

URSUS Content Management System (CMS) - Working with Inheritance

In this tutorial, we explore the concept of parent (Site Settings) and child (Content Page) settings and overriding methods. We will look at the following topics:

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SITE SETTINGS

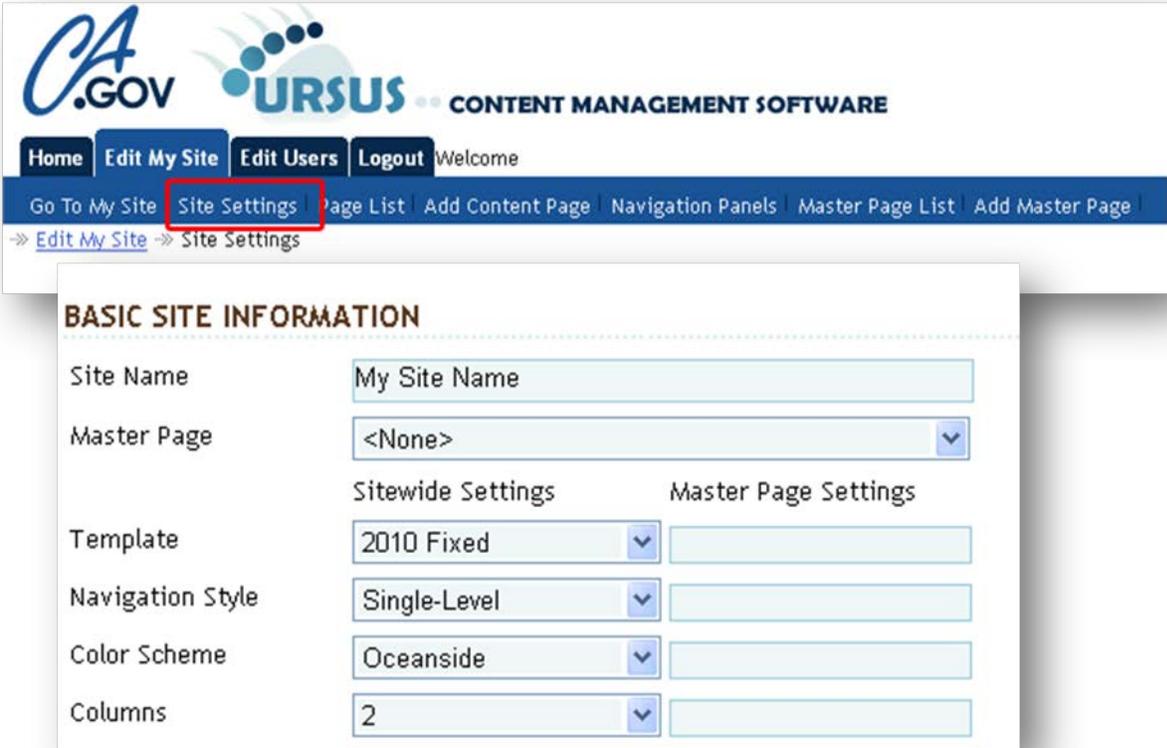
The site inheritance feature provides the ability to create hierarchical structures of your site’s content and assets. These parent assets can then be used to create a master repository of content and intelligently distribute this content among child pages.

Based on best practices, a persistent navigation should be used throughout the site. In this example, the parent site settings applied globally to your website should remain the same in exception where various column layouts are modified within the child content page settings.

Below are screens of this workflow process.

Basic Site Information

This “parent” screen indicates the Sitewide Settings applied.



Adding a new child content page - How one can inherit from another

When you add a new page, it inherits all the assets of the parent. The child can then include additional properties, thereby extending the functionality of the parent. Below are examples:

BASIC SITE INFORMATION

Site Name	My Site Name
Master Page	<None>
Sitewide	Master Page Settings
Template	2010 Fixed
Navigation Style	Single-Level
Color Scheme	Oceanside
Columns	2




ADD NEW CHILD PAGE Inherits Sitewide Settings

CONTENT PAGE DETAILS

File Name	newchildpage1 .htm	
Page Name	New Child Page 1	
Master Page	<Inherit>	
Template	<Inherit>	2010 Fixed
Navigation Style	<Inherit>	Single-Level
Color Scheme	<Inherit>	Oceanside
Columns	<Inherit>	2

ADD NEW CHILD PAGE Columns and Navigation Style Override

CONTENT PAGE DETAILS

File Name	newchildpage2 .htm	
Page Name	New Child Page 2	
Master Page	<Inherit>	
Template	<Inherit>	2010 Fixed
Navigation Style	Mininav	Single-Level
Color Scheme	<Inherit>	Oceanside
Columns	1	2

Information: You can create as many child pages as you like from a parent, and each child can add its own properties.

