

# WORDPRESS THEMES

anagram



# Required downloads

- <http://www.sublimetext.com/2>  
(text editor)
- <https://wordpress.org/download/>  
(the files we'll install)
- **Mac OSX** - <http://www.mamp.info/en/downloads/>  
(your local server application)
- **Windows** - <https://www.apachefriends.org/index.html> (your local server application)





# Why customize?

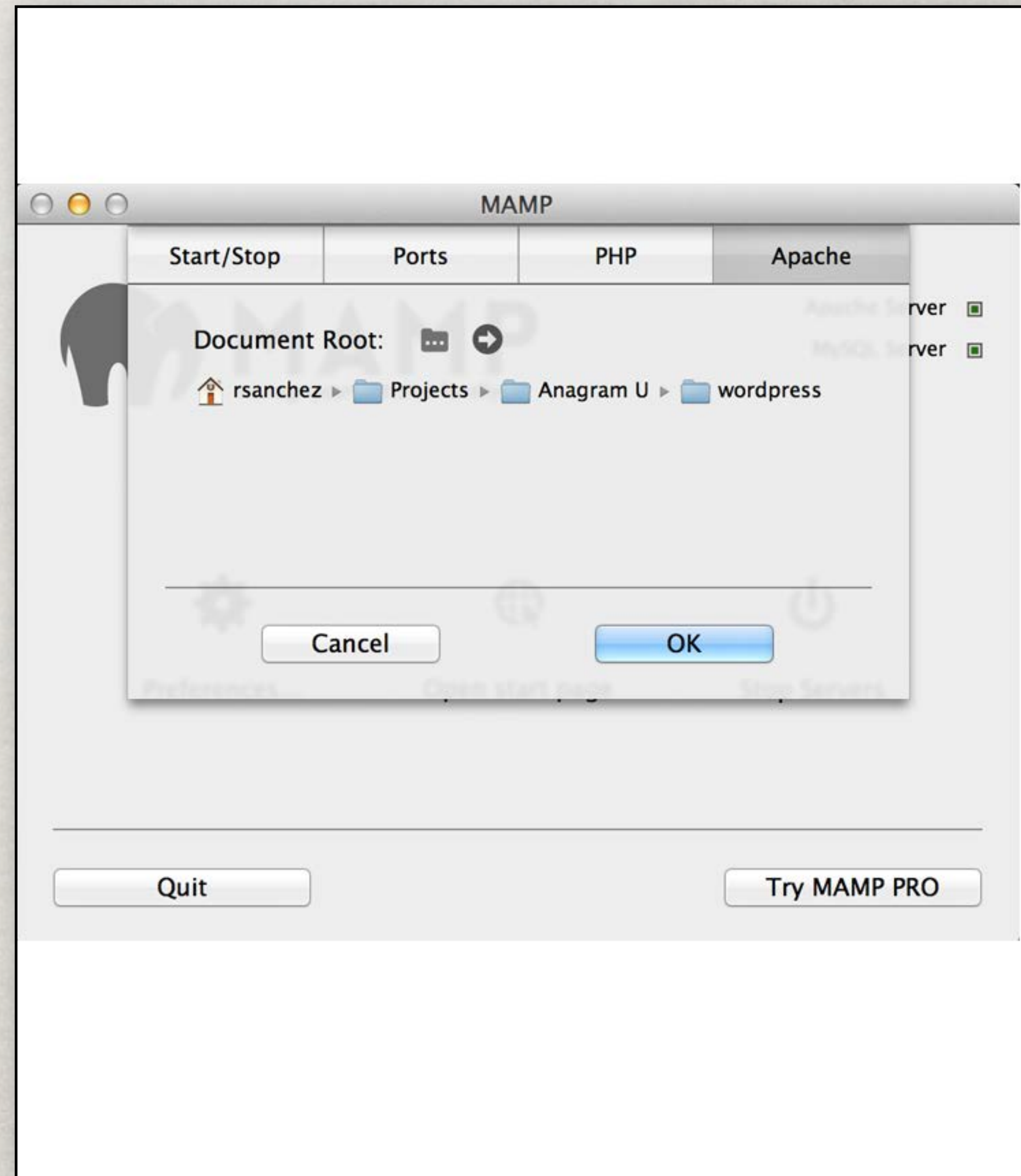
Wordpress gives you many options to customize your site using out-of-the-box components such as plugins and widgets, and you can even purchase many pre-built and tested themes from Theme Forest (<http://themeforest.net/category/wordpress>), but if you want to really make your site look unique you'll want to learn how to customize your own theme.





