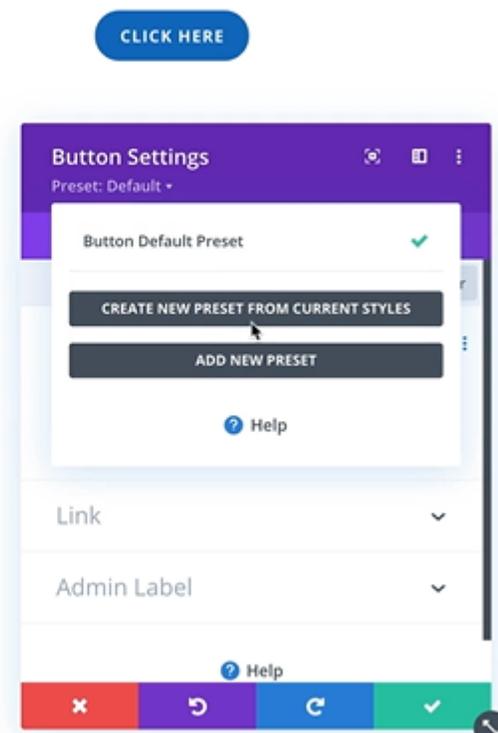# Working with Divi Presets

Introduction

Welcome to the lesson about Divi Global Presets. This is one of the most powerful features of the Divi Builder. And I think creating a set of presets is the first thing we should do when starting to work on any new Divi project.

In this lesson, I'm going to show you how you can create a preset, how to edit it afterwards, and how exactly using presets affects the elements which are not using presets. I know that this is a popular concern - that you can break the website design accidentally by using presets. I think that having a full understanding on how presets work should allow you to work with this feature confidently, and it will drastically help you keep your website design consistent.

What are global presets?

This functionality allows multiple defaults called presets to be used for any element in Divi. When you customize the style of any module, row, or a section, you can save this custom style as a Divi preset, and that preset can be applied to a different element on your website so that they all share the same custom design.
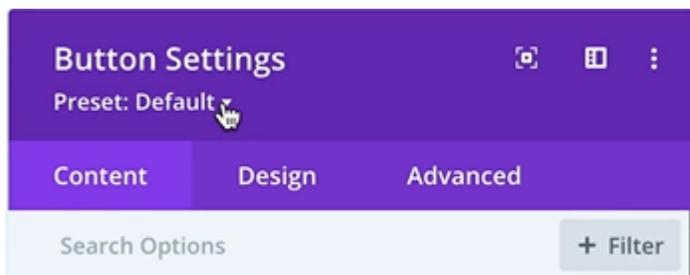

And when you modify and update a preset, all items using this preset will reflect that change. So using presets basically speeds up the design on a global scale, across the whole website.

Presets can apply to each Divi Builder element, but let's focus on a module. Each module can have multiple presets, so a button for example: you can create a separate style for the default button, a secondary button, a call-to-action button and so on. And each time you're adding a button to a page, you can simply choose which preset, which style it should use.
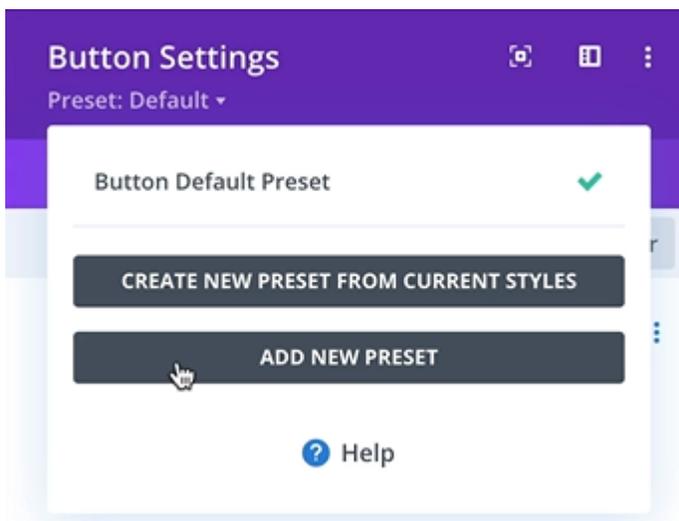
There is one special preset - the default preset, which if you have been working with Divi for a while, you might know as "the global default", and any preset can be assigned as the default. And it will apply by default to any element. So you won't need to select anything. The modified default preset style will apply to all current modules and all modules added in the future.

