



BlueBubble 3.0

Date: 17 August, 2010

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Document last updated:

13 September, 2010

BlueBubble: A minimal and elegant Wordpress portfolio.

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BlueBubble HomePages:

- (<http://www.thomasveit.com>) Original and Version 3.0
- (<http://bluebubble.dosmundoscafe.com>) Version 3.0+

Table of Contents:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. What's New | 7. Other Options |
| 2. BlueBubble 3.0 Features | 8. Portfolio Projects |
| 3. Installing BlueBubble 3.0 | 9. Advanced Tips |
| 4. The BlueBubble Options Panel | 10. Help and FAQs |
| 5. Setting up the Portfolio and Blog | 11. Credits |
| 6. The Contact Form | |

1. What's New? | [Table of Contents](#)

Additions and changes outside of this section appear highlighted in orange.

The following is a list of changes, fixes and additions new in this version.

BlueBubble 3.2

- **Added:** BlueBubble 3.0 is now translated into Spanish. (see Help and FAQs)
- **Added:** On/Off switch for Twitter Tweet buttons.
- **Added:** Shortcodes – you can now add 4 types of text boxes and 2 types of buttons. (see **7. Other Options**)
- **Added:** BlueBubble 3.0 now displays message if there is a newer version available.

BlueBubble 3.1.1

- **Fixed:** Changed error which showed repeating posts. Now you can change the order of blog posts **newest-oldest** or **oldest-newest** from the BlueBubble Admin Panel. (in v3.1 this feature was mistakenly called Comment Order. Wordpress already supports changing comment order: **Settings => Discussion**)

BlueBubble 3.1

- **Fixed:** Portfolio Page Navigation. Portfolio items now can span multiple pages. Functions when Portfolio page is a regular page and as a Front Page.
- **Fixed:** Main Navigation can now be named whatever you want. (**Appearance => Menus**) Before, the Main Menu had to be named **Main** to retain styling.
- **Fixed:** Main Navigation sub-menus are now styled. Main Navigation sub-menus have been automatically set to a maximum depth of 2. (will not show menus 3 or more levels deep)
- **Added:** Can turn On/Off the Colorbox function for portfolios. Default is **on**.
- **Added:** Changed **Categories and Comments** to **Portfolio, Blog, and Comments** in Bluebubble Admin Panel.
- **Added:** Can change order of comments from the BlueBubble Admin Panel to **newest-oldest** or **oldest-newest**.
- **Added:** Can change number of portfolio items that appear on each page from the BlueBubble Admin Panel. (default is 6)

As of version 3.2, you will see an update notice in the administration section of Wordpress when there is a new version of BlueBubble 3.0 available. The update notice look like the image below:

There is a newer version of BlueBubble available. Go to the [BlueBubble 3.0 Theme Page](#) or the [Flexible 7](#) website to download the latest version.

2. BlueBubble 3.0 Features | [Table of Contents](#)

Thank you for your interest in BlueBubble 3.0 for Wordpress. This theme has been renumbered 3.0 to coincide with Wordpress 3.0. It takes advantage of many of the new features included with Wordpress 3.0, such as: MultiSite, Custom Headers and the new Menu System. These are all included "out of the box" meaning that you won't have to mess with adding fields to the functions.php file.

In addition, there are several new and exciting features included with this version, including: a new Custom Panel with many new options, 7 different color schemes, a Colorbox pop-up for portfolio options, ability to Tweet any post and an author profile box with all the author's posts listed.

All this while keeping the same basic layout from BlueBubble version 2.9.2. Easy to install, easy to deploy – we hope you enjoy this theme.

