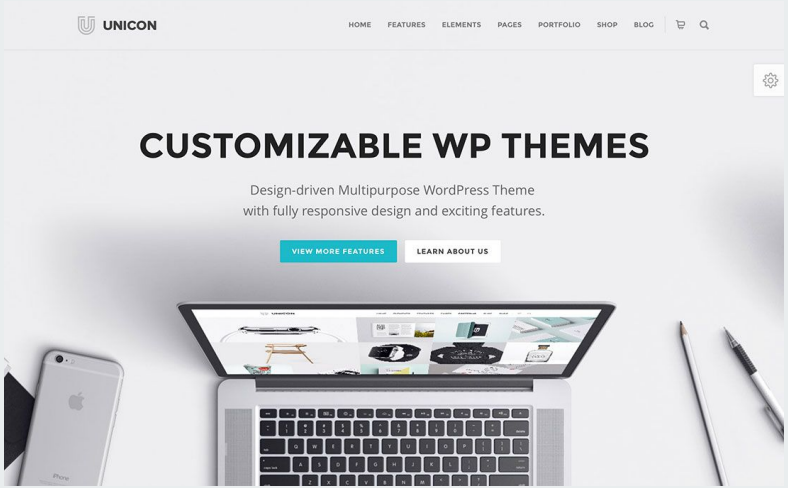
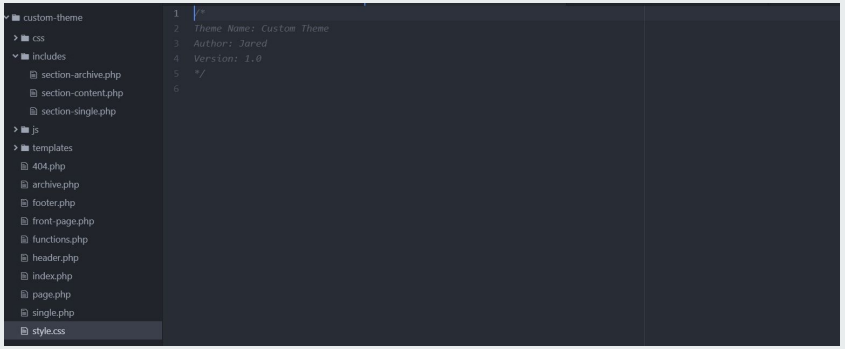
Wordpress Custom Theming

A review on wordpress custom theming principles



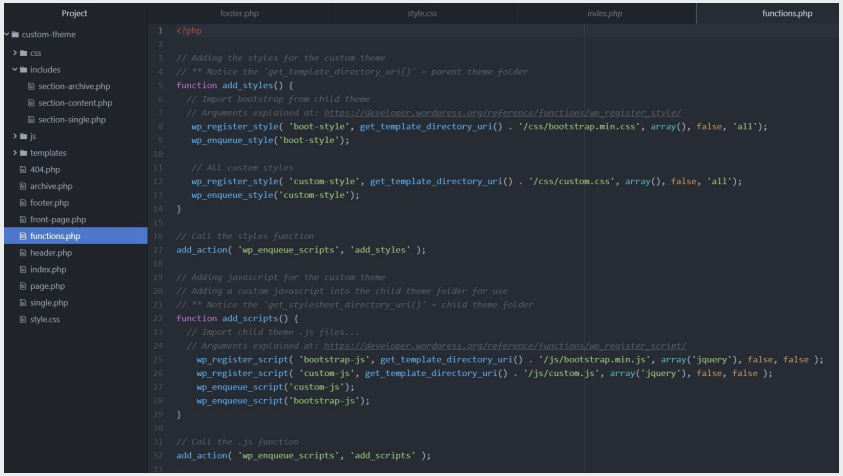
style.css, index.php & functions.php

Create a style.css, index.php and functions.php file. These will create a custom theme that can be selected within the wordpress admin.



