



BlueBubble: A minimal and elegant Wordpress portfolio.

Guide for: BlueBubble 3.3
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Original Author: Thomas Veit
Ver. 3.0+: Mike Walsh

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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 3.3

- Fixed: Shortcode Button text color - now appears white on all themes.
- Added: Updated styles for various widgets: Meta, Archives, Calendar, Recent Comments, Recent Posts, and Search.
- Added: Completely changed Theme Options Panel – menu items now appear as a vertical, tabbed menu.
- Added: Added option to turn on/off the old menu styles.
- Added: Added option to display navigation menu on the right-hand side.
- Added: Added BB Archives Widget. (a slight modification of default archives widgets)
- Added: Full-Screen Portfolio page. (no sidebar, 3 portfolio items per row)
- Added: New silver border for portfolio items. (old border for full-screen)
- Added: New Top Horizontal menu.
- Added: Added search results count and highlighted search results.
- Added: Changed location of BlueBubble Admin Panel in Admin menu.
- Added: New Favicon and Admin Panel icon design.

BlueBubble 3.2

- Added: BlueBubble 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 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 3.3, the BlueBubble theme will automatically notify you of any new updates. Simply go to the BlueBubble Options panel and select the new option Theme Updates from the menu.

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

Thank you for your interest in BlueBubble 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

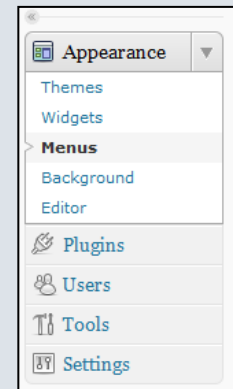
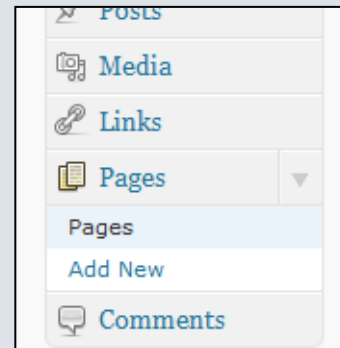
3. Installing BlueBubble | [Table of Contents](#)

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-**contents/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**

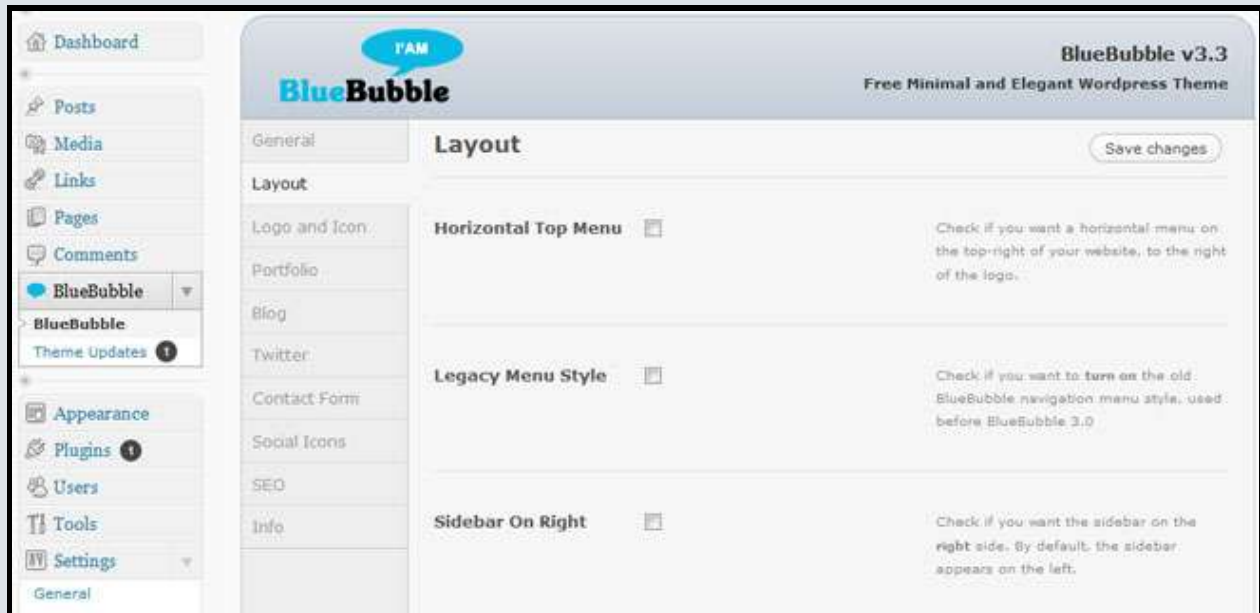
menu, or it won't appear as an option)