# Get set up

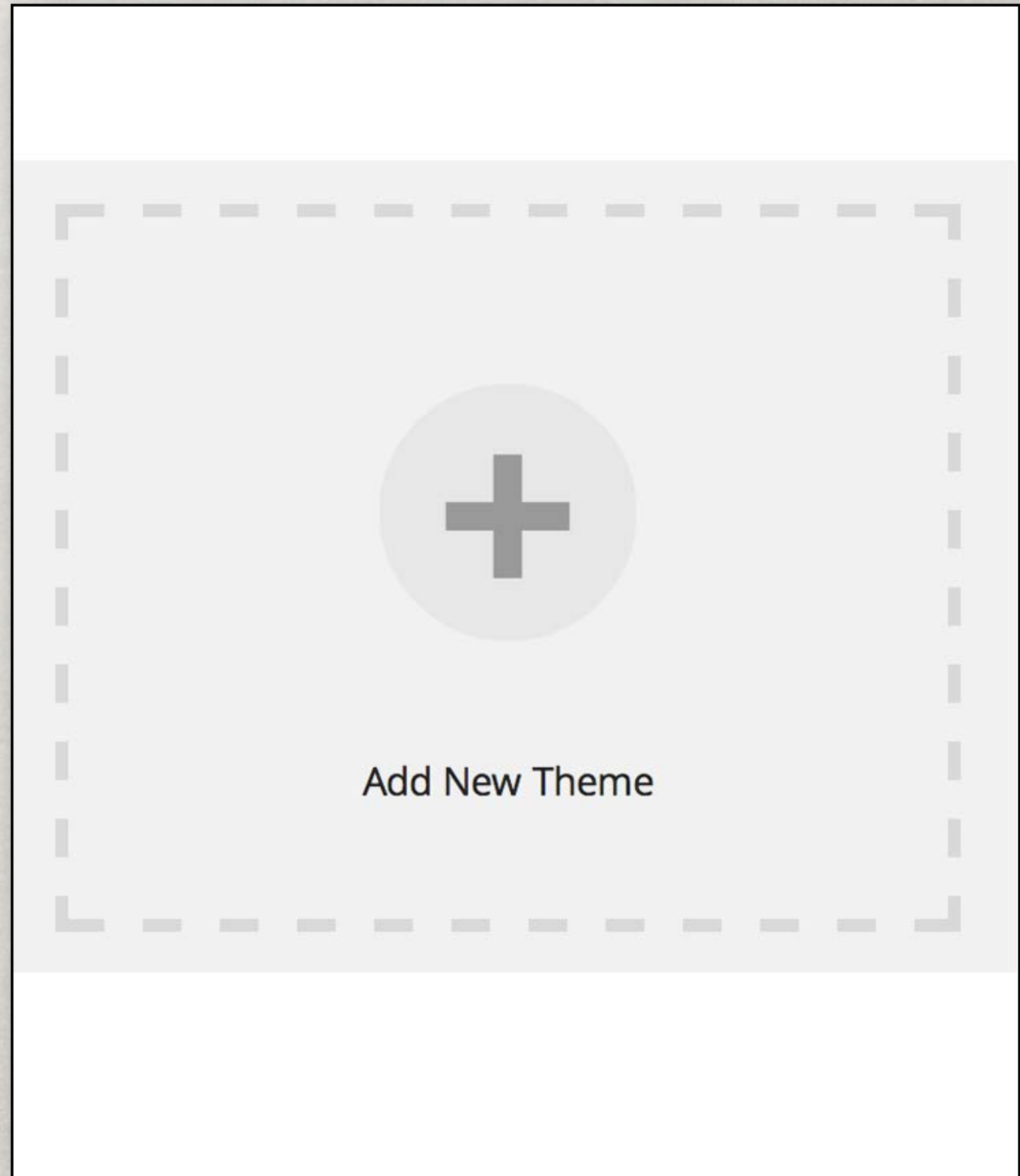
- Get the Spine theme from the AnagramU Dropbox folder
- Fire up your local instance of WordPress
- Mamp > Preferences > Apache > check your folder
- Mamp > Start Servers > make sure both server and database come on
- Go to a browser and go to <http://localhost:8888/wp-admin> and log in with your credentials





