



Styling your web site

HTML, CSS & customising your web site's style

A presentation for WordPress Findhorn, January 2014, by [Mark Rowatt Anderson](#)

What we'll cover

- WordPress theme options
- A crash course in HTML & CSS
- Using HTML & CSS in WordPress

But First...

- Next month may be a little different
- Announcing the

NFA Web Site Hackathon

- An all day event (Saturday, date tbc)
 - learn WordPress hands on
 - help build a new site for the NFA
 - all levels of expertise welcome - there's something for everyone!

WordPress Theme Options

- Options depend on the theme
- Start here...

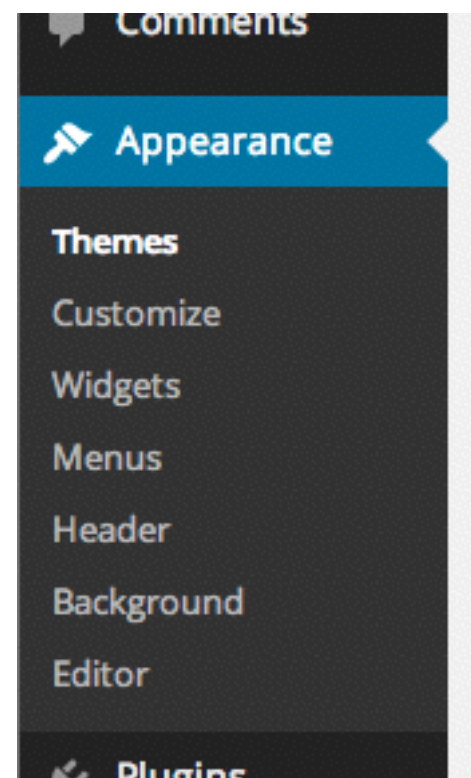




image: testing.gobanana.co.uk

Crash Course in HTML & CSS

(actual crash not required)

HTML

- describes the semantics of a web page
- does not specify how content looks
- is important for screen readers and making content accessible

Some HTML Elements

- Top level header

```
<h1>This is a header</h1>
```

- Paragraph of text

```
<p>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.</p>
```

- Numbered list

```
<ol>  
  <li>First item</li>  
  <li>Second item</li>  
</ol>
```

Some More HTML Elements

- Image

```
<img src='image.jpg' alt='A Photo'>
```

- Link

```
<a href='otherpage.html'>This is a link</a>
```

- Quote

```
<blockquote>  
  <p>To style or not to style, that is the question!</p>  
  <cite>WP Shakespeare</cite>  
</blockquote>
```


CSS

- describes how a web page looks
- does not describe what the content is
- is (mostly) ignored by screen readers

Some CSS Examples

- Make level 1 headers 36px, red, sans serif

```
h1 {  
  color: red;  
  font-family: sans-serif;  
  font-size: 36px;  
}
```

- Indent quotes & show in italics

```
blockquote {  
  font-style: italic;  
  margin-left: 40px;  
}
```

- Make links white text on a red background

```
a:link {  
  color: white;  
  background-color: red;  
  text-decoration: none;  
}
```

Combining HTML & CSS

- Use *classes* to be more specific

```
<h1 class="special-header">This is a special header</h1>  
<h1>This is not a special header</h1>
```

```
h1.special-header {  
  color: white;  
  background-color: red;  
  padding: 20px;  
  text-align: center;  
  width: 300px;  
}
```

**This is a special
header**

This is not a special header

Combining HTML & CSS

- Use *structure* to be more specific

```
<header><h1>This is a special header</h1></header>  
<h1>This is not a special header</h1>
```

```
header h1 {  
  color: white;  
  background-color: red;  
  padding: 20px;  
  text-align: center;  
  width: 300px;  
}
```

**This is a special
header**

This is not a special header

Where does CSS go?

- Inline

```
<h1 style="color: red;">This is a one off red header</h1>
```

- In a stylesheet *(don't edit your theme's CSS!)*
- In WordPress *(use JetPack's CSS editor)*

Where to learn more

- Online articles & tutorials
 - SitePoint - sitepoint.com
 - Smashing Magazine - smashingmagazine.com
 - HTML Dog CSS tutorial - www.html5dog.com/guides/css/beginner
- Mozilla developer documentation
 - developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML
- HTML5 Doctor
 - html5doctor.com
- Google for more!



```
body {  
    font: x-small  
    background:  
    color: black;  
    margin: 0;  
    padding: 0;  
}
```

