The Shibui (渋い) Beamer Theme

A Minimalist Design for Clear Communication

Your Name
Your Institution
November 17, 2025

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Overview

Design Philosophy

The Shibui theme embodies Japanese minimalist design principles:

- Clarity through simplicity
- Generous use of whitespace
- Elegant typography
- Minimal but effective navigation
- Focus on content, not decoration

Shibui represents simple, subtle, and unobtrusive beauty through refined restraint.

Key Features

1. **Multiple Color Schemes**: 9 themes from light to dark, including Solarized, Nord, Gruvbox
2. **Typography Options**: 5 font families with matching math fonts
3. **Progress Indicators**: Basic, segmented, or none
4. **Minimal Navigation**: Clean headlines with optional section squares
5. **Academic Features**: Theorem environments, proofs, citations

Quick Start

Basic usage:

Minimal Example

```
\documentclass{beamer}
\usetheme{Shibui}
\begin{document}
...your content...
\end{document}
```

With options:

Customized Theme

Overview

Typography Overview

Good typography is essential for effective presentations.

This theme offers 5 font options with matching math fonts:

- **sans**: Fira Sans + sfmath (sans-serif math)
- **serif**: ET Book/Palatino + mathpazo (Palatino math)
- **garamond**: EB Garamond + newtxmath (Times-like math)
- **charter**: Charter + mathdesign charter (matching math)
- **mono**: Fira Mono + Computer Modern math

Math font override options: `mathdefault` (auto-match text), `mathsans`, `mathserif`

Example: `\usetheme[garamond, mathsans]{Shibui}` uses Garamond text with sans-serif math.

Font: sans (Fira Sans + sfmath)

Text: Fira Sans **Math:** sfmath (sans-serif)

Usage: `\usetheme[sans]{Shibui}` or `\usetheme{Shibui}` (default)

The Fibonacci sequence is defined by $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$ with $F_0 = 0$ and $F_1 = 1$.

For continuous functions, the integral $\int_a^b f(x)\,dx$ represents the area under the curve.

Einstein's mass-energy equivalence: $E = mc^2$

Font: serif (ET Book/Palatino + mathpazo)

Text: ET Book/Palatino **Math:** mathpazo (Palatino math)

Usage: `\usetheme[serif]{Shibui}`

The Fibonacci sequence is defined by $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$ with $F_0 = 0$ and $F_1 = 1$.

For continuous functions, the integral $\int_a^b f(x)\,dx$ represents the area under the curve.

Einstein's mass-energy equivalence: $E = mc^2$

Font: garamond (EB Garamond + newtxmath)

Text: EB Garamond **Math:** newtxmath (Times-like)

Usage: `\usetheme[garamond]{Shibui}`

The Fibonacci sequence is defined by $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$ with $F_0 = 0$ and $F_1 = 1$.

For continuous functions, the integral $\int_a^b f(x)\,dx$ represents the area under the curve.

Einstein's mass-energy equivalence: $E = mc^2$

Font: charter (Charter + mathdesign)

Text: Charter **Math:** mathdesign charter (matching)

Usage: `\usetheme[charter]{Shibui}`

The Fibonacci sequence is defined by $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$ with $F_0 = 0$ and $F_1 = 1$.

For continuous functions, the integral $\int_a^b f(x)\,dx$ represents the area under the curve.

Einstein's mass-energy equivalence: $E = mc^2$

Font: mono (Fira Mono + CM math)

Text: Fira Mono **Math:** Computer Modern (default)

Usage: `\usetheme[mono]{Shibui}`

The Fibonacci sequence is defined by $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$ with $F_0 = 0$ and $F_1 = 1$.

For continuous functions, the integral $\int_a^b f(x)\,dx$ represents the area under the curve.

Einstein's mass-energy equivalence: $E = mc^2$

Math Font Options

The theme provides flexible math font configuration:

Default Behavior (mathdefault)

`\usetheme[sans]{Shibui}` → sfmath (sans-serif)
`\usetheme[serif]{Shibui}` → mathpazo (Palatino)
`\usetheme[garamond]{Shibui}` → newtxmath (Times-like)
`\usetheme[charter]{Shibui}` → mathdesign (Charter)
`\usetheme[mono]{Shibui}` → Computer Modern

Override Math Font

Force sans-serif math:
`\usetheme[garamond, mathsans]{Shibui}`

Force serif math:

Color Palette Overview

The theme now supports **9 color schemes** for different aesthetics.

