

WordPress Theming

Going Beyond the Dashboard

Brian Rettner
@brettner

Who is Brian?



PHP Developer for 14+ years

WordPress User / Developer Since 2004

Head Organizer of Dayton WordPress Meetup

Organizer of Dayton WordCamp

Contributor to WordPress

WordPress Community Supporter

Developer Advocate @ Okta

Topics

- About WordPress
- What is a Theme
- What is a Child Theme
- Developing a Child Theme

WordPress Theming:

Going Beyond the Dashboard

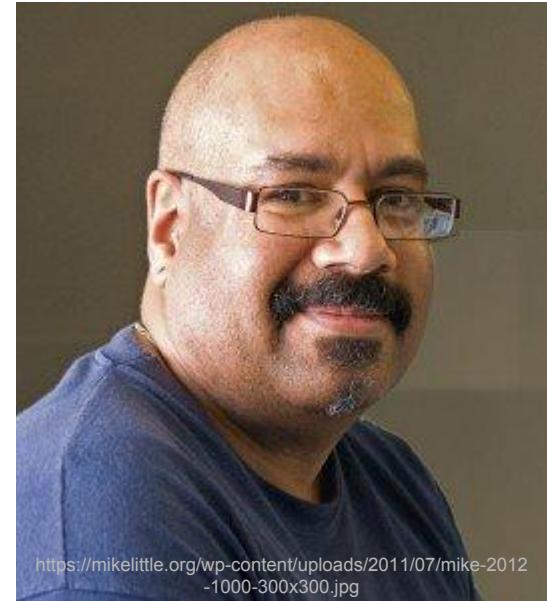
- About WordPress
- What is a Theme
- What is a Child Theme
- Developing a Child Theme

Matt Mullenweg



<https://poststatus.com/matt-mullenweg-state-word-2017/>

Mike Little



<https://mikelittle.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/mike-2012-1000-300x300.jpg>



WORDPRESS

EST. 2003

CODE IS POETRY

AUTOMATTIC



WORDPRESS.COM



LONGREADS



VaultPress



Gravatar

Cloudup

A·kis·met

Polldaddy

WHO USES WORDPRESS?

The
WALT DISNEY
Company

facebook
newsroom



The
New York
Times

31%

the Rolling Stones



TC
TechCrunch

STAR
WARS



vs



WordPress Theming:

Going Beyond the Dashboard

- About WordPress
- What is a Theme
- What is a Child Theme
- Developing a Child Theme



Showcase Themes Plugins Mobile Support Get Involved About Blog Hosting

Search WordPress.org



Download WordPress

Theme Directory

Commercial Themes Upload Your Theme

15

Featured

Popular

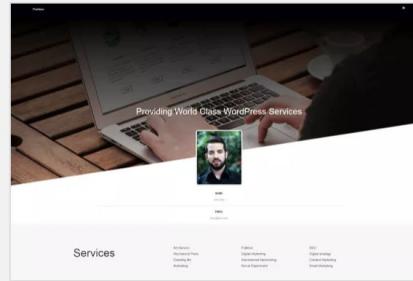
Latest

Feature Filter

Search themes...



Twenty Seventeen



Portfolioo



D-lite

```
→ twentyseventeen ls
Permissions Size User      Date Modified Name
.rw-r--r--  909 bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 404.php
.rw-r--r--  1.8k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 archive.php
drwxr-xr-x   - bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 assets
.rw-r--r--  2.4k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 comments.php
.rw-r--r--  1.3k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 footer.php
.rw-r--r--  1.5k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 front-page.php
.rw-r--r--  18k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 functions.php
.rw-r--r--  1.8k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 header.php
drwxr-xr-x   - bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 inc
.rw-r--r--  2.1k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 index.php
.rw-r--r--  965 bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 page.php
.rw-r--r--  3.5k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 README.txt
.rw-r--r--  9.6k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 rtl.css
.rw-r--r--  363k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 screenshot.png
.rw-r--r--  2.0k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 search.php
.rw-r--r--  948 bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 searchform.php
.rw-r--r--  505 bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 sidebar.php
.rw-r--r--  1.6k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 single.php
.rw-r--r--  83k bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 style.css
drwxr-xr-x   - bretterer 12 Jul 18:02 template-parts
```

```
➔ twentyseventeen head -n18 style.css
```

```
/*
Theme Name: Twenty Seventeen
Theme URI: https://wordpress.org/themes/twentyseventeen/
Author: the WordPress team
Author URI: https://wordpress.org/
Description: Twenty Seventeen brings your site to life with header video and immersive featured images. With a focus on business sites, it features multiple sections on the front page as well as widgets, navigation and social menus, a logo, and more. Personalize its asymmetrical grid with a custom color scheme and showcase your multimedia content with post formats. Our default theme for 2017 works great in many languages, for any abilities, and on any device.
Version: 1.6
License: GNU General Public License v2 or later
License URI: http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-2.0.html
Text Domain: twentyseventeen
Tags: one-column, two-columns, right-sidebar, flexible-header, accessibility-ready, custom-colors, custom-header, custom-menu, custom-logo, editor-style, featured-images, footer-widgets, post-formats, rtl-language-support, sticky-post, theme-options, threaded-comments, translation-ready

This theme, like WordPress, is licensed under the GPL.
Use it to make something cool, have fun, and share what you've learned with others.
*/
```

KCDC2018-Themes 0 + New

Howdy, brianretterer 🇺🇸 Help ▾

Dashboard Posts Media Pages Comments Appearance Themes Add New Search installed themes...

Themes 1 Current Theme

Twenty Seventeen Version: 1.6

By the WordPress team

Twenty Seventeen brings your site to life with header video and immersive featured images. With a focus on business sites, it features multiple sections on the front page as well as widgets, navigation and social menus, a logo, and more. Personalize its asymmetrical grid with a custom color scheme and showcase your multimedia content with post formats. Our default theme for 2017 works great in many languages, for any abilities, and on any device.

Tags: one-column, two-columns, right-sidebar, flexible-header, accessibility-ready, custom-colors, custom-header, custom-menu, custom-logo, editor-style, featured-images, footer-widgets, post-formats, rtl-language-support, sticky-post, theme-options, threaded-comments, translation-ready

Customize Widgets Menus Header

A screenshot of the WordPress dashboard under the 'Appearance' section, specifically the 'Themes' tab. It shows a preview of the Twenty Seventeen theme, which features a dark grey circular planter with a succulent on a light-colored wooden table. The theme's header includes the text 'TWENTY SEVENTEEN' and 'Bringing your business' site to life'. Below the preview are four buttons: 'Customize' (highlighted in blue), 'Widgets', 'Menus', and 'Header'.





