PREMIUM NEWS
Wordpress Theme

HELP SHEET

What is this document?

This document is supposed to assist users of the Premium News Theme in installing, implementing and customizing the theme. It contains some basic notes on the structure of the theme and the different files used to create it. I've also included a few step-by-step tutorials on making some of the finer points of the theme coming together.

Your first point of reference should be the **official website** for the theme, but for more complex issues, this document should be most helpful.

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1. Description of the files used

Root

404.php – template file for 404 error (page not found) page

archive.php – displays the archives by category, month, year, author etc.

archives.php – page template for your Archives page

comments.php – comments template used in single.php

footer.php – the templates footer

functions.php* – used for the various functions implemented in Premium News

header.php – displays all the elements up until the category navigation

home.php* – template for your homepage

index.php – base page template

page.php – template for all WordPress pages

search.php – displays a user's search results

sidebar.php – template file for the sidebar, which is used on all the other files

single.php – template file which displays individual articles

slideshow.css – stylesheet for the featured news scroller

style.css – main stylesheet for Premium News

tag.php – displays the tag archives (only applicable for WP2.3 or older)

Root/ads/

ads-300x250.php – displays the 300x250 MPU at the top of the sidebar

ads-bottom.php – displays the ads to the bottom of the sidebar

ads-management.php* – randomizes the ads being shown in the sidebar

ads-top.php – displays the ads at the top of the sidebar

Root/images/

Contains all the images used in the theme.

Root/includes/

featured.php – Featured section on the homepage, as called by home.php

stylesheet.php* – determines which stylesheet should be used

version.php* – determines which version of WP you are using

video.php – Video section on the homepage, as called by home.php

Root/includes/js/

Contains all the jQuery & Javascript used in the theme.

Root/layouts/

blog.php – traditional blog layout (an alternative) that can be used on the homepage

default.php – default layout which is used on the homepage

Root/styles/

Contains the alternative stylesheets included in the standard installation of Premium News.

* *suggests that the file should not be edited, else the theme might not function correctly*

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2. Installing Premium News

Premium News should not be difficult to install and functions very similar to most other WordPress themes. If you follow the steps below, Premium News should be set up in a few minutes…

1. Unzipped the template file you've downloaded
2. Upload the whole directory (premiumnews) to your wp-content/themes/ folder
3. Log in to your WordPress admin panel and go to Presentation
4. Click on the Premium News theme to activate it
5. Click on Presentation > Premium News Options to setup the rest of the theme (more details about this in #3 – Explaining the Theme Options) **– you have to go through this setup, or else the theme might not work**

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3. Explaining the Theme Options

Premium News uses a very user-friendly Theme Options to enable users to customize some aspects of the theme, without having to open the Theme Editor to edit any of the template files. This is an explanation of the different options integrated into Premium News, which you can access at Presentation > Premium News Options.

General Settings

- **WordPress Version*** – Please select the version of WordPress you are using.

- **Theme Stylesheet*** – Choose the stylesheet you would like to use (located in root/styles/).

- **Feedburner ID** – Premium News integrates nicely with Feedburner to allow your readers to subscribe to you RSS feed via e-mail. Don't know what your Feedburner ID is? Then, see **this tutorial**!

- **Flickr URL** – The URL of your Flickr Homepage.

- **Archives Page -** Please enter the page slug (Manage > Pages) for the WordPress page that displays your Archives i.e. 'archives'. To set your Archives page, please see **this tutorial**.

Front Page Layout

- **Featured Category*** – Select the posts category that you would like to have displayed in the Featured section on the homepage.

- **Featured Entries*** – Determine the amount of featured entries you would like displayed in the scroller.

- **Display Video? *** – If you'd like to display the video panel on the homepage, you need to check this box. If left unchecked, the video panel will not be displayed.

- **Display Video below Featured Section? *** – If checked the video panel will display directly below the featured news scroller, otherwise it will be displayed at the bottom of the left panel on the homepage.

- **Video Category*** – Select the posts category that you would like to have displayed in the Video panel on the homepage.

- **Front Page Layout*** – The standard installation of Premium News comes with two layouts which you can use on the homepage (below the Featured & Videos section). The layouts (blog.php and default.php) are located in the /layouts/ directory if you'd like to edit it. You need to select one of these two layouts for the theme to function properly.

- **Homepage Entries*** – Select the number of entries to be displayed in the section below the Featured & Video sections.

Banner Ad Management

Premium News incorporates a banner management script of its own. You can specifiy destination URL's and image locations for four banners (sized 125x125 pixels), which will be displayed at random positions in the sidebar. The options are as follows:

- **Advertising Page –** In both advertising panels in the sidebar, there's a little "Advertise Here" block. This block should be linked to the WordPress page that contains your advertising rates. Please enter the page slug (Manage > Pages) for the WordPress page that contains your advertising information & rates i.e. 'advertising'.

