

# Design systems: how to foster participation

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Design Systems London, November 2018

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**What are design systems**

**A design system is not a  
pattern library, brand  
guidelines or a Sketch file.**

**A system of living principles,  
guides and components used  
by designers and developers to  
build consistent products and  
experiences.**

**A design system is a product.**

**It has users, roadmaps,  
releases, features,  
maintenance, bugs,  
documentation and support.**



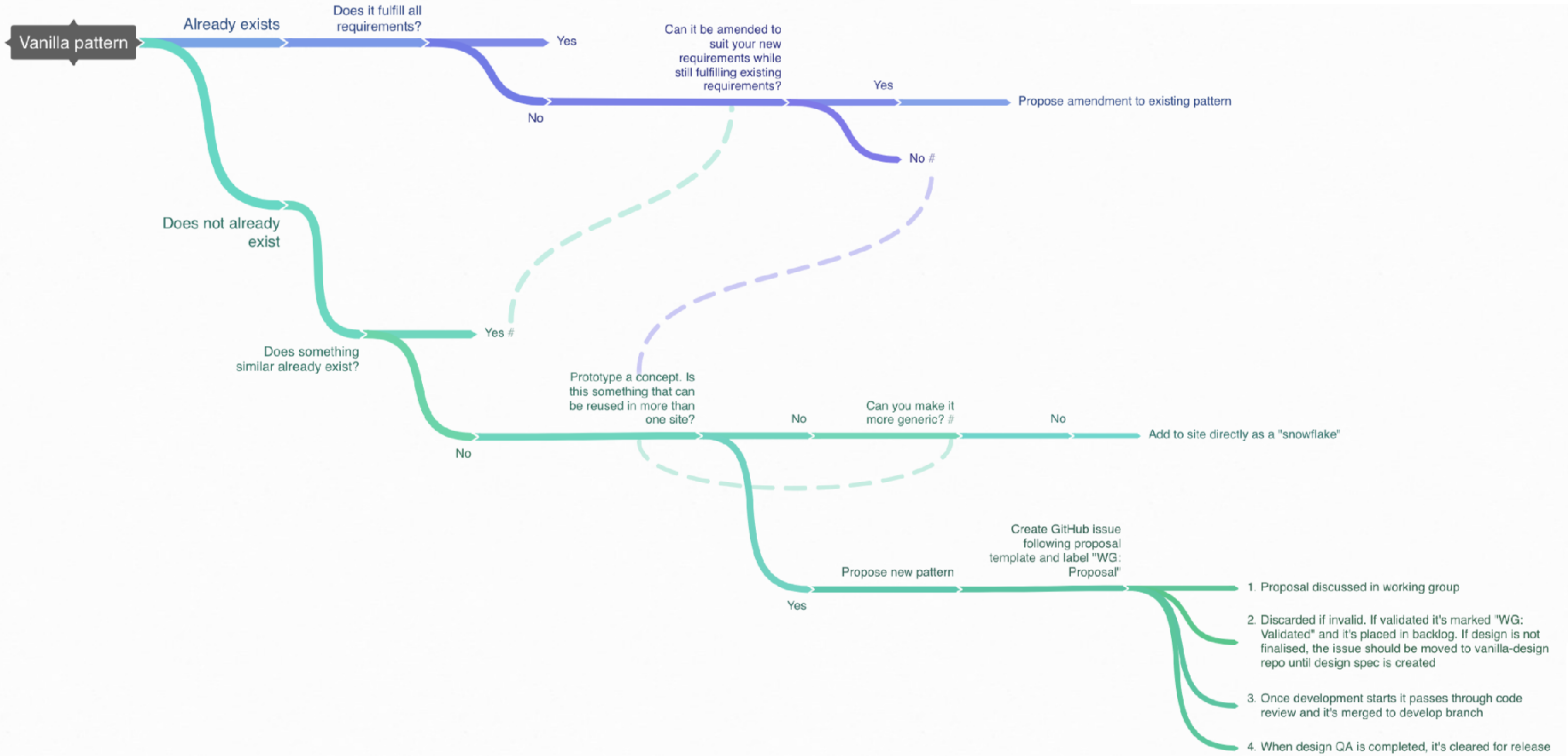


# 5 tips to increase participation

# **1. Lead by example**



## **2. Make processes clear**



Vanilla pattern

Already exists

Does it fulfill all requirements?

Yes

Can it be amended to suit your new requirements while still fulfilling existing requirements?

Yes

Propose amendment to existing pattern

No

No #

Does not already exist

Does something similar already exist?

Yes #

Prototype a concept. Is this something that can be reused in more than one site?

