Exponential Community

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Exponential is made by its community. The **Exponential Community** is everyone who uses, contributes to, promotes and develops software using Exponential worldwide: site owners and editors, developers and designers, agencies and hosting partners, trainers and students, and the two organizations that hold the project together, the **Exponential Foundation** and **7x**.

This book is the map. It says where the community meets, where to get help and how to ask for it, how to contribute code, translations and documentation, how the project releases and decides, and which public websites belong to the project. Every channel and site named here was checked to exist when this page was written (November 2026). Each section links to the detailed help pages instead of repeating them.

Contents

1. Where to start
2. Who the community is
3. The community websites
4. Where to talk and get help
5. Reporting a bug well
6. Reporting a security problem
7. Contributing code
8. Translations
9. Documentation
10. Extensions, designs and packages
11. Your role in the community
12. Releases, the roadmap and decisions
13. Recognition and copyright
14. Supporting the project
15. Exponential elsewhere on the internet
16. Questions

1. Where to start

You want to	Start here
Ask a question	The Share Exponential forums, or a chat (section 4)
Read the documentation	This help center, or https://doc.exponential.earth
Try Exponential	The public demo at https://demo.exponential.earth

You want to	Start here
Report a bug	The issue tracker, after reading section 5
Report a vulnerability	security@se7enx.com, never a public issue (section 6)
Contribute code	CONTRIBUTING.md and section 7
Find an extension	Exponential Projects and the package server
Find your way as a member	Community: start here

2. Who the community is

Exponential Community members use, contribute to, promote and develop software using Exponential worldwide. You belong as soon as you do one of the four; you do not need to do all of them (What the community is).

Two organizations hold the project together (COPYRIGHT.md):

- **The Exponential Foundation** (https://foundation.exponential.earth), the nonprofit that operates the project for its users and community, and the steward of the software's rights, license and history.
- **7x** (https://se7enx.com), known as Brookins Consulting before 2022, the company that leads the development, maintains the code, reviews and merges the contributions and supports customers.

Around them are the contributors, the partners and agencies that build sites with Exponential, the hosting companies, the trainers, and the users. How they relate is described in Partners, community and ecosystem.

The code itself is much older than the name. It began as eZ publish, written by eZ Systems AS from 1999; that product was discontinued, and its legacy kernel was continued and renamed Exponential. The whole story is in the History of Exponential.

3. The community websites

These are the public websites of the project, run by the Exponential Foundation and 7x. Each was checked over HTTPS; "Runs on" names the software only where the site itself says so (its generator tag or `X-Powered-By` header).

The project

Site	Address	What it is	Runs on	Language
Exponential	https://exponential.earth	The project's main website: the software, downloads, news, the about and community pages	Exponential	English
Share Exponential	https://share.exponential.earth	The community site: forums (https://forums.exponential.earth), blogs (https://planet.exponential.earth), articles, the roadmaps	Exponential	English

Site	Address	What it is	Runs on	Language
Exponential Projects	https://projects.exponential.earth	The project forge: extensions, designs and other projects, with news, downloads and source links	Exponential	English
eZpedia	https://ezpedia.exponential.earth	The community wiki, "the documentation encyclopedia"	The legacy kernel (its header still reports eZ Publish)	English
Exponential Foundation	https://foundation.exponential.earth (also https://exponentialfoundation.earth)	The nonprofit's website	Exponential	English
Exponential Support	https://support.exponential.earth	The official support network	Exponential	English
Exponential Search	https://search.exponential.earth	Search across the Exponential family of sites	Exponential	English
Project status	https://status.exponential.earth	Whether the project's services are up	Exponential	English

Documentation

Site	Address	What it is	Runs on	Language
Exponential documentation	https://doc.exponential.earth (served at https://exponential.doc.exponential.earth)	The official documentation of Exponential 6	Static pages built by Exponential	English
Core documentation	https://doc.core.exponential.earth	The core documentation of Exponential	Static pages built by Exponential	English
SDK documentation	https://doc.sdk.exponential.earth	The Exponential SDK: developer documentation, manual and API reference	Static pages built by Exponential	English
Platform documentation	https://platform.doc.exponential.earth	Documentation for the Platform distributions, built from the upstream Ibexa documentation	MkDocs	English

