BUCKET

User Guide

Helpful Links

Online Knowledge Base: http://bit.ly/bucket-docs

Installation and Setup (video): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIsSTILtnaA
Custom Page Builder (video): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJKuA1K17Dw

Open a new ticket: http://bit.ly/new-ticket

Getting Started

Installing and Setup Demo Content

In this video we will take you through the **very simple and fast process of setting up** the BUCKET WordPress theme and (if you want to) import the demo data that will make your installation **look like our demo site**.

View video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIsSTILtnaA

The main steps are:

- 1. Install WordPress and configure it;
- 2. Install the theme by uploading the .zip archive (or FTP-ing the file if you prefer that method);
- 3. Install and activate the required and recommended plugins;
- 4. Import the demo data using our one click import button;
- 5. Sit back and **enjoy**:)

Custom Page Builder

The purpose of the **Custom Page Builder** is mainly to easily create and edit the homepage. With some imagination can be used for all kind of pages.

In the next video we will showcase how **easy** is to create a homepage using this feature.

View video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJKuA1K17Dw

Customizing Using Child Themes

As you may already know, Bucket supports child themes for customizing some and any of it's templates, functions or styles.

Although Bucket offers it's fair share of customization options, we generally try to keep the options to a reasonable amount as to not scare or confuse the general user. We believe that too many customization options tend to erode the design with an ease that is almost scary. For those of you that have special needs in terms of design and/or functionality, the child themes are the way to go.

Child Themes Fundamentals

First let me explain to some of the aspects of the WordPress Child themes concept. For those of you familiar with this, please skip to the next section.

One of the best places to start learning about this is the WordPress Codex that covers this topic in full: http://codex.wordpress.org/Child_Themes. I am not going to reiterate all that is explained there, but try to give you a short start into this.

The main reason and advantages of the child themes are:

- ability to modify and add functionality to a theme without changing any of the code of the theme. This is very important since this way you don't loose the possibility to update that theme without loosing your changes;
- you can easily experiment with new features without digging too much through the parent's theme code;
- you can focus just on the aspects that are of interest too you, and not get tangled in the complex logic of the parent theme.

From all of these, the first is the most important since it's a very common issue in the

WordPress world to start and hack around at a theme and then find yourself missing on all the improvements the authors are adding to the table with updates. You either start digging and see what they have changed or you just give up and stay with a old and outdated version. This are not feasible options from our point of view.

The main and the single file that is required in a child theme is the style.css file that provides WordPress the details about the child but, most importantly, the parent's theme folder name. You will find in the archive that came with your theme, such a folder with the style.css file already created and ready to go.

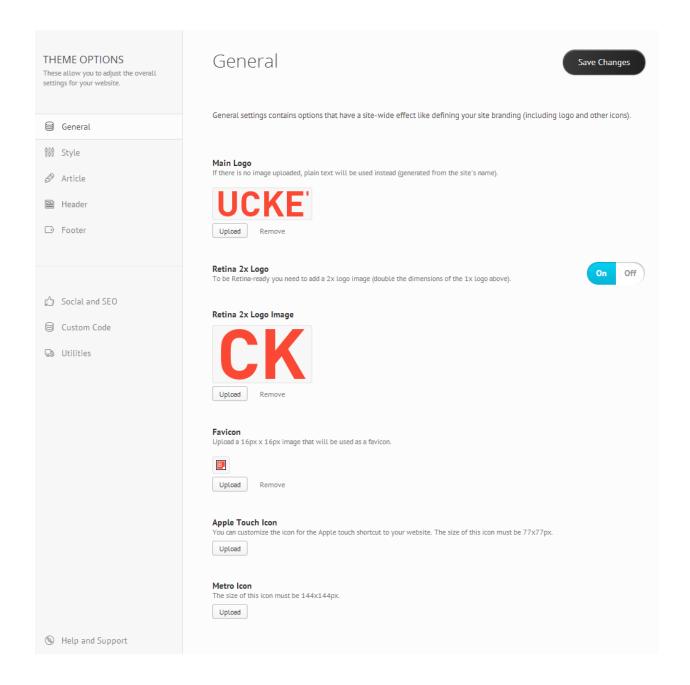
You need to know that the style.css file is loaded after all the styles of the parent theme have been loaded so anything you write into it overwrites the rules in the parent.

When thinking about the other files in a theme (like template files), anytime you create one with the same file name in a child theme, that will be used instead of the one in parent theme.