No

Can you make it more generic? #

No

Add to site directly as a "snowflake"

No

Propose new pattern

Yes

Create GitHub issue following proposal template and label "WG: Proposal"

1. Proposal discussed in working group
2. Discarded if invalid. If validated it's marked "WG: Validated" and it's placed in backlog. If design is not finalised, the issue should be moved to vanilla-design repo until design spec is created
3. Once development starts it passes through code review and it's merged to develop branch
4. When design QA is completed, it's cleared for release

# **3. Listen to the quiet ones**



This repository Search

Pull requests Issues Marketplace Explore



vanilla-framework / vanilla-framework

Watch 23

Unstar 145

Fork 27

Code

Issues 28

Pull requests 0

Boards

Reports

Projects 0

Wiki

Insights

Filters

label:"WG: Proposal" is:closed

Labels

Milestones

New issue

Clear current search query, filters, and sorts

0 Open	15 Closed	Author	Labels	Projects	Milestones	Assignee	Sort
	<b>Navigation pattern needs to show current highlighted page and rollover state</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						4
	#1269 by barrymcgee was closed on 15 Aug						
	<b>Include CSS variables into our SCSS variables</b> <b>Type: Enhancement</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						1
	#1242 by richmccartney was closed on 7 Aug						
	<b>[Proposal] Improve re-usability of mixins and patterns.</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						
	#1147 by richmccartney was closed on 10 Jul						
	<b>create a compact pull-quote variation</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						3
	#1108 by pmahnke was closed on 27 Jun						
	<b>Build is-crossed state for list items</b> <b>Priority: Medium</b> <b>Type: Enhancement</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						5
	#1101 by anthonydillon was closed on 26 Jun						
	<b>Review vertical space between Headings and containers</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						3
	#1077 by joanasa89 was closed on 26 Jun						
	<b>[Proposal] Create a "Design" and "Development" label in GitHub</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						7
	#1019 by yaili was closed on 20 Apr						
	<b>Add p-strip--light</b> <b>Type: Question</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						13
	#966 by anthonydillon was closed on 24 Mar						
	<b>Do we need index.md in docs root?</b> <b>Type: Question</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						
	#862 by yaili was closed on 27 Feb						
	<b>Review equal height util across breakpoints</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						1
	#771 by barrymcgee was closed on 27 Mar						
	<b>[Proposal] Utility naming conventions and breakpoints</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						5
	#745 by richmccartney was closed on 20 Mar						
	<b>[Proposal] Minor grid improvements</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						8
	#733 by yaili was closed on 27 Jan						
	<b>[Proposal] Update notifications design based on new designs</b> <b>Status: Blocked</b> <b>Type: Enhancement</b>						1
	<b>WG: Proposal</b> #641 by yaili was closed on 17 Sep 2016						
	<b>[Proposal] Hide blockquote page from docs</b> <b>WG: Proposal</b>						





# Standards for table patterns #1355

New issue

Open nottrobin opened this issue 23 days ago · 1 comment



nottrobin commented 23 days ago Owner + 🗨️

Bartek created a new pattern for snapcraft-flask, `p-table-key-value`, which follows precedent from existing table patterns in Vanilla pretty well. However, I'm not too happy about this precedent:

- there is one actual pattern, `p-table-expanding`, and two modifiers for "p-table" - `p-table--sortable` and `p-table--mobile-card`
- all three patterns actually target `td` and `tr` elements directly

I thought it was policy not to target elements directly. And so these should ideally be targeting e.g. `.p-table-expanding-row` and `.p-table-expanding-cell` instead of `tr` and `td`. I think these patterns may be out-of-date because they were imported from themes with less strict standards, but I just wanted to confirm if my understanding of the ideal implementation is correct or not.

I don't think modifiers based on a `p-table` pattern should exist if the `p-table` pattern does not itself exist. And so e.g. `p-table--sortable` should really be `p-table-sortable`.

This brings up the issue that `p-table-expanding` in fact looks incredibly similar to `p-table--sortable`, even though the former is a pattern rather than a modifier. One could be forgiven for confusing patterns named like this with modifiers.

So I'd also like to suggest that when we create *patterns* with adjectives in the name, we consider using the more natural form of `p-{adjective}-{noun}` rather than `p-{noun}-{adjective}`, to clearly distinguish them from modifiers. Then `p-expanding-table` would be clearly of a different type than `p-table--sortable`. Thoughts?

Standards for table patterns has no dependencies

nottrobin added `Don't merge` `Duplicate` `WG: Proposal` and removed `Don't merge` `Duplicate` labels 23 days ago



anthonydillon commented 12 days ago Owner + 🗨️

Approved in the working group.

Areas of work:

- Audit the table pattern and come up with a naming convention
- Rename deprecate old pattern names
- Consider combining patterns if required

### Pipeline

New issues

### Assignees

No one assigned

### Labels

WG: Validated

### Projects

None yet

### Milestone

No milestone

### Estimate

No estimate yet

### Releases

Not inside a Release

### Epics

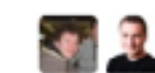
Not inside an Epic

### Notifications

Subscribe

You're not receiving notifications from this thread.

2 participants



Move Issue

**4. Be ready to accept help**

18 labels

Sort ▾

**awaiting-review**

1 open issue or pull request

**bug**

8 open issues and pull requests

**chore**

1 open issue or pull request

**discuss**

1 open issue or pull request

**docs**

3 open issues and pull requests

**duplicate**

**enhancement**

10 open issues and pull requests

**external-dependency**

4 open issues and pull requests

**good first issue**

1 open issue or pull request

**help wanted**

6 open issues and pull requests

**invalid**

**invalid**

# **5. Share work in progress**



Show  
and tells



# Thank you!

@yaili

[bit.ly/dpl-ep4](https://bit.ly/dpl-ep4)

References: [bit.ly/dsl-2018](https://bit.ly/dsl-2018)