Archive Page

Archive Page

Singular Page

Site Front Page

Blog Posts Index page

Error 404 Page

Search Result Page

Author Archive

Category Archive

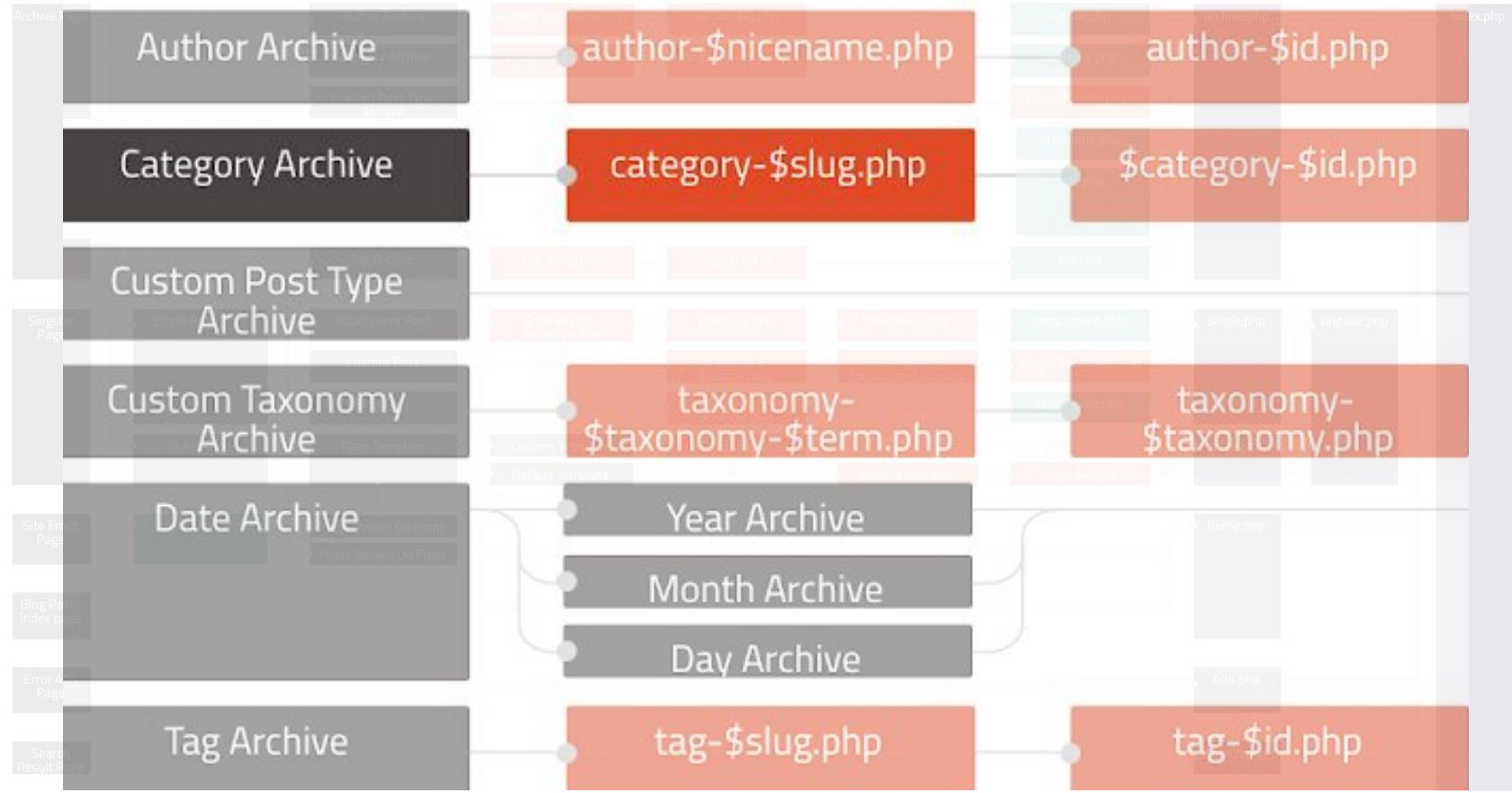