Important note: Please take note that while child themes may sound like an easy thing to do, if you lack the proper knowledge in terms of CSS for styling changes, JavaScript or WordPress and PHP programming, you will find yourself quite easily lost and breaking things. Keep in mind that there are countless variables in play with Bucket (or with any professional responsive theme for what matters). For example, don't expect to make a CSS change and, while working perfectly on YOUR screen size and browser, to work the same on other screen sizes or browsers, or to not affect the responsive nature of your site. This is why we recommend that in the case of more complex customizations you should seek the help of professional web designer and web developer. This will save you time and give you the confidence that your site will work as expected.

Theme Options - General

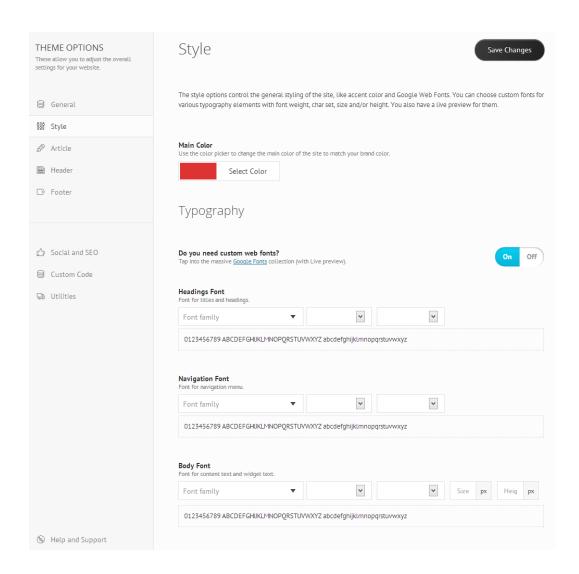
The General Options are aimed at providing you the tools to change the site-wide features, others than style. You can change the logo (with it's 1x and 2x retina logo), the favicon and some icons used by Apple and the Windows 8 Metro interface.



Theme Options - Style Options

In the Style section of the Theme Options you have the means to modify the accent color of your site and whether or not to use custom Google Web Fonts.

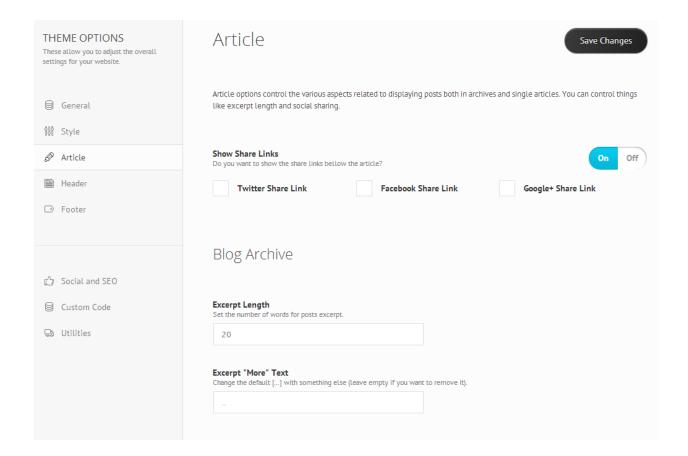
In case you decide to change the fonts, you have 3 categories of fonts to modify (Headings, Navigation and Body). Each of these come with their specific controls depending on what is appropriate to change and at the same time keep consistency in the design. You can choose from the entire list of Google Web Fonts, then set font weight, character set, size and/or height.



Theme Options - Article Options

Article options control the various aspects related to displaying blog posts both in archives and single articles.

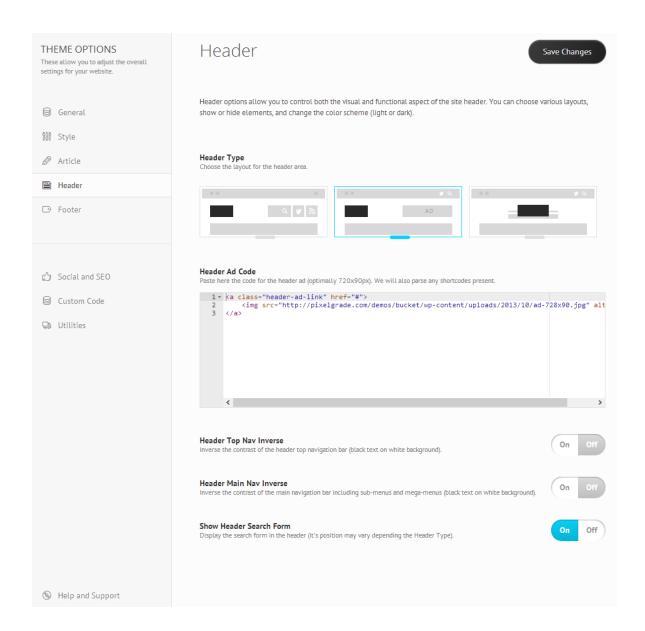
You can control things like excerpt length, read more text for archives and the social sharing icons at the bottom of single posts.



