

Sideshow WordPress Theme

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A how-to guide and general information to help you get the most out of your new theme.

Firstly, a huge thanks for purchasing this theme, your support is truly appreciated!

This document covers the installation and use of this theme and often reveals answers to common problems and issues - I encourage you to read this document thoroughly if you are experiencing any difficulties. If you have any questions that are beyond the scope of this document, feel free to pose them in the dedicated support forum.

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1. Getting Started

To install this theme you must have a working version of WordPress already installed. For information in regard to installing the WordPress platform, please see the WordPress Codex - http://codex.wordpress.org/Installing_WordPress

1.1 Installation

When you are ready to install a theme, you must first upload the theme files and then activate the theme itself. The theme files can be uploaded in two ways:

- **FTP Upload:** Using your FTP program, upload the non-zipped theme folder into the `/wp-content/themes/` folder on your server.
- **WordPress Upload:** Navigate to [Appearance > Add New Themes > Upload](#). Go to browse, and select the zipped theme folder. Hit “Install Now” and the theme will be uploaded and installed.

Once the theme is uploaded, you need to activate it. Go to [Appearance > Themes](#) and activate your chosen theme.

1.2 Setting up the Homepage

To set up the homepage you must create a new page, you can do so by navigating to [Pages > Add New](#). You can give this page a title yet you do not have to include any content. Select the “Home” template from the Page Attributes section and click “Publish”.

Once you have created your new page which uses the “home” page template, navigate to [Settings > Reading](#) and configure the “Front Page Displays” setting. Select the static page option and choose the page you just created as your front page.

Your homepage is now created and can be viewed by visiting your root URL. You can configure the display of the homepage via the theme options and widgets.

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1.2.1 Adding Portfolio Items

To add a new portfolio item, navigate to **Portfolio > Add New**. Here you can add a brief description of the project, assign various skill types and upload media.

1.2.2 Adding Images

You will need to upload various images to each portfolio item for it to display correctly. Each portfolio item can display up to 10 images. To upload each image, browse your computer from the “Image & Display Settings” section, upload, and choose “Insert Into Post” to set. Each image must be 600px in width but can be any height.

You can create a thumbnail for each project by uploading and assigning a “featured image”. When uploading a featured image the theme will automatically crop your thumbnail to the correct dimensions. Should you need more control over your thumbnail, ensure you upload a featured image at already edited to 290px x 150px.

1.2.3 Adding Video

Each portfolio item can display either a self hosted video or video embedded from YouTube or Vimeo. To add a video from either Vimeo or YouTube, simply copy and paste the provided Embed code in the appropriate section. The dimensions are 600px x unlimited.

To display self hosted video, ensure to include the correct paths to the .m4v and .ogg file formats and declare the video height. You may also provide a poster image (optional)

1.2.4 Adding Audio

Each portfolio item can display and play an audio file. When using audio, ensure to populate both the .mp3 and .oga/ogg fields for it to function correctly.

1.2.5 Adding Skill Types

If you wish to categorise your portfolio items, you can assign skill types. A skill type is similar to a post category and assigning them will enable users to filter your portfolio by

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discipline. You can create new skill types by navigating to Portfolio > Skill Types or they can be created from the portfolio item creation page.

Image & Display Settings

Upload an image and then click "insert into post". To delete an image, simply clear the field.

Portfolio Type

Choose the type of portfolio post you wish to display.

images ▾

Project Date

Enter the project date.

Nov 2010

Client Name

Enter your client's name.

The Ark

Project URL

Enter the project URL.

<http://www.qitd.com>

Image 1

600px x unlimited

rk.com/sideshow/files/2011/09/arbor_folk_01.jpg

Browse

Image 2

600px x unlimited

rk.com/sideshow/files/2011/09/arbor_folk_02.jpg

Browse

Image 3

600px x unlimited

rk.com/sideshow/files/2011/09/arbor_folk_03.jpg

Browse

Image 4

600px x unlimited

rk.com/sideshow/files/2011/09/arbor_folk_04.jpg

Browse

Image 5

600px x unlimited

Browse

Image 6

600px x unlimited

Browse

Image 7

600px x unlimited

Browse

Image 8

600px x unlimited

Browse

Image 9

600px x unlimited

Browse

Image 10

600px x unlimited

Browse

Video Settings

Audio Settings

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1.3 Setting up the Blog

To set up the blog, you must create a new page, you can do so by navigating to [Pages > Add New](#). You can give this page a title of “blog” yet you do not have to include any content. Click “Publish”.

