

Setting up Child Theme and Presets

Hello and welcome to the lesson on Setting up Divi Child Theme and Presets. In this video, I will go over a few steps which I think should be done at the very beginning, right after you install WordPress and the Divi theme.

First Steps

So this is my new freshly installed website. It's at maya.divilover.com, and here, I am connected through FTP with my server and now here inside public HTML, wp-content, themes. I uploaded the sample child theme, which I provided for you in a previous lessons. So right now inside this folder in the style.css file. So that's this file I have opened. I change the theme name, description and text domain, just so it displays nicely in the WordPress dashboard. And I will also replace the screen shot with a different image. So, back here in the dashboard, under appearance, themes. I can see that child theme right there. It uses my name, my screenshot and I can go ahead and activate it. Simple as that. And now, the first thing I would like to do inside that child theme, is to add a snippet of code that will allow me to upload SVG images. I could use a plugin but it's just a few lines of code so I can add that here. And this way, as long as that child theme is activated, I will be able to use SVG images inside WordPress.

Divi Theme Options

Now, I would like to go through Divi theme options, and theme

customizer. So, first in the theme options, I will disable the minification of CSS and JavaScript files. And I will also disable the CSS file generation for now. And that product tour, I don't need that as well. So just to save my changes here and now I will also disable the builder for posts and I think that's it for now in here.

Theme Customizer Settings

So in the theme customizer, the only thing I would change is my fonts and my site icon. So in the general settings, typography, I would define my font families. Not the sizes, not the font style, just the font family for header and the body font. So the header font I chose is called Barlow. And for my body font, I want to use Merryweather. Now back in the site identity, we can choose the site icon so it's an image that needs to be at least 512 pixels square. So I have my image ready. And now the layout settings are where we can change the theme accent color. We don't need to do that, I just like to change it just in case that a blue doesn't pop up someplace I don't want to see it. So that is basically all I am setting - I am changing here in the customizer. I won't be using the default header. I will be building everything inside the theme builder because that is kind of a recommended approach nowadays with Divi, trying to go away from the customizer settings. It's still fine to use, but we do want to be prepared for the future. That's why we are going to build that site using the menu module and the theme builder.

Basic Page Structure

So the next part is to create the basic page structure. So for that, I need to add a few pages. Let me disable that full screen mode. And now this can be our contact page. Let's disable that pre-published checks as well. And now another page: blog, we have services, and portfolio, and the

last one would be the about page. We also need a home page but for that, I will just change that sample page name to homepage. And now, under settings, reading, I will choose my static page to be my homepage and my post page to be the blog page. This way, any content I add here, inside pages for that Blog Page will be disregarded because from now on this would be my index page, my archive and I will be able to design that page inside the theme builder later. I will also be adding a few categories to the blog, just so we can see how we can edit this and also so we can create a drop-down menu. So under posts, categories - we can change the default one to web design. And a new one, social media, branding, and online marketing. Now that I have my website structure ready, I would go ahead and create some presets and I wouldn't do that directly inside the library. It's probably just a matter of preference I would simply start by editing the homepage. Because if I wanted to go the extra mile for the client, I would create a nice looking style guide page and then save it inside the library. So it's not an actual page on the website but it's there for the client to see if they want to have an overview of all the available presets.

Creating Presets

But just to keep it simple I will just create a few presets and keep it like that inside the builder settings, basically. I don't need to display these presets in any way, really. So the first step inside the builder would be to define my website's global colors. So anywhere you're choosing colors in the builder settings, you can always click the global link here and now just add your colors. So I will do that just now. I have my greys defined as global colors and that is what I will be using every time I have to select a color. So I will just change that column structure so my text module is a bit smaller and now the text module would be the first module I define