Custom Post Type Archive

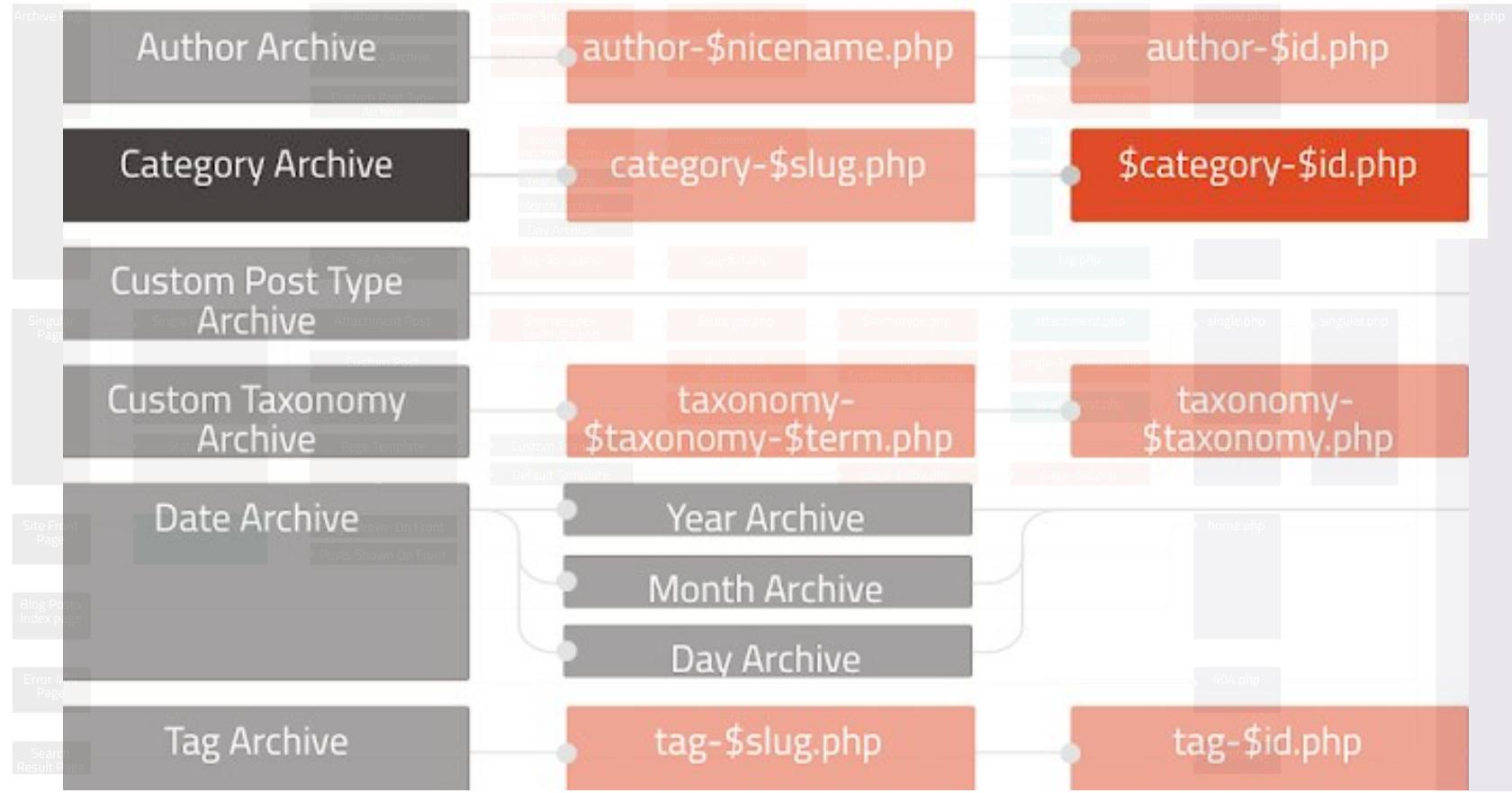
Custom Taxonomy Archive

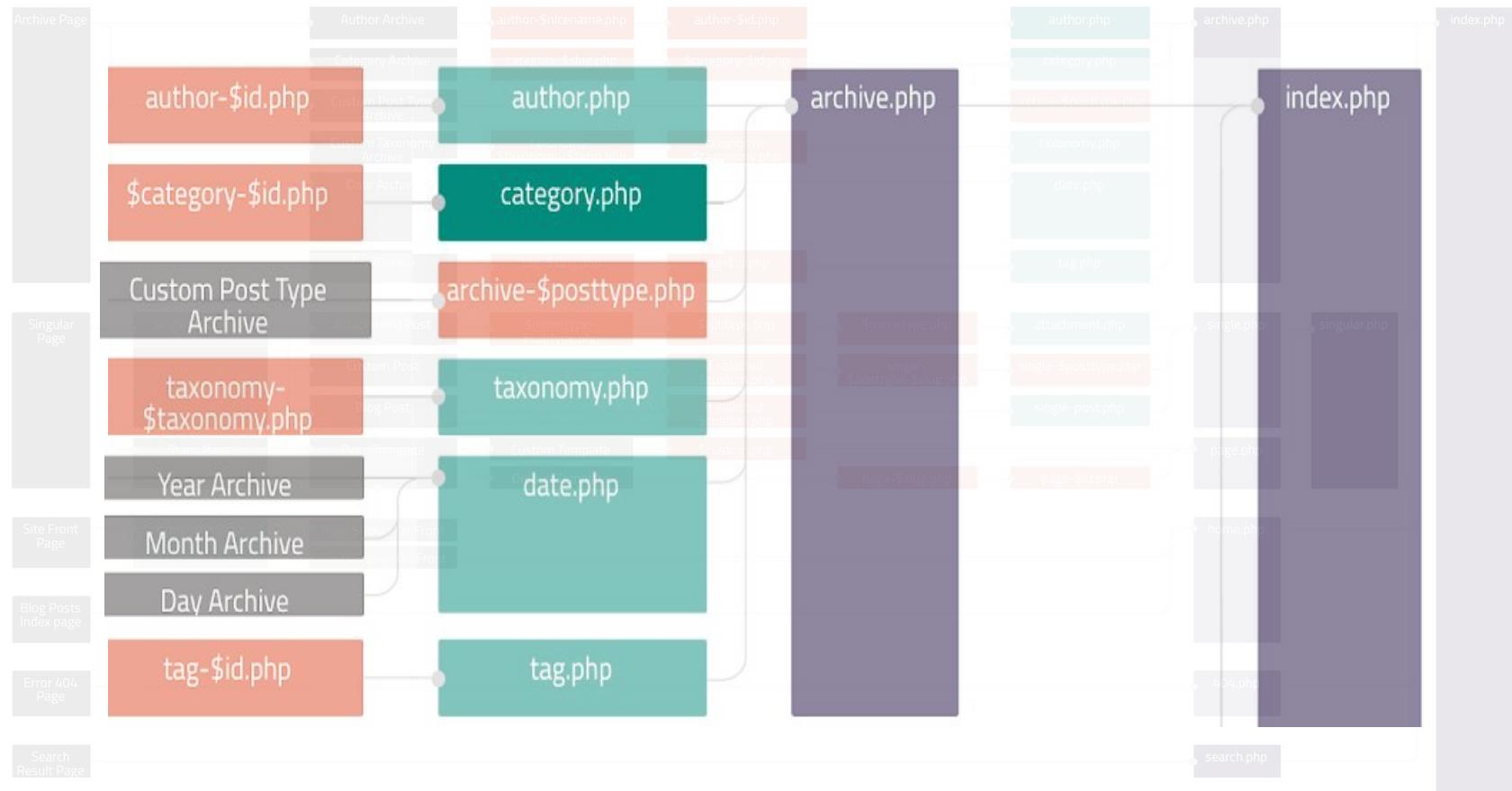
Date Archive

Tag Archive

index.php