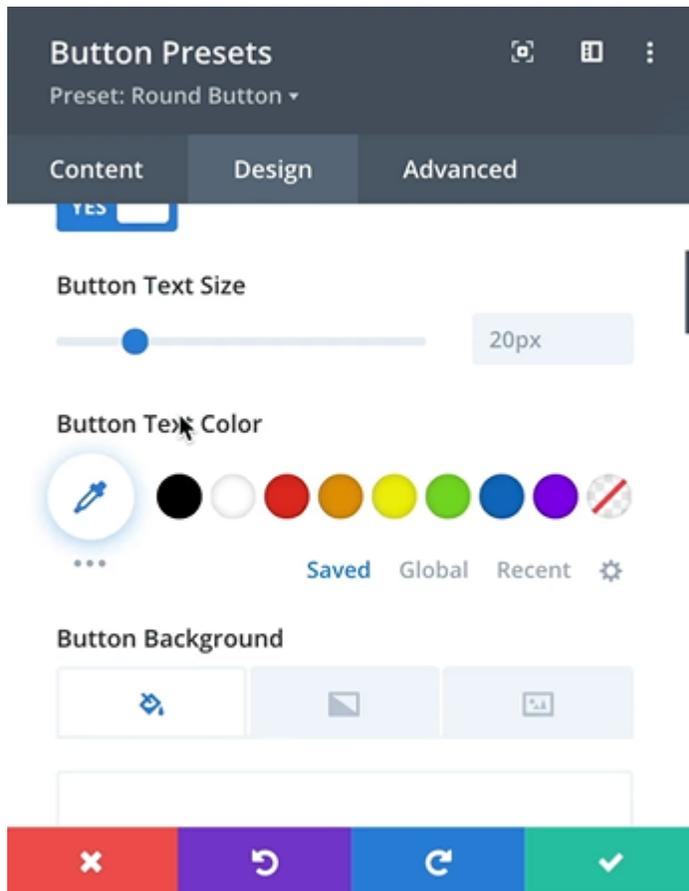## Creating new Divi presets

So how exactly can we create presets? They can be managed within the presets dropdown menu found at the top of all settings panels.

So to add a new one, we can simply click the "Add new preset" button and give our preset a name.
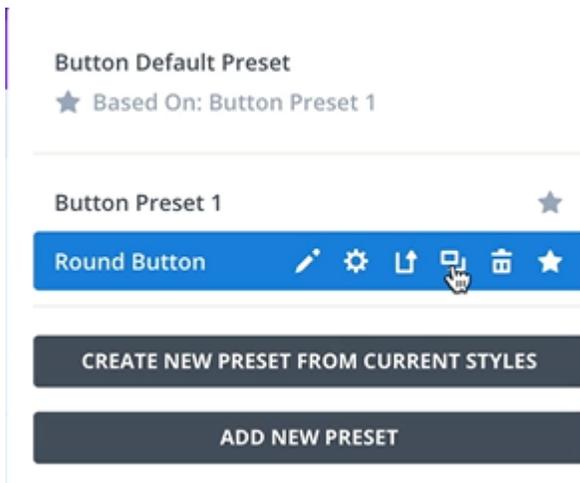
Next we would customize the preset style using the module's available design settings. And notice that the settings panel turns gray. That is the indication that we are now editing a preset.