my presets for. So basically in the design tab, I have to make sure that each heading - each heading level uses the correct font, correct font size, correct font color, line height and that applies to both the body text and all the headings. So just to make it quicker for you, I will do that now but super fast. So first, I'm just changing that default content so I can preview each of the heading levels. And then in the design tab, I am setting the font size for each heading for each device using the typography scale I pre defined earlier. So I'm setting my colors and my line height to match the font size and also adjust letter spacing if needed. And I'm doing that for each heading level and the body text as well. Now I would like to add some space below each of these headings and also above each new section, so for each heading level, but it's not possible using the Divi settings. So I will be using custom CSS to achieve that and I want to specify my own CSS class so that I can target that and it will be attached to that preset once we save that text module as a preset and this way that CSS will be used whenever we select that preset in the future. So in the inspector, I can specify a new selector. I want to target each heading level, which is inside the Maya text CSS class. So, Maya text H1 and then padding-bottom .75em. And that using ems here will make sure that this space is relative to the font size of that element for larger font size, and will have more space, and smaller font size will use a smaller space. So now in that inspector style sheet, the temporary style sheet within the Chrome inspector. We can make sure that each of our headings uses the same padding. This is a good start, but we also want to add a top padding, but I will use a separate class because I do not want to target the first- if the heading is the first element or inside the text module, if we're starting the text module with a heading, I don't want to add that extra space at the top but anywhere further down the page when we add a new heading inside the content of the text module,

I want to give that heading more room at the top. So I will use a new set of selectors but only target elements which are not the first child, like that. And now we can add top padding - 1.25 em and that makes it much, much nicer looking. Next thing about the text module we cannot edit using the builder settings is the list, but I need to add a sample list here first. So let's copy what I have so far. And let's add it inside my stylesheet. I will add a comment that this is the text module. And now my styles go here and I can go back to the builder. I will add a sample list here so that we can see it better. Let's make this list. And also, let's add an ordered list as well. We can make sure they are also aligned correctly. We have a block quote because we will style that as well. And we do have a link. For the link I will be using a different font. So in the design text and link since I'm still in the Builder, I can change that link font - Barlow. And I want this to - you see the font size appears to be smaller even though it's the same size. So I will increase that font size so it looks like it's the same size. Let's try with 1.2em or 1.1em, that's much better. And now I have to decrease the line height, so it doesn't cause the line to be higher here. And I also want this to use the bold styling, but a different color, maybe. Like that. I want my links to use that sans-serif font I'm using for the headings. And while I'm here, I will also change the font for my quotes. Will do the rest with CSS but the font should be italic and also could be a bit bigger. Let's try with 20 and then 18. So it's just a little bit bigger than the rest of the text. And I will also remove that border. I will add nice quotes here with CSS. So let's go back to our Chrome inspector. So, here I can see that each of the list items could use a bit more space. So if we target all the list items which are inside the unordered lists in the Maya text container can have a padding bottom. Let's try with .5 em. That would make it half the line height, which I think looks good. And we can apply the same for ordered

lists as well, so - ol. But I do want to align this list, similarly to the unordered list, so back in the module settings, in the design text, ordered list. We can make sure that it uses the outside position which makes the text aligned correctly, but we do need to indent it inside and let's try using two ems. Or maybe 1.5 - I think that looks correct. If we are ending a text module with a paragraph and a list below, that paragraph will not have any space below. You see the first list here, once the paragraph ends, it has a bottom padding and then there's the list, but if it's the last thing inside a text module, this will not have any padding because Divi uses the last of type padding-bottom 0 CSS. So this shouldn't be the last of type but last-child, this way, if it will only apply if the p is the last element of the container. Because right now, it's not the last element because we have a list further down. So this has to be overwritten and we can do that inside our style sheet. Basically we want last-child. Not sure about that so let's just work with what we want to change. So last-child should use padding-bottom 0 but then last-of-type element should still have a padding-bottom of 1em which is the default inside the text module paragraphs and let's apply this to our own text modules only. So now if I save that, I should correct that space here even if we have a structure like this. Now let's take care of our block quotes. So I will add a new selector that selects all block quotes inside maya-text container and I would like to use a light background. And now, if I check my lightest gray color, I can use that as a background, like that. And I want to change the padding, so padding. And I will use values from my sizing scale. So 25 pixels top and bottom and 35 pixels left and right. That's a good start. Now, let's target these Ps within the block quote, which are last of type, but within a block code and then I remove that padding again. So, back here. Padding-bottom 0, so if it's inside the block quote, we don't want that padding. So this is my CSS for block

quote, let me copy that, paste it here and I do not want to use a hex code.

CSS Variables

I do not want to search and look through my Figma file each time I want to choose one of the ten shades I have and that is why I will define my global colors as CSS variables. This is very easy, let me show you. Global colors and now we can attach our variables to the root element or the HTML. But this works just as well. And then I have to specify my variable name and the name has to start with two dashes, gray one, that would be my darkest shade. And I can do the same for each of the colors. And this way, instead of searching for that hex code, any time I want to use it, I can specify my background color as a variable. So var and then in round brackets, I just have to define the name of my variable so I know that the lightest shade is grey 10. So I can use it like this. Let's save that, and let's try that in the browser. So that fixed the padding, and the color is still working, so that's great.