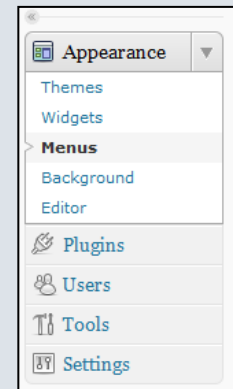
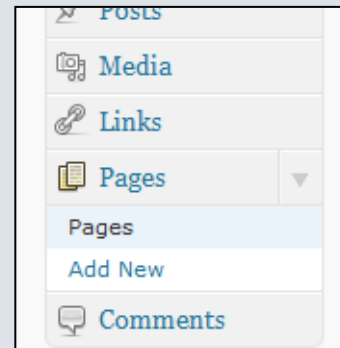
Sincerely,

Thomas Veit and Mike Walsh

3. Installing BlueBubble 3.0 | [Table of Contents](#)

First, make sure that you have Wordpress 3.0 or later installed. After installing Wordpress on your server, upload or copy the **bluebubble** folder to the wp-content/themes directory. Once this is done...

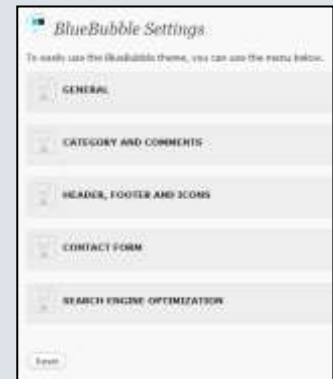
1. Login to your Wordpress admin page and activate BlueBubble Theme. (in Wordpress 3.0, if you are using the Multi Site function, remember that you have to first "allow" the theme in the Super Admin menu, or it won't appear as an option)
2. Create a **page**. Name it home or whatever you like. This will be your starting page, the one that visitors will see by default. Then, under **Page Attributes**, where it says Template, choose **Portfolio**.
3. Create another **page**. Name it Blog or whatever else you like. Obviously, this will be for a blog. Then, under **Page Attributes**, where it says Template, choose **Blog**.
4. If you would like to use the BlueBubble contact form, (with Javascript verification and a nice sliding thank-you message when the email is sent) simply create a new page and name it Contact. (or something else) Then, under **Page Attributes**, where it says Template, choose **Contact**.
5. Now, go to the **Settings -> Reading** page and choose the page you created in #2 as the Front page and the page created in #3 as the Posts page.
6. After that, go to **Posts -> Categories** and create two new categories. You might name them Home and Blog, but can be named whatever you like. These will be used to populate the pages you created in #2 and #3 with posts.
7. To create the **Main Navigation**:
 - a. Go to **Appearance -> Menus**. Where it says Menu Name: Enter Menu Name Here, type a name – whatever you like. Click **Create a Menu**.
 - b. To make life easier later, check the box next to **Automatically add new top-level pages**.
 - c. To the left, you should now see Theme Locations: *Your theme supports 2 menus. Select which menu appears in each location.* In the drop-down menu under *Main Navigation Menu*, choose **Menu**.
 - d. Below this you will find a box with the title Pages. Click the boxes next to the pages you want to add to the menu, and then click **Add to Menu**. You can change the order of the pages in the menu by dragging them to where you like.
8. BlueBubble 3.0 also allows you to create a simple menu in the footer of the site. It is independent of the main navigation menu. To create a footer menu, follow the same steps as in #7, but where it says *Menu Name: Enter Menu Name Here*, type **Footer**. (or whatever name you like)
9. In addition, BlueBubble 3.0 features a 404 Error page that can help lost users stay on your website. On the bottom of the 404 Error page, you can display a menu of links that you want your user to follow. Simply follow the same instructions in #7, but name this menu **404**. (or whatever name you like)
10. Finally, the last option in the menu to the left should be BlueBubble. Click here to open the **BlueBubble Options Panel**.



4. The BlueBubble Options Panel | [Table of Contents](#)

Opening the BlueBubble Options Panel will show the various options that you can control here, divided into 5 categories:

- General
(Color Scheme, Twitter Options, Feedburner RSS, Custom CSS)
- Portfolio, Blog and Comments
(Portfolio category, Blog category, disable comments)
- Header, Footer and Icons
(Logo, Favicon URLs, Custom Footer Copyright text)
- Contact Form and Social Icons
(Contact Form email address)
- Search Engine Optimization
(Meta description, Meta keyword, Google Analytics code)



A couple of special categories:

Color Scheme: BlueBubble 3.0 comes with 8 different color schemes which change the themes background color, text, and other items. By default, the theme will display as a light gray, the same as in previous versions of the BlueBubble theme. Below is a sample of the possible colors:



Twitter: You can include your latest Twitter posts in your blog. This is a simple option that will display posts in the left column, below the navigation menu. You can indicate how many posts you want to be displayed. The default is **2**.