CREATING A SITEWIDE LAYOUT USING MASTER PAGES

This tutorial will show master page basics.

- Understanding how master pages work
- How to create a master page
- How to create a child page that uses a master page
- How modifying the master page is automatically reflected in its associated content pages, and so on.

One attribute of a well-designed website is a consistent sitewide page layout. Take the <http://www.ca.gov> website, for example. Every page has the same content at the top and bottom of the page. As the screen below shows, the very top of each page displays the top tab navigation with a list of links. Beneath that is the CA.gov logo, a persistent navigation, and the bottom of the page includes information about Copyright, Privacy and Accessibility, as well as additional links.

Header



Footer

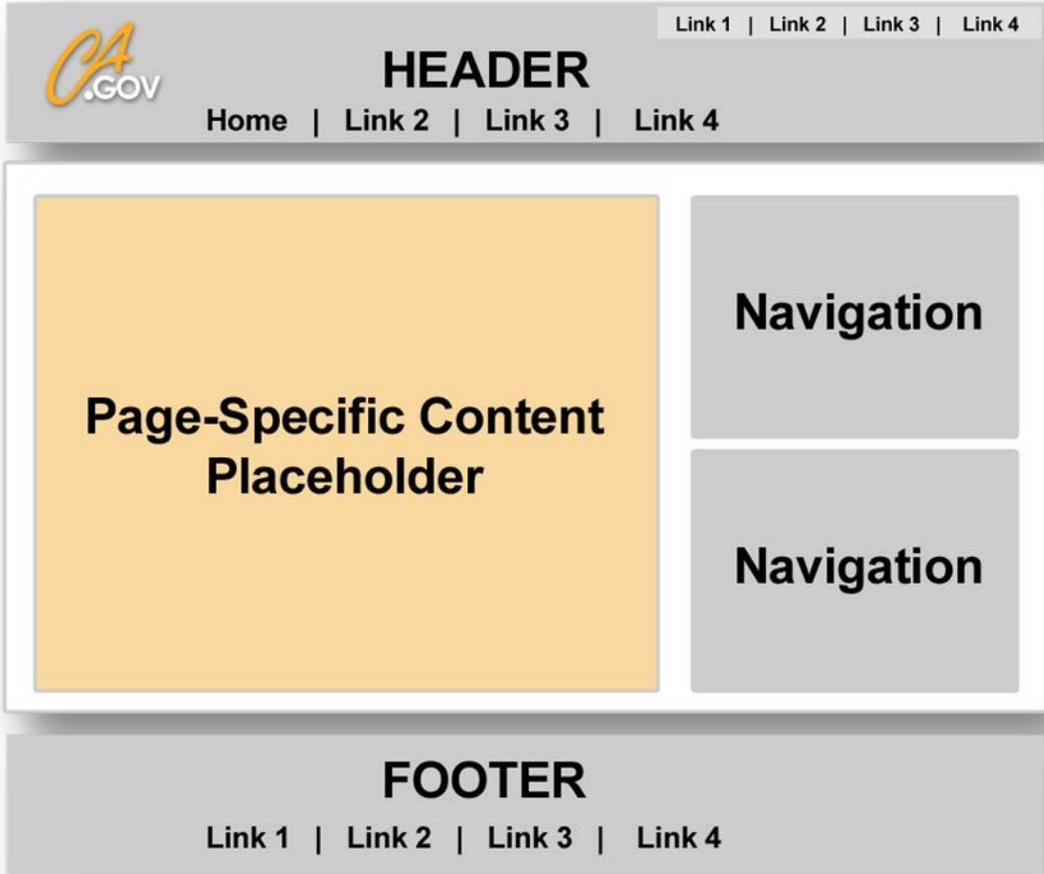


UNDERSTANDING HOW MASTER PAGES WORK

Building a website with a consistent sitewide page layout requires that each web page created has common formatting in addition to its custom content. For example, while each web page posted on www.ca.gov has their own unique content, each of these pages also renders a series of common elements that display the persistent navigation links - Welcome, Education, Work, Health & Safety, Home & Family, and Visit & Play and bottom footer links.

