Divi Builder Overview

## Introduction

Welcome to the lesson with the Divi Builder overview. The Divi Builder is such a powerful and robust tool that it is very likely you aren't using it to its full potential, or that you might not be aware of some of the available options. That is why in this lesson, I would like to give you a little tour, which hopefully inspires you to go on your own exploration and try out some of the options you might have missed.
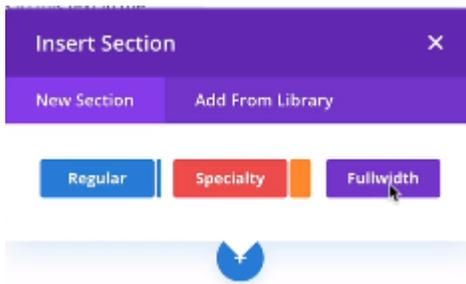
The basics

So let's start with the basic Divi page structure. We have sections, and inside each section, you need to add a row and specify the column structure.
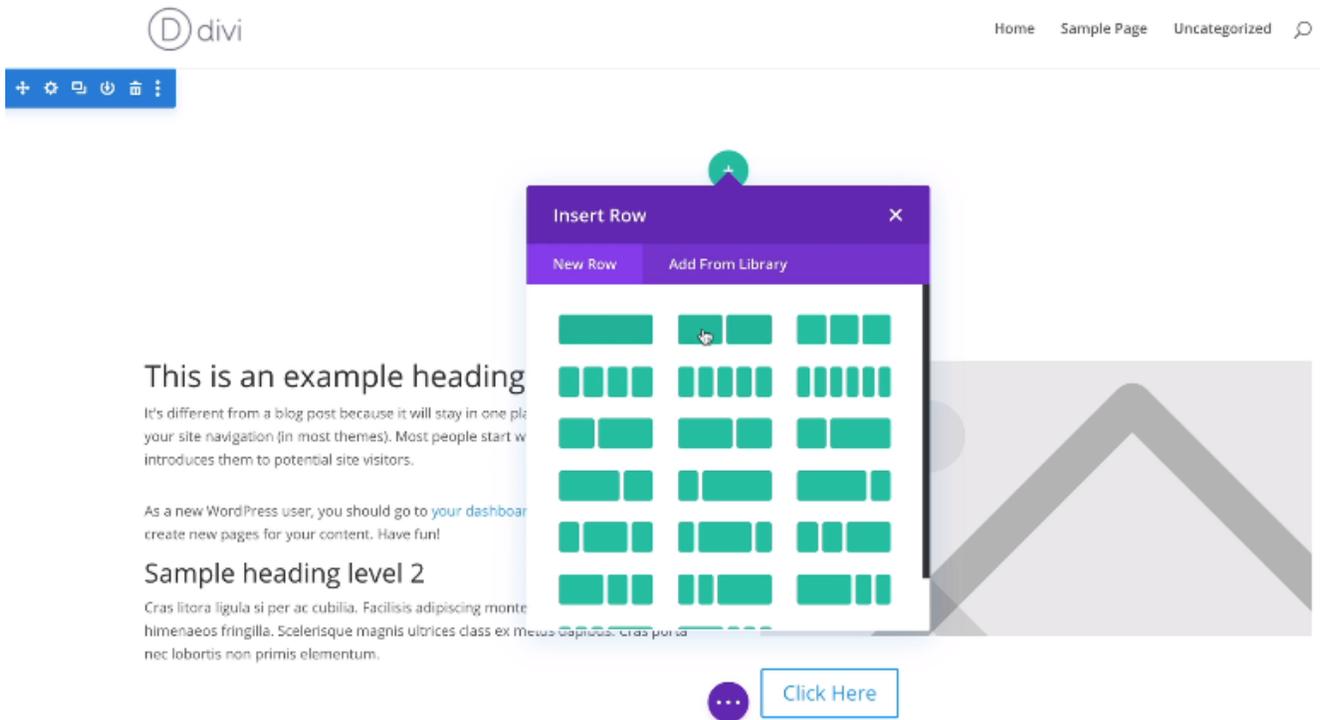
And inside each column, we can add our Divi Builder modules.
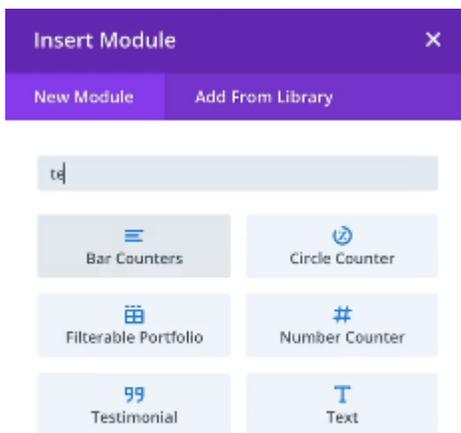
It's worth mentioning here that there are **3 types of sections**: regular, specialty, and fullwidth.