5. Setting Up The Portfolio and Blog | [Table of Contents](#)

This section is pretty simple. Remember when you created your main page and blog page categories in step 2.5? Well, if you did this, then they will appear in the two drop-down menus in this section. Here you connect the pages you created in steps 2.2 and 2.3 with the categories you created in step 2.5.

The check box is quite simple – if you don't want users to be able to leave comments on your portfolio pages, check the box. (**Note:** Even with the box checked, people can still post to your Blog section)

Beginning with BlueBubble 3.1, you can also turn on and off the lightbox feature for

Portfolio items. When turned off, clicking on the image will take you to the detailed portfolio page – the same as clicking Details in the text below the photo.

You can also indicate from the BlueBubble Admin panel how many Portfolio items you would like to appear on each page. If you enter nothing, it will show 6 items per page and automatically create other page(s) if there are more than 6 items.

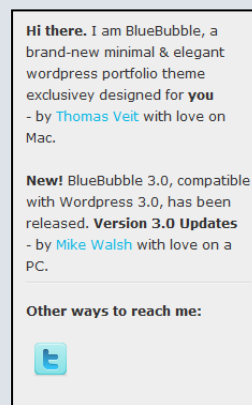
6. The Contact Form | [Table of Contents](#)

The BlueBubble contact form comes ready with Javascript validation and the option for the users to send themselves a copy of the email they send to you. Simply type in the email address at which you wish to receive email from the form, and save. If you do not enter an email address, all contact form emails will automatically be sent to the administrator's email account.

Under the Contact Form Email Address option is a series of spaces related to Social Media. If you would like to enter an icon link, for example, to your Twitter account, follow these two steps:

1. Check the box that says **Show Social Sites Section**.
2. Now, simply add the complete URL to your account. (**Ex:** if your Twitter username was **johndoe**, you would enter **http://www.twitter.com/johndoe** in the Twitter field.) The icon will appear at the bottom of the left sidebar.

Currently supported Social Sites include: **Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Delicious, Digg, DeviantArt, MySpace, Evernote, Flickr, Netvibes, Orkut, Reddit, ShareThis, StumbleUpon, Technorati, and Tumblr.**



7. Other Options | [Table of Contents](#)

In addition to the options mentioned earlier, there are some other options that, while not strictly necessary, can help you enjoy more your experience with the BlueBubble 3.0 theme.

Custom Logo: To replace the BlueBubble 3.0 logo with your own, simply upload an image from the Media option, copy the URL and paste it in the option field.


Custom Favicon: Same process as Custom Logo. Paste the URL in the second option field. **Note** – your Favicon should be in .ico format, although some browsers also allow .png.


SEO Fields: Under Search Engine Optimization you can add a Meta Tag Description, Meta Keywords, or a Google Analytics tracking code. Simply follow the instructions provided under this option in the control panel.

Custom User Fields: BlueBubble 3.0 has added a few fields to the User Profile defaults provided in Wordpress. Enjoy!

Shortcodes: There are two types of shortcodes as of BlueBubble 3.2 – text boxes and buttons. Shortcodes are short code brackets that you can add while publishing that add new features.

When publishing a post, page or text in a sidebar widget, if you place [alert] before your text, and [/alert] after, you will see the text between the two in a red box with an icon. For example, if you type: [alert]lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala[/alert] you will see the following:

 lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala

 lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala

Contact Info

E-mail (required)

Website

Phone









Facebook

Twitter

Skype

About Yourself

The following table shows the possible shortcodes and their uses:

Result	Shortcode
 lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala	[alert] [/alert]
 lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala	[alertbig] [/alertbig]
 lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala	[dload] [/dload]
 lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala	[dloadbig] [/dloadbig]
 lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala	[idea] [/idea]
 lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala	[ideabig] [/ideabig]
 lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala	[info] [/info]
 lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala lalalalalala	[infobig] [/infobig]