Each scheme uses these color roles:

- `bg` – background
- `text` – main text
- `accent` – highlights
- `gray` – UI elements
- `darkgray` – secondary text
- `codebg` – code background

The following slides show each color scheme with preview boxes.

Color Scheme: light

light – Warm cream with dark red accent

Classic Shibui aesthetic with warm cream background and sophisticated dark red accents. Perfect for traditional presentations.

Usage: `\usetheme[light]{Shibui}` or `\usetheme{Shibui}` (default)

Color Scheme: dark

dark – Dark background with red accent

Modern dark theme ideal for low-light presentations. Reduces eye strain during long sessions.

Usage: `\usetheme[dark]{Shibui}`

Color Scheme: solarizedlight

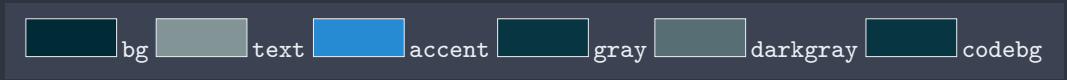
solarizedlight – Ethan Schoonover's light palette

Carefully designed by Ethan Schoonover for optimal readability. Selective contrast reduces eye fatigue.

Usage: `\usetheme[solarizedlight]{Shibui}`

Color Scheme: solarizeddark

solarizeddark – Ethan Schoonover's dark palette

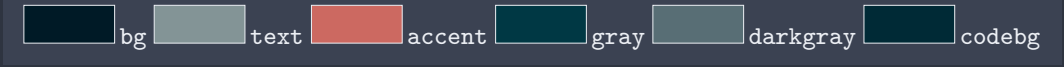


Dark variant of Solarized with blue accents. Scientifically designed color relationships.

Usage: `\usetheme[solarizeddark]{Shibui}`

Color Scheme: solarizedosaka

solarizedosaka – Deep blue with muted red



Custom Solarized variant with deep blue-cyan background and muted red accents. Combines elegance with readability.

Usage: `\usetheme[solarizedosaka]{Shibui}`

Color Scheme: nord

nord – Arctic, north-bluish palette

Inspired by Arctic beauty with cool blue tones. Clean and calm aesthetic for modern presentations.

Usage: `\usetheme[nord]{Shibui}`

Color Scheme: gruvboxlight

gruvboxlight – Retro groove with warm tones

Retro-inspired warm color palette. Bright orange accents with earthy tones create an inviting atmosphere.

Usage: `\usetheme[gruvboxlight]{Shibui}`

Color Scheme: gruvboxdark

gruvboxdark – Dark retro with bright orange

Dark variant with vibrant orange accents. Combines nostalgia with modern design sensibilities.

Usage: `\usetheme[gruvboxdark]{Shibui}`

Color Scheme: autumn

autumn – Warm earthy tones

Warm autumn palette with browns and rust orange. Creates a cozy, approachable presentation atmosphere.

Usage: `\usetheme[autumn]{Shibui}`

Overview

Lists & Structure

Itemized lists use simple squares:

- First level items
  - Second level items
    - Third level items

Enumerated lists use simple numbering:

1. First item
2. Second item
3. Third item

Text Formatting and Quotations

“Less is more.”

— Ludwig Mies van der Rohe

“Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.”

— Leonardo da Vinci

Blocks & Emphasis

Standard Block
Blocks have minimal styling to avoid visual clutter.

Example Block
Examples use slightly muted text for subtle differentiation.

Alert Block
Alerts use the accent color to draw attention when needed.

Use blocks sparingly—content should speak for itself.

Custom Shibui Boxes

The theme provides a custom `shibuiframe` environment with minimal styling:

Key Concept

This is a custom box with only bottom and right borders, following Shibui's minimal aesthetic. The title overlaps the top-left corner with a clean border.

Perfect for highlighting important concepts without visual clutter.

Mathematical Insight

The box adapts to both light and dark themes automatically, maintaining readability and the clean Shibui style across all color schemes.

Simple Tables

Tables follow the minimal Shibui aesthetic:

Method	Accuracy	Time (ms)
Algorithm A	94.2%	12.3
Algorithm B	96.7%	18.5
Algorithm C	95.1%	15.2

Keep tables simple and uncluttered. Use horizontal lines sparingly.