- **468x60 Banner Ad (Top) - Image Location –** Specify the URL of the location for the banner advertisement's image.

- **468x60 Banner Ad (Top) - Destination –** Specify the destination URL of the banner advertisement when it is clicked.

- **Don't use this ad space at all! –** Check this option if you do not want to display the 300x250 block ad in the sidebar. When checked, the theme will display two 125x125 banner ads instead.

- **Display Only On Homepage? –** Check this box if you only want to display the 300x250 block ad on the homepage. When checked two 125x125 banner ads will be displayed on all inner pages.

- **300x250 Block Ad - Image Location –** Specify the URL of the location for the banner advertisement's image.

- **300x250 Block Ad - Destination –** Specify the destination URL of the banner advertisement when it is clicked.

- **Banner Ad #1 to #4 - Image Location –** Specify the URL of the location for the banner advertisement's image.

- **Banner Ad #1 to #4 - Destination –** Specify the destination URL of the banner advertisement when it is clicked.

* *indicates options that needs to be set otherwise the theme will not work properly*

4. Adding Featured Posts to the homepage

This will help you add and style the featured posts (which will be displayed in the featured section on the homepage) properly. In general you will add a Featured post in exactly the same way as other posts, except for a few minor tweaks / additions:

Basics

1. Select the appropriate category (the same category you specified in the Premium News Options administration)

2. Add the content in the text panel as you would with any other post

3. You need to use a 1 or 2 sentence summary for the post, which will be displayed in the Featured section (next to the title photo). You can enter this summary into the "Optional Excerpt" box (example image below):

Adding images to the Featured Post

Every post uses at least one image (the thumbnail sized 100×57 pixels, even though it can be any size!), whilst the Featured Posts also uses a larger image (sized 595×270 pixels). When creating a new post, you need to specifiy the URL's for these images. The easiest way of doing this, is the following:

1. Upload your chosen image through the Upload panel in Write > Write Post (in your Wordpress admin panel)

2. Right-click on the image to find it's location ("Copy Image Location" in Firefox and "Properties" in Internet Explorer) and copy the URL

3. **For Thumbnail Images -** Scroll down to Custom Fields (in the same window in your admin panel) and enter the "Key" as "thumb" and paste the image location URL into "Value". Click "Add Custom Field".

4. **For Featured Post Images -** Scroll down to Custom Fields (in the same window in your admin panel) and enter the "Key" as "featured" and paste the image location URL into "Value". Click "Add Custom Field".

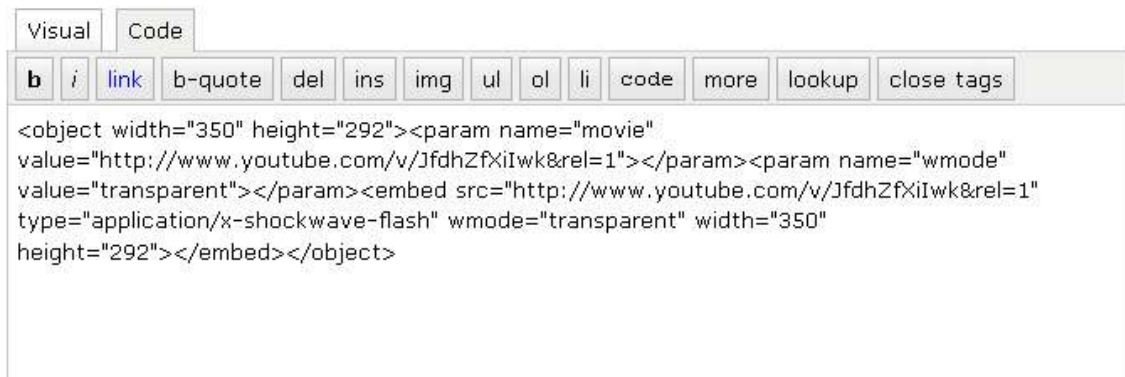5. **Note:** Remember to remove the ".thumbnail"

Note: You do not need to include the "Featured" ribbon on your images - it is automatically included for the latest post.

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5. Adding Videos to the homepage

This tutorial should help you to add videos to the Video panel on the homepage quite easily. The only different part is to change the sizes of the YouTube video that you would like to embed, so that it'll fit into the Video panel.

1. Go to Write > Write Post in your WordPress admin panel
2. Select the category for your videos (the same category as the category you specified in Presentation > Premium News Options)
3. The easiest way is to install and use the EasyTube plugin, but you can also simply copy / paste the YouTube embed code into the content area (Code View – see example image below)
4. Change the size of the video to 285 (width) and 234 (height)
5. Click Publish