Distributions, packages and downloads

Site	Address	What it is	Runs on	Language
Exponential Platform	https://platform.exponential.earth	The website of the Platform distributions (Distributions of Exponential)	Exponential	English
Exponential Basic	https://basic.exponential.earth	The website of Exponential Basic	Exponential	English

Site	Address	What it is	Runs on	Language
Extension packages	https://packages.exponential.earth	The package server: extension and site packages for the setup wizard	Exponential	English
Package directory	https://exponential.packages.exponential.earth	A plain file index of the packages	Static file index	-
Download mirror	https://mirror.exponential.se7enx.com	A plain file index of older downloads and books	Static file index	-

Demos

Site	Address	What it is	Runs on	Language
Exponential demo	https://demo.exponential.earth (administration: https://edit.demo.exponential.earth)	The public demo of the latest Exponential 6 ("Fit & Healthy"), reset regularly; the sign-in details are on the community page	Exponential	English
Latest demo	https://latest.demo.exponential.earth	The same demo, rebuilt from the newest code	Exponential	English
7x demo	https://demo.se7enx.com	The same demo on 7x's domain	Exponential	English
MongoDB demo	https://mongodb.demo.exponential.earth	Exponential running on the MongoDB database driver	Exponential	English
CJW demo	https://site.cjw.demo.exponential.earth	A demo with Exponential Layouts, by the partner JAC Systeme	Exponential	German

7x

Site	Address	What it is	Runs on	Language
7x	https://se7enx.com	The company: hosting, design, development and support	Exponential	English
7x Software	https://software.se7enx.com	7x's software downloads for Exponential	Exponential	English
Sponsor	https://sponsor.se7enx.com	Sponsoring the development of Exponential	Exponential	English
7x Blog	https://blog.se7enx.com	7x's blog, "The Continuum"	Exponential	English
The Exponential Blog	https://graham.se7enx.com	The blog of Exponential's lead developer about maintaining Exponential	Exponential	English
7x status	https://status.se7enx.com	7x's network status	Exponential	English

Some of these sites answer at further addresses as well (for example the older `*.ezpublish.one` names lead to the same sites); the addresses above are the ones to use. Short links such as https://issues.exponential.earth and https://github.exponential.earth lead to GitHub.

4. Where to talk and get help

All of these are free. Community channels describes each one in detail, and Getting support says which to try first. The guide Getting Support also shows how to ask the communities of PHP, the database and the web server, and when to hire 7x.

Channel	What it is for	Address
Share Exponential forums	Questions, answers and discussions that others should find later	https://share.exponential.earth/forums
Telegram	Real-time chat; members of the development team are there	https://t.me/exponentialcms
Discord	Community chat, development talk, feedback	https://discord.gg/zXzGMgfzej
Slack	Chat, especially about development	https://exponentialcms.slack.com/
GitHub issues	Errors and feature requests for the software	https://github.com/se7enxweb/exponential/issues
GitHub discussions	Open questions about the kernel, and about the project	https://github.com/se7enxweb/exponential/discussions, https://github.com/se7enxweb/exponential-community/discussions
Project issues	The websites, the content, the community: everything that is not an error in software	https://github.com/se7enxweb/exponential-community/issues

For a question that needs a long answer, prefer the forums: a chat scrolls away, a forum thread stays searchable. Nobody promises an answer time in the free channels; paid support from 7x exists for when you cannot wait (Getting support).

How to ask so you get an answer: Asking a good question.

