### Types of DAOs

Organizations—government, business, non-profit, political, sports—are diverse in purpose and size. Accordingly, DAOs are functional across industries, presenting a vast field of opportunity. DAOs can generally be classified based on an area of focus:

#### Protocol

Protocol DAOs provide a direct service based on fixed rules to consumers at scale.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blockchain</th>
<th>Traditional Equivalent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compound</strong>: a lender that matches the supply and demand of a digital asset and dynamically prices interest rates accordingly</td>
<td><strong>Bank of America</strong>: a bank that collects retail deposits in exchange for a low interest rate and then lends capital to borrowers at a higher interest rate to profit on the spread</td>
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#### Social

Social DAOs foster communities and personal connections by encouraging individuals to share insights.

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<td><strong>Friends With Benefits</strong>: a social club that consists of creators, artists, and builders who brainstorm ways digital assets and web 3.0 models can transform various industries</td>
<td><strong>Soho House</strong>: a collection of international private members clubs for people who work in creative industries</td>
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#### Investment

Investment DAOs fund early-stage projects and businesses or invest in high-end collectibles.

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<td><strong>The Lao</strong>: a member-directed venture capital fund that allows members to pool capital, invest in projects, and share proceeds</td>
<td><strong>Andreesen Horowitz</strong>: a venture capital firm with more than $20 billion in AUM</td>
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#### Media

Media DAOs curate, create, and publish compelling content.

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<td><strong>BanklessDAO</strong>: a content creator and curator with a goal of onboarding 1 billion people to open money systems like Bitcoin and Ethereum</td>
<td><strong>Condé Nast</strong>: a mass media company that develops, brands, and publishes content in entertainment, culture, fashion, architecture, and more</td>
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Service Guild DAOs purchase valuable resources for member use, negotiate wages, and offer other group perks and rewards.

**Blockchain:**

**RaidGuild:** a design and development agency for web 3.0 that protects its members’ interests

**Traditional Equivalent:**

**The American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL–CIO):** a federation of national and international unions advocating for better working policies

Grant DAOs fund public goods by providing grants for a specific ecosystem or protocol.

**Blockchain:**

**MolochDAO:** funds grants for essential digital public goods deployed on Ethereum mainnet

**Traditional Equivalent:**

**National Institute of Health (NIH):** the largest public funder of biomedical research globally

Operating System DAOs provide a DIY toolkit for non-professionals to easily achieve a task.

**Blockchain:**

**Aragon:** provides an open-source infrastructure to help users build a DAO from scratch

**Traditional Equivalent:**

**Turbo Tax:** Intuit, a financial software company, launched a user-friendly tax filing solution

Examples of DAOs by Type

- **Protocol**
  - AAVE
  - Sushi

- **Investment**
  - BitDAO
  - THE LAO

- **Service**
  - RaidGuild
  - Meld Guild

- **Operating System**
  - Aragon
  - DAOHaus

- **Social**
  - FWB

- **Media**
  - BANKLESS
  - FOREFRONT

- **Grant**
  - MolochDao
  - Gitcoin