The specialty section can help you achieve a bit more complex column structure, but this can be done with CSS as well. The fullwidth sections are not very useful in my opinion, because you can make a regular section and row fullwidth just as easily, and the fullwidth sections come with a limited set of modules. So that is basically the difference.

Now, each of these elements has a similar set of main controls, and here are their functions in order from left to right: we can move the element, access the settings, duplicate it, save to Library, remove, or access additional actions in the dropdown menu.

This dropdown menu is also available if you simply right-click on the element. The only difference between the controls for these 3 types of Builder elements is with Rows, which have an additional icon to change the column structure.
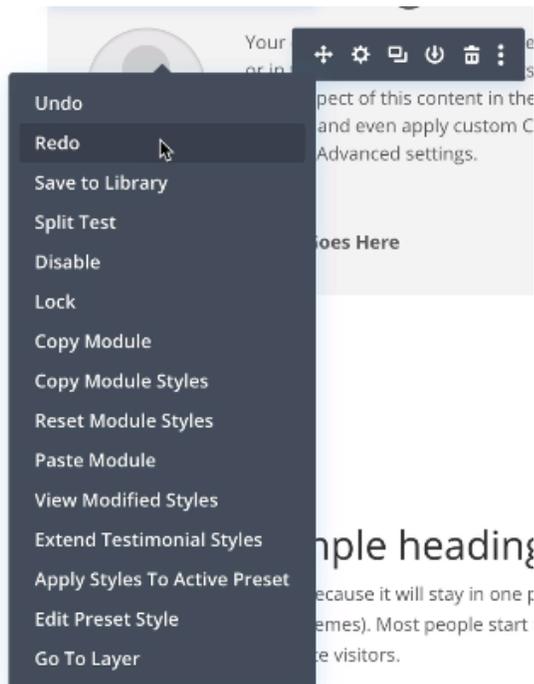

And to access column settings, you would need to go into the Row Settings first
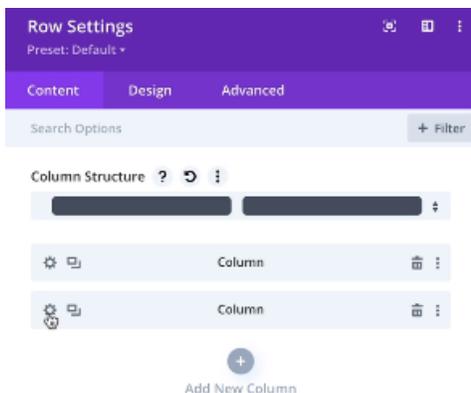
Builder Options

We will look into the Settings panel in more detail in the next lesson. Right now, let's get back to the Builder Options and have a look at this dropdown menu.

We have **Undo** and **Redo** at the top, and you can use the **Cmd+Z** and **Cmd+Y** keyboard shortcuts or **Ctrl+Z** and **Ctrl+Y** for Windows users. We can **Save to Library**, and we'll look into the Library in more detail in a separate lesson.

Next, **Split Test**: this option is for all the conversion analysts and marketers and it allows you to easily test two versions of an element.