Advanced Tables

More complex data organization:

Category	Item	Q1	Q2
Revenue	Product A	$125K	$142K
	Product B	$89K	$95K
Costs	Marketing	$42K	$38K
	Operations	$67K	$71K
Net		**$105K**	**$128K**

Align numbers to the right, text to the left.

Two-Column Layout

The theme supports standard Beamer columns:

Left Column

- Clean layout
- Easy to read
- Balanced design

Right Column

Use columns to:

1. Compare concepts
2. Show before/after
3. Present alternatives

Mathematics

The Shibui theme handles mathematical content elegantly:

Inline math: The quadratic formula is $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$.

Display equations:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2}\,dx = \sqrt{\pi} \tag{1}$$

Aligned equations:

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \tag{2}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0\mathbf{J} + \mu_0\epsilon_0\frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \tag{3}$$

Overview

Theorem Boxes

The theme provides styled theorem-like environments using theme colors:

Theorem Pythagorean Theorem

In a right triangle, the square of the hypotenuse equals the sum of squares of the other two sides:

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

Lemma

If n is even, then n^2 is even.

All environments automatically use theme colors and adapt to the active color scheme.

More Theorem Types

Additional theorem-like environments:

Definition Limit

We say $\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$ if for every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ whenever $0 < |x - a| < \delta$.

Proposition

The sum of two continuous functions is continuous.

Corollary

All polynomial functions are continuous on $\mathbb{R}$.

Proof Environment

Proofs get a clean presentation with QED symbol:

Theorem

The sum of two even numbers is even.

Proof. Let $m = 2k$ and $n = 2j$ be two even numbers where $k, j \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Then $m + n = 2k + 2j = 2(k + j)$.

Since $k + j \in \mathbb{Z}$, we have $m + n = 2(k + j)$ which is even by definition. □

The proof environment automatically adds proper spacing and the QED symbol.

Citations and Footnotes I

The theme provides two citation styles:

Footnote citation (manual): For academic presentations, the Shibui philosophy of minimalism was influenced by Japanese design principles.[1]

Citations and Footnotes II (cont.)

Usage

Manual footnotes:
`\footnote{Author. \textit{Title}. ...}`

With bibliography (biblatex/natbib):
`\footcite{key}` – Full reference in footnote

The `\footcite` command works with biblatex, natbib, and standard bibtex, automatically adapting to your citation package.

Note: To use `\footcite`*, load biblatex or natbib in the preamble and add your .bib file. Example:*

```
\usepackage[backend=biber]{biblatex}
\addbibresource{references.bib}
```

Citations and Footnotes III (cont.)

Footnote citations keep slide content clean while providing full reference details.

[1] Tanizaki, Jun'ichiro. *In Praise of Shadows*. Leete's Island Books, 1977.

Bibliography Setup

Setting up a bibliography with biblatex:

Preamble Setup

```
\usepackage[backend=biber,style=authoryear]{biblatex}
\addbibresource{references.bib}
```

In Your Presentation

`\footcite{key}` – Footnote with full citation
`\cite{key}` – Inline citation
`\parencite{key}` – Citation in parentheses

Print Bibliography

Academic Workflow Example

A complete academic presentation flow:

1. **State theorem**: Use `shibuitheorem` environment
2. **Provide proof**: Use `shibuiproof` environment
3. **Cite sources**: Use `\footcite` for references
4. **Add definitions**: Use `shibuidefinition` for terminology
5. **Present corollaries**: Use `shibuicorollary` for consequences

All environments work seamlessly together and adapt to your chosen color scheme, maintaining professional academic standards with minimalist Shibui aesthetics.

Code Listings

Clean, readable code with syntax highlighting:

```python
# Fibonacci sequence generator
def fibonacci(n):
    """Generate first n Fibonacci numbers."""
    a, b = 0, 1
    for _ in range(n):
        yield a
        a, b = b, a + b

# Usage example
for num in fibonacci(10):
    print(num, end=' ')
```

Algorithms and Pseudocode

Algorithm 1 Binary Search

```
1: procedure BinarySearch(A, n, T)
2:     L ← 0
3:     R ← n − 1
4:     while L ≤ R do
5:         m ← ⌊(L + R)/2⌋
6:         if A[m] < T then
7:             L ← m + 1
8:         else if A[m] > T then
9:             R ← m − 1
10:        else
11:            return m
12:        end if
13:    end while
14:    return unsuccessful
15: end procedure
```

Presenting Data

When including figures or data visualizations:

- Keep charts simple and uncluttered
- Remove unnecessary gridlines and decorations
- Use the theme's color palette for consistency
- Ensure high contrast for readability
- Add concise, informative captions

Remember: The goal is to illuminate, not decorate.

