



## SEManager V1.5 for Wordpress

Creating custom styles for SEManager

Learn how to create custom styles for SEManager and how to work with all the built-in functionality for SEManager styles.

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### Creating styles

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#### Style Conventions

The style system in The CodeTree SEManager is both very flexible and very powerful. The style system allows the designer complete design control without requiring an in-depth technical knowledge through the use of *hook tags*. By placing special *hook tags* in your style's design you are able to import useful, pre-built functionality from the event into your design without any programming!

The style system uses a few built-in conventions:

- Each style consists of a folder with two files inside of it. The folder may be any name you choose (lowercase alpha characters are always best). The style folder must be located in `/wp-content/plugins/the-codetree-semanager/css/themes/...`
- Each style folder must contain a stylesheet file, `sem_style.css` and a template file, `sem_event.tpl` (other files may be present in the folder however).
- The style's stylesheet file `sem_style.css` must contain a valid header designation in order for the style to be recognized by the style system. The header designation should start at the top of the file before any other text.
  - Valid Header Designation:
    - `/*`
    - `* Style Name: Sleek Silver`
    - `* Style Author: Ryan Huff`
    - `* Copyright: &copy;2010 MycodeTree.com All Rights Reserved`
    - `*/`
- MyCodeTree recommends that any media or imagery used in the style be located in the style folder (e.g `.../css/themes/my_style/images/...`) for simplicity and organization.
- When referencing media and imagery in the style, always use the absolute BASE url without the domain name (e.g `/wp-content/plugins/the-codetree-semanager/css/themes/style_name/image.jpg`).

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#### Building the style hierarchy

The first step towards building a new style is to create the style folder in the appropriate place. In this example, we'll use the [FTP client FileZilla](#) to create our new style folder.

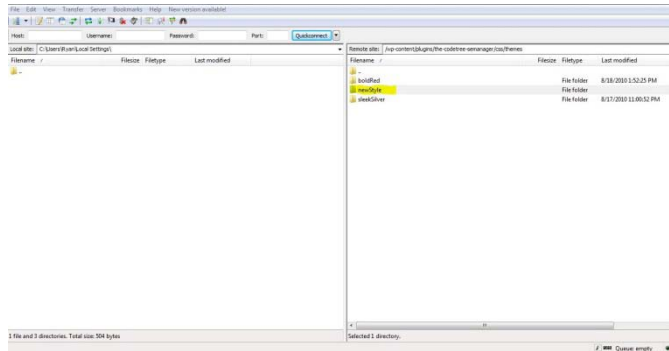


Figure 1 (folder 'newStyle')

After creating the style folder, you need to create the two style files and put them in your style folder. SEManager will automatically recognize the style once you have the two style files created in the style folder.

You can create the two files (sem\_style.css, sem\_event.tpl) locally on your computer and then upload them to your style folder or use a remote editing program and create/edit them in the style folder on your web server.

After you have both files created and located in the new style folder you need to edit the file, sem\_style.css. At the very top of the file you need to add:

- /\*
- \* Style Name: *Style\_Name*
- \* Style Author: *Style\_Author*
- \* Copyright: *Copyright\_Info*
- \*/

All done! The style is created and SEManager will recognize it! However, the style won't display anything until you add the *hook tags* that you want into the template.

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#### Building the style

The template file, *sem\_event.tpl* is nothing more than an HTML file with a non-standard file extension, *.tpl*. You can use any valid HTML tag or technique that you choose!

#### ✓ The Template

The style manager uses *hook tags* to import specific information and pre-built functionality from the event into your template file (*sem\_event.tpl*).

```
<div id='semBoundaryBox'>
  <div id='semSocialBox'><--SOCIAL_TOP--></div>
  <div id='semTitleBox'><em><--TITLE--></em> Hosted By <--PRODID--></div>
  <div id='semDetailsBox'><--DESCRIPTION--></div>
  <div id='semInfoBox'>
    <p id='row'><span id='labels'>Where:</span> <--LOCATION--> (<a href='<--URL-->' title='<--URL_NAME-->' target='_self'><--URL--></a></p>
    <p id='row'><span id='labels'>Starts:</span> <--START--></p>
    <p id='row'><span id='labels'>Ends:</span> <--END--></p>
    <p id='row'><span id='labels'>TimeZone:</span> <--TZ--></p>
  </div>
  <div id='semTzBox'><--HELP-->Your time zone: <--TZ_SELECTOR--></div>
  <div id='semExportBox'><div id='exportOptionLabel'>Export Options</div><--GOOGLE--><br /><--ICS--></div>
  <div id='semSocialBox'><--SOCIAL_BOTTOM--></div>
  <div id='semFooterBox'><--STYLE_NAME--> style created by: <--STYLE_AUTHOR--> <--COPYRIGHT--></div>
</div>
```

In the above example the *divide tag* is used as the main structural element but you could use tables or paragraph tags or whatever else you like.

