

Divi Builder Settings Modal

Hello and welcome to the second lesson, where I'd like to have a closer look at the Divi Builder but this time I will focus on the Settings Modal panel, which is basically where all the magic happens with the plethora of customization options.

Opening Settings Modal

Now, the settings panel can be opened by clicking on the gear icon of any section, row, or module or you can just double-click on the element. The double-click doesn't work well with the Text modules though, because it brings up the inline editing toolbar instead. But with other modules, you should be fine and I use it a lot.

Modal Location & Size

So once we have our settings panel opened - we can change its location and size. Either by simply dragging and dropping. Or by using these icons here - the first one will make it small or fullscreen. The next icon will fix the panel to the side. You can change this fixed position by clicking Cmd and arrow key (right-left or bottom arrow key) on your keyboard. So this probably isn't the best position if you are working on a small device, but if you do have a big screen, then keeping the settings panel fixed to the side might work well for you, that is how I use it most of the time. Remember, you can change the default position in the Builder settings, otherwise, it will always open in the last position it used previously. Now let's look inside. First, the buttons at the bottom - To be honest, I only ever use the green one here to save my settings. Sometimes I click exit

(but usually just use the ESC key on the keyboard). I haven't really noticed the undo and redo buttons until just now when I started preparing this video. I think I might start using these more often.

Divi Help Videos

If you are still relatively new to the Divi Builder - I do recommend watching some of the videos - by clicking the help icon here you can watch the walkthroughs for the specific module right inside the builder. And if not for yourself - this is something you might want to mention to your clients, if they are going to edit the website themselves.

Search & Filter Settings

Now, the search and filter options. This is one of these things you may not be using and I think it is a good idea to give it a try as this may speed up your workflow a little, once you get used to using it. Because you can simply start typing the name of the property you want to edit or check. You also have some useful filtering options. I use the show-modified styles quite a lot. Responsive styles and content will only show you properties that have been edited for tablet and phones and the hover styles will do the same thing for elements that you edited the hover state. Active content will filter the content elements to only show you where you have added your custom text. So filtering is kind of useful, but I find the search functionality very powerful.

Main Settings Tab

Now, the three main tabs - Content, Design, and Advanced. There will be some differences depending on which element you are editing and I am not going to go through every module and every feature, but there is a lot of similarities here, so let's go through the things that all elements have in common so that I can share a few tips with you.

Dynamic Content

In the content tab, each setting has the option to use the Dynamic content. It is especially useful when designing templates inside the Theme Builder, as it allows you to pull dynamic data, such as the current post title, or the current date, or your own custom fields, and display these values dynamically inside modules.

Settings Icons

Now, when you hover over the setting name, you see additional icons and not all of them will always be visible here, depending on the setting, but here is what you might see: the question mark icon, help, that will display some additional info about the setting. The mobile icon to edit the setting for tablets and phones. The cursor icon to change the setting on Hover. The pin icon, which would only be visible if you are using the "stick on scroll" feature. It allows you to change the setting when element is in its sticky state. Next, the round arrow icon to reset the setting back to the default value and the three dots icon with additional menu where you can find options like copy, paste, extend styles, and find and replace - very useful, or apply to active preset which we will look at in more detail later.

Color Settings

Let's look at the color settings. Now, anytime you are editing a color option: whether it's a background like here, or just a link or a border color, you access that Builder Color Picker. The "Saved" colors here, are the ones you can set in the Theme Options. And you can edit these colors right here in the Builder by clicking the gear icon here. These are connected. So making changes here will update your settings in the general tab of the Theme Options. But I would like to focus your attention on global colors, which I think are great to use. So I do recommend defining all the colors, your website palette, up front. You can add

more than just eight colors, you can have as many as you need and that works great for making sure you're not choosing random colors every time. Now, for the color you have selected, if you click the little dots below the color, Builder will give you some suggestions for complementary colors. You may find that useful. But as I mentioned, I do recommend doing your color work and deciding on the color palette earlier, before even opening up Divi.

Transform Section

Now, let's look inside the Design Tab, and I will talk about some of these settings here in the lesson about Presets and we'll discuss Sizing in the module about responsiveness, but two sections I want to mention now are transform and animation. So the transform settings are very powerful, but I just want to say that just because you have an option to change something, it doesn't mean that you should use it. Okay, so I do like to use Transformations, especially for nice subtle Hover effects, but the keyword here is subtle. If you want to scale something on hover for example, do it just slightly, scale it to 102% for example. You can use translate settings to move the element without affecting the website flow like you would with the negative margins for example, but you need to be careful and only do this sparingly, and using small distances. It will be a nightmare to make it look good on every device. If you decide to move a module by a few hundred pixels, for example. Because, remember, the Desktop view, all the desktop settings within the Builder, apply to screen sizes from as small as 981 pixels to as wide as the screen can get. We'll talk more about it in the module on responsiveness, but it is something you need to keep in mind when working with transformations. Regardless of which element you are editing the key is to be subtle and only use it in small doses.

Animation Section

Now, animations. All I say is this: animating every section, row, and module, will

not make your website look professional. Trust me on that. You have to kind of limit yourself to avoid using too many animated elements. Use it only if it really makes sense, please. And if you do want to animate the content, try sticking to one animation style throughout the page.

Scroll Effects

And that also kind of takes us to the Advanced Tab and another animation type: the scroll effects. And my advice here is similar, you need to use it with caution. The sticky feature and sticking some elements can work great in many cases and can improve your user experience but scroll effects, not so much, I'm afraid. I'm not saying you shouldn't use it, but I am saying that it is very difficult to use it with great effect and not overdo it. The safest way to approach it is to make sure that element is in its normal, default state for as long as it makes sense while we scroll. So this part here. And then, the starting and ending offset should be as slow as possible to make sure the effect is only nice and subtle. A good example would be to use it on some background elements. Set the image position to absolute, and then play with the scrolling effects. As long as it doesn't distract user attention and only adds that nice background feel then you are safe.

Display Conditions

So we will be back here in the Advanced tab when we start working with CSS, but there is one functionality I have to mention, very powerful Display Conditions. We are in the Builder setting, so that can apply to any section, row or a single module. You can decide when that page element is visible based on number of different conditions. For example, you can create two types of navigation menu and display a different menu for logged in users only. Or, you can have a countdown timer be visible only until certain date and time, and have a different section show from that same time (once the countdown stops). Or

maybe, something like "Today's Special" section where you can dynamically display different section on different days of the week, without Editing the page every day. That's super powerful. And for more advanced use, if you are working with Custom Fields, you can choose to show or hide Builder content based on the value of your field. It's very Powerful, especially combined with creating page templates in the Theme Builder. So that sums up my overview and hopefully you will find these tips helpful. Thank you so much for watching and see you in the next lesson.