Back to Presets

And now, let's add some nice quotes here at the beginning and at the end, so we need to assign the before and after pseudo-elements for our block quotes. So block quote before, but only when it's inside maya-text. Content, quote symbol. But I do want this to be kind of in the background here so I will position this absolutely. And then move it to the top a little bit but first let's make it bigger so font size, 5 em. Now top and left zero but now it's being moved off screen. We need to position it absolute relative to the parent. So here we need to make sure that the block quote has position:relative, much better. Now, let's use a lighter color. And we can use our variables right here in the inspector as

well. So, gray nine, lovely. Now, I do want to use a similar thing but for the after element, so with the closing quote symbol and not from the top, but from the bottom, and from the right side, let's try with and move it further down below. Lovely. Now, let's see how that is. Yes, I think it looks very, very nice so we can copy that and that would be all the CSS I want to apply to my default text modules. So any time I will use a text module, it can use that style as long as I save it as my default presets. So first, let's save that here. I have my text module styling ready, and now, back in the builder, I can apply these styles to the active preset, which will basically apply it as the default preset. So, next time, I add a text module, it will use the same styling. It will use the same CSS class here, so everything will look exactly the same. This is a great start. We have one of the most important presets, but I do also want to change the preset. The default styling of the section and the row, I will be editing my spacing. Here, I can go ahead and edit the preset instead of editing the section and applying the style as a preset. I can also do it this way. So, right now, I'm editing the default preset. And this way, I can see which part of the module, of the section, in this case can be assigned as the default, right? So not every setting can be set as default but here, when we are in the gray preset styling, we see all the things that can be assigned and assigned to the preset. So, in the spacing section, I want to make sure that the padding is set using my sizing scale. So for desktop this would be 140 pixels top and bottom then for tablet I will decrease that to 100 and 70 pixels for phones. That would be my section preset spacing. And now for the row I want to change the maximum width in the sizing. The maximum 1200 pixels is the same setting we can change in the theme customizer but we can just as well use it inside our presets here and for the spacing I want this to have zero top padding and 100 pixels bottom padding for tablet that would be 70 and 50 on phones, and

still top zero. So, I will apply these changes as the default preset. Now my row, let's remove that long text module. Now my row has that 100 pixels bottom padding, but if it's the last row in a section, I don't want that extra spacing. I just want to use that spacing when I'm adding multiple things in multiple rows, inside the same section. But for the last row, I want to remove that space. I will add a new row just to show you that text module and this also has that bottom padding. So now I want to change the spacing and use zero top and zero bottom across all devices. And I will create a new preset from this style and I will call it "Last in a Section". So, next time, I will be adding a new row. I can either add a default one, the one that has this padding at the bottom or change the preset to last in a section preset and remove that padding from the bottom. So the last preset I will add is for my buttons. So let's add a button module. And then let's go ahead and edit the button preset. Obviously we want to use custom styles for the button and notice that it is already enabled here because all the toggles are visible when we are previewing the preset design style, we still need to enable that and now we can change the font size 20, 18 and 16, that should be fine. And then the text color, a bit lighter. Let me see that. Now the button background - transparent and on hover, let's use one of the lightest shades. Now border - 3 pixels. Border color - light. Like this. And then on hover just use the same color as the background. Border-radius, let's try with 50. So, it's nice and rounded. We will add 0.05 em letter spacing because we're changing the font to Barlow Condensed, uppercase and bold. Like this, we don't want to use any icon and I do want to change the padding. So in the spacing section, let's try 0.75 em, top and bottom and then 1em left and right and then we will also add a CSS class to that button, maya-btn, just if we need that. That would be our default button, nice and simple. And we can create a second one, the dark button. So I will

duplicate that and just change some styling. And here we will change the text color to white because we will use the dark background, and on hover, it could be a little bit darker. Border color should match the background. We can leave the rest the same and now we can create a new preset from current styles and let's call this: Button Dark. Okay, so these are the presets I created for that website.

And as I mentioned earlier, if I wanted to show my client, all the possibilities, all the pre-styled content, I would display it in a nice-looking layout and save that in a library. But for us, it's not necessary. I just wanted to define what I will be using and we can create the rest as we go along.