After you save the preset, you will notice that it's now available in the preset dropdown menu. The next time you add a module to a page, you can select this preset and the module's design will be updated to reflect the custom appearance you created.
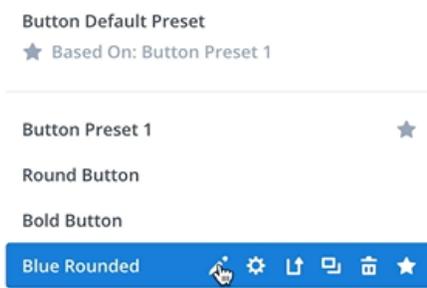
And to create a new preset you can also duplicate the one you already customized using the icon here.

And a different approach, another way to create a preset, would be from a module which already uses some custom design. We can save that custom appearance as a preset using the "Create new preset from current styles" option.
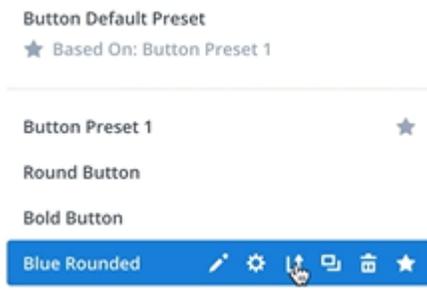
Editing a preset

And when it comes to editing a preset, there are basically two main methods for updating the design of an existing global preset in Divi. You can use any way that makes the most sense to you, but basically, you can either go into the presets dropdown - the checkmark icon indicates which preset this element is using - and you can click on the "Edit preset styles" icon.
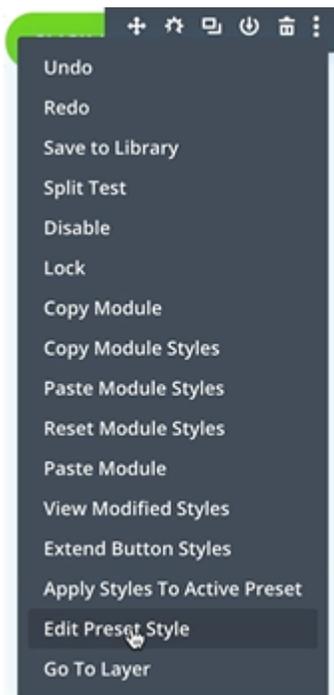

This will bring up the gray version of the module settings, allowing us to modify the styles. And another option to edit a preset if you made changes to the module without entering the gray settings panel, you can update the settings of an existing preset using

the update icon. And the update icon allows you to update the global preset with the current styles of the element. This is a quick way to apply the design you are working on to an existing preset.
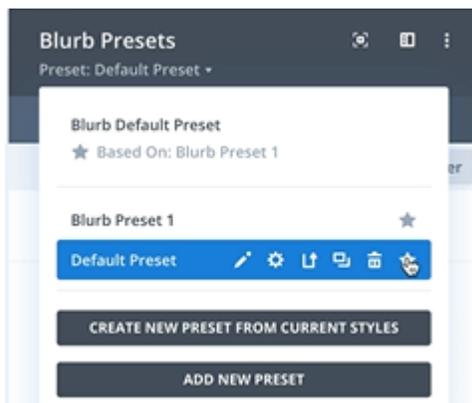

So again, to change the preset appearance, you can either edit preset styles or edit element's styles and apply it to a preset. Both of these options are available from the drop-down menu as well - when you right click on an element. Here, you can apply styles to the active preset or edit the preset style.

