

# Best Open Source Headless CMS for JavaScript Apps

A good headless CMS can be the perfect choice for programmers. However, with so many headless CMSs available today, deciding which option to use is really not easy.

Picture 1 of Best Open Source Headless CMS for JavaScript Apps

In order to help you make the right decision, the article will summarize the 3 best rated headless CMS today. You will know the key features and benefits of using them to make the best choice for your project.

## Factors to consider when choosing a CMS

1. **Ease of use** : Whether a CMS is easy to use or not depends on the user. This can be challenging if you choose a headless CMS that lacks a UI to view or edit content. To fix it, you can create a simple UI that integrates with the headless CMS. This also makes it easier for inexperienced people to work with it.
2. **Price** : Before choosing a CMS, check if it's free or the price is right for your budget.
3. **Available Integrations** : When choosing a CMS, it is important to consider the possibility of integrating it with other tools in your 'tech stack'. For example, confirm which CMS can connect to your page builder, email marketing platform, or analytics tool. Also, you should also check if the CMS has good integration documentation.
4. **Collaborative support** : Content is often handled in teams. A good CMS allows members to work directly together to streamline workflow.
5. **API Support** : CMS communicates with front end via API. Each CMS supports its own API, which is not the same. Please select the API you want.

## 3 most popular open source headless CMS

### Netlify CMS

Netlify CMS is an open source content management system, built specifically for static sites. It is based on Git, allowing you to store content along with code. This feature makes it easy to version your content and track changes.

Picture 2 of Best Open Source Headless CMS for JavaScript Apps

Netlify CMS

## Main features of Netlify CMS

1. Netlify CMS features an easy-to-use UI with real-time preview, drag & drop for media upload, and a rich text editor.
2. It has detailed documentation and beginner templates written with technology like Hugo, Gatsby, Next.js, and Eleventy that help you set up a site in no time.
3. With Git Gateway, an open source Netlify project, you can add editors to CMS without giving them access to the Git repository.
4. Netlify CMS is built with client-side JavaScript, making it faster and easier to scale.
5. It supports several content types including Markdown, JSON, YAML or TOML files.
6. If you don't want to save your content on GitHub, you can connect a custom backend to the Netlify CMS.
7. Netlify CMS provides a global object named `Window.cms`. You can use it to create custom plugins, previewers, and widgets.
8. NetlifyCMS is the perfect choice for blog development. You can get started with one of the free templates available on the platform.

## Medusa

Picture 3 of Best Open Source Headless CMS for JavaScript Apps

### Medusa

Medusa is a completely free and open source CMS. It allows you to easily add commercial functionality to your application.

Medusa supports various payment platforms like Stripe, Paypal and Klarna, and search engines like Algolia, Meilisearch, analytics and marketing tools like Segment. This decoupled approach gives you the freedom to use the tools that are best suited for the app under development.

### Main features of Medusa

1. Detailed, extensive documentation is developed using JavaScript frameworks such as Next.js and Gatsby.js.
2. Users who are not very tech-savvy can also edit and add content to the web like Medusa Admin UI.
3. Enables integration of analytical processing, billing, media storage, search and notification tools.
4. Allows you to add users to the Admin UI. Users only need email and password to login.
5. Flexible and allows you to build a custom application from scratch using the technologies and tools of your choice.
6. Multi-language and multi-currency support. You can create regions containing one or more countries with an e-commerce app. These regions will determine the currency, language and tax rates.

Medusa is a great choice for building an e-commerce app.

## Strapi

Picture 4 of Best Open Source Headless CMS for JavaScript Apps

### Strapi

Strapi is a headless CMS based on Node.js and the richest CMS. It is flexible and allows you to deliver content across any app, including web, mobile, and voice.

Strapi has plugins that you can use to extend the functionality of the Strapi app. You can also create plugins to meet specific needs, customize the resolver, and extend the GraphQL style schema.

### **Main features of Strapi**

1. Strapi is self-hosted, giving you the freedom to store apps where you want. You can host it on your personal servers or on BaaS platforms like AWS, Digital Ocean, Microsoft Azure, and Heroku.
2. Supports several SQL databases such as MySQL, PostgreSQL and SQLite.
3. Supports both REST and GraphQL APIs. It all depends on how you want to query the data.
4. Rich documentation, examples, tutorials and easy-to-follow starter projects. It also has a great community resource. Here you can get answers while building your app.
5. For the content team, Strapi has a built-in editor panel that allows for different types of media uploads, including photos and videos. It also supports collaboration and role-based access control.
6. Strapi works well with modern frameworks like Next.js, Gatsby, Angular, and Vue.
7. Strapi is open source. The Community Edition will always be free to use. It is a great choice if you are looking for a fully customizable CMS.

Above are **the most popular headless CMS** and their outstanding features. Hope the article is useful to you.

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