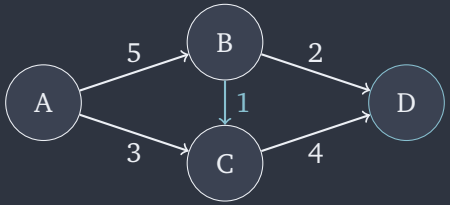
Visual Hierarchy

Good presentations guide the eye naturally:

1. **Most important**: Use size and weight
2. *Moderate importance*: Use italics or color
3. Least important: Use smaller text or gray

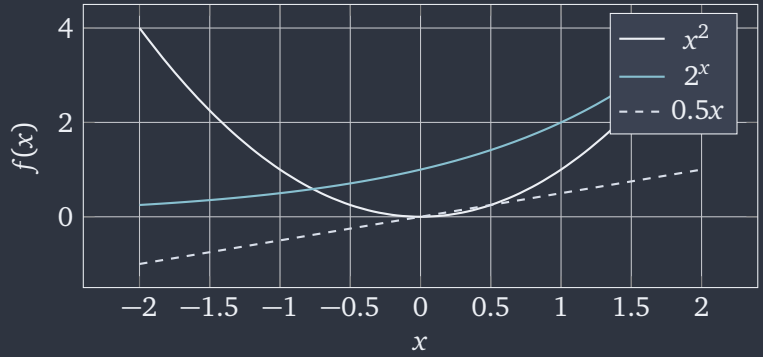
The Shibui theme's generous whitespace helps create natural visual hierarchy without competing elements.

TikZ Diagrams



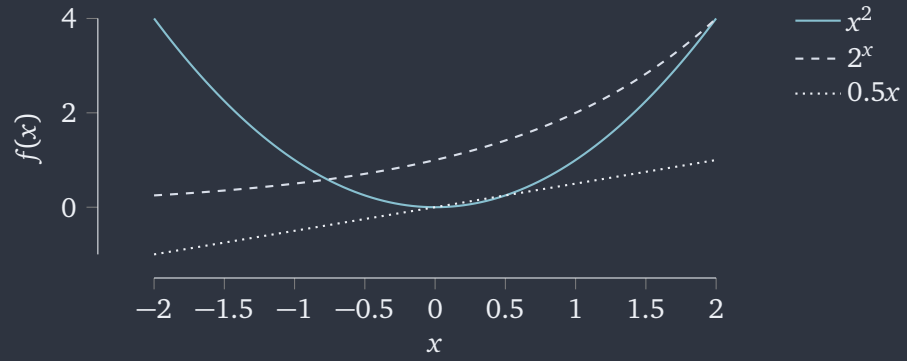
Weighted directed graph using themed colors (shibuitext, shibuiaccent, shibuicodebg)

PGFPlots: Standard Style

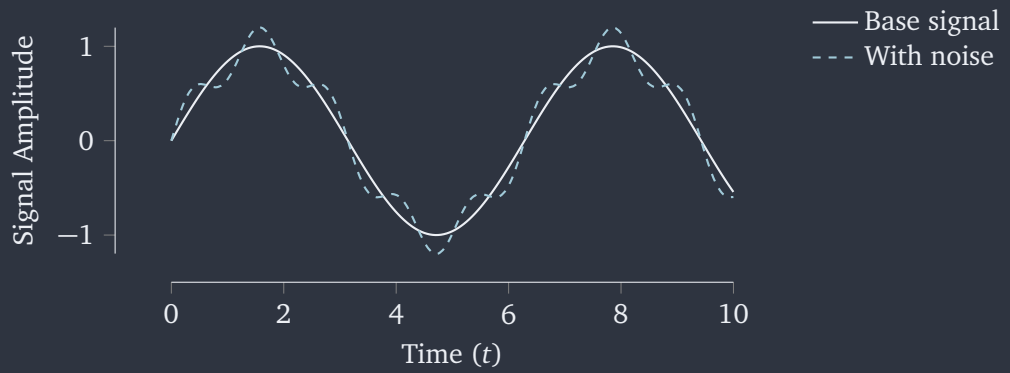


PGFPlots: Shibui Style

Simple activation with `shibui style` (no grid, legend outside):



