

Maint



VANILLA HTML DESIGNER

Create HTML content visually, without a framework

A lightweight, modular visual HTML editor built entirely with Vanilla JavaScript.

Live demo

<https://anshare.org/projects/Vanilla-HTML-Designer/>

Introduction video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9q2zl6bTcwM>

Source code

<https://github.com/Crainios/Vanilla-HTML-Designer>

A LIGHTWEIGHT, STANDALONE VISUAL EDITOR

Create structured content without imposing a technical environment

Vanilla HTML Designer, or VHD, is a visual editor for creating and editing structured HTML content directly in the browser.

It aims to provide a middle ground between traditional rich-text editors and full-scale page builders. Users can compose pages from sections, columns and components, while VHD remains lightweight enough to integrate into an existing application or content management system.

VHD is built entirely with Vanilla JavaScript. It does not depend on React, Vue or any other user-interface framework. This architecture simplifies installation, keeps the application lightweight and makes it easier to integrate into existing production projects.

The editor is intended for developers, agencies, software publishers and website managers who want to provide a visual content creation interface without adopting an additional frontend infrastructure.

The idea in one sentence

Allow users to build rich, responsive HTML content while giving developers control over its integration and generated output.

COMPONENT-BASED CONTENT CREATION

Compose a page visually

VHD organizes content into sections, areas and components. Users can add, move, duplicate, configure or remove page elements through a visual interface.

Available components include:

- text and headings;
- images and inline images;
- lists;
- quotations;
- tables;
- buttons and links;
- responsive columns;
- separators and spacing;
- code blocks;
- free-form, secured HTML content.

A comprehensive toolbar also provides common formatting options, including bold, italic, underline, colours, alignment, indentation, line height, letter spacing, lists and drop caps.

The resulting content combines a modular structure with formatting tools similar to those found in word processors.

An interface focused on content

Users work directly on the rendered page. The properties of the selected component remain available in a dedicated panel, while contextual actions make it easy to modify the document structure.

This approach reduces the need to edit HTML directly during everyday content creation.

KEY FEATURES

Vanilla JavaScript

VHD works without imposing a user-interface framework. It can be introduced progressively into an existing project without rebuilding the entire application around a new technology stack.

Modular architecture

Content is organized into configurable components. This structure makes elements easier to edit, move and serialize.

Responsive layouts

The column system makes it possible to create compositions that adapt to different screen widths.

Customizable media gallery

The editor can connect to an image gallery supplied by the host application. The integrating project therefore retains control over its media and selection workflow.

Customization

Components, available toolbar actions, styles and several editor behaviours can be adapted to suit the requirements of the host project.

Undo and autosave

The editor tracks content changes and operations performed through its commands. It can also be connected to autosave and recovery mechanisms.

Free-form HTML content

A dedicated component allows custom HTML to be added within a controlled environment when the required content cannot be represented by the standard components.

Open-source project

Vanilla HTML Designer is distributed under the GNU Affero General Public License version 3.

WHY VANILLA HTML DESIGNER?

Rich-text editors such as TinyMCE and CKEditor are particularly well suited to writing inside a content area. Page builders such as GrapesJS provide a complete page-design environment. Other solutions, including Editor.js and editors developed for React, rely on a structured architecture or a particular technical ecosystem.

VHD takes a different position.

It combines direct text editing with section- and component-based composition, while remaining independent of a frontend framework. It is intended for projects that need an integrated visual editor without necessarily requiring a complete website builder.

VHD may be particularly relevant when:

- the application primarily uses Vanilla JavaScript;
- developers want to retain control over the HTML and its integration;
- content needs to combine rich text, images, columns and structured components;
- the editor must fit into an existing administration interface;
- adding a complete frontend framework is not desirable;
- the solution needs to evolve through custom components.

VHD is not intended to replace every category of editor. Its value lies in the balance between a lightweight architecture, visual composition, extensibility and technical independence.

TRY, EVALUATE AND CONTRIBUTE

A live demo ready to explore

The public demonstration includes a preloaded document showcasing the editor's main capabilities: text formatting, sections, columns, images, quotations, tables and advanced components.

Try Vanilla HTML Designer

<https://anshare.org/projects/Vanilla-HTML-Designer/>

Watch the introduction video

A short video presents the interface and demonstrates how content can be created with VHD.

Watch the video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9q2zl6bTcwM>

Explore the project

The source code, integration documentation and published releases are available on GitHub.

Visit the GitHub repository

<https://github.com/Crainios/Vanilla-HTML-Designer>

Essential information

Name: Vanilla HTML Designer

Abbreviation: VHD

Category: Visual HTML editor

Technology: Vanilla JavaScript

License: GNU AGPL v3

Creator: François MILHIET

Interface languages: French and English

Website: <https://anshare.org/>

Press resources

The press kit contains:

- the logo in SVG format;
- high-resolution screenshots;
- a demonstration animation;
- short descriptions in French and English;
- the project's official links.

Vanilla HTML Designer is an independent project under active development. The information and features presented in this document correspond to the version available at the time of publication.