For example, you can enable Split Test on a row, and once it's enabled, the Builder will ask you to "select the goal of the test": another or the same element. Let's say my goal is so that a visitor clicks on the button, so I'll pick the button as my goal. Once the goal is selected, you will be able to create a second version of your split test element, in my case a row, and see how these changes affect your goal target.
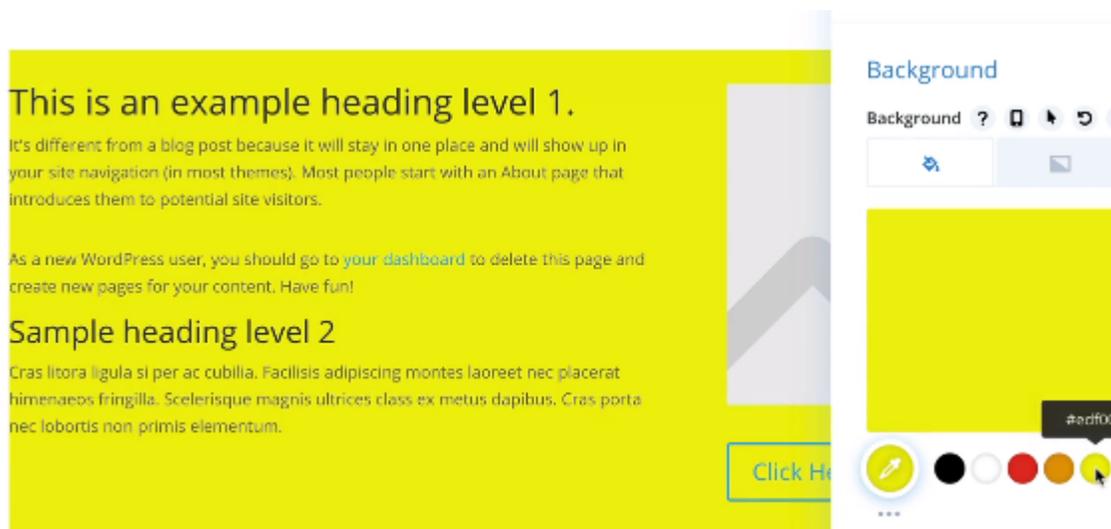
Are my visitors more likely to click this button if the row section has a different color? The Divi Builder can collect this information for you. Once you know your results, you can end the split test and you will need to select which version you want to keep. That is something you can try to experiment with if you are looking for a way to increase conversions on a website.
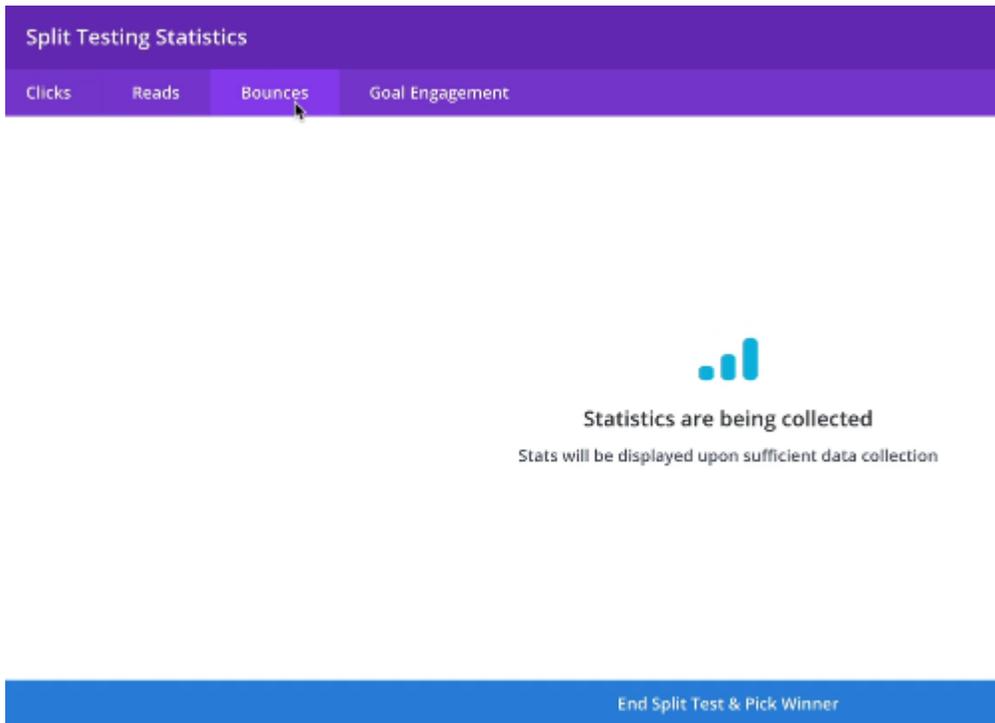
Next in the dropdown, you can **Disable** the module, picking which devices should be disabled, and you can also use the **Cmd+Shift+D (Ctrl+Shift+D)** shortcut to disable something completely for every device.
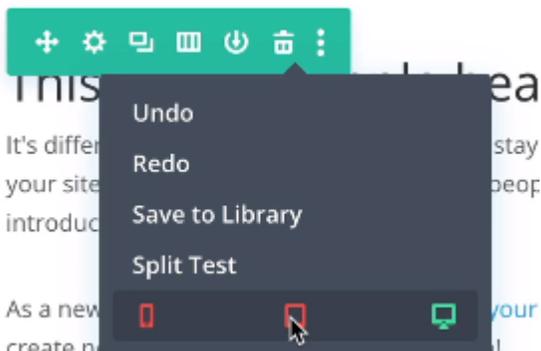
You can **Lock** the element, which basically helps you not to move or edit something by accident. But it only requires one additional click on the red padlock icon to be unlocked. Next, you can **Copy** the module, and you can also do that with **Cmd+C** or **Ctrl+C**. You can paste it with **Cmd+V (Ctrl+V)** or just right-click and use **Paste Module**.