Default preset

Now, let's look into the default preset functionality. Any preset, any custom style can be assigned as the default one. And what that means is that all the modules which do not have any preset assigned, which are using the default style - will be updated. And any new modules you will add in the future, will use that default preset without the need to select anything.
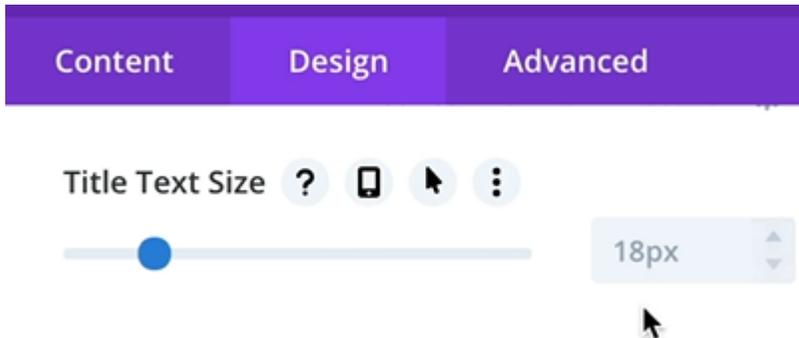

If this would be my default Blurb style, I can assign this Blurb preset as the default by clicking the star icon. Now, any new Blurb I add will use this design. And this is very powerful, especially if it is the beginning of the project.

Setting up your presets in advance will save you loads of time afterwards when adding new elements to your pages. Instead of copying and pasting, or extending styles, loading from library - working with presets, defining the default presets will simply make sure your website looks exactly as you want it to look.

And if you're giving your clients access to Divi, defining default presets for them will drastically decrease the chances of them messing up your lovely design afterwards.

But the big question is how to work with presets on a website, sort of halfway, if you haven't started by defining your presets? And understanding the logic behind presets will help you understand how exactly using presets affects your existing website elements.

So the first thing we need to understand are the default values. Divi Builder comes with default values for every possible setting. Each setting has to have some sort of value. Some of these values you can see right here, the light gray value.

And I mentioned how the Theme Customizer settings can affect these defaults, but some values you don't even see. They are sitting quietly inside the Divi CSS files somewhere affecting your website design. For example, a section or a row padding. You don't see any value here, but it is there - your sections do have some sort of default padding, right?

So it's very, very important. We have to realize that each setting has some kind of default value. Do you know how the reset option can always bring up this default? If you don't see the reset icon, it means that what you see is the default.
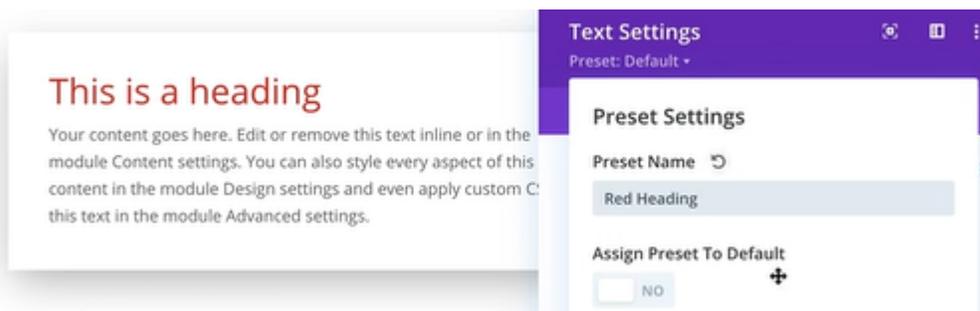
Now creating presets, you can think of it as defining new default values. And actually only that. Assigning a new preset - that means changing these default values and nothing more. In other words, assigning a new preset to a module which already has some styles applied or changing the default preset of this module will not necessarily mean that this module is going to look exactly like the preset. Why? Because we are only changing the default values of that module.

A quick example, I have one text module where for my H1, I changed the font family, text transformation, font color, and added some letter spacing.

Now I will design a new preset here and for this new text module style, I would like to use some padding and a box shadow and a red H1 heading font. Obviously not something you would want to do, but just to show you.

I'll save this new style as a preset with a "red heading" name. So now I have this new style saved as a preset. Let's see what happens if I apply this preset to my second text module.

