madcap software

LIVE WEBINAR

The Framework of MadCap Flare: Understanding The Key Principles Behind How Flare Works

PRESENTED BY:

Daniel Ferguson, Certified Flare Instructor, Owner
SmartOutput

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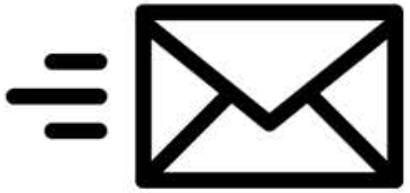
LIVE WEBINAR

BEFORE WE GET STARTED...



The webinar will be recorded and emailed to all registrants

Use the Question Panel in GoToWebinar to ask questions throughout the webinar

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Glossaries

Relationship Tables

Snippets

TOCs

asterPages

Publish

Skins

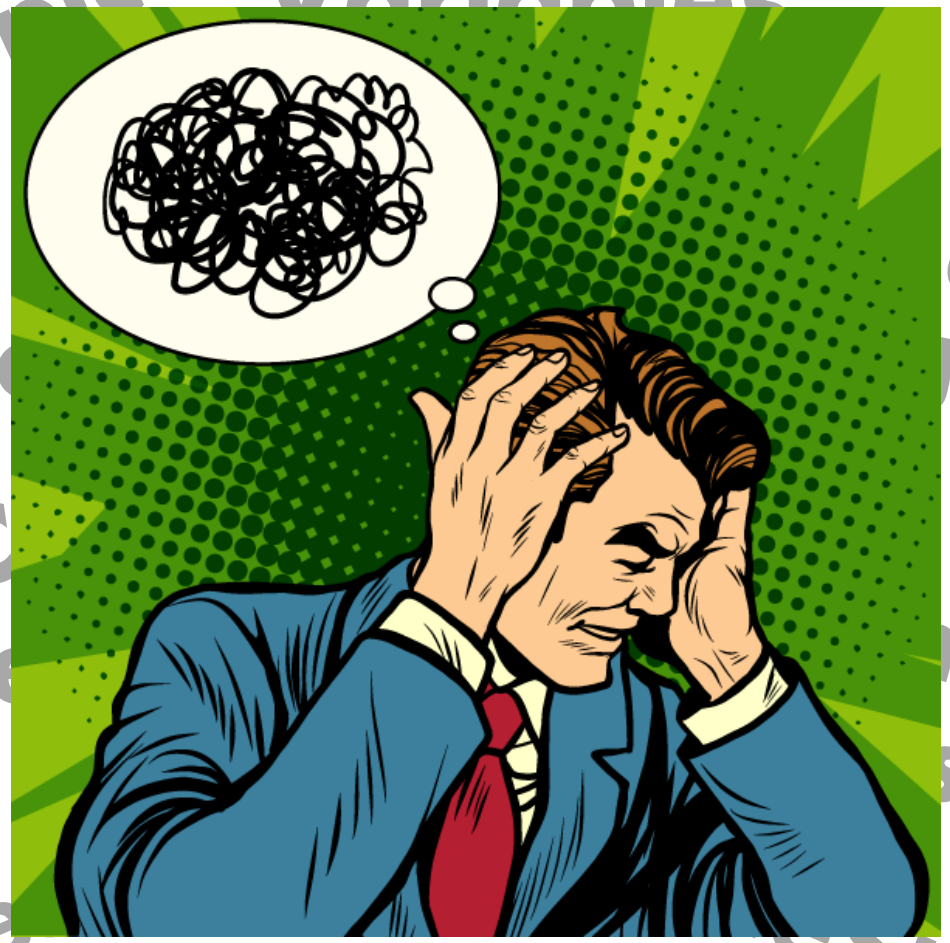
Xrefs

TopNav

Proxies

Build

Destinations

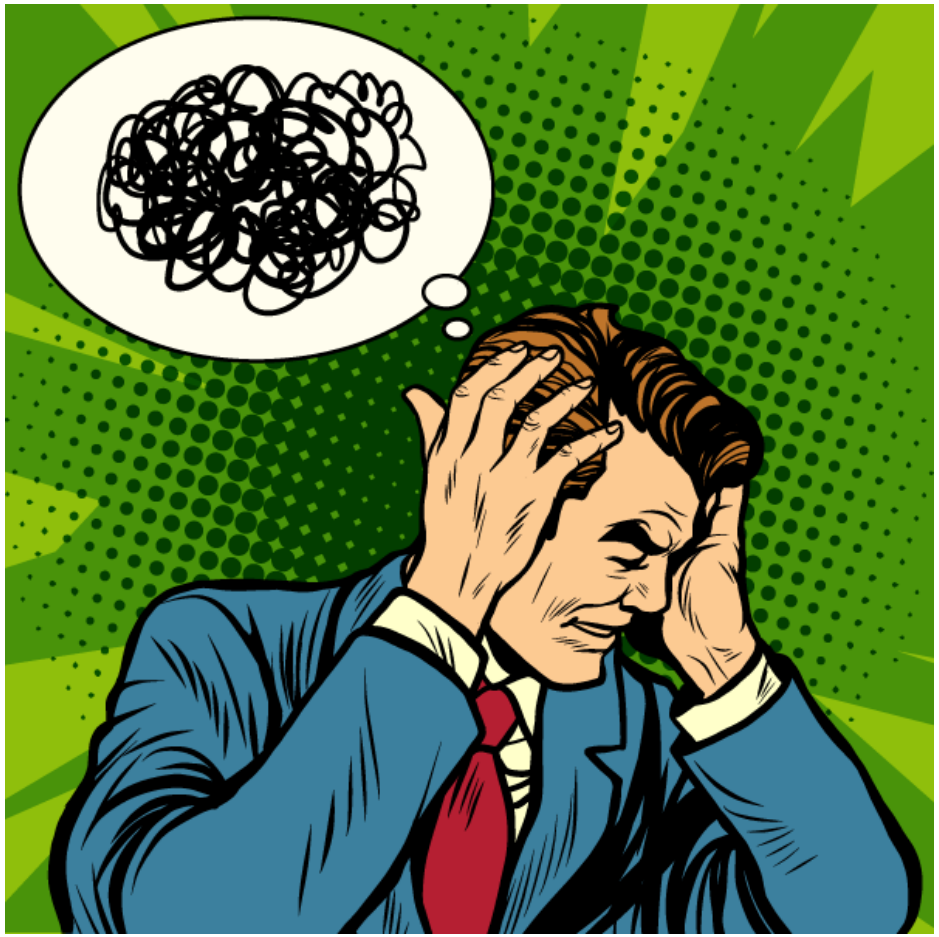


Biggest Challenge

Understanding how all of the pieces fit together

Goal

Start you down the road from confused to **empowered**



Objectives

- Understand why Flare is designed the way it is
- Start to build an understanding of how its main pieces fit together relate to one another
- Demonstrate key aspects of the Flare interface

Why?

The same architecture that makes Flare confusing is what gives it its power

"Three T's"

Topics

Contain your content

Located in **Content Explorer**

TOCs

Provide organization and structure to your topics

Located in **TOCs** folder in **Project Organizer**

Targets

Compiles ("builds") your TOC into usable output, such as PDF or HTML.

Located in **Targets** folder in **Project Organizer**

Demo

1. Create a new Flare project using the **Top Navigation and PDF Basic 2** template

2. Look at the relationship between Topics, TOCs, and Targets in the Flare interface

3. Build a target and view output

Flare Mindset

	Purpose	Flare filetypes
Author	Create and structure your content	Topics, Snippets, Images, TOCs
Style	Decide what you want your content to look like	Stylesheet, TableStyles, Skin (HTML5 output)
Build	Compile usable output from Flare source files	Target MasterPage (HTML5), PageLayout (PDF)
Publish	Put the output where people can access it	Target, Destination

Stylesheets

Stylesheets determine the look of your content

Everything that affects how your content looks should be in the stylesheet.