Next, you can **Copy Module Styles** (**Cmd+Option+C** or **Ctrl+Alt+C**) and paste onto a different module with **Cmd+Option+V** (**Ctrl+Alt+V**). I like this a lot and use it a lot.

There is an option to **Extend Styles** lower down, and it usually works well, but I find it a little buggy sometimes. Sometimes not all styles are being moved onto other modules, but it is still quite useful.

Now, the option to **View Modified Styles** is one I use sometimes. It is useful for checking which settings have been edited.

As for the Presets in **Apply Styles to Active Presets** and **Edit Preset Style**, this is also a topic for another lesson.

Lastly, you can use the **Go to Layer** option in this contextual dropdown menu to go to the Layers panel. This is useful if you are working on a long page. It opens the Layers panel, which can also be opened by clicking this little Layers icon in the bottom right-hand corner.
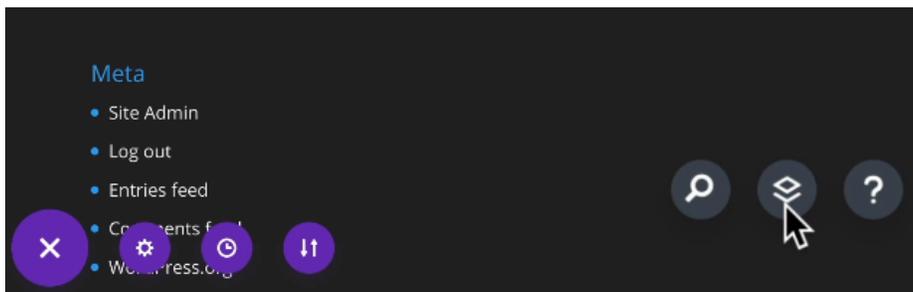

