

Docs

Form Project

Derafu Form

Anonymous · 21/08/2026 · #php

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Form Project

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Docs » Views and Templates Category » Form Project » Introduction

Introduction

Declarative Forms, Seamless Rendering

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Declarative Forms, Seamless Rendering

last commit

august

 CI

passing

code size

746.7 KiB

open issues

0

downloads

2.14 k

downloads

191 this month

A modern PHP form library that leverages a declarative, schema-based approach to form definition and rendering, compatible with JSON Forms while providing a powerful backend-centric workflow.

WIP

Work In Progress.

Key Features

- **Schema-Based Form Definition:** Define forms using structured arrays that clearly separate data schemas from UI layouts.
- **Backend-First Approach:** Built for PHP developers who want control over form generation with minimum effort.
- **Symfony-Compatible Twig Extensions:** Familiar syntax for Symfony developers, minimizing learning curve.
- **Decoupled Rendering System:** Separate your form logic from its presentation with specialized renderers.
- **JSON Forms Compatibility:** Define once, use anywhere - same schema can be used with frontend JSON Forms library.
- **Automatic Form Generation:** Generate form UI schemas automatically from your data models.
- **Extensible Architecture:** Easily add custom types, layouts and renderers.

Why Choose This Library?

Compared to Traditional PHP Form Libraries

Traditional PHP form libraries often tightly couple form definition with HTML generation, making it difficult to separate concerns. This library takes a different approach:

1. **Declarative Rather Than Imperative:** Define *what* your form should be rather than *how* it should be built, step by step.
2. **Clear Separation of Concerns:** Schema (data structure) is separate from UI schema (presentation) and data (values).
3. **Powerful Layouts Without HTML Knowledge:** Create complex, multi-column layouts without writing HTML.

Compared to Frontend-Only Solutions

Unlike frontend-only form builders, this library:

1. **Keeps Validation Logic Server-Side:** Where it belongs for security-critical applications.
2. **Provides PHP-Native Form Definition:** No need to write JavaScript to define your forms.
3. **Works With or Without JavaScript:** Generate the same forms for both traditional and SPA applications.

Installation

Install the library using Composer:

```
composer require derafu/form
```

Basic Usage

Creating a Simple Form

```
// Define the form structure.
$definition = [
    'schema' => [
        'type' => 'object',
        'properties' => [
            'name' => [
                'type' => 'string',
                'title' => 'Full Name',
            ],
            'email' => [
                'type' => 'string',
                'format' => 'email',
                'title' => 'Email Address',
            ],
        ],
        'required' => ['name', 'email'],
    ],
    'uischema' => [
        'type' => 'VerticalLayout',
    ],
];
```

```

    'elements' => [
      [
        'type' => 'Control',
        'scope' => '#/properties/name',
      ],
      [
        'type' => 'Control',
        'scope' => '#/properties/email',
      ],
    ],
  ],
  'data' => [
    'name' => '',
    'email' => '',
  ],
];

// Create the form.
$form = $formFactory->create($definition);

```

Rendering with Twig

```

{# Simple rendering of the entire form. #}
{{ form(form) }}

{# Or with more control over individual components. #}
{{ form_start(form) }}
  {{ form_row(form.fields.name) }}
  {{ form_row(form.fields.email) }}
  <button type="submit" class="btn btn-primary">Submit</button>
{{ form_end(form) }}

```

Automatic Schema Generation

The library can automatically generate a schema from your data:

```

$definition = [
  'data' => [
    'name' => 'John Doe',
    'email' => 'john.doe@example.com',
    'age' => 34,
    'birthdate' => "1990-01-01",
  ],
];

// Schema and UI schema will be automatically generated.
$form = $formFactory->create($definition);

```



```
        ['type' => 'Control', 'scope' => '#/properties/name'],
        ['type' => 'Control', 'scope' => '#/properties/email'],
    ],
],
[
    'type' => 'Group',
    'label' => 'Address',
    'elements' => [
        ['type' => 'Control', 'scope' => '#/properties/street'],
        ['type' => 'Control', 'scope' => '#/properties/city'],
    ],
],
],
];
```

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Examples

Examples of how to use the form component.

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Form Examples

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Docs » Views and Templates Category » Form Project » Examples » From Data

From Data

The simplest form, created from data only.

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From Data

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Control

The default controls provided by the form library.

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Control

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User Registration

Form to create a new user account.

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User Registration

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User Login

A user login form with username, password and 2FA options.

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User Login

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Docs » Views and Templates Category » Form Project » Examples » User Profile with Cards

User Profile with Cards

User profile form with grouped sections in cards.

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User Profile with Cards

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Docs » Views and Templates Category » Form Project » Examples » User Profile with Tabs

User Profile with Tabs

User profile form with tabs and cards.

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User Profile with Tabs

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Setup Wizard

Multi-step wizard for account setup.

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Setup Wizard

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Invoice Issuance

Form for creating invoices with basic fields and line items.

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Invoice Issuance

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Advanced Invoice Search

Complex search form for filtering invoices with conditional fields.

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Advanced Invoice Search

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E-Invoicing Configuration

Comprehensive configuration form for electronic invoicing.

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E-Invoicing Configuration

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Contact Form

Simple contact form with default values and validation.

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Contact Form

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Docs » Views and Templates Category » Form Project » Examples » User Registration

User Registration

Complex user registration form with nested fields and validation.

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User Registration

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Collection

Collections and arrays in forms.

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Editors

Different editors using controls.

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Product Ecommerce

Product creation form with data processing rules.

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Rules

JSON Forms rules in UI Schema.

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Docs » Views and Templates Category » Form Project » Examples » Cascade

Cascade

Select options in a cascade.

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