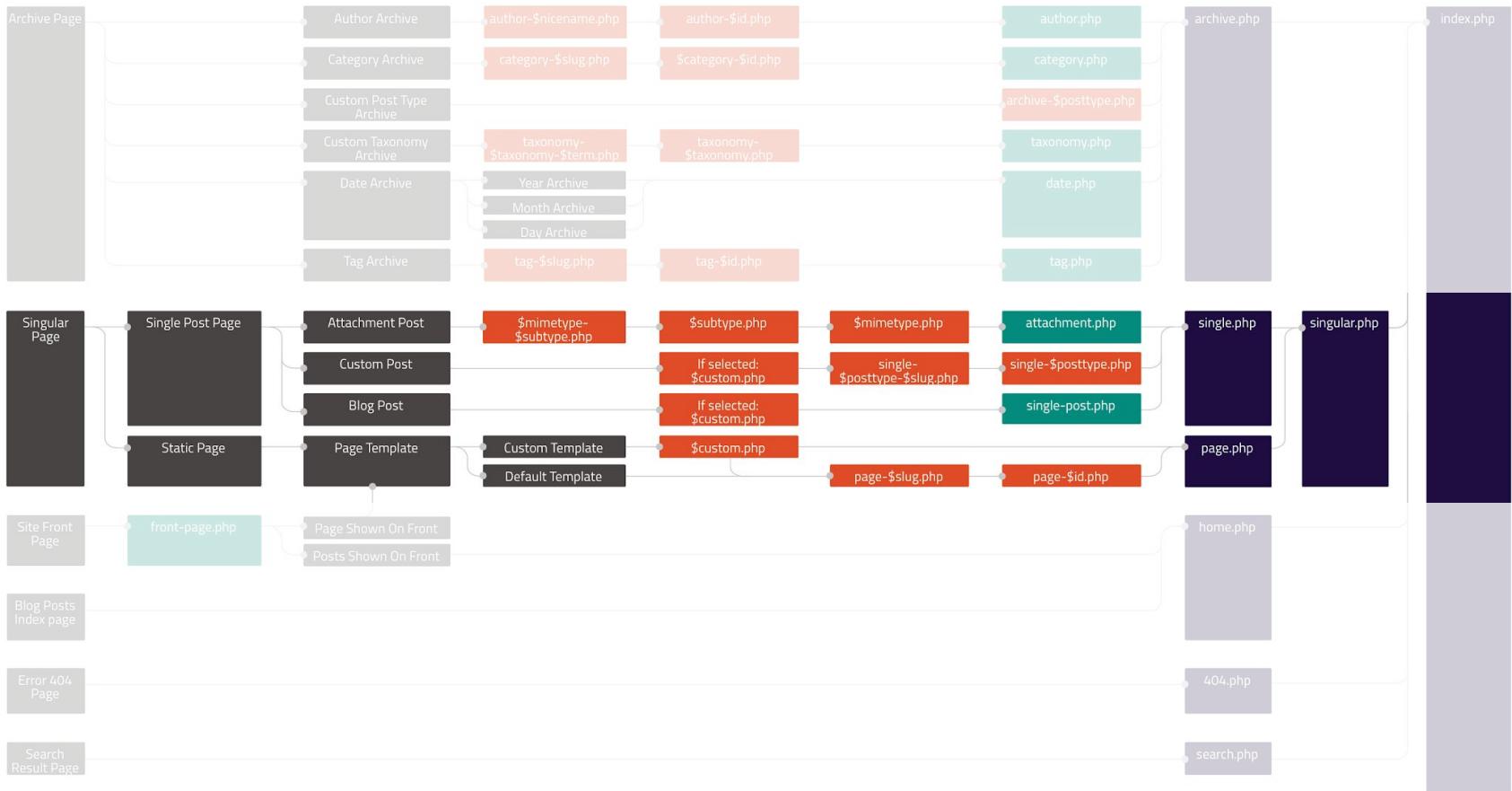


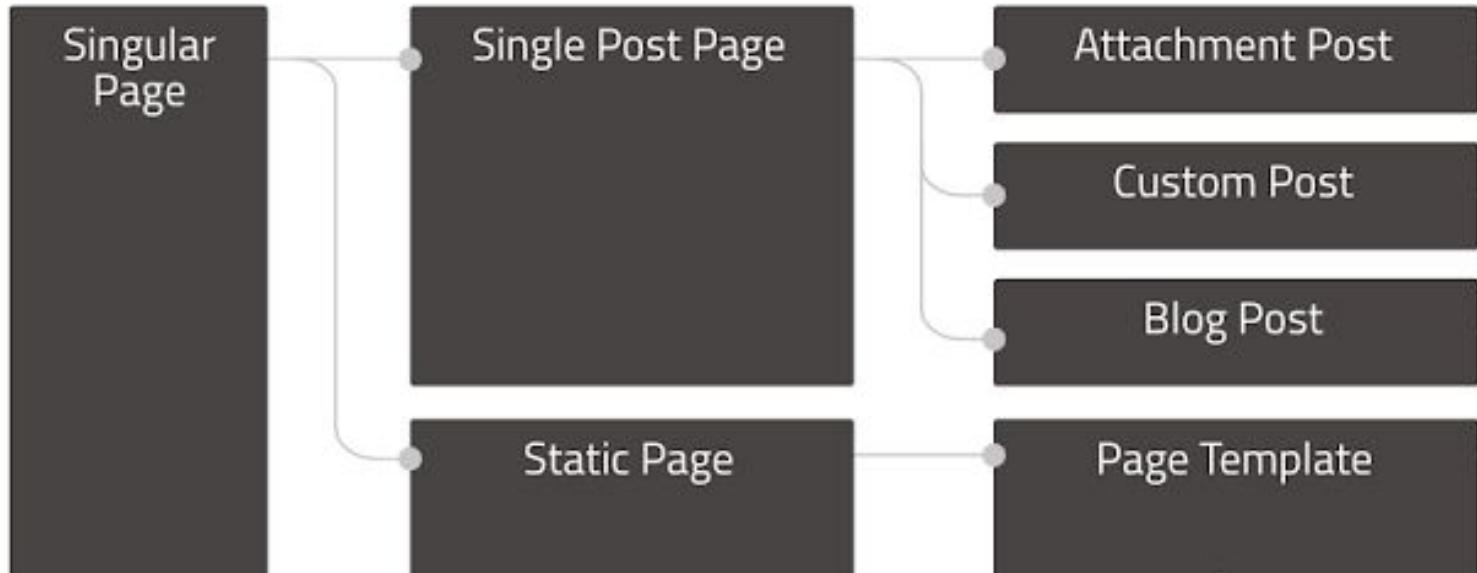


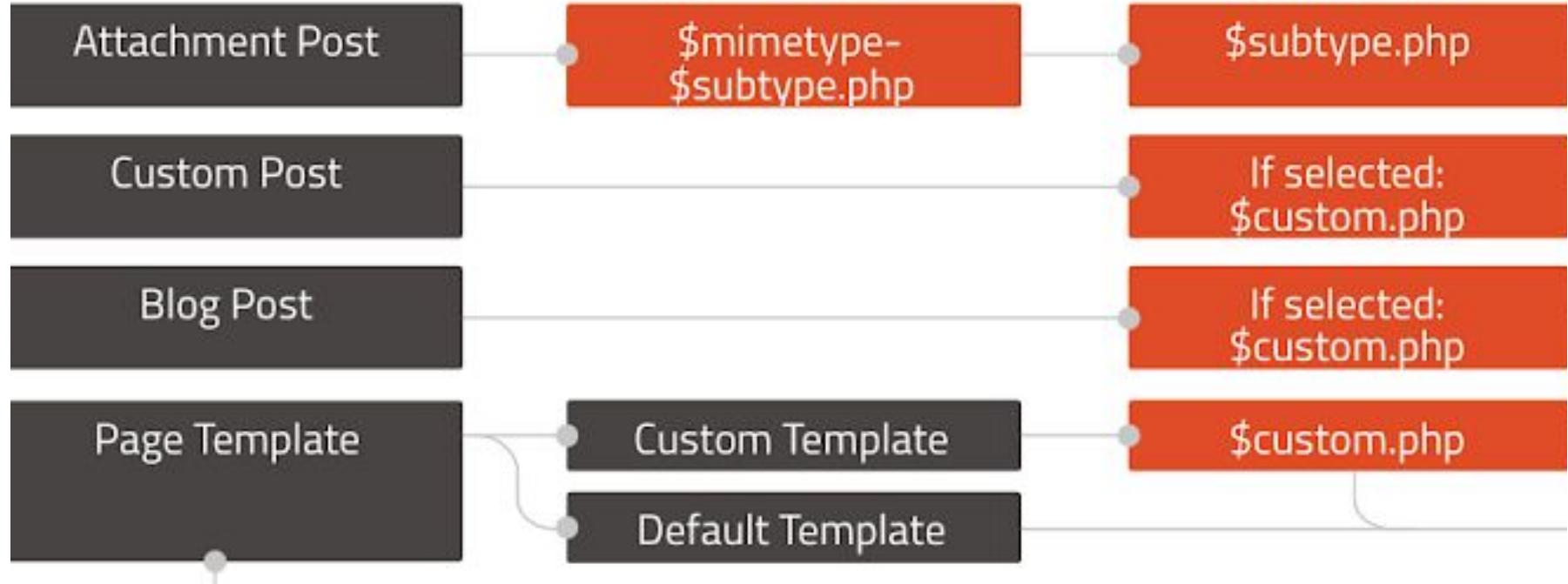


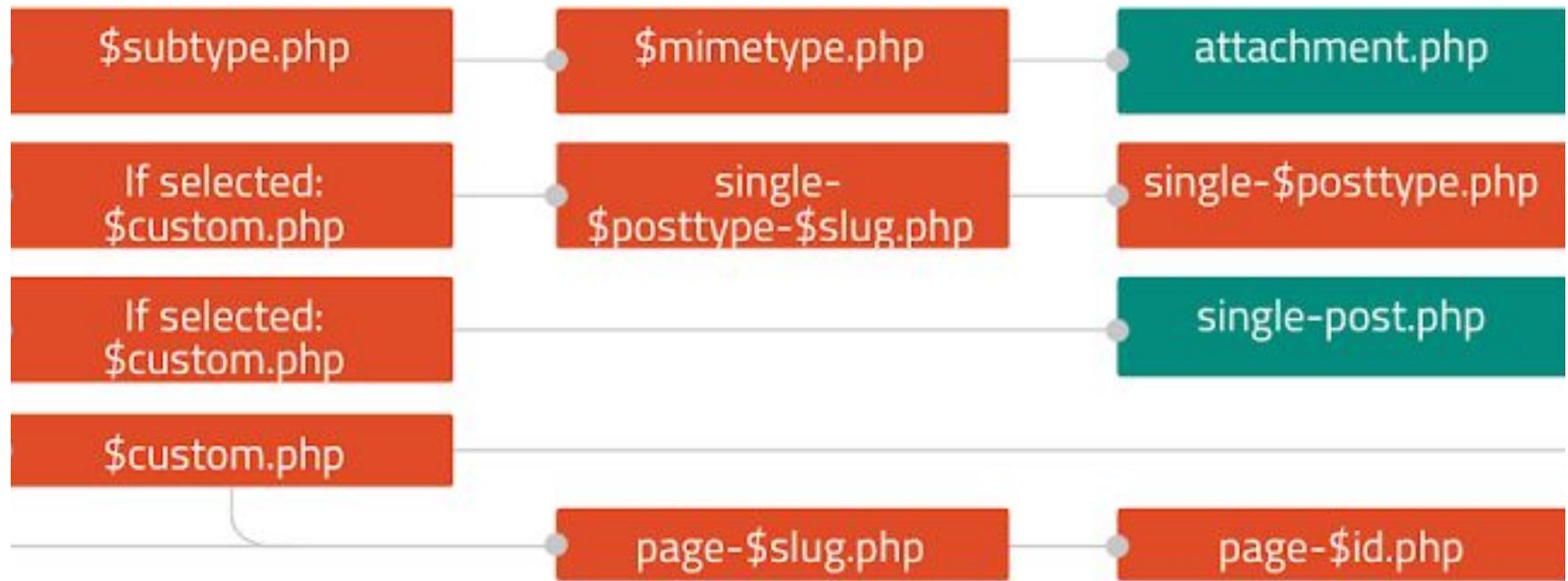


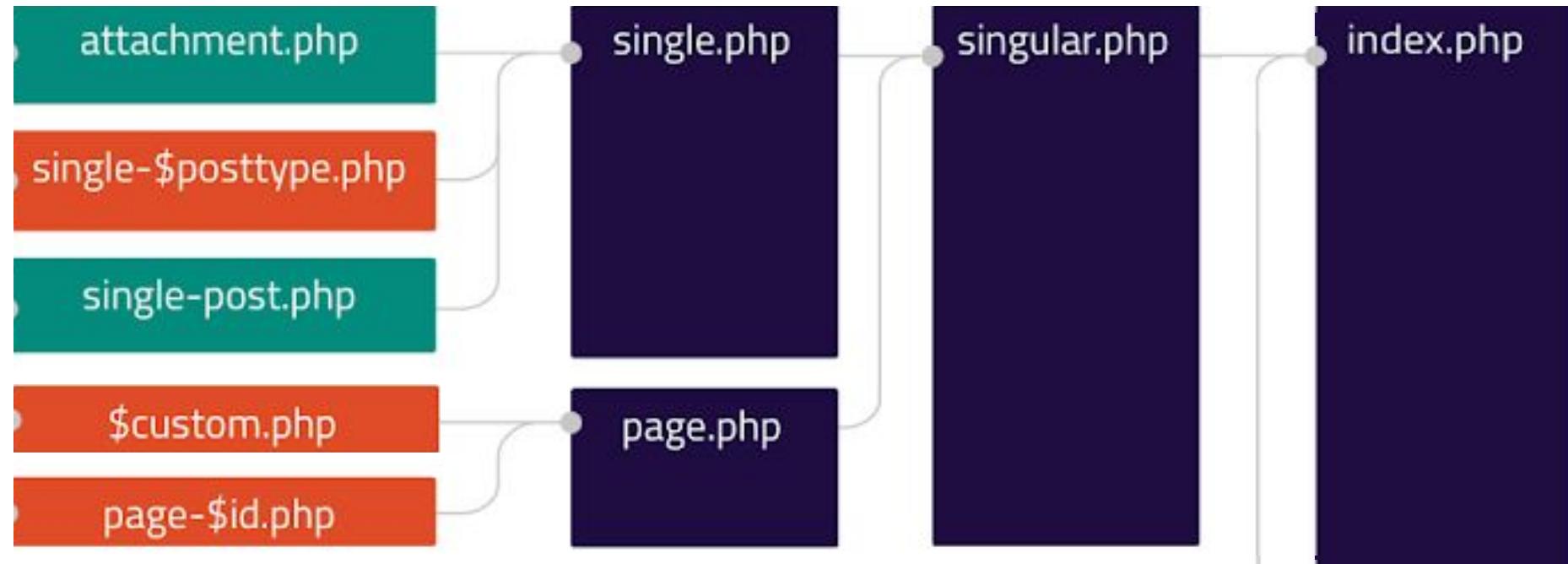












WordPress Theming:

Going Beyond the Dashboard

- About WordPress
- What is a Theme
- **What is a Child Theme**
- Developing a Child Theme

WHEN SHOULD I USE A CHILD THEME?

