# Understanding `functions.php` in WordPress

The `functions.php` file in a WordPress theme works like a plugin. It is automatically loaded in both the administration panels and the front end of a WordPress site. This file is used to add features and functionality to a WordPress site.

Here’s a basic rundown of when and how to use `functions.php`:

**When to Use `functions.php`**

1. Adding Custom Functions: If you need to add custom PHP functions to your site, you can define them in `functions.php`.
2. Enqueueing Scripts and Styles: You can add scripts and styles to your theme by enqueuing them in `functions.php`.
3. Adding Theme Support: Use it to add support for various WordPress features like post thumbnails, custom headers, or navigation menus.
4. Customizing WordPress Behavior: You can modify or extend WordPress behavior using hooks, filters, and actions in `functions.php`.
5. Custom Creation: We can create everything in the `functions.php` which includes (plugins, shortcodes, hooks, API, etc).

**How to use `functions.php`**

1. Locate `functions.php`:

* The `functions.php` file is located in your theme’s directory: `wp-content/themes/your-theme/functions.php`.

1. Editing `functions.php`:

* You can edit this file directly via the WordPress Admin Dashboard (Appearance > Theme Editor > functions.php) or by using an FTP client and a text editor.

*Note: Not recommended if we don’t have FTP or any other Cpanel login.*

**<?php**

**// Enqueueing Scripts and Styles**

**function my\_theme\_enqueue\_scripts() {**

**wp\_enqueue\_style('bootstrap-css', 'https://cdn.jsdelivr.net/npm/bootstrap@5.3.2/dist/css/bootstrap.min.css');**

**wp\_enqueue\_script('bootstrap-js', 'https://maxcdn.bootstrapcdn.com/bootstrap/5.3.0/js/bootstrap.bundle.min.js', array('jquery'), null, true);**

**}**

**add\_action('wp\_enqueue\_scripts', 'my\_theme\_enqueue\_scripts');**

**// Adding Theme Support**

**function my\_theme\_setup() {**

**add\_theme\_support('post-thumbnails');**

**add\_theme\_support('custom-logo');**

**add\_theme\_support('menus');**

**}**

**add\_action('after\_setup\_theme', 'my\_theme\_setup');**

**// Custom Greeting Function**

**function custom\_greeting() {**

**return "Welcome to my WordPress site!";**

**}**

**// Creating a Custom Shortcode**

**function my\_custom\_shortcode() {**

**return "This is a custom shortcode!";**

**}**

**add\_shortcode('custom\_shortcode', 'my\_custom\_shortcode');**

**// Adding Custom Footer Text**

**function custom\_footer\_text() {**

**echo '<p>Custom footer text added via functions.php</p>';**

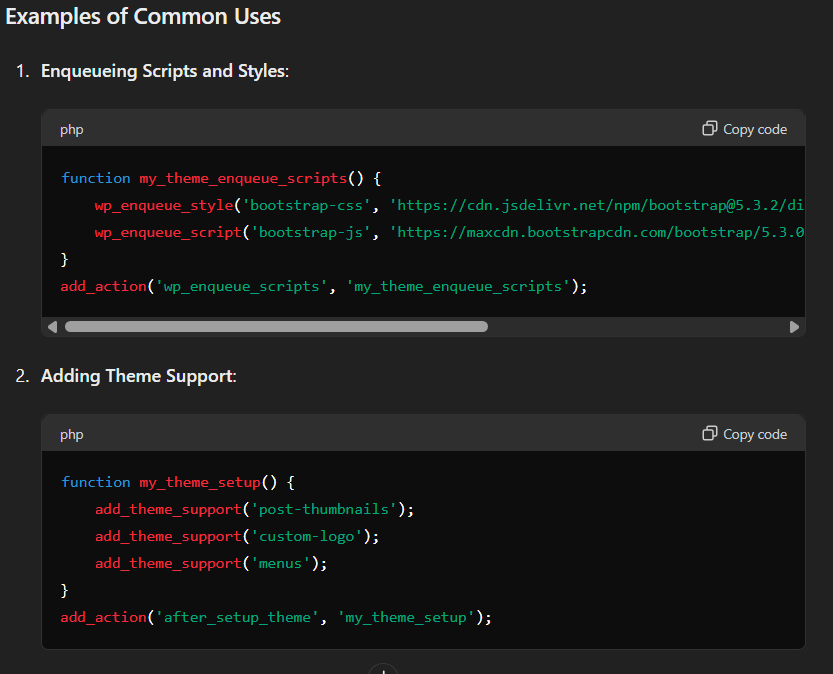
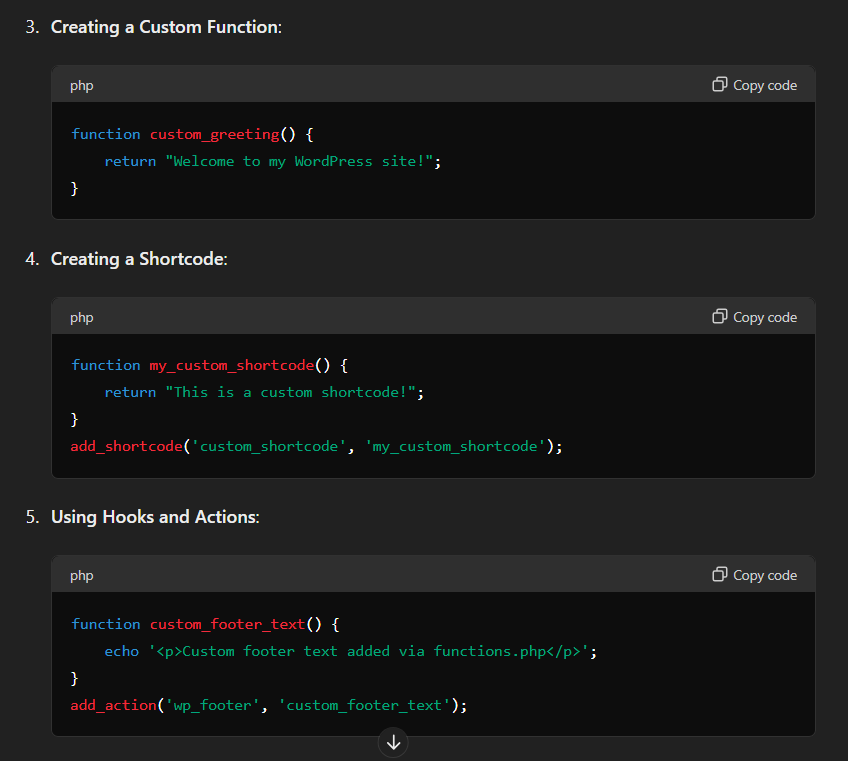
**}**

**add\_action('wp\_footer', 'custom\_footer\_text');**

**// Function to Get Login Page URL**

**function get\_login\_page\_url() {**

**return get\_permalink(get\_page\_by\_path('login'));**

**}**