SymphonyThemes
Quick Start Guide

Build a great theme with SymphonyThemes

Table of Content

1. Installing your SymphonyTheme 3
2. What if I want to rename my theme? 3
3. Theme configuration options 3
4. Installing recommended modules 4
   4.1 ImageCache: 4
      4.1.1 Create a preset for image. 4
   4.2 CCK (Content Construction Kit) 6
      4.2.1 Adding a New Field 6
      4.2.2 Manage Fields 8
      4.2.3 Display Fields 9
   4.3 Views 9
      4.3.1 Create a view 9
5. Build your site with SymphonyTheme 12
   5.1 Create slideshow block 12
   5.2 Create Blog page 12
6. How can I get more help from SymphonyThemes? 13

1. Installing your SymphonyTheme

Installing a new theme is straightforward:

1. Download a new theme package.
2. Read any README or INSTALL files in the package to find out if there are any special steps needed for this theme.
3. Upload the contents of the theme package to a new directory in the `themes` directory in your Drupal site (`/sites/all/themes/yourThemeName`)
4. Click *administer* » *themes* and enable the new theme (Drupal will auto-detect its presence).
5. Edit your user preferences and select the new theme. If you want it to be the default theme for all users, check the *default* box in the themes administration page.

2. What if I want to rename my theme?

That's easy! Just follow these steps:

1. Select another theme. Changing the default theme's name could cause problems. To change to another theme, see Step #3, above. (We recommend you change it to Drupal's built-in theme, Garland.)
2. Change the name of the theme's folder. For example, the name is "alphorn". This name can contain only letters, numbers, and underscores—no spaces! This is the "machine-readable name" that Drupal uses internally: In Step #4 you'll have a chance to give it an "human-readable name", with spaces.
3. In the theme's folder, find the file with the theme's old name + ".info". Give that file the same name as you gave its enclosing folder.
4. Open that .info file and change the text after "name = ". This will be the theme's human-readable name.

Now when you go to the theme administration page at /admin/build/themes, you'll see the theme's new name.

3. Theme configuration options

Many controls for changing the behavior of your site-wide theme are available by going to /admin/build/themes and clicking the "configure" link next to the theme. (If there's no "configure" link, you'll need to enable the theme. First check the Enabled box, then scroll to the bottom of the page, then click "Save configuration". The "configure" link will then be available.) Alternately, the direct URL for a theme-configuration page is admin/build/themes/settings/[theme_name].

Additionally, you can change certain settings for all themes by clicking the Configure tab at the top of /admin/build/themes, or go directly to /admin/build/themes/settings. In this guide we'll generally discuss only theme-specific settings.

If you've used a theme from somebody other than SymphonyThemes before, you've probably been surprised at the huge range of options available in our designs for Drupal 6 and later. While the sheer number of them may seem overwhelming at first, the good news is that your site will look great even if you never touch any of them.

But for those who want more control over their site's appearance than you can get from any other theme provider, here are clarifications of some of SymphonyThemes' special theme configuration options.

- **Color:** With this setting, you can choose other color for theme.
- **Menu:** This setting lets you choose the type of main menu. We have Drop down CSS menu, Split menu and Drop down ST menu.

4. Installing recommended modules

Most Drupal sites use modules that aren't in Drupal's core download, and we've created our themes to take advantage of some of the more common modules. You can download these individually at drupal.org, and they're all included as part of Acquia Drupal (acquia.com/downloads).

4.1 ImageCache:

ImageCache is a module that lets you make different sized alternatives of the same images. It requires an image manipulation library such as GD2 or ImageMagick and requires clean urls to be enabled. You can use imagecache with any image uploaded to Drupal, so you can use it with Image module as well as normally uploaded images using the Upload module, but the most common way is to use it with CCK and Imagefield. (drupal.org/project/imagecache). And this is link to document of ImageCache http://drupal.org/node/163561

4.1.1 Create a preset for image.

First login to Administer -> Site Building -> Image cache (this used to be Administer -> Site Configuration -> Image cache in older versions of the module). Then label a new namespace preset: for example "slideshow" (no quotes) and click on the 'Create preset' button.

Then choose an action: scale, resize, or crop. Scale works well when you want to keep the aspect ratio, you only need to enter one of the dimensions in this case. Resize will allow you to produce images of any arbitrary size, even if that results in a distorted image. Crop will allow you to display only part of the image.

After that, give the preset a width and height, you can use a percentage to get sizes relative to the original image's size or enter an absolute value in pixels.

Let's suppose you want to scale the maximum width of the image to be 690. To do that, you just need to fill out the width and height and set it to scale to fit inside dimensions, unless you don't care if one of the dimensions may actually end up greater than the specified value. Don't forget to click on the 'Update preset' button after setting the needed values.

