college CDI

Development of a dynamic web site (DWD)

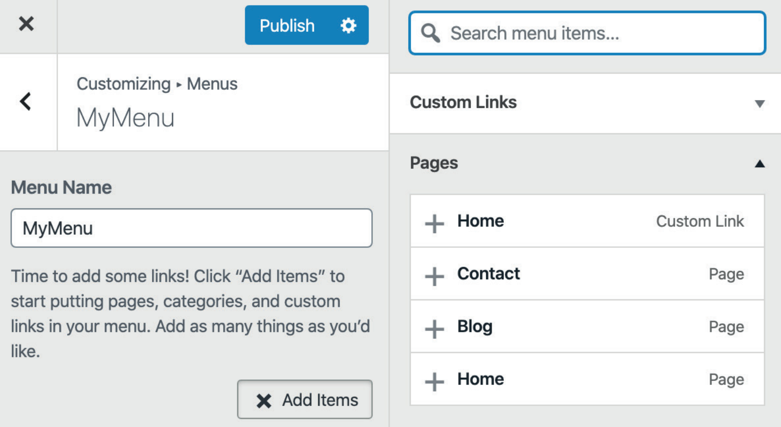
Class 05

Integrating a main menu

To integrate a main menu into your custom theme, a few steps are required. You must first create the menu, and then order it. Following its creation, you must of course integrate the menu where it is needed using a PHP snippet to finally use CSS to display it the way you want.

Creating the menu

To create a menu fro your theme, from the dashboard, select **Appearance > Customize > Menus**. Click on the button **Create New menu**, supply a name and click **Next**. You can then use the **Add item** button to add navigation links to your menu.



× Publish ⚙

Customizing ▸ Menus
MyMenu

Menu Name
MyMenu

Time to add some links! Click "Add Items" to start putting pages, categories, and custom links in your menu. Add as many things as you'd like.

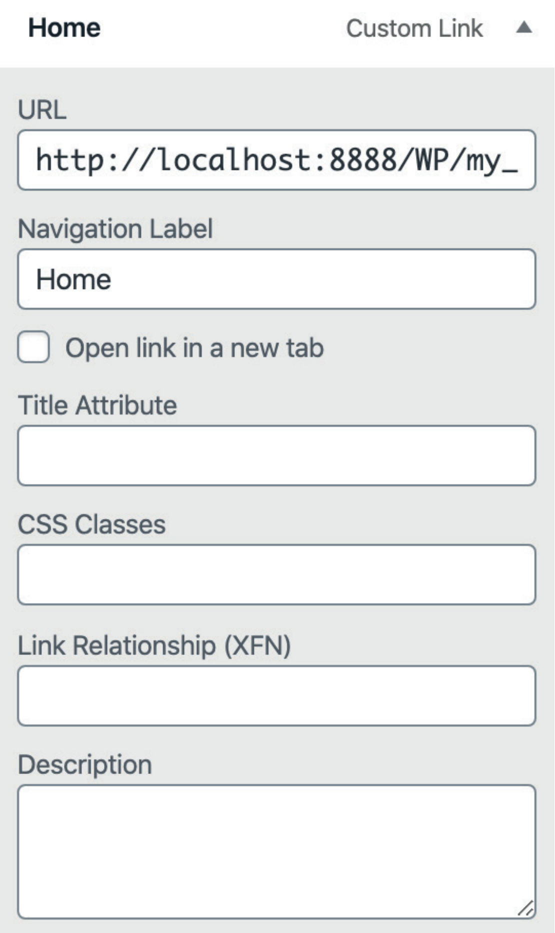
× Add Items

Search menu items...

Custom Links ▾

Pages ▲

+ Home	Custom Link
+ Contact	Page
+ Blog	Page
+ Home	Page



Home Custom Link ▲

URL
http://localhost:8888/WP/my_

Navigation Label
Home

□ Open link in a new tab

Title Attribute

CSS Classes

Link Relationship (XFN)

Description

Adding links to the menu

Clicking on a page from the right panel adds the link to the menu. Then, clicking on the page added in the left panel will allow you to set different options.

Integrating the menu in a template

For the menu that has just been created to show up on screen, it must be integrated somewhere (very often in *header.php* using a simple PHP snippet.

```
<?php
   wp_nav_menu(
          array(
                   'theme_location' => 'main',
                   'container' => 'ul',
                   'menu_class' => 'my_custom_class'
          )
   );
?>
```

For more information about WordPress menus : https://developer.wordpress.org/reference/functions/wp_nav_menu/