Once you have created your new page, navigate to [Settings > Reading](#) and configure the “Front Page Displays” setting. Select the static page option and choose the page you just created as your posts page. Your blog index is now created and can be viewed by visiting the page you just published.

2. Theme Features

The theme comes packed with features that control the layout and extend the functionality of WordPress. This section will document those features and how to use them successfully.

2.1 Post Formats

When creating a post, you will be able to choose from a selection of formats - these formats affect the styling of each post. The available formats are:

1. Standard
2. Aside
3. Gallery
4. Link
5. Image
6. Quote
7. Audio
8. Video

Some of these post formats will have their own custom options. These custom options will

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only appear once the format is selected.

2.1.1 Standard

The standard format will show the title and content and does not have any custom options or display any featured images.

2.1.2 Aside

The aside format will show just the content. No title or featured images will be displayed. This is good for small snippets of text.

2.1.3 Gallery

The gallery format will display all the images attached to that post. To attach an image to the post, simply upload your images using the media uploader whilst creating or editing the post. Make sure you upload more than one image. If you only want to show one image, use the “Image Post Format” instead. These images will be resized to fit the theme dimensions of 600px x unlimited.

2.1.4 Link

The link format has one custom option called “The URL”. This is where you place the link URL. The title of the post will be the link text. This format will also display the content if you choose to have any.

2.1.5 Image

The image format will display the title, content and a featured image. Make sure to create a featured image for this post format. The featured image will be resized automatically to the following dimensions of 600px x unlimited.

2.1.6 Quote

The quote format has one option called “The Quote” which is where you provide the quote content. This format will display the quote along with some content if you choose to have any.

2.1.7 Audio

The audio format displays the title and content along with a custom audio player. You will have two custom options to fill. The first is the link to an .mp3 file and the second is

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to an .ogg or .oga file. It's important to fill out both in order for the audio player to work in all browsers. If you only supply one of them then be aware that the file may not work everywhere.

2.1.8 Video

The video format displays the title and content along with a custom video or an embedded player depending on the options you have selected.

If you're using the self-hosted video solution, you will need to provide a height for the homepage and for the actual post page. You will also need to provide both .m4v and .ogv files in order for the video to work in all browsers. You can also optionally provide a "Poster Image" link to an image that will operate as a video preview.

If you're using embedded video such as YouTube or Vimeo, you'll need to simply paste the code provided to you in the embedded field. The embedded options override all other options, so if you want to use the custom video solution then make sure the embed fields are empty.

2.2 Custom Menus

The theme does not have any custom menu locations however you can create custom menus to be used within widgets.

To setup your custom menus, navigate to [Appearance > Menus](#). Give your menu a name and build it up using the available widgets. You can add a variety of items including pages, categories, custom links. **To extend the available widgets, click the screen options tab at the very top of the screen and configure your options.**

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2.3 Theme Options

The theme comes with a simple to use administration panel. You can access it by navigating to **Appearance > Theme Options**. The theme options are conveniently spread over a number of tabs and each tab contains the options that pertain to a particular area of the theme.

2.4 Custom Widgets

The theme comes with 3 custom widgets that can be used to configure how your site displays content - they can be found under **Appearance > Widgets**.

2.4.1 Custom Flickr Photos Widget

This widget allows you to configure and display Flickr photos from a user's photostream.

- **Title:** Title of the widget
- **Flickr ID:** The Flickr ID of the group or user's photos you wish to display. You can find out your Flickr ID at idGettr.com
- **Number of Photos:** Choose the number of photos to display
- **Type (user or group):** The type of user photos you wish to display
- **Display (random or latest):** Choose how to display the photos

2.4.2 Custom Latest Tweets Widget

This widget allows you to configure and display your latest Twitter tweets.

Title: Title of the widget

Twitter Username: The username of the user's tweets you wish to display e.g. [ormanclark](#)

Number of tweets: Choose the number of tweets to display - max of 20

Follow Text: Choose the anchor text of the link to your Twitter profile. Omit this option if you do not wish to display a link.

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2.4.3 Custom Video Widget

This widget allows you to configure and display a single video. The widget requires the user to input video embed code taken from either Vimeo, YouTube, or other video sharing sites and can display a short description if required.