# Get set up

- Add and activate your new theme
- Appearance > Themes > Add New Theme > Upload Theme
- Find where you saved the spine.x.x.zip file and upload
- Activate!
- You can customize a few aspects of the theme using the interface (Appearance > Customize), but if we want to do more, we'll have to get into the code.





# Child theme

Since you have installed the Spine theme, you can access the code and can muck around, but if you ever update your theme your changes will be lost (unless you are really good at using diff tools and merging code).

Let's create a child theme so that whatever we do to our theme can be saved and not overwritten.





# Child theme

[http://codex.wordpress.org/Child\\_Themes](http://codex.wordpress.org/Child_Themes)

The base ingredients for a child theme are:

- a directory (folder) under wp-content/themes
- and in that directory, a file called style.css
- that's it!

## Wordpress files

**index.php**  
**license.txt**  
**readme.html**  
**wp-activate.php**  
**wp-admin/**  
**wp-blog-header.php**  
**wp-comments-post.php**  
**wp-config-sample.php**  
**wp-content/themes/CHILD-THEME-HERE/style.css**  
**wp-cron.php**  
**wp-includes/**  
**wp-links-opml.php**  
**wp-load.php**  
**wp-login.php**  
**wp-mail.php**  
**wp-settings.php**  
**wp-signup.php**  
**wp-trackback.php**  
**xmlrpc.php**



# Child theme

[http://codex.wordpress.org/Child\\_Themes](http://codex.wordpress.org/Child_Themes)

## Theme Name: Spine Child

- names your child theme so you can find it

## Template: Spine

- tells what the parent theme is called

```
@import url("../spine/  
style.css");
```