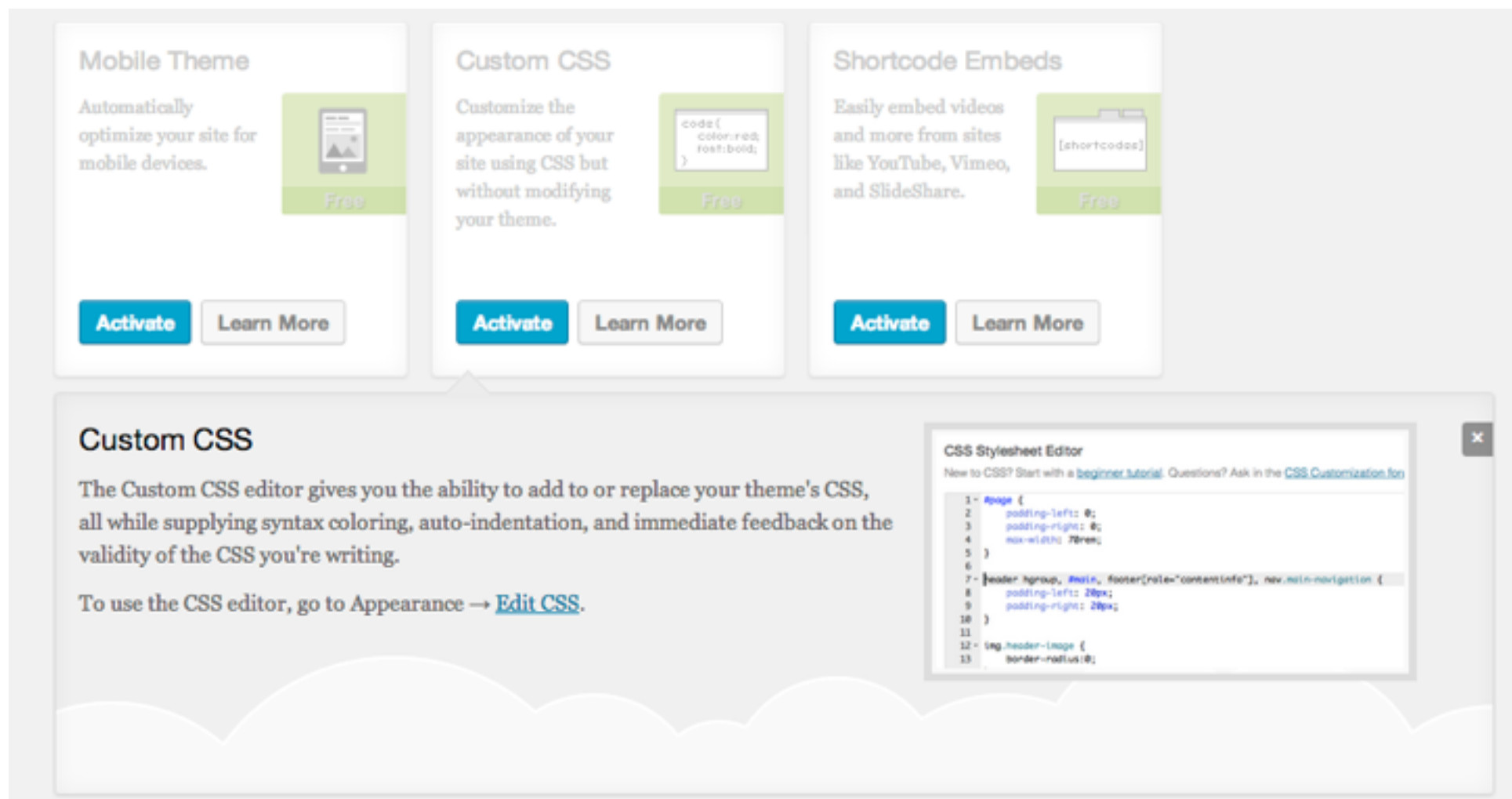
image: wpmu.org

Putting it into practice

Styling a WordPress site

Jetpack Custom CSS

- Install & activate Jetpack
- Activate the Custom CSS module



The screenshot displays the Jetpack module interface with three main sections:

- Mobile Theme:** Automatically optimize your site for mobile devices. Includes an "Activate" button and a "Learn More" link.
- Custom CSS:** Customize the appearance of your site using CSS but without modifying your theme. Includes an "Activate" button and a "Learn More" link.
- Shortcode Embeds:** Easily embed videos and more from sites like YouTube, Vimeo, and SlideShare. Includes an "Activate" button and a "Learn More" link.

A callout box for the Custom CSS module provides the following information:

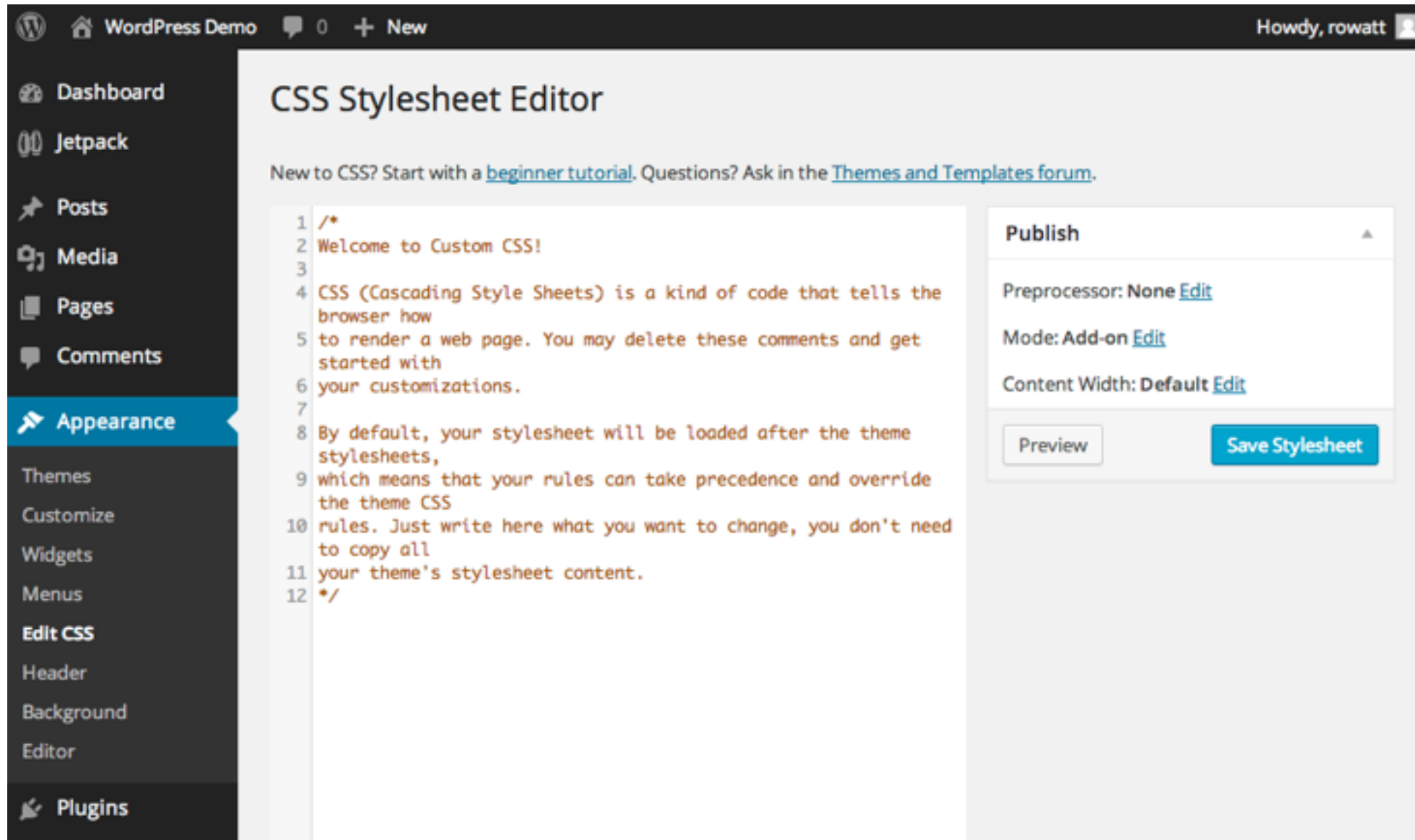
Custom CSS
The Custom CSS editor gives you the ability to add to or replace your theme's CSS, all while supplying syntax coloring, auto-indentation, and immediate feedback on the validity of the CSS you're writing.

To use the CSS editor, go to Appearance → [Edit CSS](#).

The callout also shows a preview of the CSS Stylesheet Editor with the following code:

```
1 - #page {
2   padding-left: 0;
3   padding-right: 0;
4   max-width: 780px;
5 }
6
7 - #header hgroup, #main, footer[role="contentinfo"], nav.main-navigation {
8   padding-left: 20px;
9   padding-right: 20px;
10 }
11
12 - img.header-image {
13   border-radius: 0;
```

Open Jetpack's CSS Editor



The screenshot shows the WordPress admin dashboard with the Jetpack CSS Stylesheet Editor open. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Dashboard, Jetpack, Posts, Media, Pages, Comments, Appearance (highlighted), Themes, Customize, Widgets, Menus, Edit CSS, Header, Background, Editor, and Plugins. The main content area is titled "CSS Stylesheet Editor" and includes a helpful message for new users. The central text area contains a CSS comment block with line numbers 1 through 12. The right sidebar features a "Publish" section with options for Preprocessor (None), Mode (Add-on), and Content Width (Default), along with "Preview" and "Save Stylesheet" buttons.

WordPress Demo 0 + New Howdy, rowatt

CSS Stylesheet Editor

New to CSS? Start with a [beginner tutorial](#). Questions? Ask in the [Themes and Templates forum](#).

```
1 /*
2 Welcome to Custom CSS!
3
4 CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) is a kind of code that tells the
5 browser how
6 to render a web page. You may delete these comments and get
7 started with
8 your customizations.
9
10 By default, your stylesheet will be loaded after the theme
11 stylesheets,
12 which means that your rules can take precedence and override
13 the theme CSS
14 rules. Just write here what you want to change, you don't need
15 to copy all
16 your theme's stylesheet content.
17 */
```

Publish

Preprocessor: None [Edit](#)

Mode: Add-on [Edit](#)

Content Width: Default [Edit](#)

Preview Save Stylesheet