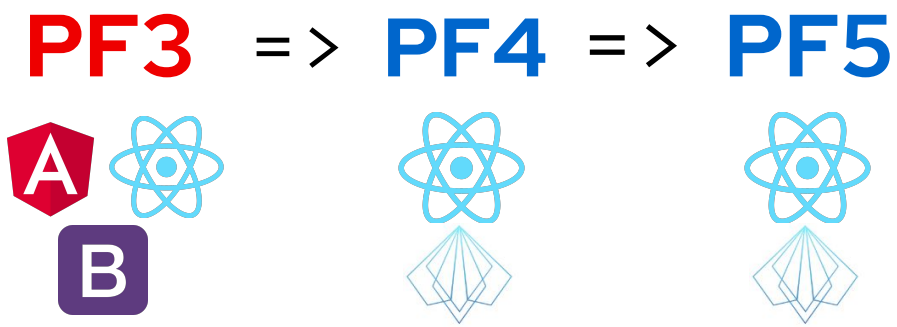
2023 PatternFly major release (v5)

www.patternfly.org

PatternFly 5: What it *isn't*

PF5 *is not* a new implementation



PF5 *is not* a fresh start

- All existing PatternFly components from PF4 will remain in the PF5 release.
  - In fact, we are implementing an official "deprecated / next" system to simplify communication and expand timelines for adopting new components.

- The PatternFly team is changing our approach to major releases, shifting from large, infrequent breaking changes to planned, purposeful major releases delivered on an annual cadence.

PatternFly 5: What it *is*

React 18

- Currently:
  PatternFly provides **experimental** support for React 18, meaning it is not a blocker for products looking to update their React dependency.

- With this update:
  PatternFly will **officially** support React 18, performing required dependency and tooling updates as well as necessary testing to validate this support.

Official dark theme

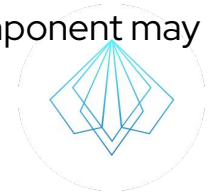
- Currently:
  PatternFly supports a **beta** dark theme that was custom-built on top of the existing variable system, which was not built with theming in mind.

- With this update:
  PatternFly will support an **official** dark theme, integrated with an enhanced system of CSS variables and design tokens which builds upon the learnings from dark theme and other custom product implementations and will unblock future enhancements.

Deprecated / Next components:

- Currently:
  Some components are historically built in ways that do not align with how consumers are using them - reimplementing these can reduce duplicate code while improving maintainability and consumer experience.

- With this update:
  Next components provide new implementations as soon as they're available, allowing consumers to test & adopt these components before they're promoted.
  Deprecated indicates components which will be removed at the next major release, giving consumers a year to adopt newer recommendations before the component may be removed from PatternFly.



PatternFly 5: Timeline

January - June 2023

January 2023: Wrap up v4

- PatternFly team to complete the existing roadmap of issues planned for v4
- Continue to communicate January 25th as last planned v4 release date (milestone 2023.01)
- Freeze development on v4 code branch end of January 2023

April - June 2023: Testing

- Product team testing of release candidates
- Bug fixes & iteration where needed

Jan 2023

Feb - Apr 2023

Apr - Jun 2023

June 2023

February - April:
3 dedicated v5 sprints

- 2023.02, 2023.03 and 2023.04 3-week sprints dedicated to v5 development
- Core HTML/CSS issues prioritized by priority, size, and if they need React follow-up work
- React issues prioritized by priority, size, and when any required Core work is completed
- Codemods and documentation to be created alongside every merged PR

June 2023: v5 release

- v5 officially released, along with detailed documentation and codemods to ease the upgrade process
- Repos unfrozen to resume normal contributions & sprint process

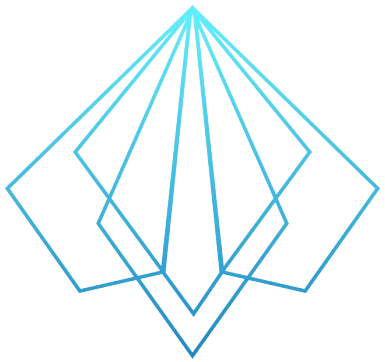
Testing plan

- **Alpha releases at each sprint:**
  - Major release sprints (2023.02, 2023.03, 2023.04) will maintain our 3-week cadence between February - April.
  - Codemods will be built alongside merged PRs to keep code changes and codemods in sync.
  - Prereleases allow for maintaining existing testing cycle mirroring 3-week sprints.

- **Release candidate testing**
  - Release candidate planned for product testing in April.
  - Two months planned for testing, bug fixes & iteration as needed.

Ongoing plan

- **Annual major releases:**
  - Allow PatternFly to stay agile and adopt to new consumer needs more quickly
  - Reduce the size and effort of future releases by avoiding a large backlog of breaking issues built up over several years
  - Create clarity around timelines and help to manage priorities and expectations between PatternFly consumers, contributors and maintainers



Thank you!