

# Upgrading core with the Update Manager

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# Drupal sucks because you can't upgrade core automatically

- In D7, we converted “Update status” into the “Update manager” – it can install new modules and themes, and automatically update all contrib code on the site.

<http://3281d.com/2009/11/03/d7-update-manager>

- It's not possible to update core this way:

<http://drupal.org/node/606592>

- Less likely that sites will upgrade to newer core releases that include security updates

# Technical + Resource problems

- The layout of core files doesn't make this easy to do cleanly
- There's no backup/restore functionality of either DB or code
- We still have to bootstrap parts of Drupal to run the Update manager, and upgrading those in a way that won't crash in case of trouble is tricky
- Not enough people working on this in time

# Proposed solutions:

- Re-organize the Drupal core directory and file structure with an eye towards both making it easier to swap out core and to be more developer friendly to find things:  
<http://drupal.org/node/22336>
- Add a DB backup + restore feature to core
- Add a code backup + restore feature?  
Might not be needed if we can non-destructively swap out core more easily

# Proposed solutions cont'd:

- Add a (digitally signed?) manifest of all files included in each core release:
  - We can detect locally hacked files
  - We can detect when files are removed from core between releases
- Add a way to detect schema updates without actually loading + evaluating all the .install files themselves
- Get more people + resources behind this