Theme Development

06 Theme dev

Place holder Screenshot

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**Remove head Junk**

See next page for screenshots of what your page should look like

In this folder you can see the following:

Graphical user interface, application

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The files in this folder should look like 05 Theme Development. The root folder style.css file is still the same but just updated for the theme name.

Graphical user interface, text, application

Description automatically generated

For this tutorial there are two issues to be addressed. One is the head information in WordPress and the other is pages to be included that link to the menu.

# Head Junk

WordPress comes with a lot of information in the head of a page. As the example shows below.

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In amongst this information is JavaScript which should not be in the head and is deprecated because it contains “type=text/javascript”. There is also the WordPress version which is a security issue showing anyone who wants to hack the site what version to look up and find vulnerabilities – Simple google search will do this.

The only two that are valid is the ones that have been enqueued for the style sheet and the function for the favicon in the functions file.

There are two ways to deal with this information in the head and that is to remove some by writing more code in the “functions.php” file or just removing the “<?php wp\_head(); ?>” in the “header.php” file.

In the functions.php” file add the following code:

// Remove junk from head

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', '\_wp\_render\_title\_tag', 1 );

//remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'wp\_enqueue\_scripts', 1 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'wp\_resource\_hints', 2 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'feed\_links', 2 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'feed\_links\_extra', 3 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'rsd\_link' );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'wlwmanifest\_link' );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'locale\_stylesheet' );

remove\_action( 'publish\_future\_post', 'check\_and\_publish\_future\_post', 10, 1 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'wp\_robots', 1 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'print\_emoji\_detection\_script', 7 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'wp\_print\_styles', 8 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'wp\_print\_head\_scripts', 9 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'wp\_generator' );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'wp\_shortlink\_wp\_head', 10, 0 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'wp\_custom\_css\_cb', 101 );

remove\_action( 'wp\_head', 'wp\_site\_icon', 99 );

Save the file and view the code in the head of your page. It is a good idea to open another browser window so that the admin code does not appear as well.

Graphical user interface, text, application

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I opened this in Firefox to demonstrate. You will notice that there is a little less head information but has removed the css file. This can be tricky to work out what file should be removed. Try commenting some of them out and see what they do.

The information that is generated in the head are from a file in WordPress called “default\_filters.php”. To find this file open the folder “wp-includes” and look for the file.

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Open the file and scroll down to the comment “//Actions” around line 300.

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Description automatically generated

**Do not edit this page** as you would be directly editing the WordPress installation. The idea of creating themes is that they are portable and does not matter on which installation of WordPress you install the theme. Instead, what we have done is to edit the functions file and copied the above code and changed the “add\_action” to “remove\_action”. This counteracts the default action in WordPress.

Graphical user interface, text, application

Description automatically generated

This is one way to deal with the “head Junk” and the other way is to completely remove it by not including the head.

Open the “header.php” file.

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In notepad you should see the php calling for the head “wp\_head”.

Graphical user interface, text, application, email

Description automatically generated

Comment this out.

Graphical user interface, text, application

Description automatically generated

Save it and then have a look at the page in the browser.

Graphical user interface, text, application

Description automatically generated

You can now see that there is no information in the head. This is where you can now add your own information, such as the style sheet and any JavaScript.

Graphical user interface, text, application

Description automatically generated

This now completely negates the need for the “wp\_enqueue\_style” in the “functions.php” file. This is a decision that you will need to make considering WordPress default actions or hard coding for your client.

Either way looking at the code in each they are the same for the style link.

You can start to work on the next steps. See 07-Theme Development