

Divi Theme Builder

Hello, and welcome to the lesson with the Divi Theme Builder overview. Divi Theme Builder is a very powerful tool and it is probably the most important to understand exactly how it works and how to use it when creating websites with Divi.

As I mentioned earlier, Divi developers are working towards moving away from the Theme Customizer, and they will want us to work only within the Theme Builder eventually. So we need to be able to use it, and it is much more powerful than the Theme Customizer. And I will show you that in a moment.

So when you first visit the Theme Builder, you see this one default website template and an option to add a new template. I would choose to add a new template for all posts as an example, so that you can see it better. And another one only for the Homepage and the "Homepage" here means the page that is assigned in the Wordpress settings, not just any random page with the name "home page".

So, right now, none of these three templates is causing any changes to my website because there are no layouts inside, but you can see that the first template is a bit different and it gives us the option to add global header, global body or footer while these two... allow me to add custom layout. And it simply means that if I make a change to the first template here, it will apply to the entire website. While these custom templates will only apply to a specific part of a website, the global template is a base and we can create multiple variations for different pages.

As you can see, each page template is made with the header, body, and the footer section. And first you need to understand what happens if there is nothing selected here. That is when the "default" Divi settings apply. So if you don't have a header created (either a global or for a specific part of the website), the Divi header will be displayed, the header, which we can customize using the Theme Customizer.

But once I add a new template for the header here, or if I disable it using the eye icon on the side, the default Divi header will not be visible. So just to show you, this is my default homepage. Now if I disable the header on the front-end, the default Divi navigation won't be visible. And what's even more... if I go to the Theme Customizer now, the Header options will not be accessible as well, but if I go to a different page outside the homepage, like the category here, I can still access the header and navigation settings in the Theme Customizer because this part of my page is using the default Divi header.

The same applies to the footer. If I go back here and create a sample footer layout, just an empty section with some background maybe so that we can see it. And back here. If I go back to the homepage, my footer Theme Customizer section is no longer accessible because my homepage is using the Theme Builder footer.

So it is important to kind of understand the logic here. Here - for the global template... anything we decide here, will work across the entire website, unless there is a separate template, which does something else. For example, I can create a custom header layout and I want it to work globally. But I want my homepage to show the default Divi navigation. I can remove this header from my home page template, and you cannot assign multiple templates to the same place. So it's not like there could be some conflicts here. If you try to assign a new template to the same

area, to the same page - Theme Builder will disable the previous assignment. Okay. So just to give you a quick overview of how you can manage different templates and layouts inside these templates. So whenever you have a global "something" assigned - in this case we have global header.

When I create a new template... for a new area on the website, this global template will be copied onto my new template. And I can just (like we did for the homepage) remove that global header. Or if I want to use it, but make some changes to it without affecting different templates... I can "Disable global" similarly to disabling global layout inside the builder. And right now it is exactly the same, but if I change it... it won't change everywhere. Right. So we can do this.

We can also kind of copy - simply drag and drop templates in different places. We can even move, header template onto the body section and switch it, all those templates and layouts in different places. And now, each template comes with a set of controls. Except for the first one, which cannot be removed or moved. Because we can move the templates to kind of keep things organized.

We can change the assignments just to have a better look here. You see, we can create different templates for All pages, Homepage, specific pages, which would list your, all the pages you have created here in the Pages section. Or maybe if you're using children elements like assigning a page as a parent page, then you can only select those children of the specific pages. Similar for blog... we can either target "all posts" with specific category, tag or just, you know, target one specific post and create a separate template for just a single post. And we have all sorts of different additional settings for Archives, Projects... We can set a template for our Search Results and error - 404 error page. And

whenever you're using additional plugins, like for ecommerce, for example, we could create templates for product pages, product categories, shop page, and all these different areas of the website. You will be able to create a different template for different pages and each template includes... it can include a different Header, a different Body.

The middle part can be different, or you can use a different version of the footer on specific pages. So hopefully you see how much more control you have over your website design using the Theme Builder.

While in the Theme Customizer, you could only define one header that would apply to all your pages and one footer that would also work across the entire website. So by using the Theme Builder, we can customize each type of our page in a different way.

Now you can not only choose where to use your templates, but you can also exclude the templates from a certain areas. So let's say you want to use it inside all posts in some category, but exclude one specific posts from it, or use a different logic. Just know that you can not only choose where you want to use it, but also choose where you do not want to use it. Okay. So there's both: "use on" and "exclude from" options, which gives you total control over which template applies to which area of your site.

So here you could change the assignment. You can duplicate your templates. Remove it, or export it, because this can be moved across different websites. And here with the contextual menu, we have a similar options. In addition that we can disable a template. So it's still here, but you can temporarily make it not apply. Disabled :-). Okay. You can also change its name. Just simply type a different name here.

And this would export a single template, but you can also have the

option to export all templates or select and create a single file with certain set of exported templates. So you have all these options here in the Portability option.