Theme Options - Header Options

Header options allow you to control both the visual and functional aspect of the site header.

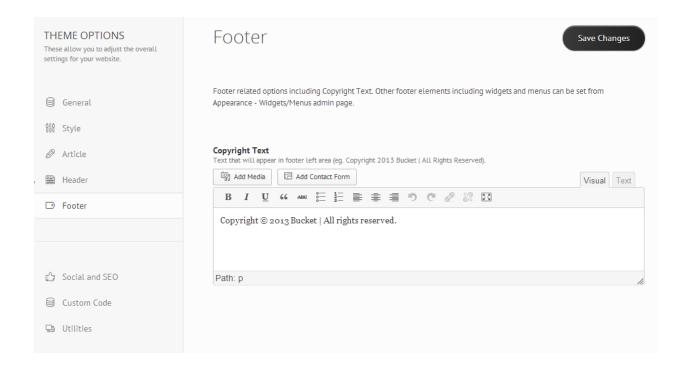
You can choose from 3 header layouts (one can include an ad like it is shown bellow), show or hide header elements like the search form, and change the color scheme (light or dark) by inverting the contrast of the top navigation bar and/or the main navigation bar.



Theme Options - Footer Options

Here you will find footer related options like the Copyright Text shown at the bottom of the page.

The other footer elements including widgets and menus can be set from Appearance - Widgets/Menus admin page in special widgetized sidebars and using both standard and custom widgets styled to match the overall design.



Theme Options - Custom Code

By using custom JS code and CSS scripts, you can change the site style and behavior.

You can add your own small custom CSS to modify aspects of your site and we will include it in all your pages either inline or by writing to a file (you need to have file write permissions - some host have problems here).

Regarding JavaScript you can add code in both the header section of your pages and in the footer (e.g. Google Analytics code).



The Jetpack Plugin

The Jetpack by WordPress.com plugin, or Jetpack for short, is a plugin that bridges the gap between the cloud power behind the hosted service that is WordPress.com and your self hosted WordPress installation. So you can take advantage of the tools they have developed (and continue to) for the millions of users that blog on WordPress.com.

To use this plugin you simply need a WordPress.com account (even if you don't plan to host your blog on their infrastructure) and you are good to go (or fueled and ready like they like to brag).

Jetpack consists of multiple modules each with it's own settings and magic.

Right now we make use in Bucket of the SlimStats module, a light weight statistics module that will allow us to determine what are the popular posts today, this week, this month or all-timers. We will use this data in our Bucket Popular Posts widget.

Besides this you can use the data collected to other benefits like trying to better understand you visitors. Please note that the analytics offered by this plugin are not as complete as the ones provided by Google Analytics, but they do have some extra insight that you may have a hard time pulling out of the Google service.

Where To Start Learning WordPress?

The WordPress CMS is a complex beast that is made even more complex thanks to the countless plugins available out there (free or premium). All this complexity allows for a lot of capabilities and power, and like a famous saying tells us, with great power comes great responsibility. So we advise you not to treat things lightly and try and learn at least the basics so the whole system will work for you, not against you.

We strive to make our themes as solid as possible (i.e. to break as hard as possible) but there is a fine line between allowing for flexibility and making things solid. This is a never ending game, but this is what makes the web exciting.

So the long story short, Bucket (or any other theme that does more that just the simplest of things) and WordPress at the same time are not fool proof. They are complex pieces of code that allow you to get a great website, but only when treated with respect.

The WordPress Codex

This is the Wholly Grail of starting to get to terms with WordPress. It has both beginner and advanced information. We recommend you to start with these sections (they are intended for regular users, not developers):

- Introduction to Blogging
- First Steps With WordPress
- WordPress Semantics Learning the Jargon
- New To WordPress Where to Start
- Finding WordPress Help

Going through these will mostly get you on your way on becoming a proper WordPress user.

Further Learning Resources

Since WordPress is such a huge phenomenon nowadays, the learning resources are for from scarce. From the Google start page to the personal blog of a WP enthusiast, everywhere you look there is something to learn.

From some of the most widely appraised sites that help you with WordPress, we would like to point you to these:

- WP Tuts+
- WP Beginner

FAQ

1. How To Remove Avatars Hovercards

The avatars in WordPress are provided by their service called Gravatar. When having the Jetpack plugin activated, WordPress inserts a javascript that will show a card when you hover over the avatar image. This contains links to the user's Gravatar profile link.

You can disable this behaviour (this is theme independent) by going in the admin area to Settings > Discussion and scroll down until you reach the Avatars section and uncheck the Gravatar Hovercards, like in the screenshot bellow.