Found in **Content Explorer/Resources/Stylesheets** folder

Demo

1. Open a topic and stylesheet side-by-side to see how they relate.

2. Edit a style.

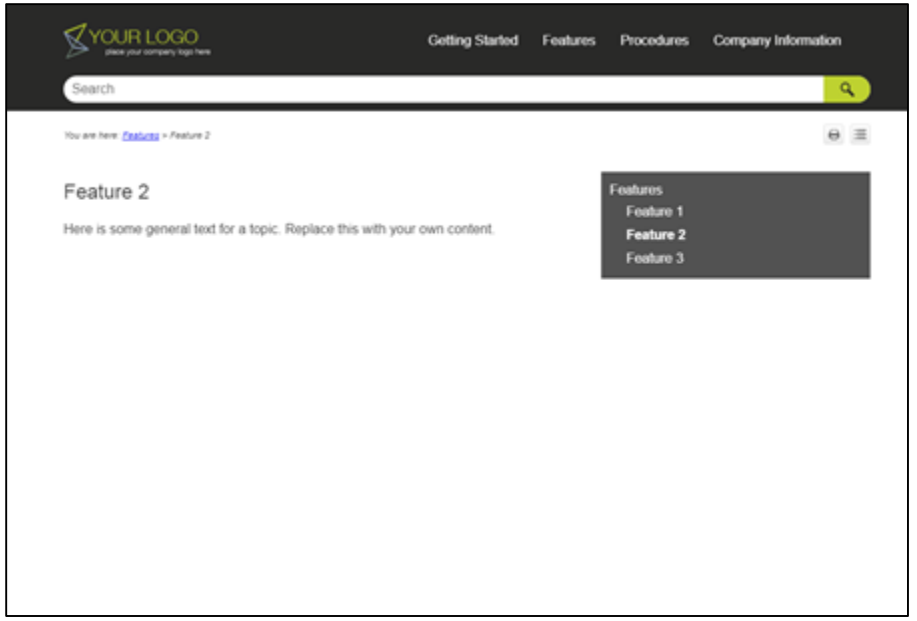
3. Create and apply a style class.

4. Create a TableStyle

HTML TopNav

Topic

TOC



Skin

MasterPage (Proxies)

Skin

Defines the look and feel for your final online output

For TopNav, two types of skin files:

- **TopNav skin**: Settings for header banner, top nav menu, search bar

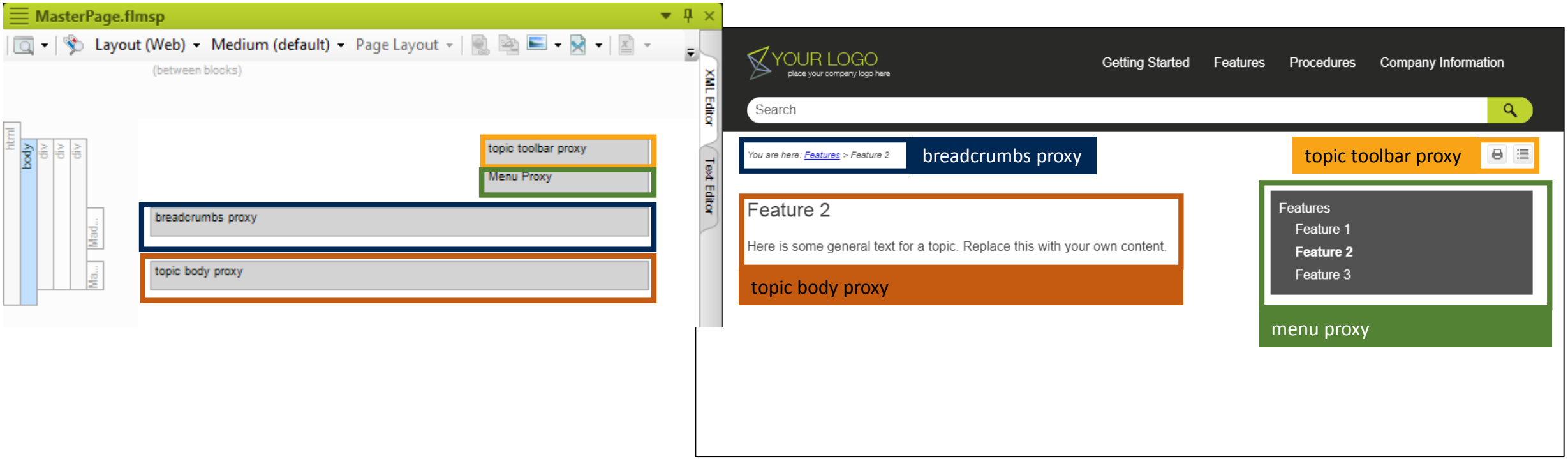
- **Component skins** (most common):
  - Favicon: image for browser tab, address bar, bookmark, Windows tiles
  - Menu: Styles for the side navigation (menu proxy)