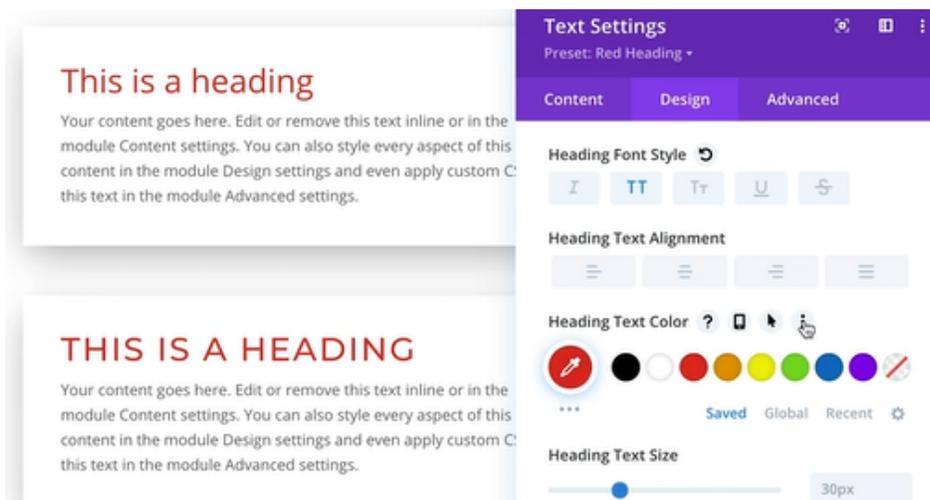Some values have been updated, but my heading is using a different color and text transformation and letter spacing. None of these values are the same as in the top one. Why? Because we only changed the default state and this text module was already customized, it was not using the default values for the H1 heading.
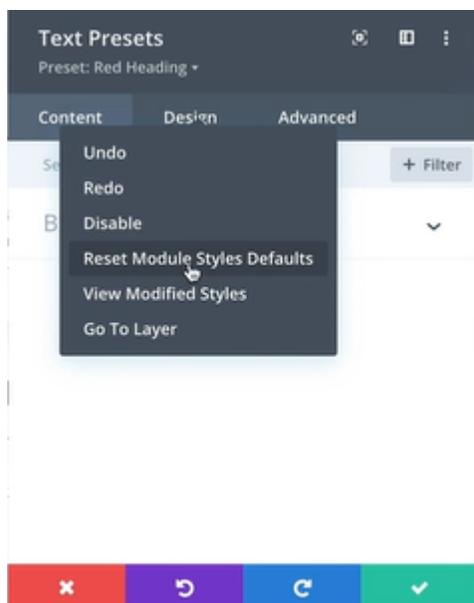
If I go into the settings and reset my heading text color, it will reset to the new default, the default text color, which is assigned to this "red heading" preset. And it will work the same way with the default presets.
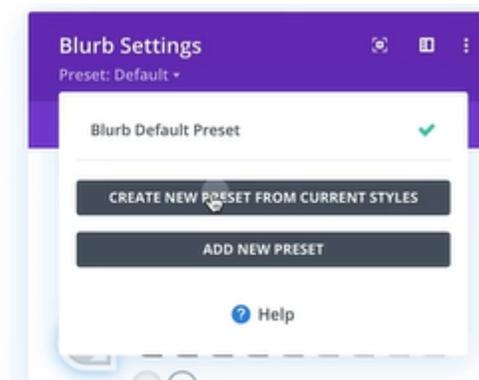
Hopefully this clarifies the preset functionality for you, but I do have a few tips I would like to mention when it comes to working with presets.
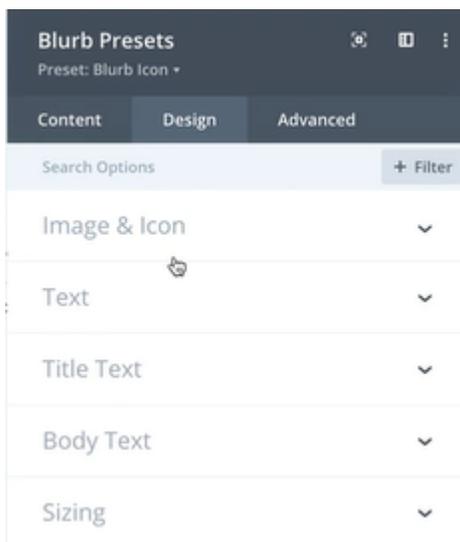
Restoring the Divi defaults