CATEGORIES

Uncategorized

META

[Site Admin](#)

[Log out](#)

[Entries RSS](#)

[Comments RSS](#)

[WordPress.org](#)

Proudly powered by [WordPress](#)

W Sandbox 3 0 + New Expires in 23 hours, 55 minutes demo

Edit Themes

Twenty Seventeen: site-info.php (template-parts/footer/site-info.php)

Select theme to edit: Twenty Seventeen Select

Selected file content:

```
1 <?php
2 /**
3 * Displays footer site info
4 *
5 * @package WordPress
6 * @subpackage Twenty_Seventeen
7 * @since 1.0
8 * @version 1.0
9 */
10
11 ?>
12 <div class="site-info">
13     <a href=<?php echo esc_url( __( 'https://wordpress.org/' ), 'twentyseventeen'
14 )?>><?php printf( __( 'This was changed in the parent %s theme!', 'twentyseventeen' ), 'WordPress' ); ?></a>
15 </div><!-- .site-info -->
```

Theme Files

- Search Form (searchform.php)
- Sidebar (sidebar.php)
- Single Post (single.php)
- template-parts ▾
 - footer ▾
 - footer-widgets.php
 - site-info.php**
 - header ▶
 - navigation ▶
 - page ▶
 - post ▶
- README.txt

Documentation: Function Name... ▾ Look Up

Update File

Uncategorized

META

[Site Admin](#)

[Log out](#)

[Entries RSS](#)

[Comments RSS](#)

[WordPress.org](#)

This was changed in the parent WordPress theme!

Themes

The following themes have new versions available. Check the ones you want to update and then click "Update Themes".

Please Note: Any customizations you have made to theme files will be lost. Please consider using [child themes](#) for modifications.

Update Themes

Select All



Twenty Fifteen

You have version 1.9 installed. Update to 2.0.



Twenty Seventeen

You have version 1.5 installed. Update to 1.6.



Twenty Sixteen

You have version 1.4 installed. Update to 1.5.

Select All

Update Themes



Select All



Twenty Fifteen

You have version 1.9 installed. Update to 2.0.



Twenty Seventeen

You have version 1.5 installed. Update to 1.6.



Twenty Sixteen

You have version 1.4 installed. Update to 1.5.



Select All

Update Themes

The update process is starting. This process may take a while on some hosts, so please be patient.

Enabling Maintenance mode...

Updating Theme Twenty Fifteen (1/3)

Twenty Fifteen updated successfully. [Show details.](#)

Updating Theme Twenty Seventeen (2/3)

Twenty Seventeen updated successfully. [Show details.](#)

Updating Theme Twenty Sixteen (3/3)

Twenty Sixteen updated successfully. [Show details.](#)

Disabling Maintenance mode...

All updates have been completed.

[Return to Themes page](#) | [Return to WordPress Updates page](#)

Themes

Your themes are all up to date.

CATEGORIES

Uncategorized

META

[Site Admin](#)

[Log out](#)

[Entries RSS](#)

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WHEN SHOULD I AVOID A CHILD THEME?

WHEN SHOULD I AVOID CHILD THEME?

NEVER!

WordPress Theming:

Going Beyond the Dashboard

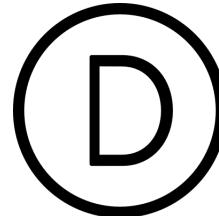
- About WordPress
- What is a Theme
- What is a Child Theme
- Developing a Child Theme

STARTER BOILERPLATE VS CUSTOM

STARTER BOILERPLATE



Genesis
Framework



CUSTOM



I Am Devloper

@iamdevloper

Following



Boilerplates:

For when you don't want to learn the underlying technology, immediately bloat your codebase with 80% unused code and find it impossible to customise literally anything 3 months down the line.

5:35 AM - 10 Jul 2018



KCDC2018-Themes



Customize



0



New

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KCDC2018-THEMES

Just another WordPress site



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DISCLAIMER



Publish

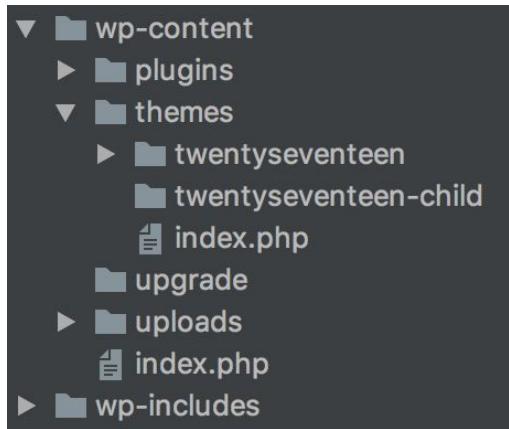


Customizing



Additional CSS

```
1 body.has-header-image .site-title,  
2 body.has-header-video .site-title,  
3 body.has-header-image .site-title a,  
4 body.has-header-video .site-title a {  
5     color: #0073aa;  
6 }
```



Appearance

Themes

Customize

Widgets

Menus

Header

Editor

Plugins

Users

Tools

Customize **Widgets**

Broken Themes

The following themes are installed but incomplete.

Name	Description	Delete
twentyseventeen-child	Stylesheet is missing.	Delete

The screenshot shows the WordPress dashboard's Appearance section. On the left, a sidebar displays the file structure of the 'wp-content' directory, including 'plugins', 'themes' (containing 'twentyseventeen' and 'twentyseventeen-child'), 'upgrade', 'uploads', and 'wp-includes'. The 'twentyseventeen-child' theme is selected. The main panel shows the 'Appearance' menu with options like 'Themes', 'Customize', 'Widgets', 'Menus', 'Header', 'Editor', 'Plugins', 'Users', 'Tools', and 'Settings'. A large button labeled 'Customize' is visible. Below it, a section titled 'Broken Themes' lists installed themes that are incomplete. The 'twentyseventeen-child' theme is listed with a 'Delete' link next to it. The description for the theme states: 'Template is missing. Standalone themes need to have a index.php template file. Child themes need to have a Template header in the style.css stylesheet.'

Appearance

Themes

Customize

Widgets

Menus

Header

Editor

Plugins

Users

Tools

Settings

Customize Widgets

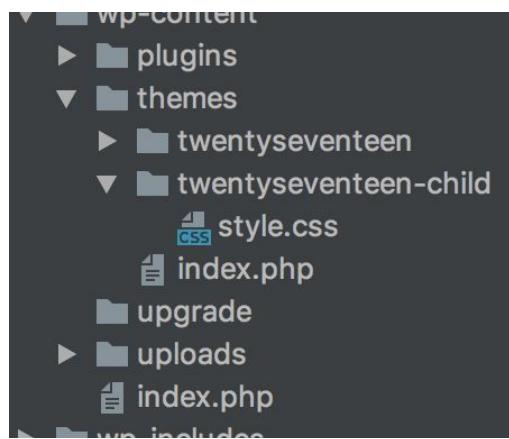
Broken Themes

The following themes are installed but incomplete.