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 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 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](#)

The BlueBubble Options Panel has been redesigned in version 3.3. The same options are present, along with several new ones. Here is what you will see:



A couple of special categories:

Color Scheme: BlueBubble 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.

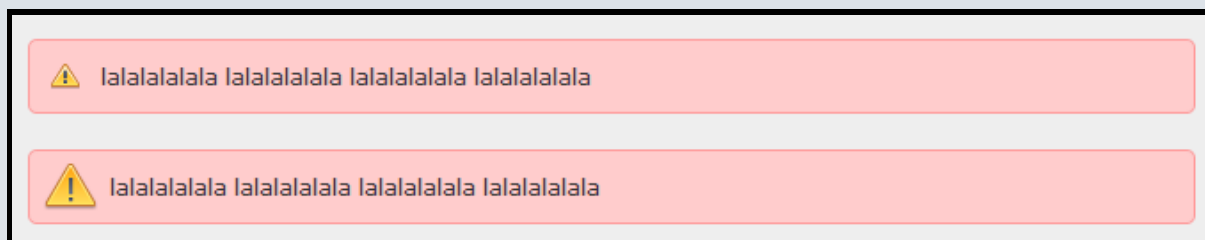
5. Setting Up The Portfolio and Blog | [Table of Contents](#)

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



The following table shows the possible shortcodes and their uses:

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

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

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

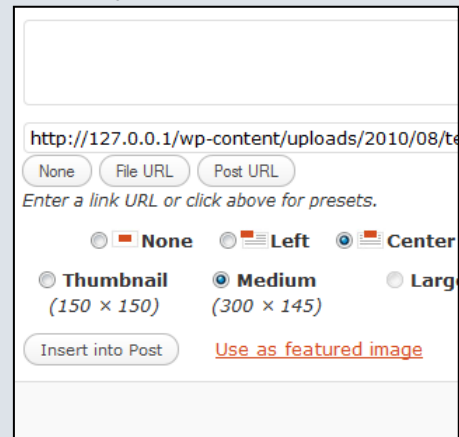
Author Profile Box: From the blog section, you can click on the name of the author to see a separate page with the author's user profile information as well as a list of all their posts.

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 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)



If you are having trouble setting up a Portfolio or Blog, please read the other Help file which came with this theme.

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, 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 that a valid email address is submitted  
if(trim($_POST['email']) == "") {  
    $emailError = 'You forgot to enter your email address.';
```

```

        $hasError = true;
    } else if (!/^[A-Z0-9._%]+@[A-Z0-9._%]+\.[A-Z]{2,4}$/i.test(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($(this).hasClass('email')) {
        var emailReg = /^[a-zA-Z0-9._%]+@[a-zA-Z0-9._%]+\.[a-zA-Z]{2,4}$/i;
        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 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 wife and her patience.
- My child, who has yet to be born.
- My coffee, for being plentiful.
- The music of Silvio Rodríguez, which kept me company many a long night
- [Wordpress](#), for their awesome CMS/Blog software, especially now with version 3.0!
- Iconspectia, for their free Exclamation Mark icon, used on the 404 Error page.

<http://www.iconspectia.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. 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/>

- WooThemes, for the design inspiration used to redesign the Options Panel.