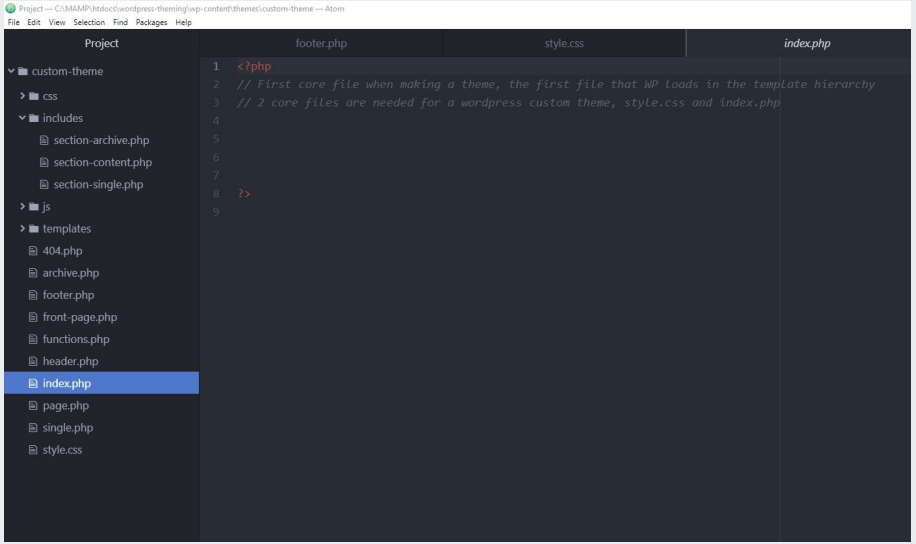
functions.php

The functions.php file will allow you to load css and javascript into the wordpress theming environment.



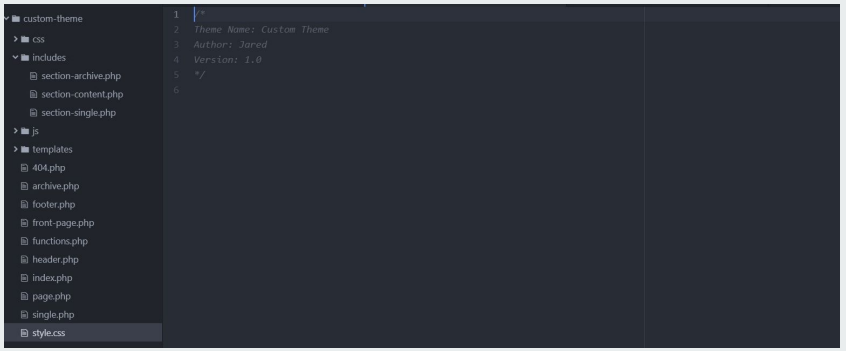
index.php

Index.php is needed for the custom theme to work. It is a core file, sometimes not actually referenced by Wordpress, but needed in the root dir.



style.css

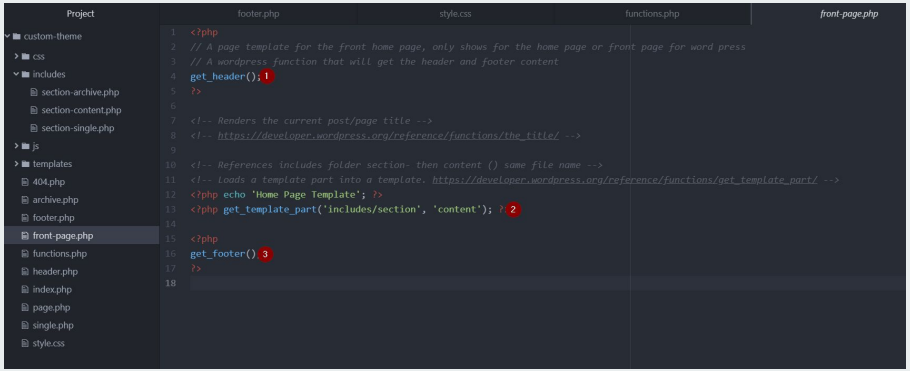
As with a child theme, your custom theme will require a style.css file. This can be used for css but is primarily for registering the theme with wordpress.



front-page.php

A page template that will be used for your front home page in wordpress.

1. A wordpress function that pulls in the header.php file and information.
2. A wordpress function that references includes and pulls in the middle content section of the page (can sometimes contain a wordpress loop).
3. A wordpress function that pulls in the footer.php file and information.