There are a variety of techniques for creating web pages with a consistent look and feel. For example, every time a new page is created, you must remember to copy and paste the shared content into the page. Such copying and pasting processes are prone for error, as you may accidentally not copy all of the shared assets into the new page. Additionally, this process makes replacing the existing sitewide appearance too time consuming as every single page in the site must be edited in order to use the new look and feel.

The screen below shows what the master page for www.ca.gov might look like. Note that the master page defines the common sitewide layout - the layout at the top, bottom, and right of every page. In addition, a content placeholder is located in the in the middle-left for each individual web page's unique content.

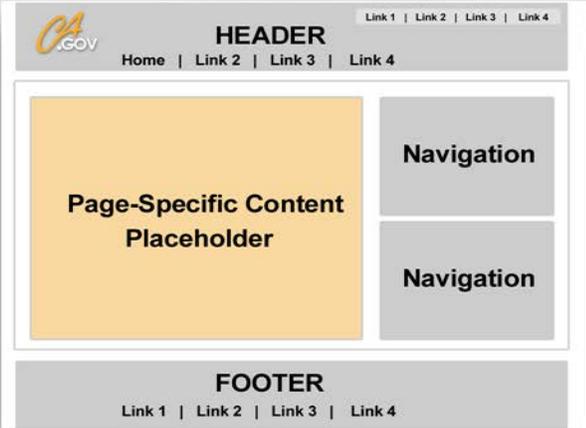


Once a master page has been defined, it can be applied to a newly created child content page through the option of a drop-down menu. These master pages include a content placeholder block to add page-specific information. See below screen.

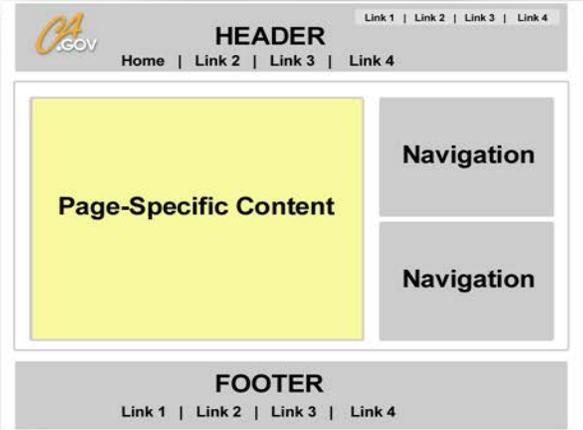
MAIN CONTENT PAGE (CHILD)



MASTER PAGE



FUSED WEB PAGE



Now that we have discussed how master pages work, let's look at creating a master page, and associated content pages

Step 1: Creating a master page

Create a master page to the site (Edit My Site > Add Master Page). The option of overriding the default site settings can be applied if you wish the secondary page follows a different navigation style or column layout. Or, you may also select to "inherit" the default settings applied.



MASTER PAGE DETAILS

Page Name	Master_SecondaryPage	
	Override Settings	Default Settings
Template	<Inherit> →	2010 Fixed
Navigation Style	Mininav	Single-Level
Color Scheme	<Inherit> →	Oceanside
Columns	<Inherit> →	2

Note: This master page for secondary pages serves as a starting point for designing your own master pages. You may wish to create several master pages for each main topic, such as Education, Work, Visit and Play using page specific navigation and/or image.