- Found in **Project Organizer** / **Skins** folder

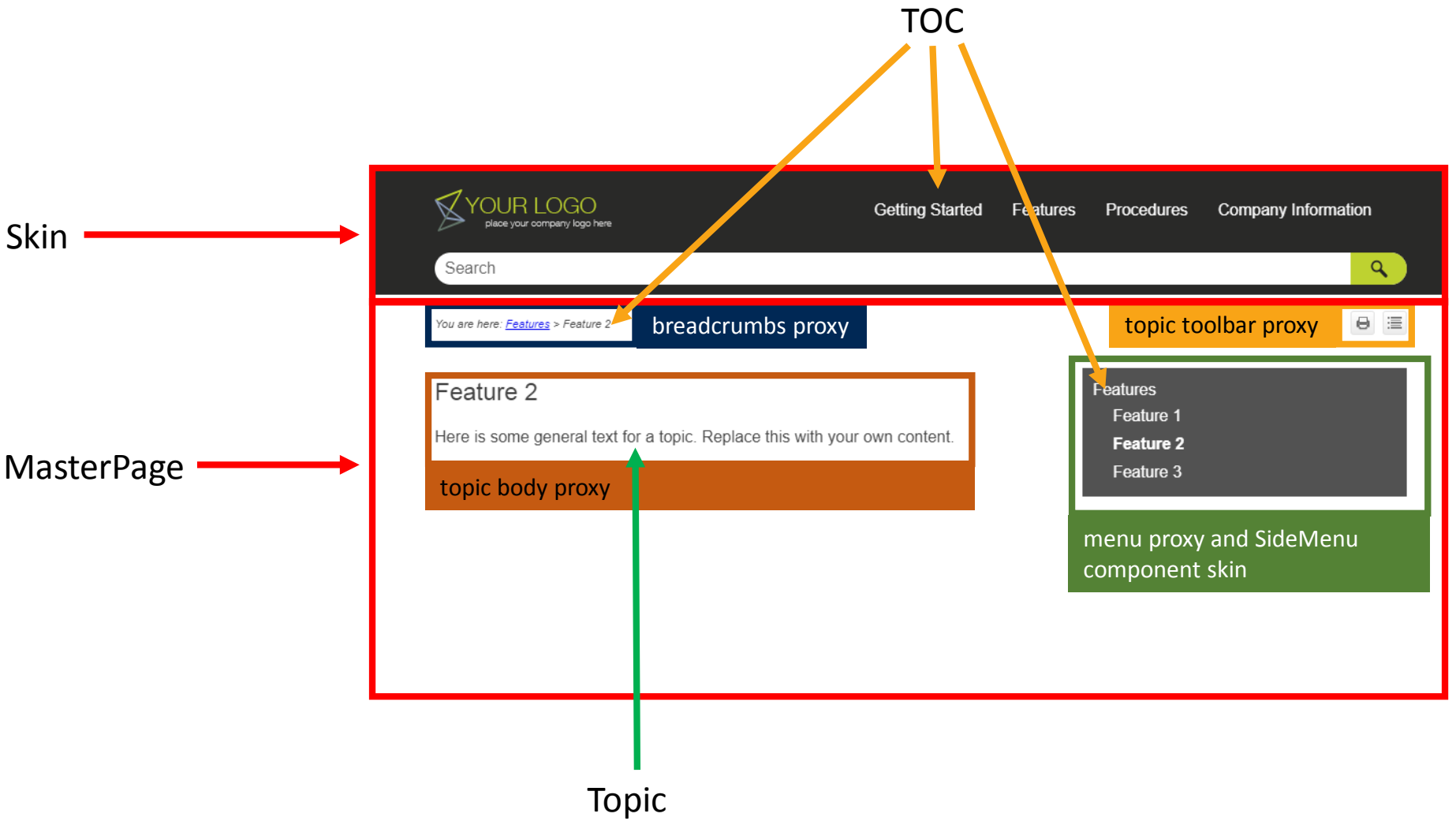
MasterPage

Applies certain content to multiple (or all) topics. Like a template for online output

Found in **Content Exporer/Resources/MasterPages**



In depth look at MasterPages
https://www.madcapsoftware.com/webinars/master-pages-page-layouts-where-do-i-start/


TOC
Skin
MasterPage
YOUR LOGO
place your company logo here
Getting Started
Features
Procedures
Company Information
Search
You are here: Features > Feature 2
breadcrumbs proxy
topic toolbar proxy
Feature 2
Here is some general text for a topic. Replace this with your own content.
topic body proxy
Features
Feature 1
Feature 2
Feature 3
menu proxy and SideMenu component skin
Topic

Demo

1. Look at how this all comes together in the target file

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Questions

Let’s connect!

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