2.5 Shortcodes

The theme comes pre-packed with a number of shortcodes allowing you to add styled content to your site with little effort.

The available shortcodes have been included in a one-click menu. When creating a page or post, click the green “+” icon to reveal a list of shortcodes (you must be in visual editor mode). Choose the functionality you wish to include, configure the options and insert.

The screenshot shows a WordPress 'Insert Shortcode' dialog box. It has two main panels: 'Insert Button Shortcode' on the left and 'Shortcode Preview' on the right. The 'Insert Button Shortcode' panel contains four fields: 'Button URL' with a placeholder 'Add the button's url eg http://example.com', 'Button's Style' with a dropdown menu set to 'Green' and a note 'Select the button's style, ie the buttons colour', 'Button's Size' with a dropdown menu set to 'Small' and a note 'Select the button's size', and 'Button's Text' with a text input field containing 'Button Text' and a note 'Add the button's text'. At the bottom of this panel is a blue 'Insert Shortcode' button. The 'Shortcode Preview' panel shows a green button with the text 'Button Text'.

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2.6 Custom Page Templates

The theme comes with a number of in built custom page templates. These templates can be used on individual pages to alter the display or functionality.

2.6.1 Archives Template

The theme comes packed with a simple archives template. To create your archives, simply create a page using the “Archives” page template. The archive lists will automatically display below any page content. Lists include the last 30 posts, archives by month and archives by subject.

2.6.2 Contact Form Template

The theme comes packed with a simple contact form. To use the form, simply create a page and use the “Contact” page template. The form will automatically insert below any page content. The form includes jQuery validation to enhance user experience and the recipient email can be configured from the theme options.

2.7 Custom Login Logo

The theme comes with an inbuilt function to replace both the default WordPress login logo. To replace the default login logo, replace `custom-login-logo.png` with your chosen image in the theme `/images/` folder. Upload the new image to your server via FTP and the new logo will become visible on the WordPress login screen.

2.8 Featured Images

The theme supports the use of featured images. The theme supports auto-resizing of the featured images and so there is only the requirement to specify a single image. Auto-resizing will only occur however when the image is uploaded for the first time, images that have previously been uploaded will not be resized.

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To upload a post thumbnail, go to **Posts > Add New** or open an existing post in editing mode. Locate the Featured Image module and click the Set featured image link.

Clicking the link will open up the usual WordPress image uploader where you will upload your image. Simply make sure that it is either the same size or larger than what the final thumbnail will be. Once you're done uploading the image, simply click the link that says "Set Featured Image", which is next to the button to insert it into the post.

For more on how to use the WP2.9+ Post Thumbnail feature you can view this article - <http://en.support.wordpress.com/featured-images/>

3. Theme Files

This section discloses the sources of various files used within the theme and describes their function. Use this section to gain an understanding on how the theme functions behind the scenes if considering any type of modification.

3.1 Cascading Style Sheets

The theme includes a number of CSS files that are used at various times depending on user-controlled options. All CSS files, with the exception of the main CSS file (style.css) can be found in the theme's `/css/` folder.

Style.css - The theme's main stylesheet and determines the majority of the theme's styling.

dark.css - The theme's dark skin stylesheet

light.css - The theme's light skin stylesheet

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3.2 JavaScript Files

The theme imports various Javascript files depending on the page being viewed, widget configuration and settings in the theme options.

jQuery Library - jQuery is a fast and concise JavaScript Library that simplifies HTML document traversing, event handling, animating, and Ajax interactions for rapid web development. More information can be found at <http://jquery.com/>

jQuery Validation Plugin - This jQuery plugin makes simple clientside form validation trivial, while offering lots of option for customisation. More information can be found at <http://bassistance.de/jquery-plugins/jquery-plugin-validation/>

Custom.js - This file controls various sections of JS throughout the theme dependant on settings in the theme options.

jQuery UI - jQuery UI provides abstractions for low-level interaction and animation. More information can be found at <http://jqueryui.com/>

JPlayer - The jQuery HTML5 Audio / Video Library. More information can be found at <http://www.jplayer.org/>

Shortcodes - This file controls various sections of JS which aid the shortcode functionality.

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3.3 Photoshop Files

All PSDs included with the theme contain the necessary styling for all elements including layouts, icons and all custom widgets.

Again, thank you for purchasing this theme!

If you have any questions that are beyond the scope of this document,
feel free to pose them in the dedicated support forum.