And the Layers panel helps you get a better overview of your page structure and quickly access the element you'd like to edit without scrolling the page and looking for it.
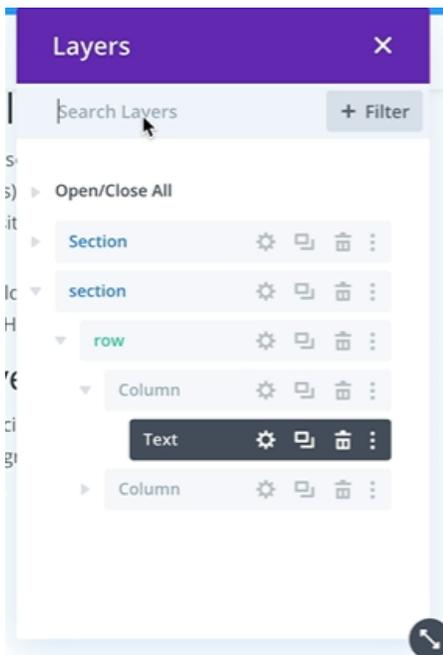
It is especially helpful if you are well-organized from the beginning and you're changing the names of your elements. If you have changed the names, you can use the Search Layers option here. And you can define your section/row or module names right here inside this Layers panel.
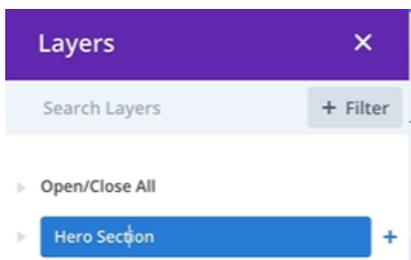
Or in each element's Settings -> Content tab -> Admin label.
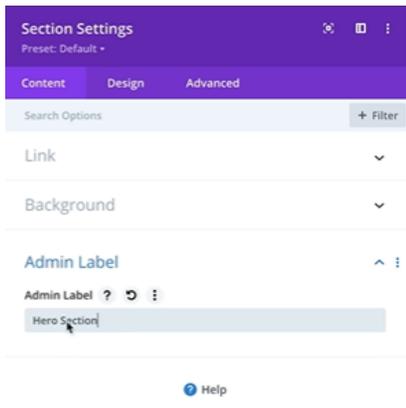
Or if you're in the Wireframe View, you can simply click the element and start typing to change its name.
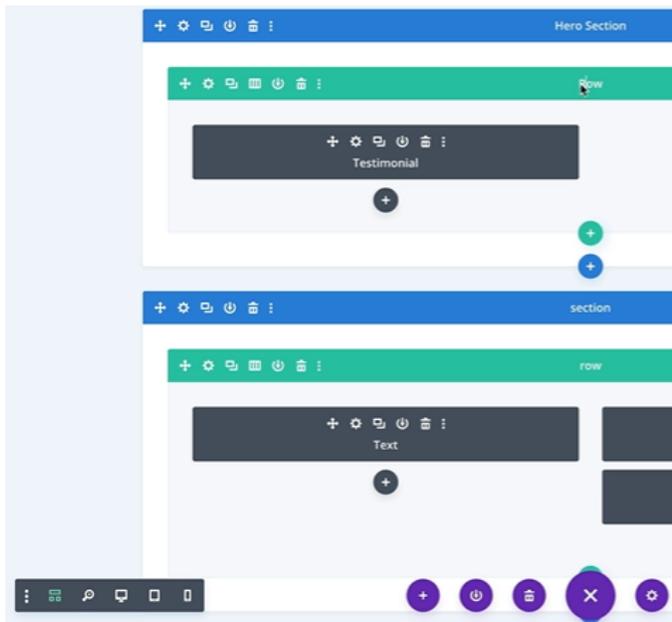
Now, inside the Wireframe View, there is one additional action for our dropdown menu: we can collapse rows and sections.

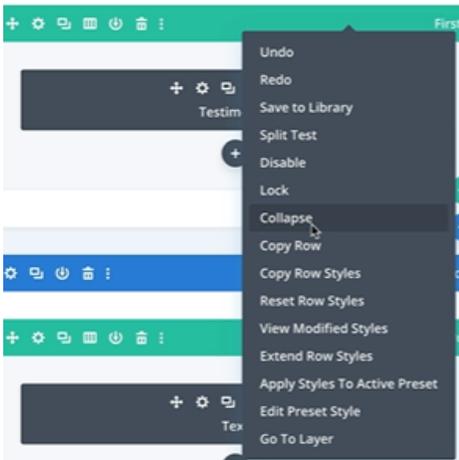We can also simply click the arrows here on the right. It is helpful if you are working with long layouts, landing pages, etc.