4.2 CCK (Content Construction Kit)

CCK allows you to create content types with field types not otherwise found in core Drupal. For example, you could create a Flickr-like photo-sharing site by allowing members to create nodes of the content type “Photo”, which includes an image field, caption field, and perhaps also a custom field indicating when the picture was taken. We’ll show you how to do exactly this in the section, “Creating content types using Content Construction Kit (CCK)”. In addition, these custom fields also come into play when designing Views, as is described in the section on that subject later in this guide. (drupal.org/project/cck). And this is link to document of CCK http://drupal.org/node/101723

4.2.1 Adding a New Field

1. Go to *Administer* > *Content Management* > *Content Types* (admin/content/types). Select the content type which you want to add a new field.For our example, let's add some fields to the 'story' content type.
2. Choose the option to 'edit' the 'story' type. You will see additional tabs that say 'Manage fields', 'Display fields'. Start by selecting the option 'Manage fields' to add new field.

3. On the 'Manage fields', Add 'Label' (including spaces), 'Field name' and select field type . Note that the Field name cannot be changed later!

The screen will look like:

4. Start with something easy, a 'Text' field with a text field widget, by selecting 'Text' >> 'Text Field'.
5. Next, you will be taken to a screen where you can define more things about the way this field will work.

You'll notice that the list of possible widgets shows up again on this screen. That's because you have an option to change your field to use a different widget once the field has been created. Skip past this section for now.

Some of the things you can define include the following:

- **Label:** Create a label here. This is a chance to create a label that has different components than the machine name of the field. It can contain spaces or non-ASCII characters, and it can be changed later. The machine name cannot be changed.

- **Rows:** This is an option that you only see for the 'Text' field. If you leave it set to '1', the default, you will get a regular textfield in your form, which will be stored as a varchar field in the database. If you choose a number greater than '1', you will get a large textarea in your form, set to the number of rows you select here, stored as a text field in the database.
- **Default value:** You'll see a collapsed area where you can input a default value for this field. You can use this or leave it blank.
- **Group:** If you have enabled the Fieldgroup module, you'll see an option to select a group to place this field into. If you have not created any groups, this won't have any effect.
- **Help text:** Anything you type into the 'Help text' box will appear to end users as a description for this form element.
- **Required:** If you select the option to make this field required, users will have to fill this field out and will not be able to save new content without doing so.
- **Multiple values:** The multiple option is one of the most powerful and confusing parts of CCK. If selected, users will be able to select or create more than one of these items. One of the most common uses of this is to create a text or number field that uses a select or checkbox widget where you want to allow users to select more than one item.
- **Text processing:** This is another option that only applies to the Text field. Here you identify if the user should be allowed to select a filter for text processing. The option to use filter process will only make sense if the field is being created as a textarea field by selecting more than one row.
- **Maximum length:** Select the maximum length for the field or leave it blank for unlimited length. If this is a textfield, this value will be used to shorten the available field to the selected size.
- **Allowed values list:** This rarely will make any sense or be useful unless you choose to use a select or checkbox widget. if you use such a widget, this is where you can define the list of options that users can select from.
- **Save the field:** Select or fill out these values, then save the field. You'll be returned to the 'Manage Fields' screen.

4.2.2 Manage Fields

This screen becomes your main place to see and organize your fields. You'll see both fields you have created with CCK and fields added by other modules that CCK can't control. For instance, you'll see the content 'Title' and 'Body' on this screen. Each field has a weight that controls the order it appears when content is created or edited. If you have enabled the Fieldgroup module, you'll see your fields organized by groups. On this screen you can change the weight and group for each field. If you have no groups to select from, use the 'Add new group' to create them.

The weight controls the order that this field will appear in. Fields with heavier weights will appear after fields with lighter weights. Keep in mind that there are non-CCK fields in the content, too, and they have their own weights. For instance, the 'Title' field has a default weight of -5 that can't be controlled by CCK. If your content type has a body, the

body has a weight of 0. If the content type uses taxonomy, the taxonomy has a weight of -3. So you need to select your field weights to fit in among other things in the content. If you have a lot of fields, it may be hard to fit them all in between other elements on the form. That's where fieldgroups come in handy, since you can put fields into groups, then organize them by weight within their group.

4.2.3 Display Fields

The 'Display Fields' screen is where you can control when field values and labels will appear in your content. Each field is listed on the screen, and you can select whether the label should be hidden or appear above or next to the field value.

For each field, you can choose how the field will be displayed in the teaser and the full node view by selecting the 'formatter' to use in that view. The exact formatters available differ depending on the type of field you are using. For the 'Text' field, you have a choice of 'Default', 'Plain text', 'Trimmed', or 'Hidden'. 'Default' will display the normal view of the text, as HTML if html is used, and filtered with the selected filter. 'Plain text' will display the raw text from the field with no HTML. 'Trimmed' will trim long text areas down to the length selected for post teasers, and 'Hidden' will not display the field at all. So you could choose to hide this field in the teaser, but display it in the full view.