- imports the parent's stylesheet as a base

## style.css

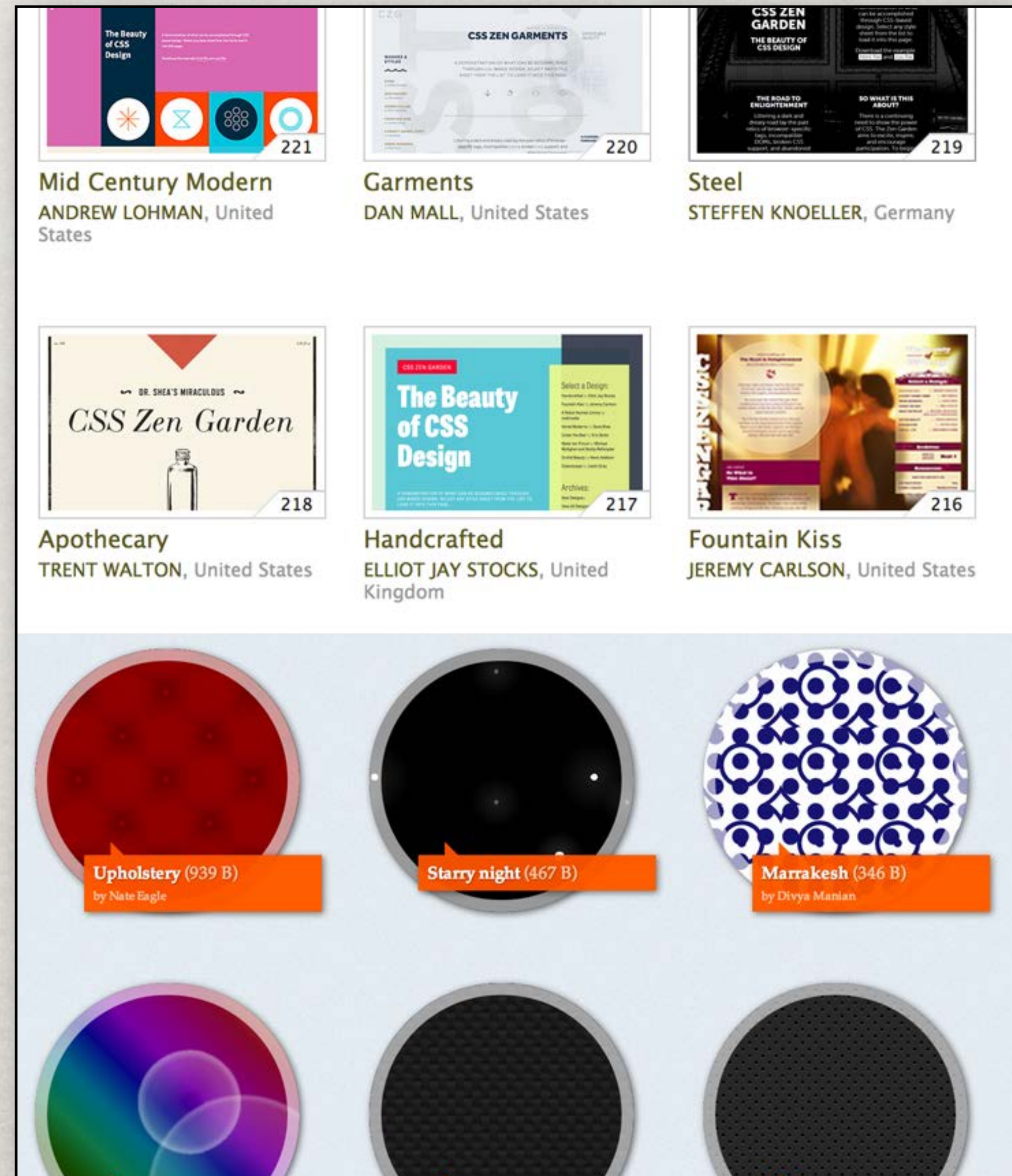
```
/*  
Theme Name: Spine Child  
Theme URI: http://spine.paulwp.com  
Author: Paul de Wouters or your name  
Author URI: http://paulwp.com/ or your website  
Template: Spine  
Description: Highly customizable mobile responsive theme.  
Make it your own by using a live preview to change colors,  
layouts, background and header images and upload your  
logo with a click of the mouse. It also looks great out of the  
box! Built with the Hybrid Core theme framework and the  
Foundation 4 front end framework.  
Version: 2.0  
License: GNU General Public License  
License URI: license.txt  
Tags: white, blue, gray, black, ...  
  
This theme, like WordPress, is licensed under the GPL.  
*/
```

```
@import url("../spine/style.css");
```



# CSS is magic

- You can do a lot with css.  
(<http://www.csszengarden.com/>)
  - These sites use the same html but have positioned elements differently and included background images through CSS
- CSS3 patterns (<http://lea.verou.me/css3patterns/>)
  - These patterns are created only with CSS
- <http://pattle.github.io/simpsons-in-css/> !!!!!
- But CSS support varies browser-to-browser (= extreme IE8 sadness)