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Download BlueBubble 3.2

[gbutton url="http://alink.com"]Download BlueBubble 3.2 [/gbutton]

[bbutton url="http://alink.com"] Download BlueBubble 3.2 [/bbutton]

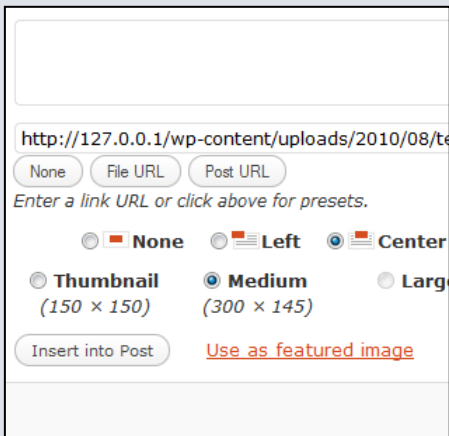
Author Profile Box: From the blog section, you can click on the name of the author to see a separate page with the author's user profile information as well as a list of all their posts.

Custom Author Photo: It is possible to use a Wordpress Plugin to allow users to upload a custom photo, but there is another way. Upload a photo to the **wp-content/themes/BlueBubble/images/authors/** folder with the same name as your user ID and in **.jpg** format. (to see your User ID number, select **Users -> Users** from the admin page, and hover over the name of the user desired. In the URL that appears in the bottom of your browser you should see **user_id=#**. That number is the user ID. The administrator has user ID **1**.) For example, the administrator would upload **1.jpg**. The ideal size is 100x100.

8. Portfolio Projects | [Table of Contents](#)

If you have followed the steps above, adding an item to your portfolio is easy! Follow these steps:

1. Go to **Posts -> Add New**.
2. Type a title and a description for the item. Then click on **Upload/Insert** icon to Add Media.



3. Select the image you want to use for your portfolio, and upload. The BlueBubble 3.0 theme automatically crops two sizes – one for the portfolio page thumbnail, and one for the single portfolio item. (larger image)
4. After uploading, you will see options for Title, Caption, Image URL, etc... At the bottom of the page, click the link **Use as featured image**. (it is not necessary to insert the image into the post)

9. Advanced Tips | [Table of Contents](#)

More advanced users may want to change some specific items. A couple of items to note are:

- **Wordpress Version Number:** BlueBubble 3.0, for security reasons, does not display the Wordpress version number in the HTML code of the website, to help prevent hacking. This code was added to the functions.php file. If you **want** the Wordpress version number to show, open **functions.php** and remove the following:

```
/* Remove Wordpress Ver. Number from HTML - For Security Reasons */
```

```
function wpbeginner_remove_version() {
```

```

return "";
}
add_filter('the_generator', 'wpbeginner_remove_version');

```

- **Contact Form Messages:** When a user fails to fill out a field in the contact form correctly, they receive a default error message. If you would like to change this message, open the contact.php file and look for the following: (change the highlighted fields)

```

//Check to make sure that the name field is not empty
if(trim($_POST['contactName']) === '') {
    $nameError = 'You forgot to enter your name.';
    $hasError = true;
} else {
    $name = trim($_POST['contactName']);
}

//Check to make sure sure that a valid email address is submitted
if(trim($_POST['email']) === '') {
    $emailError = 'You forgot to enter your email address.';
    $hasError = true;
} else if (!ereg("^[A-Z0-9._%~]+@[A-Z0-9._%~]+\.[A-Z]{2,4}$",
trim($_POST['email']))) {
    $emailError = 'You entered an invalid email address.';
    $hasError = true;
} else {
    $email = trim($_POST['email']);
}

//Check to make sure comments were entered
if(trim($_POST['comments']) === '') {
    $commentError = 'You forgot to enter your message.';
    $hasError = true;
} else {
    if(function_exists('stripslashes')) {
        $comments = stripslashes(trim($_POST['comments']));
    } else {
        $comments = trim($_POST['comments']);
    }
}