Main Builder Menu

Now, let's look inside the Main Builder Menu.
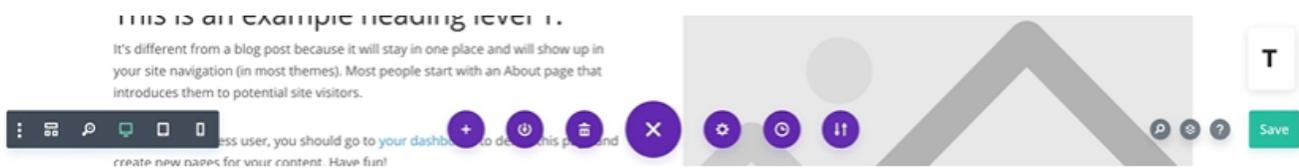
If you are outside of the Wireframe mode, you can toggle this menu on and off by clicking the letter T. I'm not sure how helpful that is, but it is something you might want to know.

So first, Builder Settings - click on the three vertical dots in the left-hand corner.

Here, you can **Customize the Builder Settings Toolbar**, which is this panel on the left. Choose which buttons you want to see here.

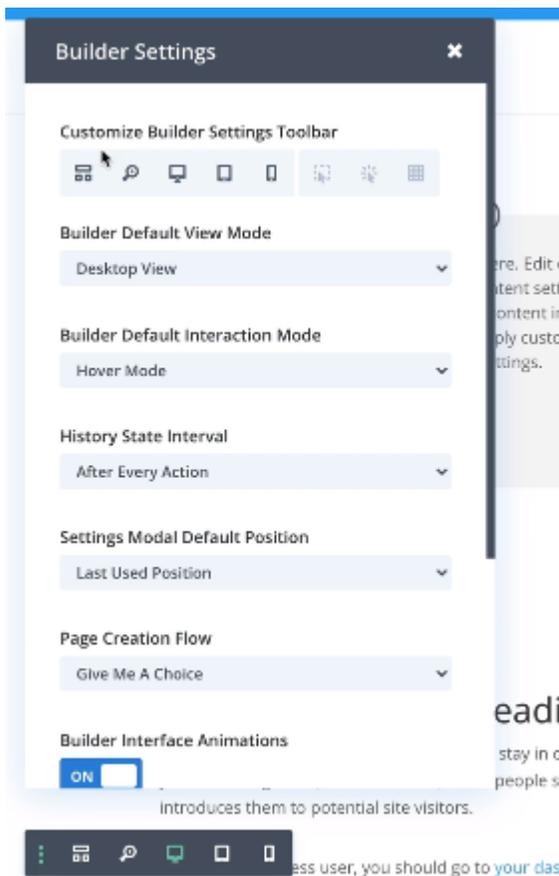Then, **Builder Default View Mode**. By default, you will always see the Desktop View, but you can change it to Wireframe, for example, if that is the first view you want to see when you open the Builder.

Now, for the **Builder Default Interaction Mode**. The Divi Builder comes with 3 different Interaction Modes. Which can also be changed with a keyboard shortcut, and I happen

to do that unintentionally, many times. The shortcuts are **Cmd+Shift+C (Ctrl+Shift+C)** for the Click Mode, **Cmd+Shift+G (Ctrl+Shift+G)** for the Grid Mode, and **Cmd+Shift+H (Ctrl+Shift+H)** for the default Hover Mode.

This will change what action will prompt the settings toolbar for each builder element to appear. With Hover Mode, you'll see the toolbar when you're hovering over the element. With the Click Mode, you need to click to see it, and with the Grid Mode, you will see every toolbar all the time for all elements.

So back to the settings: you can define your preferred default interaction mode.

Next, you can change the **History State Interval**, and I usually keep it at default, which is After Every Action.
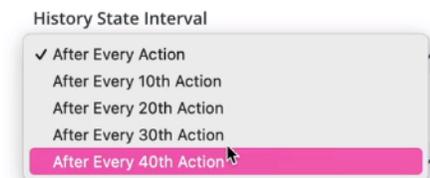
The **Settings Modal Default Position**. If I work on the big screen, I like to keep it fixed to the side, but it is a matter of preference. The default setting will open the modal with the last used position, but you can set your preference here and always open the settings panel in the way that is convenient for you.

