

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 <u>official website</u> for the theme, but for more complex issues, this document should be most helpful.

Contents of this document:

- 1. Description of the files used
- 2. Installing Premium News
- 3. Explaining the Theme Options
- 4. Adding Featured Posts to the homepage
- 5. Adding Videos to the homepage

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
style.css - main stylesheet for Premium News
tag.php - displays the tag archives (only applicable for WP2.3 or older)

Root/ads/

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

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

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 displayes 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.
- 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.
- 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 specify 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'.
- 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.

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

- 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), whilst the Featured Posts also uses a larger image (sized 350×200 pixels). When creating a new post, you need to specify the URL's for these images. The easiest way of doing this, is the following:

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

- 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.

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 350 (width) and 292 (height)
- 5. Click Publish