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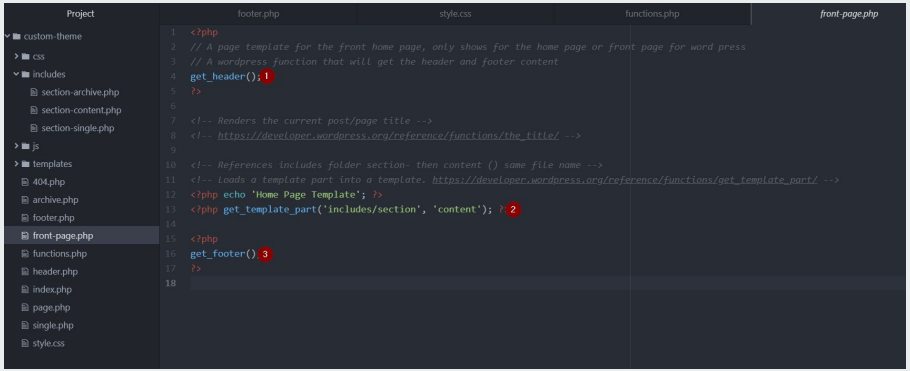
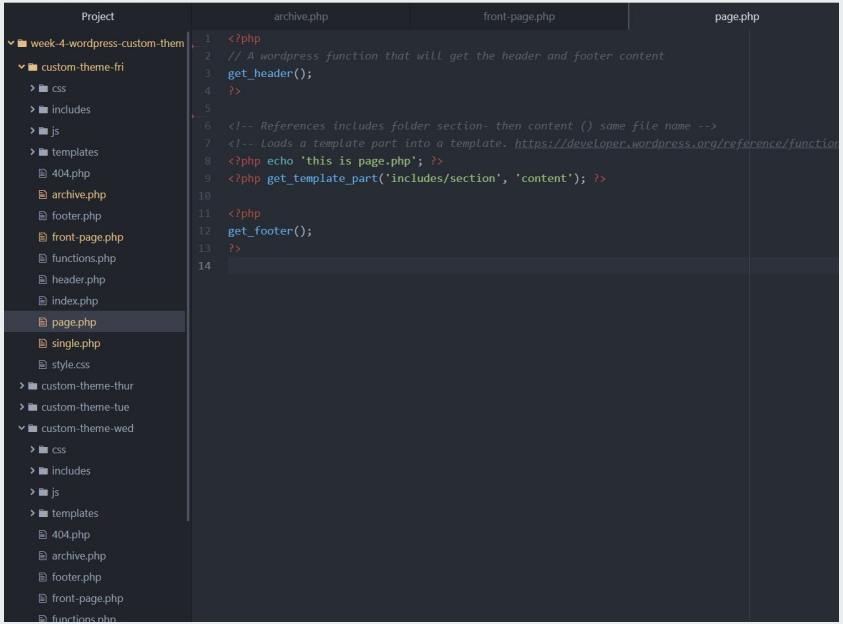


page.php

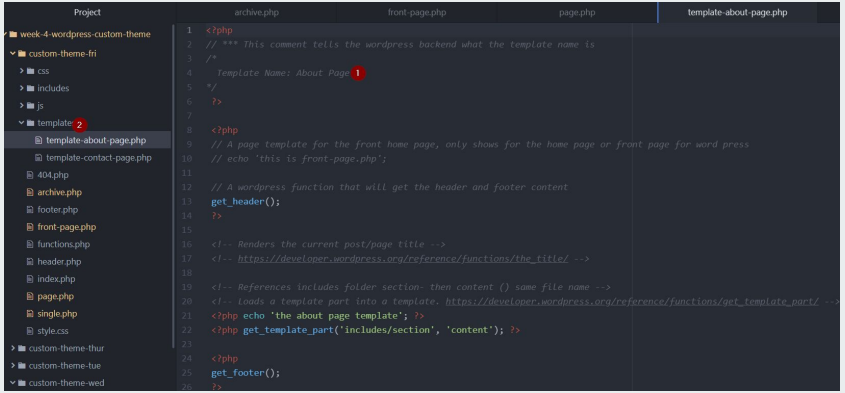
This page is referenced for any pages created in wordpress. You can control the pages individually by using *page templates*.

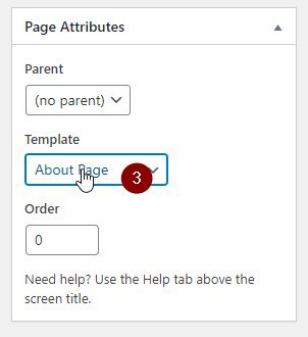


Page templates

Wordpress will allow you to create pages that associate to page templates. This allows control in code across different web pages.