Now, the **Page Creation Flow**. If you are annoyed by this constant question: Would you like to build from scratch or import a layout? that you see whenever you open the

Builder, you can decide once and for all right here, and Build From Scratch would be my recommendation.
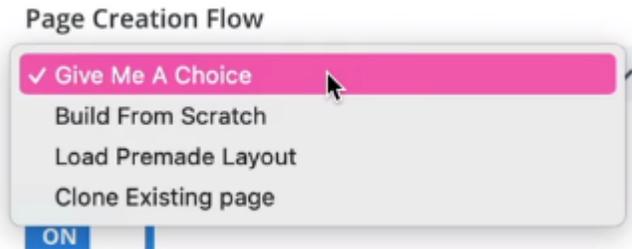
You can always import the layout if you need or copy another page, so it's not like you are going to lose these other options if you change the settings here.

Below, there are a few more settings. You have the option to disable animations, which may improve the performance a little bit. By default, the disabled elements are shown at 50% opacity, and you can change that if you like.

The customization options inside the module settings panel are grouped into toggles by default, and you can disable that option if that works better for you. You would just see all the options one under the other in the module settings panel.
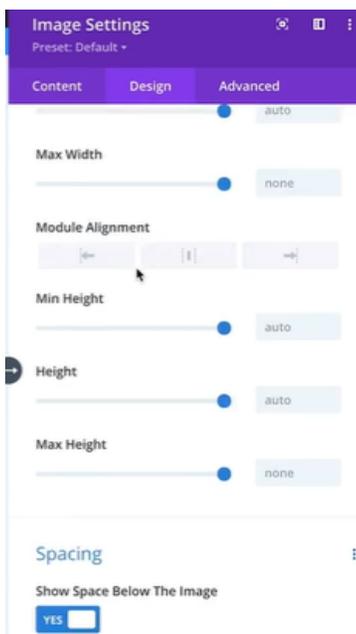
And there are two more settings:yYou can disable sample placeholder content when adding new modules, and you can also disable Theme Builder template editing. With that option disabled you won't be able to edit the Theme Builder Templates (Header, Body or Footer templates) while editing the page content.

Now here, in the purple menu, I'll describe the options from left to right. By using the plus icon, we can load a page layout from the library or a predefined ET layout, or copy an existing page.
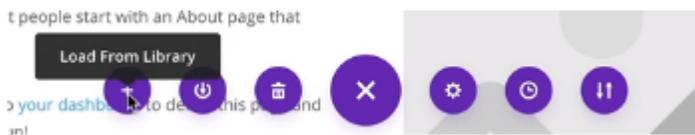
Next, we can save the whole page layout to the library. Next, we can clear the layout if you feel like starting over. The X hides this menu. Then you have the icon to access page settings, which I sometimes use to add page-specific CSS code here in the advanced tab.

You can view your History Changes as well as Global History States, which are saved separately. We'll talk more about this in the lesson on working with Presets. And the last icon is the Portability option, which you can use to export the page layout to a file or import a layout from a file if you have the JSON file that was exported this way.

And finally, the little helpful icons in the right-hand corner.
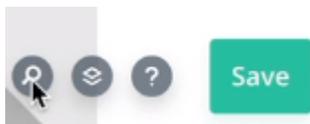
First, the search form with some quick actions. You can basically type what you need and the Builder will try to help. I'm not sure how useful that is. Do let me know if you are using this feature and how, I'm curious. Then, the helpful Layers panel is here, and the Help section with many walkthrough videos and also a list of all the keyboard shortcuts.

That ends this little tour, and I hope this inspires you to click through some of these settings yourself and make sure the Builder works in the way that matches your workflow.

Resources

SAVE TIME

Keyboard Shortcuts cheat sheets for Windows and Mac (available in the Downloads section of this lesson)

Action Items

☐ Open up the Builder and spend some time checking different settings to make sure everything is set up the correct way.

☐ The next time you create a page layout, try naming each module, or at least each section to see if that helps you navigate through it. Try using the Layers panel and the search functionality.