Name	Description
twentyseventeen-child	Template is missing. Standalone themes need to have a <code>index.php</code> template file. Child themes need to have a Template header in the <code>style.css</code> stylesheet.

Delete

```
/*
Theme Name: ... Twenty Seventeen Child
Theme URI: ... http://example.com/twenty-seventeen-child/
Description: Twenty Seventeen Child Theme
Author: ... Brian Rettener
Author URI: ... http://brianrettener.com
Template: ... twentyseventeen
Version: ... 1.0.0
License: ... GNU General Public License v2 or later
License URI: ... http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-2.0.html
Tags: ... one-column, two-columns, right-sidebar, flexible-header,
... accessibility-ready, custom-colors, custom-header, custom-menu,
... custom-logo, editor-style, featured-images, footer-widgets,
... post-formats, rtl-language-support, sticky-post, theme-options,
... threaded-comments, translation-ready
Text Domain: ... twenty-seventeen-child
*/
```



```
body.has-header-image style.css?ver=4.9.7:1601
.site-title,
body.has-header-video .site-title, body.has-
header-image .site-title a, body.has-header-
video .site-title a {
    color: □#fff;
}
```

```
body.has-header-image .site-title,
body.has-header-video .site-title,
body.has-header-image .site-title a,
body.has-header-video .site-title a {
    color: #0073aa;
}
```



Dashboard

Posts

Media

Pages

Comments

Appearance

Themes

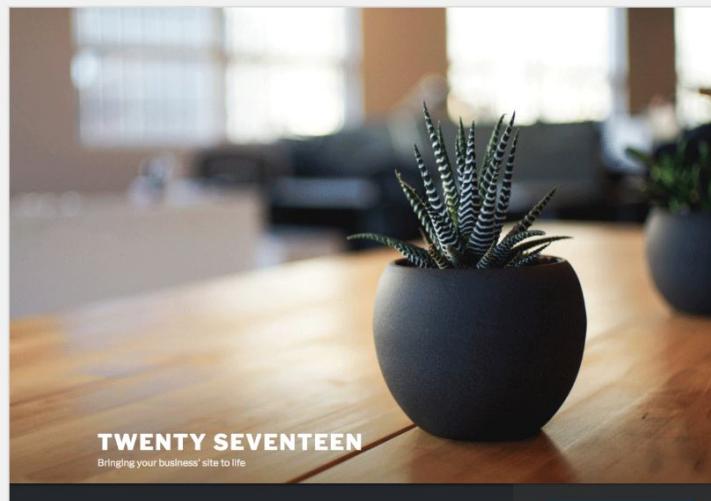
Customize

Widgets

Menus

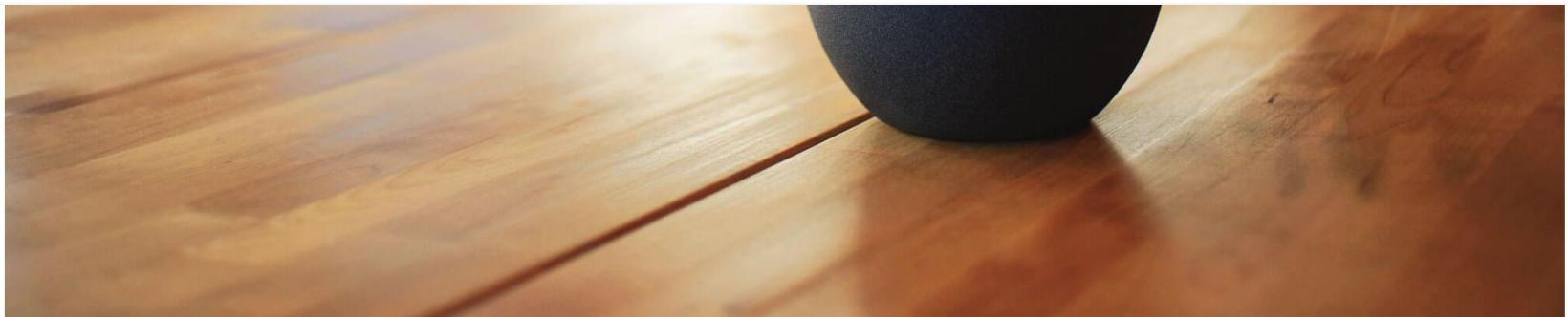
Header

Editor

Themes 2[Add New](#)[Help ▾](#)[Theme Details](#)

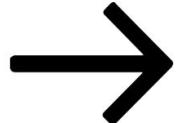
Twenty Seventeen Child

[Activate](#)[Live Preview](#)



KCDC2018-Themes

Just another WordPress site



[Scroll down to content](#)

Posts

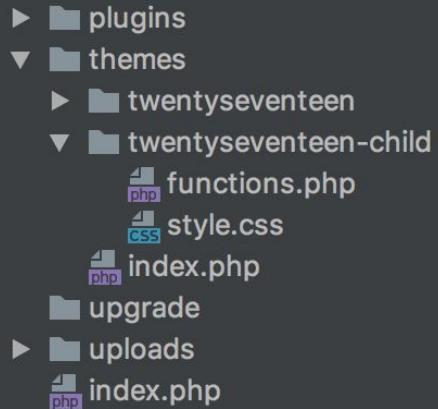
Posted on [July 13, 2018](#)[Edit "Hello world!"](#)

[Hello world!](#)

Welcome to WordPress. This is your first post. Edit or delete it, then start writing!



WHAT
HAPPENED?



WP_ENQUEUE_STYLE()

```
<?php

add_action( 'wp_enqueue_scripts', 'twentyseventeen_child_setup' );
function twentyseventeen_child_setup() {
    wp_enqueue_style( 'parent-style', get_template_directory_uri() . '/style.css' );
}
```



KCDC2018-Themes



Customize



0



New

Howdy, brianretterer



NOT BLUE!



KCDC2018-THEMES

Just another WordPress site



```
<?php
```

```
add_action( 'wp_enqueue_scripts', 'twentyseventeen_child_setup' );
function twentyseventeen_child_setup() {
    $parent_style = 'parent-style'; // This is 'twentyseventeen-style' for the Twenty Seventeen theme.

    wp_enqueue_style( $parent_style, src: get_template_directory_uri() . '/style.css' );
    wp_enqueue_style( handle: 'child-style',
        src: get_stylesheet_directory_uri() . '/style.css',
        array( $parent_style ),
        wp_get_theme()->get('Version')
    );
}
```



KCDC2018-Themes

Customize

0

+ New

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KCDC2018-THEMES

Just another WordPress site



WordPress Theming: Going Beyond the Dashboard

Brian Retterer | @bretterer

WORDPRESS CUSTOMIZER

x

Publish 

You are customizing  KCDC2018-Themes

Active theme Twenty Seventeen Child 

Site Identity >

Colors >

Header Media >

Menus >

Widgets >

Homepage Settings >

Theme Options >  KCDC2018-THEMES

Additional CSS >  Just another WordPress site

 Hide Controls   

 Home About Blog Contact



Saturday & Sunday: 11:00AM–3:00PM

Search ...