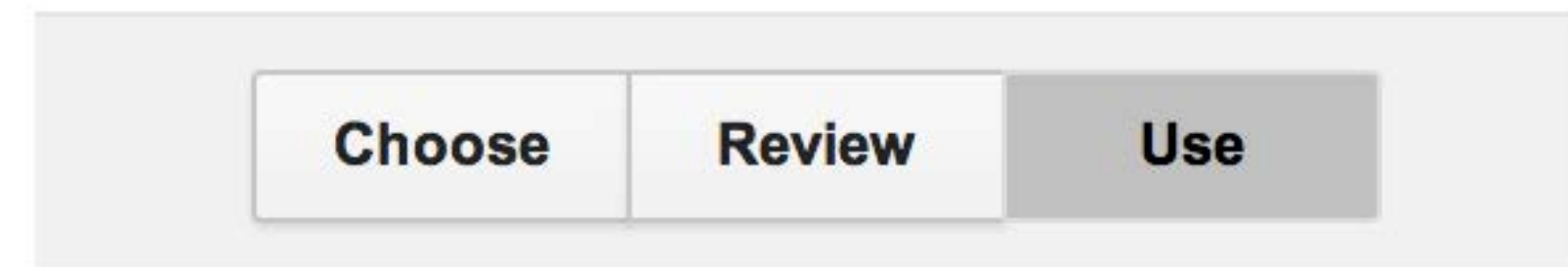




# Use a webfont

- Let's update the font used with Spine
  - Go to Google Fonts (<https://www.google.com/fonts>)
  - Select a font
  - Add it to your collection
  - At the bottom right, go to the "Use" link
  - Include the styles and character sets you want (steps 1 and 2)
- ... WTF Rosemary, how do we include the bit in step 3 to our <head>?

or the evil Queen and Jack.





# Child theme to the rescue

WordPress uses a file called `header.php` to generate the starting doctype, `<html>` and `<head>` tags that webpages use.

Since this is a child theme, every file we include in our child theme will override what is in the parent theme.

## From the Codex:

**If you want to change more than just the stylesheet, your child theme can override any file in the parent theme: simply include a file of the same name in the child theme directory, and it will override the equivalent file in the parent theme directory when your site loads. For instance, if you want to change the PHP code for the site header, you can include a `header.php` in your child theme's directory, and that file will be used instead of the parent theme's `header.php`.**



# Use a webfont

- So, let's open up the theme files, copy header.php from /spine to /spine-child
- go back to Google Fonts, and include the line
- `<link href='http://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Open+Sans' rel='stylesheet' type='text/css'>` in the head.
- Yes, you have to copy it exactly

Standard

@import

Javascript

3. Add this code to your website:

```
<link href='http://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Open+Sans' rel='stylesheet' type='text/css'>
```

4. Integrate the fonts into your CSS:

The Google Fonts API will generate the necessary browser-specific CSS to use the fonts. All you need to do is add the font name to your CSS styles. For example:

```
font-family: 'Open Sans', sans-serif;
```



# Use a webfont

Next, we'll go to `style.css` and use the new font, in this case, we'll replace all the headers with our font.

This tells the browser that for `h1`, `h2`, `h3`, `h4`, `h5`, and `h6` (all the headers), we want to use the font 'Open Sans'. If, for some reason, we can't get it, use `sans-serif` as a fallback.

**Into `style.css`:**

```
h1, h2, h3, h4, h5, h6{  
    font-family: 'Open Sans', sans-serif;  
}
```



# Use the Codex

- for some advanced customizations, you'll need to add in php functions
- included in the Dropbox folder there is a spine-child theme with a functions.php already there with examples
- with functions you can customize the “read more” text, length of characters for an excerpt, define a new area for a widget, LOTS OF THINGS
- <http://codex.wordpress.org/Category:Filters>

## **A filter is like a standardized “hook”**

i.e. when I want to display the “read more” link, WordPress will look for something called `excerpt_more`

[... define a function called `custom_new_excerpt_more` ...]

```
add_filter('excerpt_more', 'custom_new_excerpt_more');
```