

Presentate: Structured Themes Manual

A guide for hierarchy-aware themes

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1 Introduction

Presentate provides two categories of themes:

1. **Basic Layouts:** Minimalist themes like `simple` and `default` that focus on content without managing complex document hierarchy.
2. **Structured Themes:** A suite of themes (`sidebar`, `miniframes`, `split`, `progressive-outline`, and `minimal`) designed to automatically handle document structure, navigation, and transitions.

This manual focuses exclusively on the **Structured Themes category**. These themes share a common core API and a **Unified Transition Engine** to generate roadmap slides between content blocks.

2 Global Configuration for Structured Themes

All structured themes follow a consistent API pattern and are located in the `themes.structured` namespace. They are invoked using a `template` function through a `show` rule.

```
#import "@preview/presentate:0.2.3": themes
#show: themes.structured.sidebar.template.with(
  title: [My Presentation],
  author: [John Doe],
  // ... options
)
```

2.1 Common Parameters

The following parameters are supported by all five structured themes:

| Parameter | Type | Description |
|---------------------------------|------------|---|
| title | content | The main title displayed on the title slide and often in the navigation bar. |
| subtitle | content | Displayed below the title on the title slide (optional). |
| author | content | The name of the presenter. |
| date | content | Presentation date. Defaults to current date. |
| text-font | string | Font family family for the whole document. Default: "Lato". |
| text-size | length | Base text size. Default: 20pt. |
| mapping | dictionary | Maps logical roles to Typst heading levels. Default: (section: 1, subsection: 2). Supports part, section, subsection. |
| auto-title | bool | If true, slides without a manual title will automatically display the current heading body. Default: false. |
| show-heading-numbering | bool | Global toggle for heading numbering. Default: true. |
| numbering-format | string | Typst numbering format string (e.g., "1.1", "I.a"). Default: "1.1". |
| show-all-sections-in-transition | bool | If true, displays the full presentation outline during roadmap slides. Default: false. |
| transitions | dictionary | Configuration for the transition engine (see Section 3). |

2.2 Structural Mapping

The mapping dictionary is crucial as it tells the theme which headings should trigger transitions and navigation updates.

- **part**: Typically mapped to level 1 (=).
- **section**: Typically mapped to level 1 or 2.
- **subsection**: Typically mapped to level 2 or 3.

Example:

```
mapping: (part: 1, section: 2, subsection: 3)
```

3 The Unified Transition Engine

The transition engine automatically generates roadmap slides when your structure changes. It is highly configurable via the `transitions` argument.

3.1 Configuration Options

The `transitions` dictionary accepts the following keys:

| Key | Type | Description |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <code>enabled</code> | <code>bool</code> | Global switch for transitions. Default: <code>true</code> . |
| <code>max-level</code> | <code>int</code> | The maximum Typst heading level (1-3) that triggers a transition. Default: 3. |
| <code>show-numbering</code> | <code>bool</code> | Display heading numbers in transition outlines using the global numbering-format. Default: <code>true</code> . |
| <code>background</code> | <code>color str</code> | Background of transition slides. "theme" (primary color), "none" (white), or an explicit color. |
| <code>filter</code> | <code>function</code> | A callback (<code>heading</code>) => <code>bool</code> . Headings returning <code>false</code> will not trigger slides and will be hidden from outlines. |
| <code>style</code> | <code>dictionary</code> | Global styling for the transition outline (see below). |
| <code>parts</code> | <code>dictionary</code> | Override settings for Part transitions. |
| <code>sections</code> | <code>dictionary</code> | Override settings for Section transitions. |
| <code>subsections</code> | <code>dictionary</code> | Override settings for Subsection transitions. |

3.2 Transition Style

The `transitions.style` dictionary controls the typography of the roadmap:

- `active-color`: Color of the current heading. Defaults to theme accent.
- `active-weight`: Font weight of the active heading. Default: "bold".
- `inactive-opacity`: Opacity (0.0 to 1.0) for future headings. Default: 0.3.
- `completed-opacity`: Opacity for past headings. Default: 0.6.

3.3 Visibility Logic

For each roadmap type (parts, sections, subsections), you can define which levels are visible via the `visibility` key:

- "all": Show all headings at this level.
- "current": Only show the active heading at this level.
- "current-parent": Show siblings of the active heading (e.g., all subsections of the current section).
- "none": Hide this level.

