for each menu item. : Content , Error Page , External Page Link , Internal Page Link , Section Header , Separator

CMSMS – Content Type

- The **Content** type is simply a regular page. Normally this is the only one you will use. That is what this page you are reading is. Here you can put any content that you would put on a regular page. The layout of these types of pages are controlled by the templates. For each **content** page you create you must add the title, menu text, choose if it is going to have a parent and choose a template for it. If you login as admin and change the template of this page, you will see exactly how it works.
- The **Error Page** type is just what it sounds like, a page you set for "404 page not found" errors, where you can add the content that shows when a 404 error occurs, a target type and title, you can also choose the template it uses, it has no parent as it is not part of the menu.
- The **External Page Link** type is just what it sounds like, a link to another external page and you add the title, menu text, choose if it is going to have a parent and a destination page along with the target setting and other options that a content type page has. This **external page link** type also shows up in the menu following the same hierarchy rules as the **content** type.
- The **Internal Page Link** type is also just what it sounds like, a link to another internal page. This **internal page link** type also shows up in the menu following the same hierarchy rules as the **content** type and you add the title, menu text, choose if it is going to have a parent and a destination page along with the target setting and other options that a content type page has.
- The **Section Header** type is used to break up menus into groupings (sections). This is unrelated to the hierarchy, as the section headers have no associated pages with them but can be used to group a set of links of similar content under them. They are just a little bit of text to say what the next few links are in reference to.
- The **Separator** type is just what it sounds like, a separator that appears on the menus. This type follows the hierarchy set in content management pages.

CMSMS Admin Panel – Content Update



CMS Made Simple Admin Console - koopbnm Welcome: sepadu

[CMS](#) [Content](#) [Layout](#) [Users & Groups](#) [Extensions](#) [Site Admin](#) [My Preferences](#)

[Content](#) » [Pages](#) » Edit Page: Laman Utama

Edit Content [Help](#) (new window)

Main Options Preview

Submit Cancel Apply

Content Type:

Content

Title:

Laman Utama

Menu Text:

Laman Utama

Parent:

none

Template:

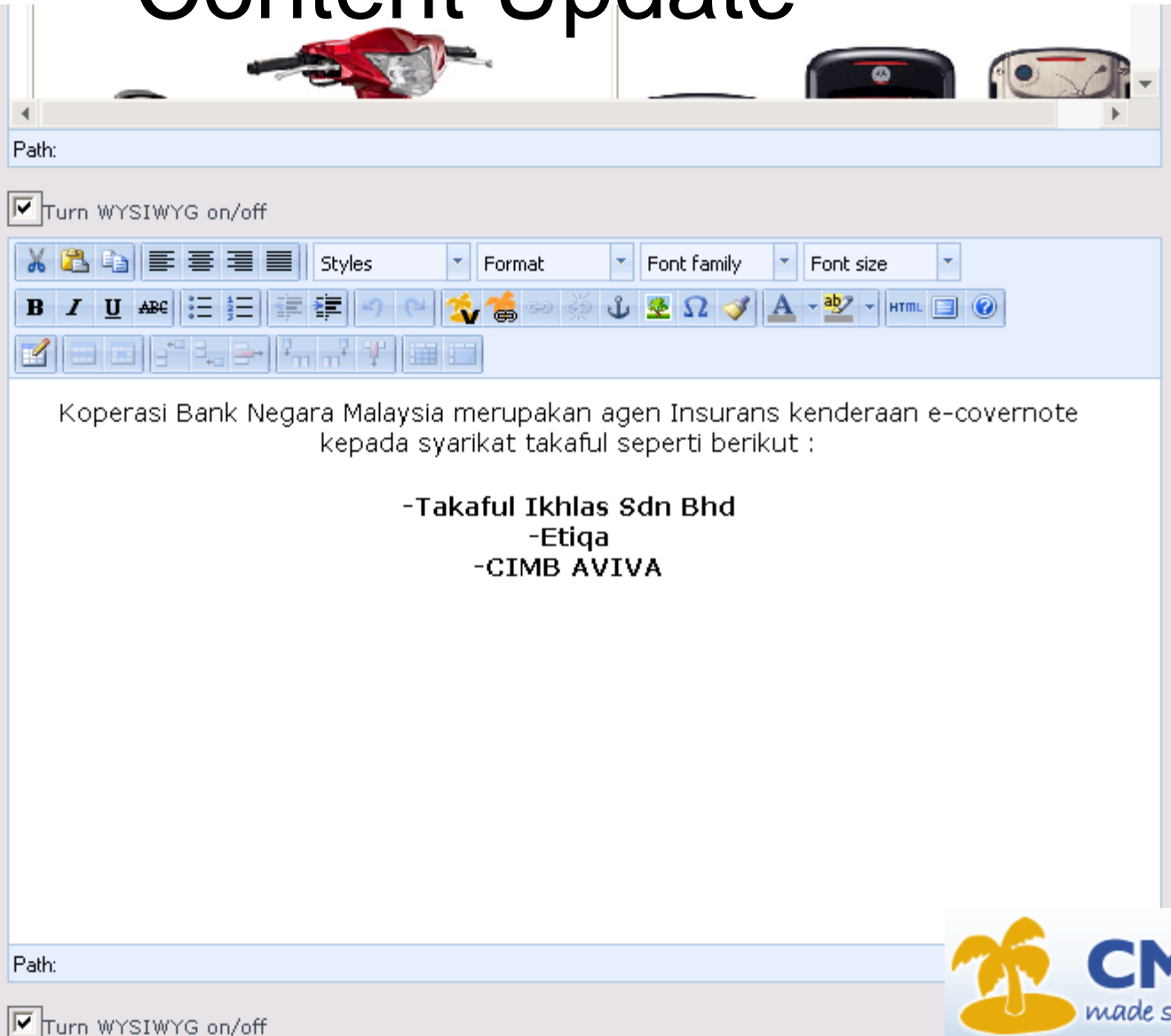
main_bnm

Content:



CMSMS Admin Panel – Content Update

News Content:



The screenshot shows the CMSMS Admin Panel interface for updating content. At the top, there is a banner image of a red motorcycle. Below the banner is a 'Path:' field. A checkbox labeled 'Turn WYSIWYG on/off' is checked. The main editing area contains a rich text editor toolbar with various icons for text formatting, alignment, and linking. Below the toolbar, the content text reads: 'Koperasi Bank Negara Malaysia merupakan agen Insurans kenderaan e-covernote kepada syarikat takaful seperti berikut :'. Centered below this text are three lines: '-Takaful Ikhlas Sdn Bhd', '-Etiqa', and '-CIMB AVIVA'. At the bottom of the editing area, there is another 'Path:' field and a 'Turn WYSIWYG on/off' checkbox, which is also checked.

Path:

Turn WYSIWYG on/off

Styles Format Font family Font size

B *I* U ABC [List icons] [Undo/Redo] [Link/Unlink] [Anchor] [Image] [Ω] [Color] HTML [Help]

Koperasi Bank Negara Malaysia merupakan agen Insurans kenderaan e-covernote kepada syarikat takaful seperti berikut :

**-Takaful Ikhlas Sdn Bhd
-Etiqa
-CIMB AVIVA**

Path:

Turn WYSIWYG on/off

CMSMS Extensions

There are three kinds of extensions, that can add many kinds of functionality to your default CMS Made Simple install. They are called tags, user defined tags, and modules.

- **Tags**
- **User defined tags**
- **Modules**

CMSMS – Extensions Tags

- Tags are the simplest form of extensions. They are designed to accomplish just one small and specific task.
- There are a number of custom tags available with CMS Made Simple. To find what kind of tags are available look in Extensions » Tags in the Admin Panel.
- To insert any of these in a template or a page, simply type e.g. {content}. Many of these Smarty tags are used as placeholders in a template, i.e. placeholders for content, navigation, breadcrumbs etc.
- Website developers who have a bit of PHP experience will find it easy to create and share their own custom tags.

CMSMS Extensions

User Defined Tags

- Users can also create their own tags to insert in templates or pages., these are called user defined tags. They are snippets of php code (but without the `<?php` and `?>` surrounding them), providing the ability to add re-usable pieces of php functionality to your site. User defined tags are inserted in templates and pages just like tags: `{tagname}`.
- Typically, user defined tags provide a utility that is special to a website, and likely won't need to be re-used on another site. Also they are typically small and used for simple tasks.

CMSMS Extensions Modules

- Modules are the highest level of plugin in the CMS Made Simple environment. They are designed to allow developers to implement complex tasks within CMSMS. A module typically provides advanced functionality, usually interacts with the database in complex ways, and may provide numerous reports or forms on the website. Additionally, a module may have an administrative interface to allow manipulating its data and its settings.
- An extremely well defined API (*Application Programming Interface*) has been written to allow module developers to write complex, intricate, and fully functioning applications for use within a CMSMS powered website.
- There are [a few modules included](#) with the default installation of CMS Made Simple. Other popular modules are Frontend Users, Album, Calendar, Guestbook and Form Builder.
- The ModuleManager module (included with CMS Made Simple) allows browsing a list of available modules, reading about them, and then installing them on your website.
- To insert modules in a template or a page, you actually use the module name as a parameter to the {cms_module} tag. It looks like this: {cms_module module='modulename' parameter1='this' parameter2=5 parameter3='that'}. It is normal for modules to accept parameters to effect changes to their default behavior, though it is not always required.

CMSMS - Workflow

- These are the basic steps when creating a website with CMS Made Simple:
- *Plan* -- Determine what pages you want (structure) and how you want these pages to look (design).
- *Create Templates* -- Create one or several template(s) that determine the layout of your pages.
- *Style the Templates* -- Attach one or more stylesheets to each template and style the layout and content with CSS.
- *Create Pages* -- Then you create pages, add content to them and select what template to use for each page.
- When a user navigates to your site the page is created from the template, adding the content where the placeholder(s) are in the template.

CMSMS – User Role

- Administrator
 - Define access right to the module
 - Add new modules/tags
- Designer
 - Define template
 - Define CSS
- Editor
 - Define Multimedia Content