4.3 Views

This module permits you to design alternate ways of viewing nodes, either individually or as a collection. The Views module is one of Drupal's most complicated—and useful—modules. We'll step you through the process of using it later in this guide. (drupal.org/project/views).

4.3.1 Create a view.

1. Go to /admin/build/views. Click the Add tab.
2. Give the view a blog name. We'll call our demonstration view "Blog". The next two fields are optional, and for "View type" select Node, then click Next.
3. Click the plus sign next to the Fields link.
4. Scroll down and select the fields you'd like to show up in the view. In this case, that's "Node: title"; "Node: body"; "Node: post date"; and "Node: Link". Then click Add. At this point you'll be asked for details on each field's display. When everything looks good, click Update to move on to the next field.
5. Click the plus sign next to the Filters link.
6. Scroll down and select the nodes you'd like to display in this view. In this case, that's easy: You want all published nodes of the content type "Story". Check "Node: Published" and "Node: Type", then step through the option screens for each, clicking Update to move on to the next one.

At this point you'll see all the information in the "Live preview" area near the bottom of the screen. You're about halfway there! Now, we need to create a page and format it the way we want. Continuing on:

7. Click “Add display” while Page is selected on the popup above it. Up until now,
8. You’ve been editing the view’s “defaults”, which would apply to the information as it would appear in a Page, Block, Feed, or Attachment. By adding a Page display, you’re telling Views “I intend to make a page with this information”, and will have a chance to add page-relevant options (such as the page’s URL).
9. Under the “Page settings” link, click the word “none” next to Path. Enter the path name, and click Update. We’ll use the word “blog” as the path name.
10. Click Save, then go to /team to see how things are going. Not bad... but not quite right. We’ll fix it up a bit in a minute. But also note that this was the first time you saved your view: If you had left the views administration screen for any reason, you would have lost all your work! For that reason, I recommend saving often while creating views.

The screen will look like:

Now for the hard part: Adding those last tweaks that make the page look the way you want it.

11. Click the [Edit] link near the top of the page. This is a neat little trick in Views: while your cursor is over the view, you'll see links at the top labeled [Edit] [Export] [Clone]. You'll return to Views' administrative UI. (This trick doesn't work in all themes. You can always return to the view's edit page at /admin/build/views/edit/[view name].)

12. Under Fields, clicking on each field's name, changing Label to None. then making your changes, then clicking "Update default display". You can make other changes if you like, of course.
13. Next to the Fields link, click the "rearrange fields" icon. You can then move the fields into the order you want. As always, click "Update default display" to make the change take effect and see what you did.

At this point, save your view and visit it at /blog. It looks pretty good, doesn't it?

5. Build your site with SymphonyTheme

5.1 Create slideshow block

We used jQuery plugin to display slideshow which included in Alphorn Theme.
To create a slideshow block you only follow 5 steps below:

1. Use ImageCache to create slideshow preset for image on slides
2. Create content slideshow type and add image field for it.
3. Add several slideshow nodes.
4. Create a slideshow view.
   - Add a view with view type 'node'.
   - In **Fields** section: select 'Content:Image'; 'Node:body'. In **Format** of 'Content:Image': select 'slideshow image'.
   - In **Filters** section: add 'Node: Published'=yes and 'Node: Type' = slideshow.
   - Add a Block display on this view.
5. Add slideshow block to slideshow position.

And then, the slideshow will show on your site.You can change the effect of slide in theme/alphorn/js/custom.js file. And please click here to learn more about jQuery.

5.2 Create Blog page

1. Use ImageCache to create small preset (used for image on list page) and medial preset (used for image on detail page).
2. Add image field, introtext field for story content type. At **Display fields** tab, select 'medial image' for image field on **full node** column.
3. Add several story nodes.
4. Create a story view.
   - Add a view with view type 'node'.
   - In **Fields** section: select 'Node: Title'; 'User: Name'; 'Node: Post date'; 'Content:Image'; 'Content: Introtex';'Node: Link'. Change Labele of 'User: Name' to 'Created by'. In **Format** of 'Content:Image': select 'small image link to node'.
   - In **Filters** section: add 'Node: Published'=yes and 'Node: Type' = story.
   - Add a Page display on this view.
   - In **Basic setting** section: click to **Title** to add title for this Blog, click to **Items to**

display to add the number of items you want to display on Blog page.
- In **Page setting** section: add 'Path: blog'.

Note: You have to create a view with name is blog because in the theme folder, we created layout for blog view. So, if you want to create a view with other name, you have to change the name of some files in [theme_name]/templates/custom/ folder.

6. How can I get more help from SymphonyThemes?

We hope this guide has helped you set up your new Drupal website and use some of the unique features of a SymphonyTheme. You should now have the basic toolkit needed to set up your own dynamic website using Drupal's core features and key modules such as ImageCache, CCK and Views.

If you have any questions about using your theme from SymphonyThemes on your website, or have any custom theming needs, please contact us via the support forum on our website at http://www.symphonythemes.com/forum .