

What is a TEMPLATE TAG?

Template tags are basically PHP functions, so any PHP function defined by a WordPress plugin or theme can be used as a template tag. To use a theme function as a template tag, the function should be defined in the theme's functions.php file.

Template tags are PHP functions, so they can also be used inside other PHP functions and template tags. In the example below, we have defined a function that displays some text.

```
Example- function donation_request() {  
    $this_article = wp_title("",true);  
    echo '<p>Hi, if you enjoyed reading '.$this_article.' please consider <a  
href="http://www.example.com/donate/">donating</a>.';  
}
```

What is a HOOK?

In WordPress theme and development, Hooks are functions that can be applied to an Action or a Filter in WordPress. Actions and Filters in WordPress are functions that can be modified by theme and plugin developers to change the default WordPress functionality.

In other words, WordPress hook is a feature that allows you to manipulate a procedure without modifying the file on WordPress core. A hook can be applied both to action (action hook) and filter (filter hook). Learning about hooks is essential for any WP user. It can help you to create some functions or edit the default settings of themes or plugins.

There are two different types of hook:

- **ACTION:** Actions define key moments when our own custom functions are triggered allowing additional features. To add an action hook, you must activate the **add_action()** function in the WordPress plugin.

```
Example- add_action('function name of target_hook',  
'The_name_of_function_you_want_to_use','priority_scale')
```

- **FILTERS:** Filters are used to retrieve values at various given moments so they can be modified or updated. You can create a filter hook by utilizing **apply_filters()** function. The hook filter is used to modify, filter, or replace a value with a new one.

Example- \$score = 100;
 echo "Current score is : ". apply_filters('change_score', \$score);

Functions:

Action Hooks are a very useful tool in WordPress and they are used to perform functions (actions) in specific places of a theme or plugin. Many themes and plugins, such as Total, use action hooks as an easy way for users to modify the output of the project or to add their own custom code.

- **my_project_remove_menu_page()**
 Custom function to remove useless elements from WordPress admin dashboard.
- **add_action()**
 Function *add_action()* calls the hook. The key moment is *admin_menu*. which means that the function is called when WordPress gets ready to display the admin menu.

Parameters to add to the function :

- **First parameter (the handle) :**
 Name given to your file (e.g. : your project's name).
- **Second parameter (file address) :**
 Using *get_template_directory_uri()* supplies the path to the theme. To declare a CSS file in the theme's root, the use *get_stylesheet_uri()* alone.
- **Array() :**
 The array is used to have WordPress scripts and stylesheets declared first.
- **Version number :**

the version number is used to indicate the version number of the files. When you update the file, simply increase the version number (e.g. : 1.1) so the browser's files in cache won't be used.

- **Boolean :**

A boolean is used last in scripts declaration. If *true*, the script is placed at the end of the page, if *false* the script is placed at the beginning of the page.

- **jQuery :**

In order to use the latest version of jQuery, since WordPress does it another way for older Explorer browsers, we have declared another version.