

Why Use a Base Theme?

- ▶ To learn theme development, use an existing example
- ▶ Modifying or hacking an existing theme makes it difficult for others to help you
- ▶ By using a parent theme, others can readily understand your starting point
- ▶ Keeping custom development in a subtheme makes it easier to isolate and differentiate issues from the base theme

Parent or Base Themes

- ▶ A parent or base theme provides template files, php functions in `template.php`, and other supporting files that a subtheme inherits

Subthemes and Starterkits

- ▶ A subtheme inherits all of the parent/base theme's HTML markup (in template files), CSS, and PHP code (template.php)
- ▶ A parent theme may provide a “starterkit,” designed to be good starting point for developing a custom theme
- ▶ A starter theme is a subtheme that has utilized a “starterkit” and is ready for custom development