First, what if you'd like to go back to Divi defaults after you assigned a custom style as a default style, you can go and edit the preset and you can reset the preset design styles - either all of them by right-clicking the design styles tab, or just filter to see the modified styles and use the reset icon. It will restore the Divi default.

Next, you have to know that some module settings can be defined as a preset value, but not all. For example, most of the **Content** tab settings can't be used as a preset. I have a Blurb here which uses the icon, and if I create a new preset from this style, and assign this to this other blurb, which uses an image, it doesn't change that setting.
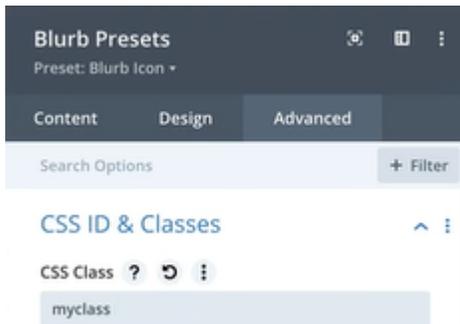
I would need to go in the new Blurb's Content tab and choose the icon if I wanted to. So to see what exactly is saved within the preset and what isn't, you can actually see all that when you edit or define a new preset, while editing inside the gray panel.
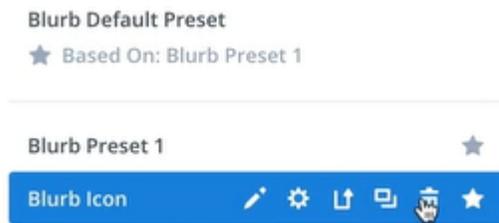

Adding CSS Class to a preset

And that brings me to the next tip. It's that each preset can use a custom CSS class. You will definitely want to use this once we start working with custom CSS. Just remember, it works according to the same logic I described above. Adding a CSS class to a preset means that we are adding a default CSS class.

So if a module already uses a different class, it won't use both. You need to remove that different class, reset the module settings to make sure it uses the default.

Deleting presets

Now, one thing you want to be careful with is removing the preset, because it will change the design of the element. It's not like it will apply the preset defaults as your custom settings afterwards. So removing, deleting the preset works the same way as resetting the preset styles to Divi defaults.

If you make any unintentional changes to presets, you can always check the Global History state in the Builder to go back a few steps.

Design presets at the start

And my final tip for working with presets is this: be thorough, especially at the beginning when starting a new project. Let's say you are designing the default text module preset. Go through all these settings, define your font styles for each heading level inside each heading - define font size for each mobile device.

I know it is a lot of work, but the more time you spend on this upfront, the less decisions you will need to make as you create your website. It will be a much more pleasant experience adding new modules when each one looks close to perfect from the start.

Define as many assets as possible. And don't forget about sections and rows, consider defining your own custom padding, for example, different for every device type. You will be able to reuse your presets afterwards in a new project - just import a style guide, a layout, a Divi layout, which consists of all your pre-style modules and just tweak some settings.

I've prepared the presets packs, which you can use as a starting point. I hope you can now clearly see the power of using presets with Divi. Thank you so much for reading and see you in the next lesson.

Resources

GET DESIGNING:

Divi Preset Starter Packs available from the DSA Resources page

Action Items

☐ Use your Divi test site to create a few different presets. Assign some presets as default and see how it affects other Divi Builder elements.

☐ Download one of the Presets Starter Pack and use it as a starting point.