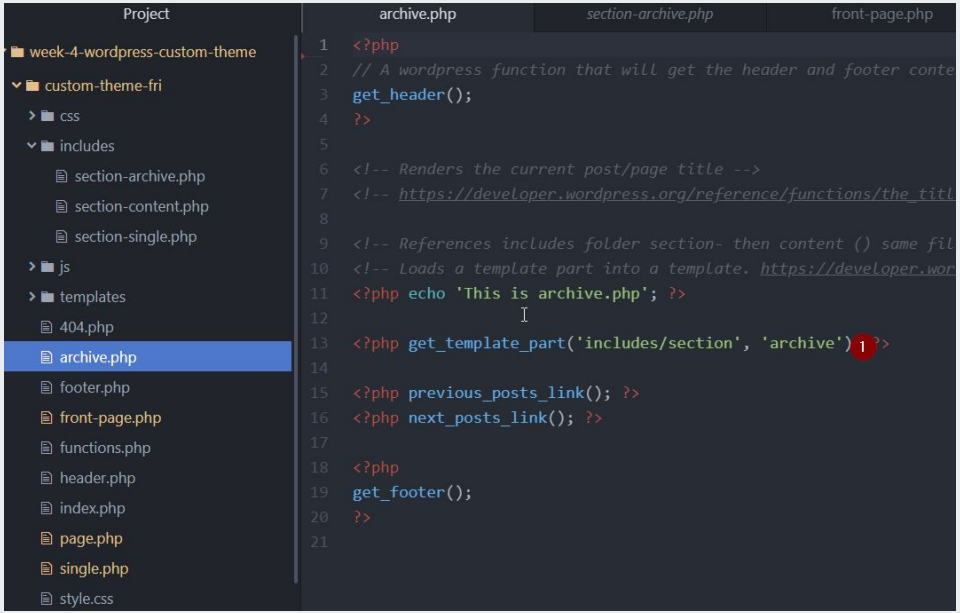
1. Remember to include the comment at the top of the template file.
2. Place all template files in the templates folder.
3. Remember to select the right template in the wordpress admin within the pages edit section (Bottom right corner)





archive.php

The archive.php page is set up for Blogs. It allows users to list and control the listing of blogs with the wordpress loop.

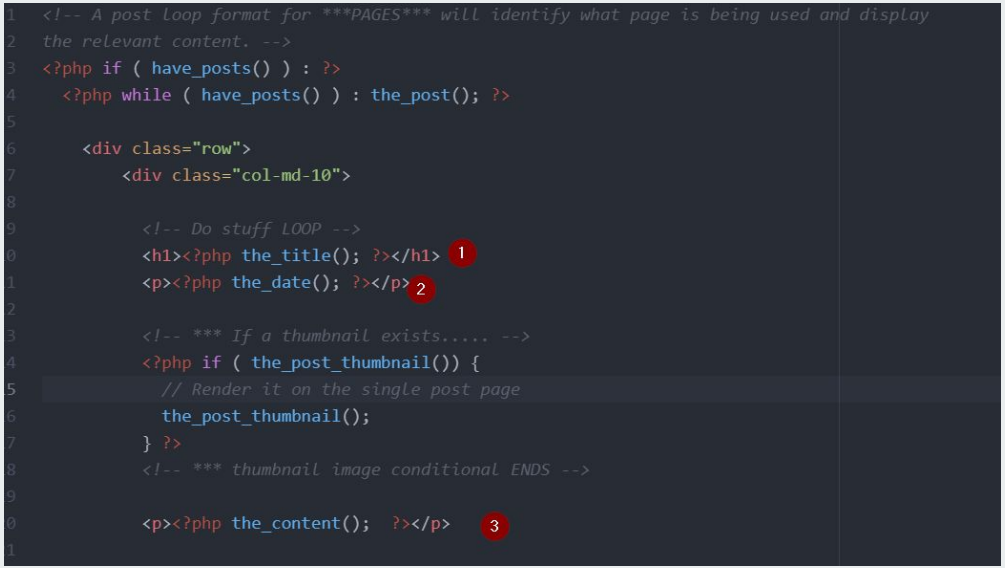


single.php

The single.php file is used to display individual blog posts.

The Wordpress loop.