Default Behavior:

- Part transitions: Show all Parts, hide Sections/Subsections.
- Section transitions: Show current Part, all Sections, current Subsections.

4 Theme Reference

4.1 Sidebar Theme

The sidebar theme provides a persistent navigation bar on the left or right side. It now automatically displays the presentation title at the top of the bar for better branding.

4.1.1 Theme Parameters

| | | |
|-----------------|------------|---|
| side | string | "left" or "right". Default: "left". |
| width | ratio | Width of the sidebar. Default: 22%. |
| sidebar-color | color | Background color of the sidebar. |
| main-color | color | Background color of the content area. Default: white. |
| active-color | color | Highlight color for the current item in the sidebar. |
| logo | content | An image or shape to display in the sidebar above the title. |
| logo-position | string | "top" or "bottom". Default: "top". |
| outline-options | dictionary | See "Outline Configuration" below. Customizes visibility, spacing, and styling. |

4.1.1.1 Outline Configuration

The outline-options dictionary allows fine-grained control over the sidebar navigation menu. It merges with the theme defaults to customize the progressive-outline component.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| level-{n}-mode | Visibility for level n (1-3). Options: "all", "current", "current-parent", "none". |
| spacing | Dictionary for layout. Keys include indent-{n} (e.g., indent-2) and v-between-{prev}-{curr} (e.g., v-between-1-2) defining vertical gaps between specific level transitions. |
| text-styles | Dictionary defining font styles. Keys: level-{n} containing sub-keys active, inactive, completed (each accepting text parameters like fill, weight). |
| match-page-only | Bool. If true (default), the outline highlights only the heading exactly on the current page. If false, it maintains the highlight on the current logical section even on subsequent slides. |

4.2 Miniframes Theme

Inspired by the Beamer Berlin theme, it uses dots to show progress within sections. It features a specific separator | when three levels of hierarchy are used.

4.2.1 Navigation Dictionary

The navigation parameter is a dictionary containing:

| | | |
|--------------|--------|---|
| position | string | "top" or "bottom". Default: "top". |
| style | string | "compact" (one row) or "grid" (one row per subsection). |
| marker-shape | string | "circle", "square", "diamond", "rect". |

| | | |
|--------------------|--------|---|
| marker-size | length | Size of the dots. Default: 4pt. |
| fill | color | Color of the navigation bar block. |
| show-level1-titles | bool | Show names of sections in the bar. Default: true. |

4.3 Split Theme

Features a horizontal header divided into two contrasting areas for Section and Subsection titles.

4.3.1 Theme Parameters

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|--|
| primary | color | Background color for the Section block. |
| secondary | color | Background color for the Subsection block. |
| navigation-style | string | "all" (show all siblings) or "current". |
| header-columns | tuple | Width ratios for the header blocks. Default: (1fr, 1fr). |
| section-align | alignment | Horizontal alignment for section text. Default: right. |

4.4 Progressive Outline Theme

A clean theme focused on document progression with a breadcrumb-style header. It supports dynamic fil-d'ariane based on the active mapping.

4.4.1 Theme Parameters

| | | |
|--------|----------------|---|
| header | content auto | Override the top breadcrumb navigation. |
| footer | content auto | Override the bottom page number area. |

4.5 Minimal Theme

A content-first theme with zero distractions. It has no persistent headers or sidebars, providing the maximum possible area for your content while still supporting automatic roadmap transitions.

4.5.1 Theme Parameters

| | | |
|--------|----------------|---|
| header | content none | Optional header content. Default: none. |
| footer | content auto | Optional footer content. Displays author, title and page number by default. |

5 Hooks API

If you need to generate a transition slide that doesn't fit the roadmap pattern (e.g., a full-page image), use hooks. They take precedence over the transition engine.

- on-part-change(heading)
- on-section-change(heading)
- on-subsection-change(heading)

Example:

```
#show: template.with(
  on-section-change: (h) => {
```

```
empty-slide(fill: black)[  
  #set align(center + horizon)  
  #text(white, size: 2em)[Next Chapter: #h.body]  
]  
}  
)
```