Dynamic Data Visualization



Overview

Shibui Principles

Apply these principles when using this theme:

- **Show the content**: Let content take center stage
- **Reduce noise**: Every element should serve a purpose
- **Integrate text and graphics**: Create a unified whole
- **Respect your audience**: Clear, honest presentation

The theme provides the framework; you provide the clarity.

Technical Tips

- Use `aspectratio=169` for widescreen (16:9)
- Use `aspectratio=43` for traditional (4:3)
- Uncomment `\sectionframe` in theme for automatic section slides
- Keep slides focused—one main idea per slide
- Use generous spacing with `\vspace`

Overview

Note Boxes

Use callout boxes to highlight important information:

Important

Callout boxes use theme colors and automatically adapt to your selected color scheme (nord, gruvbox, solarized, etc.).

Remember

All theorem and callout environments are built with tcolorbox and support page breaks with the `breakable` option.

Usage: `\begin{shibiunote}[Title] ... \end{shibiunote}`

Warning and Tip Boxes

Different callout types for different purposes:

Caution

Warning boxes use a more prominent style with slightly darker colors and thicker borders to draw attention.

Pro Tip

Tip boxes use gray tones for subtle suggestions and helpful hints without being too distracting.

All callout boxes maintain the minimalist Shibui aesthetic while providing clear visual hierarchy.

Theme Color Reference

The theme defines semantic color names that adapt to your chosen color scheme:

Available Theme Colors

`shibuibg` – Main background color
`shibuitext` – Primary text color
`shibuiaccent` – Accent color for highlights
`shibuigray` – Light gray for subtle elements
`shibuidarkgray` – Dark gray for secondary text
`shibuicodebg` – Background for code blocks and boxes

These colors automatically change when you switch color schemes (nord, solarized, gruvbox, etc.), ensuring consistent styling across your presentation.

Using Theme Colors in TikZ

Integrate theme colors into custom TikZ graphics:

Example: Custom Diagram

```
\begin{tikzpicture}
\node[fill=shibuicodebg, draw=shibuiaccent,
text=shibuitext] {Content};
\draw[color=shibuiaccent, thick] ...
\end{tikzpicture}
```

Using theme colors ensures your custom graphics match the presentation's color scheme automatically.

Using Theme Colors in PGFPlots

Apply theme colors to custom plots:

Manual Color Assignment

```
\addplot[color=shibuiaccent, thick] {...};
\addplot[color=shibuidarkgray, dashed] {...};
```

Using Shibui Style

```
\begin{axis}[shibui style, shibui colors]
\addplot+ {...}; % Uses cycle list
\end{axis}
```

The `shibui colors` cycle list provides theme-aware plot colors with varied line

Custom Footer Text and Logos

Personalize your presentation footer:

Custom Footer

Add to preamble:

```
\footertext{Conference 2024 - City, Country}
```

Kanji Logo

Enable kanji logo:

```
\usetheme[kanjilogo]{Shibui}
```

Footer text appears above the progress bar, aligned to the right. The kanji logo appears in the left margin if enabled.

Package Integration Tips

The Shibui theme works well with common Beamer packages:

Recommended Packages

Bibliography: biblatex, natbib
Code: listings (auto-styled), minted
Math: amsmath, amsthm (compatible)
Graphics: TikZ, PGFPlots (with shibui styles)
Tables: booktabs (clean horizontal rules)

The theme automatically configures listings and algorithms. For other packages, use theme colors for consistency.

Notes Page Template

The theme includes a clean notes page template for dual-screen presentations:

Using Presenter Notes

Enable notes: Add to preamble:

```
\setbeameroption{show notes on second screen}
```

Add notes to slides:

```
\note{Your speaker notes here...}
```

Features:

- Slide thumbnail preview
- Section and slide number in header
- Clean, readable layout
- Theme colors for consistency

Summary

The Shibui Beamer theme offers:

- **Elegant design** inspired by Japanese minimalism
- **Minimal interface** that stays out of your way
- **Clear navigation** through sections and slides
- **Multiple font options** including Fira Sans, Garamond, Charter, and more
- **Calm color palettes** including Solarized variants

Use it to create presentations that respect both content and audience.