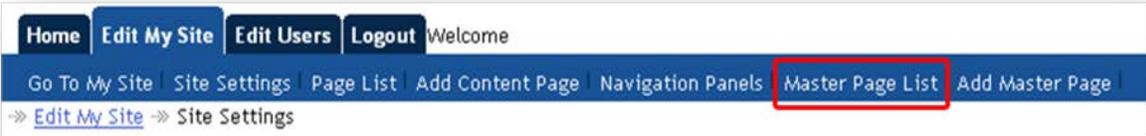
Let's expand the master for secondary pages to create a site layout where all secondary pages share common assets such as header branding, top navigation links, two-column with blue curve, Quick Links navigation and bottom footer links. The screens below show the process for applying the content and navigation blocks to the Master Page and the end result of the master page when one of its content pages is viewed through a browser.

Note: A Master Block Map is provided within URSUS to illustrate where these defined block areas are assigned. In addition, do not select the main content block (Content #2, below) in your master page, as every page will have page specific content for this area. Only select the blocks that will serve as common assets throughout the pages.

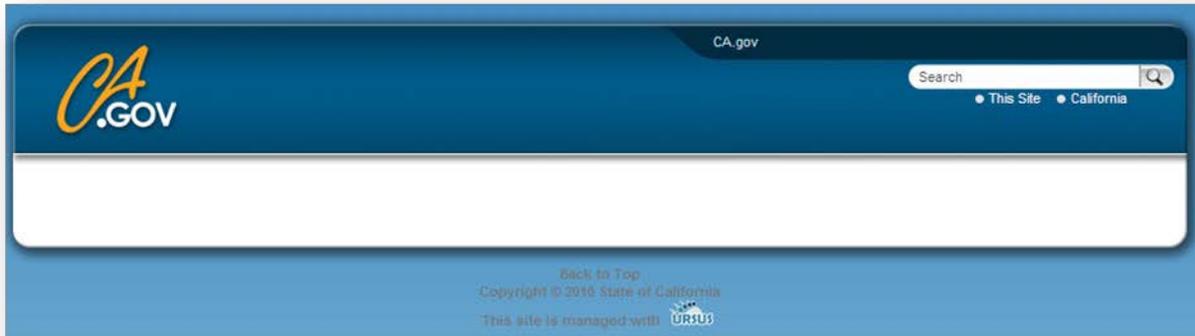
MASTER BLOCKS

Content	Navigation
<p>Select content blocks to be controlled by the master page</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 7</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 8</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 9</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 10</p>	<p>Select navigation blocks to be controlled by the master page</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 7</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 8</p>

Note: Once you have created a Master Page, this will be added to the Master Page List found under Edit My Site > Master Page List.



A blank master page in the 2010 template will look like this below.



Begin by building the master page content and navigation assets as shown below - Add top main navigations, right Quick Links navigation, footer navigation links, and content areas, such as agency branding and blue curve.



Step 2: Creating associated child content pages

With the master page for secondary pages created, we are ready to start creating child pages that are bound to the master secondary page. Such pages are referred to as *content pages*.

Let's add a new content page to the project and bind it to the Master_SecondaryPage.

1. Add New Content Page
2. Apply the Page Details – under the Master Page option, select Master_SecondaryPage from the drop-down list.
3. Click “OK” to save
4. Click “View Your Page” to see the results.

Note: You may override the settings applied to the Master.

Add Content Page

Create a new content page defining the Content Page Details (File Name, Page Name, Master Page, Template, Navigation Style, Color Scheme, and Columns assigned), as well as Content Page Meta Data (Title, Keywords, and Description).

CONTENT PAGE DETAILS		CONTENT PAGE META DATA	
File Name	student .htm	<Title>	Education - Students - State of California
Page Name	Student	Keywords	California, education, students, college planning, financial aid, foreign students, homework
Master Page	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Override Settings Default Settings </div> Master_SecondaryPage	Description	A list of links to education information for students.
Template	<Inherit> 2010 Fixed		
Navigation Style	<Inherit> Single-Level		
Color Scheme	<Inherit> Oceanside		
Columns	<Inherit> 2		

Add content to the main content area, block #2.

The red square region in the screen below is specific to the page. The other assets are defined in the master page and therefore are consistent across all content pages.

