

9 MORE Ways to Change the Way Your WordPress Site Works With Functions

Thanks for signing up! As promised, here are your 9 additional functions to continue your site customization efforts:

11. Include Additional Author Profile Fields

A screenshot of a WordPress user profile editing interface. It shows two input fields: the top one is labeled 'Twitter username (without @)' and the bottom one is labeled 'Facebook profile URL'. Both fields are empty text boxes.

When you go to the Users area in WordPress you'll notice that you can punch in items such as Facebook and Twitter.

If you want to add a particular field for your users, simply add the code below and modify the areas for the particular fields you want to throw in. For example, instead of Twitter you can include an address and then go to the Users area in WordPress and punch in your address and even see it on your Author boxes.

This works for things like Twitter and Facebook too.

```
add_action( 'show_user_profile', 'my_show_extra_profile_fields' );
add_action( 'edit_user_profile', 'my_show_extra_profile_fields' );
function my_show_extra_profile_fields( $user ) { ?>
```

Then, to add a field in the backend, start throwing in lines like this:

```
function modify_contact_methods($profile_fields) {

    // Add new fields
    $profile_fields['twitter'] = 'Twitter Username';
    $profile_fields['facebook'] = 'Facebook URL';
    $profile_fields['gplus'] = 'Google+ URL';
    return $profile_fields;
}
add_filter('user_contactmethods', 'modify_contact_methods');
```

12. Change What Comes After the Excerpt More...

For some reason WordPress defaults to a More... option whenever a post is cut off on the homepage. This is fine, but maybe you want to customize it. You can take out the “...” and put in any symbols or text that you want.

```
// custom excerpt ellipses for 2.9
function custom_excerpt_more($more) {
    return '...';
}
add_filter('excerpt_more', 'custom_excerpt_more');
```

Just modify the “...” to whatever you want to show up. Then paste the following code below what we just put in.

```
/* custom excerpt ellipses for 2.8-
function custom_excerpt_more($excerpt) {
    return str_replace('[...]', '...', $excerpt);
}
add_filter('wp_trim_excerpt', 'custom_excerpt_more');
*/
```

13. Change When Your Posts Go Out on RSS

When you post a blog on your site the RSS feed doesn't care what time it is. The system simply sends out the RSS feed to everyone who is following, even if it is at an inconvenient time. Use the code in functions.php to customize when you want RSS posts to go out.

```
function publish_later_on_feed($where) {
    global $wpdb;

    if ( is_feed() ) {
        // timestamp in WP-format
        $now = gmdate('Y-m-d H:i:s');

        // value for wait; + device
        $wait = '30'; // integer
    }
}
```

This delays the RSS post for 30 minutes. Change the 30 to whatever you want, then paste the rest of the code to the bottom.

```
// http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.0/en/date-and-time-
functions.html#function_timestampdiff
$device = 'MINUTE'; //MINUTE, HOUR, DAY, WEEK, MONTH, YEAR

// add SQL-syntax to default $where
$where .= " AND TIMESTAMPDIFF($device, $wpdb->posts.post_date_gmt, '$now') >
$wait ";
}
return $where;
}
add_filter('posts_where', 'publish_later_on_feed');
```

14. Place a PayPal Donate Shortcode on Your Site



This is once again one of those tasks you can complete with a plugin, but why put the burden on your site? If you need people to donate to your site then just add the code below and include a link to your PayPal account as well.

```
function paypal_donate( $atts ) {
    extract(shortcode_atts(array(
        'text' => 'Consider Making a Donation to the Site',
        'account' => 'Include your account name in this area',
        'for' => '',
    ), $atts));
    global $post;
    if (!$for) $for = str_replace(" ", "+", $post->post_title);
```

Remember to change the account name to connect to PayPal and you can also modify what the button says. Place the following code below it. The shortcode created is [donate].

```
    return '<a class="paypal_donate" href="https://www.paypal.com/cgi-
bin/webscr?cmd=_xclick&business='.$account.'&item_name=Donation+for+'.$for.'">
'.$text.'</a>';
}
add_shortcode('donate', 'paypal_donate');
```