There is also a History where you can go back to a previous version of the Theme Builder while you're working. So there it is also useful to know that it's here in case we break something and we want to go back to how things were. And you can clear all the templates, and just start from scratch.

And let's have a quick look at the body section of each template. That is how the default Divi post looks. And let me load a simple template here. Let's add a new Body template. This one is special. The body template - because we have one additional module we might need to use here, the Post Content Module.

And this name can be a bit misleading, but it relates to the WordPress itself. When we hear "posts", we immediately think of blog and blog posts, but pages in WordPress are also posts a different type of posts, basically. So similarly to projects, projects are also posts, post-type: project and any custom post types we might see in WordPress, such as: products, events, and so on. So that is why we should not think only about the blog when working with the Post Content module. This name is not a mistake. It makes complete sense from the WordPress core perspective.

So we need that module to display the content of our Post inside the blog or post-type: page or post-type: product. Otherwise, each of the single products for example, would look exactly the same, because they would have the same Body template. So post content module is very important, but let's have a look around this template here, because it is

using some of very useful features. Especially useful, when creating a template for a single post types in this case, single posts for blog. And in the first section I included the Featured Image as a background, you see, there is a background section and it uses the image, but if I show you... it uses the Dynamic Content feature, and I can simply select the Featured Image so that for each blog post, it will dynamically pull the Featured Image that's assigned to that blog post.

And a similar situation here: I have an image that uses our author profile picture that is pulled dynamically from WordPress settings. And again, inside this Blurb here, in the title I am using, let me show you... Instead of just typing a title... Right? So instead of that, I can add a Dynamic field and use also Post Author. I can even use a link so that it links to Author page.

Okay. And here, for comments. Let me show you... I'm showing posts comments count. That's my custom field, but I've included the "Comments:" before. So "Post Comment Count" only this place.. Number 12. So I included the "Comments:" in the "Before" section.

This Text Module also uses Dynamic Content feature for inside the Body template. Let me show you... it uses the "Post archive title" dynamic field, and I wrapped it inside H2. If I remove it, let me show you how it's added. So here's the text content. I could just type a basic content here, but I want to use a post title. So I have post title option, but that would display it as a paragraph text. So using "before" and "after", I can specify my HTML structure and make it display inside H2 as a heading.

Okay. Below there's our Post Content module. And the preview here is not accurate. The spacing is a bit odd and it uses this white background, which can't be removed not sure why...

So every time you're working with the Post Content module, make sure you preview how it looks on the front-end.

So a further down below, we have Comments module so that, you know, our single posts can also use comments if I save it here. And I think I also have to save my Theme Builder changes.

And now that was the default blog post, as you can see by default, it displays the Image thumbnail. And it has the post meta - all the things that we can edit inside the theme options. But once we assigned a Theme Builder template, if I refresh the page... it uses my template.

So I have this parallax background effect that uses my featured image. That's my post title, which is dynamic. It would be different for each post. That's the author name. I have one comment on that post and I can set all the headings styles, the paragraphs text using the Post Content module, just like I would for the Text module. And I have my comments.

And if I go to edit the post, this post was not built inside the Divi Builder. It only uses Gutenberg editor. So I can, create simple paragraphs here. I have my featured image and that's all. I can design the content inside the Theme Builder to make sure that all of my posts share the same layout.

Now, the different situation is for blog archives, because here, we cannot use the Post Content module. We need to include Blog module to display our blog items. So just real quick right now, my blog page uses, well actually all my pages are using the global template header.

Let me remove that, and let's change the assignment here. So let me show you instead of a blog, let's choose "all archive pages". And save. And for all archives, let's build a custom body. And just to show you real quick, I will use a simple Blog module, but what's important that we (let's

do the grid layout that we do want to display... sorry, not the elements. inside the content section) ...we want to make sure that this Blog displays current category.

And now if I save... instead of the default archives, if I refresh... Now my website shows me my blog content and is using the Theme builder. I can create a, you know, a Text module that will (let me actually show you that just real quick). If we add a text module, and instead of the content here, dynamically, we can pull the archive title.

And similarly to our single blog post, let's do a maybe H1 even and a closing tag. Let's move it to the top. And now if I save here, You see, that's the title of my category. If I would go to also archives, that would be the title of our archives. I could also display date here, if it would be a date archives and so on.

So as you can see, you can change your category layout, display different colors for different categories on the blog, for example, or build separate headings for your category pages. You have full control inside the theme builder, right? To edit different parts of your website.

You just have to remember to use the post content module inside if you're building a body for a singular type of templates - single post or page, or if it's an archive type page, you have to include a blog module that displays current category.

So that's the end of this Theme Builder tour. I hope it was helpful. And I hope I kind of inspired you to work inside it and create different layouts for different parts of your pages. And hopefully, you'll see how powerful it is. If you haven't used it earlier, you'll see how much more control you have over your design in opposed to using just the Theme Customizer. Thank you for watching and see you in the next lesson.