Thank You

Questions?

This theme is available at:
`github.com/yourname/shibui-beamer`

Overview

7. Appendix

Theme Options Reference I

Complete list of theme options:

Color Themes

`light` – Light cream background (default)
`dark` – Dark background
`solarizedlight`, `solarizeddark`, `solarizedosaka` – Solarized variants
`nord` – Arctic blue theme
`gruvboxlight`, `gruvboxdark` – Warm retro colors
`autumn` – Warm earthy tones

Theme Options Reference II (cont.)

Font Themes

`sans` – Fira Sans (default)
`serif` – ET Book/Palatino
`garamond` – EB Garamond
`charter` – Charter
`mono` – `Fira Mono`

Math Font Options

`mathdefault` – Auto-match text font (default)
`mathsans` – Force sans-serif math (sfmath)
`mathserif` – Force serif math (newtxmath)

Theme Options Reference III (cont.)

Layout Options

`nosectionheader` – Hide section name from header
`navontop` – Show navigation squares above title
`nosub` – Hide subsections in table of contents

Progress Bar Options

`progressbar=basic` – Single continuous bar (default)
`progressbar=segmented` – Section-based segments
`progressbar=none` – No progress bar, page numbers only

Usage: `\usetheme[nord,sans,navontop]{Shibui}`
Example: `\usetheme[progressbar=segmented]{Shibui}`

Color Definitions

Theme colors available for use:

Color Name	Usage
`shibuibg`	Background color
`shibuitext`	Main text color
`shibuiaccent`	Accent/highlight color
`shibuigray`	UI elements (light)
`shibuidarkgray`	Secondary text
`shibuicodebg`	Code/box background

Use with: `\color{shibuiaccent}` or `\textcolor{shibuiaccent}{text}`

Custom Environments I

Special environments provided by the theme:

shibuiframe

Minimal box with background color for highlighting concepts.
Usage: `\begin{shibuiframe}{Title} ... \end{shibuiframe}`

Custom Environments II (cont.)

Theorem Environments

`shibuitheorem[title]` – Theorem box
`shibuilemma[title]` – Lemma box
`shibuicorollary[title]` – Corollary box
`shibuidefinition[title]` – Definition box
`shibuiproposition[title]` – Proposition box
`shibuiproof` – Proof with QED symbol

Custom Environments III (cont.)

Callout Boxes

`shibiunote[title]` – Note/info box
`shibuiwarning[title]` – Warning box
`shibuitip[title]` – Tip/hint box

Citation Commands

`\cite{key}` – Normal inline citation
`\footcite{key}` – Footnote citation with full reference

All environments use theme colors and adapt to the active color scheme. Standard Beamer environments also work: blocks, columns, overlays, etc.

Custom Footer Text

Add custom text or logos above the progress bar:

footertext Command

The `\footertext{}` command lets you add custom text displayed above the progress bar in very small font.

Usage in preamble:

```
\footertext{Conference 2024 - Paris}
```

Perfect for adding: conference names, dates, institutional logos, or copyright notices.

The footer text appears on all slides except the title page and uses the secondary text color for minimal visual impact.

Additional Resources

- **Design References**
  - Japanese aesthetics: Wabi-sabi, Shibui, Ma
  - Minimalist design principles
  - Typography in presentation design
- **Color Schemes**
  - Solarized color palette
  - Nord theme
  - Gruvbox retro colors
- **Beamer Documentation**
  - Official Beamer user guide
  - Theme development guide

Troubleshooting I

Font Issues

If ET Book font is not available, Palatino is used as fallback. For Fira Sans, ensure the package is installed: `texlive-fonts-extra`

Color Problems

Ensure you're using XeLaTeX or pdfLaTeX with appropriate color packages. Theme loads colors automatically.

Troubleshooting II (cont.)

Progress Bar

Progress bar is automatically hidden on title page and plain frames. Three modes available:

- **basic** (default): Single continuous bar
- **segmented**: Section-based segments with gaps. Past sections are dimmed, current section fills progressively
- **none**: No bar, only page numbers

Use `noframenumbering` option to exclude specific frames from count.