Proudly powered by WordPress

▼ twentyseventeen

► assets

► inc

▼ template-parts

▼ footer

footer-widgets.php

site-info.php

▼ twentyseventeen-child

▼ template-parts

▼ footer

site-info.php

functions.php

style.css

index.php

Saturday & Sunday: 11:00AM–3:00PM

Search ...



▼ twentyseventeen

- ▶ assets
- ▶ inc
- ▶ template-parts
- 404.php
- functions.php

▼ twentyseventeen-child

- ▼ template-parts
 - ▼ footer
 - site-info.php
 - functions.php
 - style.css
 - index.php

```
add_action( 'customize_register', 'twentyseventeen_child_add_powered_by_customizer' );  
function twentyseventeen_child_add_powered_by_customizer( $wp_customize ) {  
}  
}
```

https://codex.wordpress.org/Theme_Customization_API

ADDING SETTING

```
add_action( 'customize_register', 'twentyseventeen_child_add_powered_by_customizer' );
function twentyseventeen_child_add_powered_by_customizer( $wp_customize ) {
    $wp_customize->add_setting( 'powered-by-text' , array(
        'default' => 'Powered By WordPress!',
        'transport' => 'refresh',
    ));
}
```

ADDING SECTION

```
add_action( 'customize_register', 'twentyseventeen_child_add_powered_by_customizer' );
function twentyseventeen_child_add_powered_by_customizer( $wp_customize ) {
    $wp_customize->add_setting( 'powered-by-text' , array( ... ) );

    $wp_customize->add_section( 'twentyseventeen_child_footer' , array(
        'title' => __( 'Footer Section', 'twenty-seventeen-child' ),
        'priority' => 30,
    ) );
}
```

ADDING CONTROL

```
add_action( 'customize_register', 'twentyseventeen_child_add_powered_by_customizer' );  
  
function twentyseventeen_child_add_powered_by_customizer( $wp_customize ) {  
    $wp_customize->add_setting( 'powered-by-text' , array( ... ) );  
  
    $wp_customize->add_section( 'twentyseventeen_child_footer' , array( ... ) );  
  
    $wp_customize->add_control( new WP_Customize_Control( $wp_customize, id: 'powered_by', array(  
        'label'      => __( 'Powered By Text', 'twenty-seventeen-child' ),  
        'section'    => 'twentyseventeen_child_footer',  
        'settings'   => 'powered-by-text',  
    ) ) );  
}
```

X

Publish

You are customizing **KCDC2018-Themes**

Active theme **Twenty Seventeen Child**

Site Identity

Footer Section

X

Publish

Customizing
Footer Section

Powered By Text

Powered By WordPress!

Saturday & Sunday: 11:00AM–3:00PM

Search ...



```
<div class="site-info">  
    <?php echo get_theme_mod( 'name: "powered-by-text", default: '' ); ?>  
</div><!-- .site-info -->
```

X

Publish 

Customizing
Footer Section

Powered By Text

Powered By WordPress!

 Hide Controls   



Home

About

Blog

Contact

Hours

Monday—Friday: 9:00AM–5:00PM

Saturday & Sunday: 11:00AM–3:00PM



SEARCH

Search ...



Powered By WordPress!

X

Publish



Home

About

Blog

Contact

Customizing

Footer Section

Powered By Text

Hello KCDC

Hide Controls



SEARCH

Search ...

Hello KCDC



```
add_action( 'customize_register', 'twentyseventeen_child_add_powered_by_customizer' );
function twentyseventeen_child_add_powered_by_customizer( $wp_customize ) {
    $wp_customize->add_setting( 'powered-by-text' , array(...) );
    $wp_customize->add_section( 'twentyseventeen_child_footer' , array(...) );
    $wp_customize->add_control( new WP_Customize_Control( $wp_customize, id: 'powered_by', array(...) ) );
    $wp_customize->selective_refresh->add_partial( 'powered-by-text', array(
        'selector' => '.site-info',
        'render_callback' => 'twentyseventeen_customize_partial_powered_by_text',
    ) );
}
```

X

Publish



About

Blog

Contact

Customizing
Footer Section

Powered By Text

Powered By WordPress!

-Friday: 9:00AM–5:00PM
& Sunday: 11:00AM–3:00PM



SEARCH

Search ...

Hide Controls



Powered By WordPress!

TITANIUM SPONSORS



Couchbase



ADAPTIVE™
SOLUTIONS GROUP

okta

PLATINUM SPONSORS



jack henry®
& ASSOCIATES INC.

JANE

K KOCH™

ProKarma

slackify



AutoAlert®

Knowledge is Power. Timing is Everything.

FANTHREESIXTY ▶



epiQ

OPENAPI
INITIATIVE



GOLD SPONSORS

smartsheet
Work Better™

Advantage
Tech IT Staffing &
Recruiting Services

PLURALSIGHT
TECHNOLOGIES
INTELLIGENT PARKING. PERPETUAL SUCCESS.

CENTRIQ
TRAINING
LRS
CONSULTING SERVICES
Balance Innovations

Mediware™
SAIC
Redefining Ingenuity™
sing service management group®

Cerner
EDWARDS CAMPUS
The University of Kansas

balancepoint

Commerce Bank

Ayiture
ingenuity. engineered.

Cox AUTOMOTIVE™

GARMIN.

TEKsystems
Our people make it possible

Quicken Loans®

Progress® Telerik®

ascend
LEARNING

SECURITY PS
STRATEGIC INFORMATION SECURITY

TouchNet®
+ Heartland

Yoh
A DAY & ZIMMERMANN COMPANY

spring venture group

TRACKJS

TEACH ALIS TEACH
computer science in every high school
Microsoft Philanthropies teachal12.org

Google Cloud

AUREUS®
GROUP
Finance | Systems | Executive

RESOURCES

- <https://developer.wordpress.org/themes/basics/template-hierarchy/>
- <https://developer.wordpress.org/themes/basics/>
- https://codex.wordpress.org/Theme_Development
- https://codex.wordpress.org/Using_Themes
- https://codex.wordpress.org/Child_Themes
- <http://underscores.me/>
- <https://www.elegantthemes.com/gallery/divi/>
- <https://my.studiopress.com/themes/genesis/>

"IT'S GOOD TO BE IN A
ROLE WHEN YOU CAN
LEARN SOMETHING NEW."

- MATT MULLENWEG

CODE IS POETRY