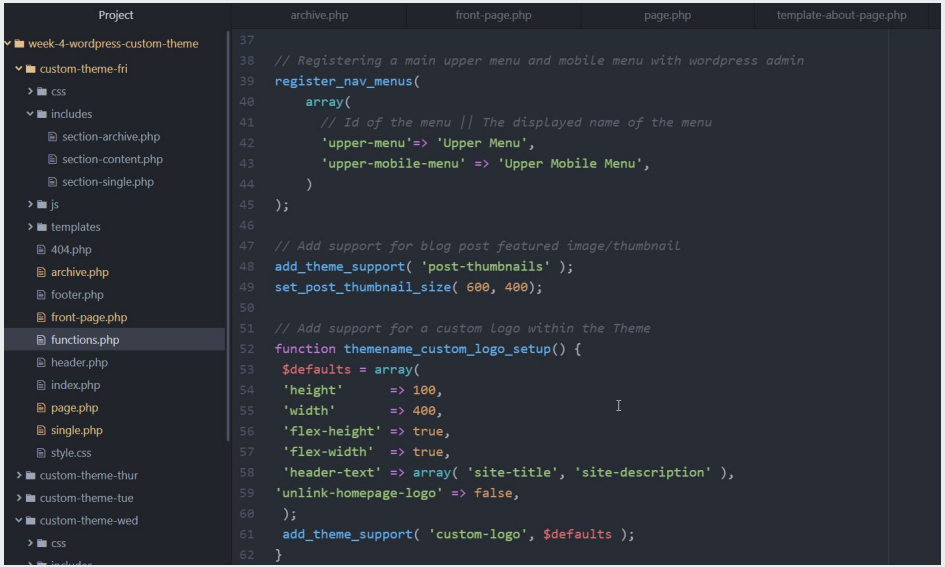
The wordpress loop is a php while loop pattern that controls the output of pages and posts.

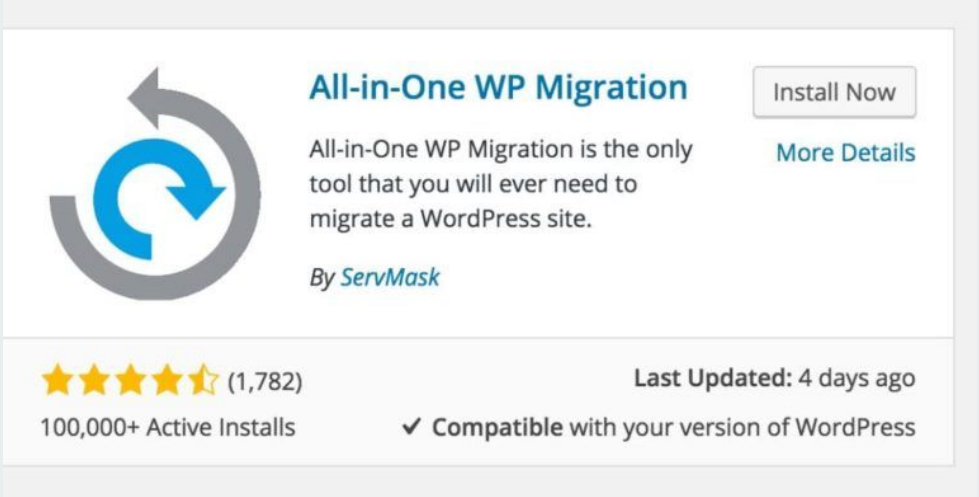


```
<!-- A post loop format for ***PAGES*** will identify what page is being used and display
the relevant content. -->
<?php if ( have_posts() ) : ?>
  <?php while ( have_posts() ) : the_post(); ?>

    <div class="row">
        <div class="col-md-10">

          <!-- Do stuff LOOP -->
          <h1><?php the_title(); ?></h1> 1
          <p><?php the_date(); ?></p> 2

          <!-- *** If a thumbnail exists..... -->
          <?php if ( the_post_thumbnail()) {
            // Render it on the single post page
            the_post_thumbnail();
          } ?>
          <!-- *** thumbnail image conditional ENDS -->

          <p><?php the_content();  ?></p>  3
```

functions.php can also:

- Add menus
- Add a custom logo
- Add widgets



Remember:

- Use the Wordpress documentation site if needed
- Comment and structure your code with care
- Backup your site daily with All In One Backup ->
- Repo with all demo code at: https://github.com/veratechnz/Yoobee-CMS-PHP