5. Reporting a bug well

1. **Check that it is a bug.** Search the issue tracker and the forums first. Some behavior is deliberate, and other installations depend on it (CONTRIBUTING.md calls this a *negative feature*; see Getting support: negative features).
2. **Use the right tracker.** Software errors go to se7enxweb/exponential (or to the repository of the extension); problems with the websites or the community go to exponential-community.
3. **Say what you run**: the Exponential version (`./console --version`), the PHP version, the database, and the engine that serves the site (Velocity, Apache or nginx with PHP-FPM).
4. **Give the steps**: what you did, what you expected, what happened instead, and the error reference shown on the error page (Finding an error by its reference).
5. **Leave out** passwords, secrets and personal data.

Filing a bug has a template and examples.

6. Reporting a security problem

Never report a vulnerability in a public issue, discussion, forum or chat. Send it privately to **security@se7enx.com**, as the Security Policy says: with the version, the PHP version, the engine and database, what an attacker can do and how to reproduce it. You can expect a first answer within one business day. An accepted issue is fixed on `main` and released with the next 6.0.x version.

7. Contributing code

The rules are in CONTRIBUTING.md; in short:

- **Fork, branch, pull request.** One focused change per pull request, with tests that fail without it.
- **Commit messages** start with what the change does: `Added:`, `Updated:`, `Fixed:`, `Removed:` or `Renamed:`. The `commit-msg` hook (`make hooks`) and CI check it (the quality checks).
- **Coding standards**: PSR and the project's coding standards; new kernel code uses the `exp` prefix; administration templates follow Styling the administration.
- **Keep the manifest current** (`make manifest-fix`) and run the tests before you push.
- **The CLA.** A contribution to the core kernel is merged once its author's signed Contributor Licensing Agreement is on file; you sign once. Your own extensions and sites are not affected (CONTRIBUTING.md, Copyright assignment, The CLA explained).
- **Review.** Expect several review rounds, and squash and rebase your pull request onto `main` while it is open. The maintainers merge the contributions they receive: a pull request is reviewed, extended where it needs more (tests, documentation, the other designs), and merged; it is not turned away.

Your first contribution, step by step: Your first contribution and Contributing code.

8. Translations

The administration is translated into **156 languages** (see Languages for how complete each one is), and the help center is written in English with a complete German translation. Ways to help:

- improve the interface translation of your language (`share/translations/<locale>/translation.ts`);
- review machine-assisted translations and fix what reads wrong;
- translate help pages: they are free documentation under the GNU FDL (Free documentation).

Contributing translations explains where the files live and how to work with other speakers of your language.

9. Documentation

The help center is built from Markdown files in the repository (`doc/eng-us/`, `doc/ger-de/`), so documentation is contributed like code: a pull request. Contributing documentation and help pages explains the conventions.

If you write an extension, document it where the help center finds it: `README.md` and `INSTALL.md` at the top of `extension/<name>/`, every other page as Markdown (`.md`) in `extension/<name>/doc/`, in English (Documenting an extension).

10. Extensions, designs and packages

- **Share what you build.** An extension you publish yourself is yours, under the GPL; giving it back makes it usable by everyone (Giving extensions back, Sharing extensions and themes).
- **Where extensions live**: in their own GitHub repositories, installed with Composer from Packagist, listed on Exponential Projects.
- **Packages for the setup wizard** come from the package server; their sources are the `-ezpackage` repositories of the se7enxweb organization (Distributions of Exponential).
- **Design and accessibility**: Designers: start here.

11. Your role in the community

The help center has a start page for many roles. A few of them:

You are	Start here
A community member	Community: start here
An editor or site owner	Getting started, Editing content
A PHP developer	PHP developers: start here
An integrator	Integrators: start here, Integrating With Exponential 6.0
A designer	Designers: start here
An agency or partner	Partners: start here
A hosting company	Hosting companies: start here
A trainer	Trainers: start here
A student	Students: start here
A supporter	Supporters: start here
An advocate	Advocates: start here
A sponsor	Sponsors: start here

Helping others is a contribution too: answering questions, mentoring, welcoming newcomers (Helping others).