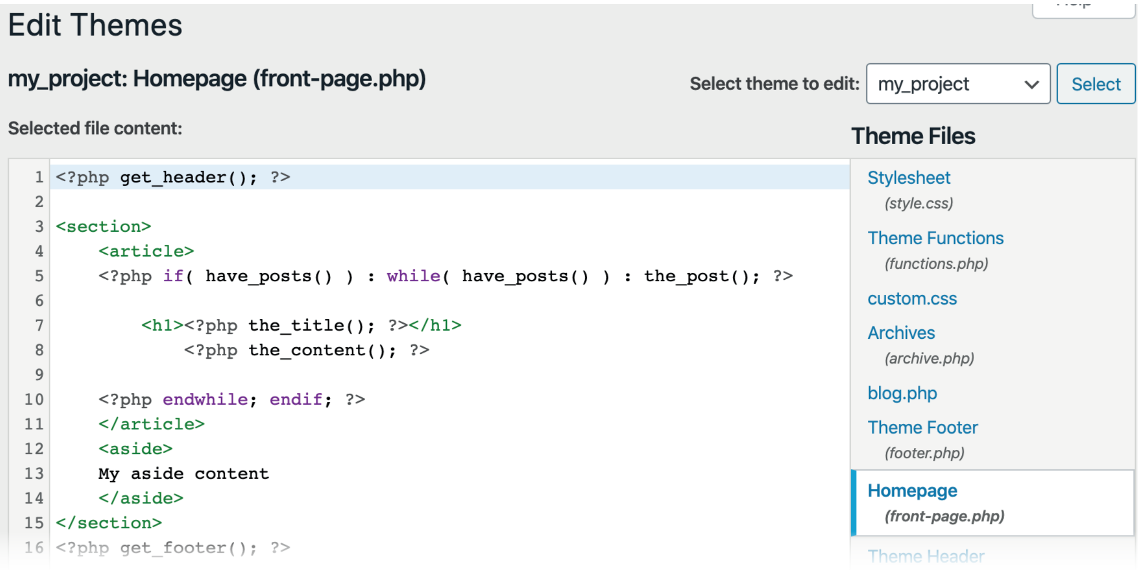
Editing themes files

Of course, it is possible to open the themes files directly from the folders using your favourite editor. Although this may work well most of the time, it is preferable to use WordPress tools. WordPress is a complex ecosystem and using integrated tools ensures better functioning and prevent potential errors.

Themes code editor

Located in the Dashboard under **Appearance > Theme Editor**, this tool allows you to visualize and edit all the theme's files by selecting them from the right panel.

On the bottom left of the tool, a drop-down menu gives you direct access to the different functions documentation. Make sure ti hit the *Update file* button before leaving the page.



Edit Themes

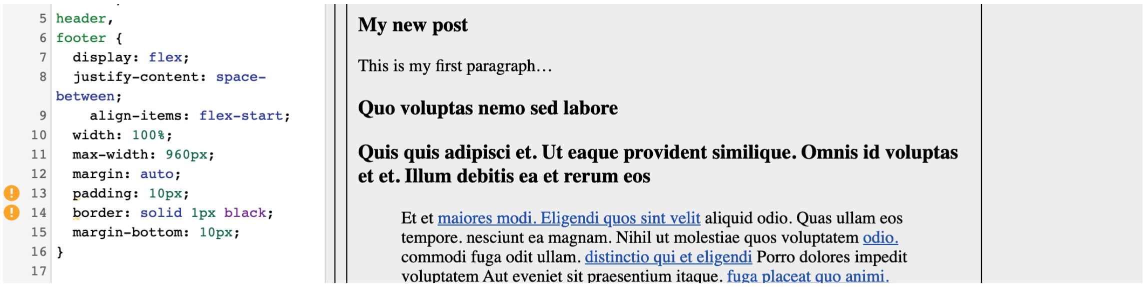
my_project: Homepage (front-page.php)

Selected file content:

```
<?php get_header(); ?>

<section>
    <article>
    <?php if( have_posts() ) : while( have_posts() ) : the_post(); ?>

        <h1><?php the_title(); ?></h1>
            <?php the_content(); ?>

    <?php endwhile; endif; ?>
    </article>
    <aside>
    My aside content
    </aside>
</section>
<?php get_footer(); ?>
```

Themes custom CSS editor

To use custom CSS, in the dashboard, select **Appearance > Customize > Additional CSS**. The main panel will show you your home page at first with the CSS editor's panel on the left side. Any CSS you add will automatically show on the preview without needing to refresh the page. In order to visualize other pages of the site to style them, simply use the links network.



```
header,
footer {
  display: flex;
  justify-content: space-
between;
    align-items: flex-start;
  width: 100%;
  max-width: 960px;
  margin: auto;
  padding: 10px;
  border: solid 1px black;
  margin-bottom: 10px;
}
```

My new post

This is my first paragraph…

Quo voluptas nemo sed labore

Quis quis adipisci et. Ut eaque provident similique. Omnis id voluptas et et. Illum debitis ea et rerum eos

Et et maiores modi. Eligendi quos sint velit aliquid odio. Quas ullam eos tempore. nesciunt ea magnam. Nihil ut molestiae quos voluptatem odio. commodi fuga odit ullam. distinctio qui et eligendi Porro dolores impedit voluptatem Aut eveniet sit praesentium itaque. fuga placeat quo animi.

Customization advices

Use the browser's inspector

Using the browser inspector allows you to identify the specific elements and style you want to edit. This tool should always be turned on while editing.

Use of existing classes and IDs

Using existing classes and IDs ensures that elements are coherent throughout the site. Although, many says it is preferable not to modify existing classes and ID and use custom stylesheet and script page. Using the Additional CSS tool adds CSS without modifying the existing ones, unless the same ID or class names are used.

Use of custom stylesheet

This is most probably the best way to edit a WordPress theme. Making sure the custom CSS file is declared after the default ones, it ensures the original CSS are not modified while giving you all possibilities. In this case, there are no problems using existing classes and IDs.