The image shows a content management system interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'ADMIN', 'EDIT CONTENT & NAVIGATION', and 'EDIT HEADER & FOOTER'. Below these is a table for editing content blocks:

Ribbon [block #]	
Image	[1]
Left Col [block #]	Right Col [block #]
Main Content [2]	Sov/Blue Curve [5]
Banners [3]	Content-A [6]
	Navigation-A [5]
	Content-B [7]
	Navigation-B [6]
	Content-C [8]
	Navigation-C [7]
	Content-D [10]
	Navigation-D [8]

Below the table is a live preview of the page. The page header includes the 'CA.GOV' logo, 'California Department of Organization Title', and navigation links for 'HOME', 'PAGE 1', and 'PAGE 2'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a section titled 'Education (Header 1 Paragraph Style)' with a sub-section 'Students (Header 2 Paragraph Style)'. This section includes a list of links: College Planning, Financial Aid, Foreign Students (with sub-links for Students Abroad and Study in the U.S.), Fun (with sub-link for KidsComer), myCali, Homework Help, and Specialized Programs. The right column features a 'Quick Links' section with three links. A red square highlights the 'Education' and 'Students' sections in the live preview, corresponding to the 'Main Content' block in the table above.

Step 3: Updating a master page – how updating automatically is reflected in its associated child content pages.

One of the primary benefits of master pages is that a single master page may be used to define the overall layout for numerous content pages on the site. Therefore, updating the site's look and feel requires updating a single file, the master page.

To illustrate this behavior, let's update our master page to include a new navigation identified as Related Agencies below the existing Quick Links navigation.

1. Access the Master Page Details for Master_SecondaryPage – there are several avenues to access this Master, either by the ADMIN PANEL under Master Page Details within the associated child page; or from the URSUS Home navigation under Edit My Site > Master Page List.
2. Under the Master Page Details
 - a. Select the designated navigation block under Master Blocks, in this case navigation block #6.



- b. At the bottom of the page, click on "Apply Changes".

When it is done saving, there will be a prompt towards the top-left of the screen, "Save Successful".

- c. Click "View Page".



3. Add navigation to your master page, in this example Navigation-B, block #6

The red square region in the screen below shows that the associated content page was updated.

The screenshot shows the California Department of Education website. The header includes the CA.GOV logo and navigation links for HOME, PAGE 1, and PAGE 2. The main content area features a section titled "Education (Header 1 Paragraph Style)" with a sub-section "Students (Header 2 Paragraph Style)". This sub-section contains a list of links: College Planning, Financial Aid, Foreign Students (with sub-links for Students Abroad and Study in the U.S.), Fun (with a sub-link for KidsCorner), and myCall. Below this list are sections for "Quick Links" and "Related Agencies". The "Related Agencies" section is highlighted with a red border and contains links to the Department of Education, Office of the Secretary for Education, State Board of Education, and More Education-related Agencies. The footer includes "Back to Top | Privacy Policy | Contact Us", "Copyright © 2010 State of California", and "This site is managed with URSUS".

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Assets	Building blocks of the site such as, navigation, styles, images, etc.
Child	Content page.
Content Blocks	Content area within a master page or content page (i.e., Content-A, Content-B, Right-A, Left-B, Main Content, Governor)
Content Page	A page or child page associated with a Master page. The content page can override content placeholder sections in the Master Page.
Hierarchical	Arrangement of items in which the items are represented as being above, below, or at the same level as one another; an ordered set.
Inheritance, Inherit	To take on or acquire; to receive from a parent or predecessor.
Master Blocks	Content or navigation area within the template layout.
Master Block Map	The image on Master Page Details that is the visual representation of content and navigation block locations.
Master Page	A page that enables you to define a common structure for the site, including headers, footers, style definitions, or navigation, which provides a core set of features and appearance throughout the site. The Master Page can be shared by any of the content pages. The Master Page removes the need to manually duplicate on each content page.
Navigation	A set of links, which acts as a pathway for users to navigate your site easily. There are different sets of navigation such as, main, secondary, top, left, right, footer, etc.
Navigation Blocks	Navigation area within the master or content page. (i.e., Navigation-A, Left-A, Right-C, Main Navigation, etc.)
Parent	Site or Sitewide settings.
Propagate	To produce; to multiply; to take effect.
Repository	Location for storage.
Sitewide Settings	Settings that are propagated to content pages.
Workflow Process	A series of tasks or steps to produce a final outcome.