12. Releases, the roadmap and decisions

- **Releases.** Exponential 6.0 is the maintained line; fixes are made on `main` and published with the next 6.0.x release. **A published tag is never changed**: a fix reaches you as the next release (Security Policy, Updating Exponential 6.0). What changed in each release is in the changelogs under `doc/changelogs/` and in the branch history.
- **The roadmap** lives on Share Exponential: the official roadmap at https://share.exponential.earth/roadmap and the community roadmap of feature requests at https://share.exponential.earth/community-roadmap (The roadmap).

- **Decisions.** 7x leads the development and reviews and merges the contributions; the Exponential Foundation operates the project and decides on Code of Conduct matters (COPYRIGHT.md, CONTRIBUTING.md). How the community takes part: How it works.

13. Recognition and copyright

- **Credit** goes to contributors in the changelogs, in the commit authorship, and on the recognition pages.
- **Copyright.** The copyright of Exponential is held by the Exponential Foundation and 7x together, and the notice of the original developer, eZ Systems AS, stays in every file that contains its code (COPYRIGHT.md, Copyright and copyleft). Credit is not a copyright claim.
- **The license** is the GNU GPL, version 2 or later; the documentation is free under the GNU FDL (README-LICENSE).

14. Supporting the project

You can support the project without writing code: become a partner, donate, take a sustaining support subscription, or sponsor new development (Give and donate, https://sponsor.se7enx.com). Telling others about Exponential counts as well (Advocates: start here).

15. Exponential elsewhere on the internet

Social media

These accounts are the ones the footers and community pages of exponential.earth, se7enx.com, Share Exponential, Exponential Projects and the documentation link to, and the GitHub profile of the se7enxweb organization names. Follow them for news; ask questions in the channels of section 4.

Platform	Exponential	7x
LinkedIn	Exponential group	7x company page
X	@ExponentialCMS	@se7enxweb
Bluesky	exponentialcms.bsky.social	7xweb.bsky.social
Instagram	exponentialcms, exponentialfoundation	se7enxweb
YouTube	ExponentialCMSInsights	7xwebsitehosting
Facebook		7x
Mastodon		@7x@mastodon.cloud
GitLab		se7enx
GitHub	se7enxweb/exponential	se7enxweb
Chat	Telegram, Discord, Slack	

Sites by 7x that feature Exponential

7x also runs public sites of its own that are built with the legacy kernel or Exponential and write about it in their content. They are not part of the project's documentation or support, but they are places where Exponential appears in public.

Site	Address	What it is, and how it features Exponential
SlashNews	https://slashnews.earth	A news and networking site for tech professionals by 7x; it has an "Exponential" topic with posts about Exponential releases, and it runs on Exponential
Hacker News Delta	https://hackernewsdelta.com	A social news site for tech professionals; its footer says it is powered by Exponential and hosted by 7x
Digg One	https://digg.one	A social news site for everyone; it has an `ezpublish` category, and runs on the legacy kernel (its header reports eZ Publish)
kracker.org	https://kracker.org	A personal hub of activity and projects; its menu has a "Try Exponential!" section with "What was eZ Publish?" and links to Share Exponential and the project. The multi-site view count statistics of Exponential 6.0.15 came from work on this site

16. Questions

Question	Answer
Do I have to sign something to ask a question or report a bug?	No. The CLA concerns code you submit to the kernel (section 7).
Where do I ask in my own language?	The forums and chats are in English; local groups are described in Local groups.
Is there a code of conduct?	Yes: the Contributor Covenant 2.1 with Exponential additions (CODE_OF_CONDUCT.md). Report a problem to community@se7enx.com.
A community site does not answer.	Look at https://status.exponential.earth first.
Can I run a site for my user group?	Yes: A free site for your user group.
Where are the community's own questions answered?	Community FAQ.

Related pages

- History of Exponential (1999 - 2026)
- Distributions of Exponential
- Exponential Competition: how Exponential compares with the other ways to run a website
- Community channels
- Getting support
- Getting Support: from helping yourself to the PHP ecosystem, the Foundation and 7x
- Contribute to the project
- CONTRIBUTING.md, CODE_OF_CONDUCT.md, SECURITY.md

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