15. Put Adsense on Your Site with a Shortcode

Adsense is a great way to make money on your site with click-throughs, so include the code below in the functions.php file and you can start making money. With the code you can change the dimensions of the ads and punch in the Adsense code to link to your account. The true function of this feature is to place the shortcode wherever you want on your site.

```
function adsenseads() {  
    return '<div id="adsenseads">Place the script for Adsense here</div>';  
}
```

Remember to modify the area for your Adsense script. Place the following code below it.

```
add_shortcode('showmyads', 'adsenseads');
```

The shortcode created is [adsense], so you can use this anywhere.

16. Register Your Sidebar Widgets

This is a common function, but it's worth mentioning for newer webmasters. Put the code below in your functions file to register two sidebars. You can always change the amount of sidebars you want.

```
if ( function_exists('register_sidebar') )  
register_sidebar(array('name'=>'MiddleSidebar',  
'before_widget' => '<li class="widget">',  
'after_widget' => '</li>',  
'before_title' => '<h2 class="widgettitle">',  
'after_title' => '</h3>',  
));
```

Feel free to customize this however you want, then add the following code to the end.

```
register_sidebar(array('name'=>'FooterSidebar',  
'before_widget' => '<li class="widget">',  
'after_widget' => '</li>',  
'before_title' => '<h2 class="widgettitle">',  
'after_title' => '</h3>',  
));
```

To show the sidebars in your theme you need to place the following code wherever you want.

```
<?php if ( !function_exists('dynamic_sidebar') ||
!dynamic_sidebar('MiddleSidebar') ) : ?>
<!--You can change your default sidebar content here-->

<?php endif; ?>
```

17. Include Thumbnails on Your RSS Posts

RSS feeds are rather boring, since they usually just pull text from your post. Include a thumbnail to improve the chances of people clicking on the posts.

```
function rss_post_thumbnail($content) {
global $post;
if(has_post_thumbnail($post->ID)) {
$content = '<p>' . get_the_post_thumbnail($post->ID) .
'</p>' . get_the_content();
}
```

You really don't have to customize anything in the code above. Just add the following code right below it and you just be good.

```
return $content;
}
add_filter('the_excerpt_rss', 'rss_post_thumbnail');
add_filter('the_content_feed', 'rss_post_thumbnail');
```

18. Take Out Some Default Fields That Show Up on Your Author Profile

We talked about adding default fields for users above, but you can also remove fields with this code.

```
add_filter('user_contactmethods','hide_profile_fields',10,1);

function hide_profile_fields( $contactmethods ) {
unset($contactmethods['twitter']);
return $contactmethods;
}
```

This works for adding something like Twitter, but you can add any field you want, like AIM:

```
unset($contactmethods['aim']);
```

19. Create Your Own Dashboard Widgets

Every theme you use has custom widgets that go along with the theme. Good news! You can also make your own custom dashboard widgets and put them on your own sites or themes. Simply modify the code below however you want and add it to the functions file.

```
<?php
function dashboard_widget_function(){
# This is the area you define what your widget does and give it a little
content. echo '
    Put in any HTML right here and any content you want '; } ?>
```

After that, make sure you customize all the necessary areas in your code and place the following code just beneath what we just place in the functions.php area.

```
<?php
function add_dashboard_widgets(){
# we defining a function to hook to the wp_dashboard_setup action
wp_add_dashboard_widget(
'widget_id',
'Title',
'dashboard_widget_function'
# giving our widget an id, title and contents
# the contents of the widget are that of our dashboard_widget_function()
); }
?>
```

The final step is to add the following code at the bottom.

```
<?php
add_action('wp_dashboard_setup', 'add_dashboard_widgets');
# hooking our add_dashboard_widgets function to the wp_dashboard_setup action
?>
```