Note that the *hook tags* (<--hook\_tag-->) are in the exact spot you would expect the information they represent to be. The very last page documents a list of all available *hook tags* and the information they represent.

#### ✓ The Stylesheet

The stylesheet (*sem\_style.css*) for the style works the same way you would expect any stylesheet to work. In the stylesheet file you create style classes (below the header designation!) that are referenced by the HTML elements in the style template.

For example;

In the template file (*sem\_event.tpl*) you may have an element like:

```
<div id="myCoolContainer"><--hook_tag--></div>
```

In the stylesheet (*sem\_style.tpl*) you may have a style class like:

```
#myCoolContainer {font-family: Helvetica,Verdana,Tahoma;}
```

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#### Using hook tags

*Hook tags* are the way that the style manager imports information and pre-built functionality from the event into the style template files. The *hook tags* (except for the SELECTOR and GOOGLE tags) only import raw text without any html (except for the DESCRIPTION); it is up to the style's template file (sem\_event.tpl) and the style's stylesheet (sem\_style.css) to style the *hook tag* data.

All *hook tags* start with <-- and end with --> without any space characters in the entire tag (e.g <--hook\_tag-->) and are in all capital letters.

There are however, a few special *hook tags* that need special consideration.

#### **SELECTOR:**

The SELECTOR hook tag imports a pre-built HTML select box populated with GMT timezones. The user can use the select box to choose their local timezone which reformats the export options to the user's local timezone. Since the selector is automatically imported and isn't specified in your template file (sem\_event.tpl) the style class *semClientSelector* is assumed (e.g using *semClientSelector* in the style's stylesheet file will style the selector).

#### **GOOGLE:**

The GOOGLE hook tag imports a pre-built HTML anchor link and image button preformatted with the Add to Google Calendar URL variable requirements. Since the button is automatically imported and isn't specified in your template file (sem\_event.tpl) the style class *googleBtn* is assumed for the button and *googleBtnLnk* is assumed for the anchor link (e.g using *googleBtn* and *googleBtnLnk* in the style's stylesheet file will style the button and link).

#### **DESCRIPTION:**

The DESCRIPTION hook tag imports the description of the event in raw text form as it was entered into the event. However, HTML tags are allowed to be in the description text so this is your notice!

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**Hook tag definitions**

HOOK TAG	DEFINITION
<--PRODID-->	Imports the event <i>Production ID</i> .
<--TITLE-->	Imports the event <i>Title</i> .
<--TZ-->	Imports the event <i>Timezone</i> .
<--LOCATION-->	Imports the event <i>Location</i> .
<--URL-->	Imports the event <i>URL</i> .
<--URL_NAME-->	Imports the event <i>URL Name</i> .
<--DESCRIPTION-->	Imports the event <i>Description</i> (may contain HTML).
<--START-->	Imports the event <i>Start Date</i> .
<--END-->	Imports the event <i>End Date</i> .
<--GOOGLE-->	Imports the <i>Add to Google Calendar</i> button. The button is imported as a preformatted anchor link and image tag. The assumed style class for the image tag is <i>googleBtn</i> and <i>googleBtnLnk</i> for the anchor tag.
<--ICS-->	Imports the <i>Download iCal file</i> anchor link. The assumed style class for the anchor link is <i>semIcalLink</i> .
<--SOCIAL_TOP-->	Imports the <i>Social Media 'Share this event' Bar</i> . It is assumed that this tag will be place at the top of the template in order to work with the top, bottom, both or none feature in the SEManager settings area.

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**Hook tag definitions**

HOOK TAG	DEFINITION
<--SOCIAL_BOTTOM-->	Imports the <i>Social Media 'Share this event' Bar</i> . It is assumed that this tag will be place at the bottom of the template in order to work with the top, bottom, both or none feature in the SEManager settings area.
<-- TZ_SELECTOR-->	Imports the <i>Timezone Selector</i> which allows the user to select their local timezone and reformat the exports options to their local timezone. The tag imports a preformatted HTML select box and assumes the style class <i>semClientSelector</i> .
<--HELP-->	Imports the question mark image that appears next to the timezone selector. When the user hovers over the image it displays information on how to use the timezone selector. There is no assumed style class.
<-- COPYRIGHT-->	Imports the <i>style copyright</i> from the header designation in the style's stylesheet (sem_style.css).
<-- STYLE_AUTHOR-->	Imports the event <i>style author</i> from the header designation in the style's stylesheet (sem_style.css).
<-- STYLE_NAME -->	Imports the event <i>style name</i> from the header designation in the style's stylesheet (sem_style.css).