```

Next, go to the scripts folder and open contact-form.js, looking for and changing the following:

```

$('.requiredField').each(function() {
    if(jQuery.trim($(this).val()) == '') {
        var labelText = $(this).prev('label').text();
        $(this).parent().append('<p class="error">You forgot to enter your
'+labelText+'.</p>');

        hasError = true;
    } else if($(this).hasClass('email')) {
        var emailReg = /^[a-zA-Z0-9._%~]+@[a-zA-Z0-9._%~]+\.[a-zA-Z]{2,4}$/;
        if(!emailReg.test(jQuery.trim($(this).val()))) {
            var labelText = $(this).prev('label').text();
            $(this).parent().append('<p class="error">You entered an
invalid '+labelText+'.</p>');

            <strong>$(this).addClass('inputError');</strong>
            hasError = true;
        }
    }
});

```


When the contact form is successfully sent, users will see a default thank-you message. To change this, open the same **contact-form.js** file and look for the following at the end of the file: (again, changing the highlighted field)

```
var formInput = $(this).serialize();
$.post($(this).attr('action'),formInput, function(data){
    $('#form#contactForm').slideUp("fast", function() {

        $(this).before('<p class="thanks"><strong>Thanks!</strong>
Your email was successfully sent. I will respond to you as soon as possible.</p>');

    });
});

return false;

});
```

10. Help and FAQs | [Table of Contents](#)

The following are some frequently asked questions or confusing points. Please **please** read this document before asking questions on the BlueBubble page!

- **Why doesn't the new author information box appear above my posts?**
In order to have this box appear, you need to fill out the Biographical Info section of your Wordpress user profile.
- **How do I assign a custom photo with my comments and posts?**
In order to show a custom image, you need to have uploaded a photo to your **gravatar** account.
- **What is a *gravatar*?**
A **gravatar** is a Global Avatar. In other words, the little image you see next to posts on blogs all over the internet. In order to get one, simply go to <http://www.gravatar.com>. You will register your email address, and then you can upload a photo.
- **I did this and it still does not work.**
Make sure that the email address you registered with Gravatar is the same that you are using to leave a comment on the BlueBubble theme.
- **I am the author of a post on BlueBubble, but when I leave a message or reply to another user, it does not show my comment in a different color.**
You must be logged in when you leave the comment or reply for your comment to show in the special author color.
- **How do I change BlueBubble 3.0 to Spanish?**
First, you must have Wordpress installed in Spanish OR have the language files installed. (read about this on the Wordpress.org website) After this is done, go to Settings => General. The last option allows you to select the language of your theme. Choose Spanish.

11. Credits | [Table of Contents](#)

It was a lot of fun to work with this theme, adding some fun new features to an already wonderful Wordpress theme. But, I couldn't have done it with my own knowledge and artwork, so I would like to thank the following for the necessary inspiration and knowledge:

- My coffee, for being plentiful.
- My wife and her patience.
- [Wordpress](#), for their awesome CMS/Blog software, especially now with version 3.0!
- Iconspedia, for their free Exclamation Mark icon, used on the 404 Error page.

<http://www.iconspedia.com/icon/error-1168.html>

- Thomas Veit, for creating the original BlueBubble Wordpress theme. Simple, and elegant. Check out what he has to offer at:

<http://www.thomasveit.com>

- NetTuts, for an excellent tutorial on creating Advanced Wordpress Panels. Check it out at:

<http://net.tutsplus.com/tutorials/wordpress/how-to-create-a-better-wordpress-options-panel/>

- NetTuts again, this time for a tutorial on creating a simple 404 Error Page. (This Wordpress theme excludes the auto-mailer)

<http://net.tutsplus.com/tutorials/php/404403-website-error-pages-with-php-auto-mailer/>

- WooThemes, for the cool icons they offer. Their lightbulb icon is used in the Admin Option Panel for BlueBubble 3.0. Check out their icons at:

<http://www.woothemes.com/2009/09/woofunction/>

- Mali Studio, for fixing the error on the Portfolio page which would not show more than one page of items. Visit their site here:

<http://www.malistudio.hr/>