Website Header

Hello and welcome to the next part of our website building process. In the previous lesson, I set up my child theme, I created a few presets in the builder, and I also added a basic page structure to the website by creating empty pages and blog categories. In this video, we'll go ahead and create the website header inside the theme builder. Divi menu module doesn't offer too many customization options. There are many aspects we'll need to customize with CSS. But first, we have the page structure ready.

Initial Setup

So we can go ahead and create our main menu in the WordPress dashboard under appearance menus, create menu. So I will add all these except for the contact because that will be a separate button module, but I will also add home and a blog. No, not the home, sorry. So we have our services page, portfolio, about page and the blog and as the submenu will use the blog categories. Let's save that.

Global Header

And now we have our main menu and we can go ahead and create our header inside the theme builder. So, add global header, build global header. So this is the row structure I would like to use, I will include a centered menu module in the middle and here will be my logo. And this would be my call to action button. So first an image module for the logo. So let me add my SVG logo here. And I want to change its size. So just specify the maximum width, it's an SVG so I didn't have to use the - let's go with max width - and then 90 for tablet and 80 for phone. Here's my logo. And it also needs a link and it would be a dynamic content homepage link. So, even if I choose a different page as my homepage, this link will always go to that page.

Button Link

Okay, so here - button: 'Get in touch'. Remember, the text on the button is always great to think of it as the answer to: Would you like to? Yes, I would like to. So would you like to get in touch? Yes, I would like to so that makes sense here. And this would link to our contact page, so page link - contact. And we'll use the dark button preset for that.

Button Alignment

One thing we need here is to align the button to the right side on desktop. Then for the tablet, we want this to be in the center and again, actually we'll hide that for phone, I think, we'll see. So for now, let's start with the desktop version.

Menu Module Customization

And here we need a menu module. And we would want to go as far as possible using the module settings and then customize the rest with CSS. So, here in the design tab will change the layout to centered. And now, the menu text will use the same color for the active link as for the standard link. But now the menu font we would use the Barlow Condensed bold, uppercase, dark, 20 pixels for desktop, 18 and 16, 0.05em letter spacing. Now the drop-down menu background color and use that nice dark color. Transparent menu line, but we will remove that with CSS anyway. White links - for the default and active link. And the mobile menu should be white with dark text. So the spacing we want to make sure there's no top or bottom margin here and also no padding and I think that's a good start. What I don't like is the spacing here on the button. Let's save that. To fix that button I think we need to change the line height here. So just to see. Let's check the line height it uses. It is 1.7em, important added through Divi stylesheet so we would need to target maya-btn et_pb button with line height 1 important. That's much better. So let's add that into our stylesheet.

Sticky Fixed Header

Now, we obviously have too much space here in the header section. And I do want to create a sticky fixed header. So back in the theme builder, let's go into section settings and let's change the spacing. Let's try padding 50 pixels - top and bottom for desktop and then 25 tablet and 15 on phones. And we can also specify the right and left margin. We'll go with 35 pixels, right and left and then 0 for phones and tablets. You will see what I mean in a moment when we change the row width as well. So inside the row settings, we will change the row width in the design sizing to 100%. And then for tablet we'll use the standard 80% and then 90% for phones. Let's also equalize column heights here, so we can align everything with flexbox if needed. Let's save that. Now, to make the section sticky the bottom padding, it's the row padding. So here, back in the row settings, you want to use the Last in a Section preset. That would remove that bottom padding from the row. And now we are only left with the section padding. To make it sticky we'll use the scroll effects. So, stick to the top with no offset just like that. And I would like to show you a nice CSS property that adds the blur behind the section. So we need to change the background to semi-transparent white. Let's try with 0.9. One last important thing for that section is that I'm going to add an ID to the whole header section just to give myself specificity advantage when I will be targeting all these different elements in the section, with my CSS, I just want to make sure that this CSS modification will take precedence. So 'maya-header' will be my CSS ID for that section. And one last thing here is that this menu module has a background which I want to remove. So, the whole section uses that semi transparent background I've set, and here I can see that my section is still a bit too big on scroll, so let me change my spacing for the sticky state. So when it gets sticky, the top and bottom padding will be set to 15 pixels. So it will get very narrow at the top of the page so that should give us a nice looking effect. And the sticky section does create that smooth, sticky effect. So it is nice, but we do have some alignment issues here.

CSS Customizations

So let's now inspect the page and try to fix that with CSS. So first thing we have to align that menu items along with that button - that text on the button. And we can do that by targeting the row because the row here is already using flexbox. So all we need basically is to align these items. So that row inside the ID of maya-header, can use align-item: baseline. That will align everything along with the baseline of the text, but since this is an image, we want to align that one differently. So now let's work here. The first column inside that row et_pb column, let's try with the first-child, align-self, flex-end. That will align it to the bottom with that button module. That fixes that alignment. But the CSS property, I wanted to show you, adds the blur behind that section. It's called the backdrop-filter and we can add that to our header directly. The backdrop-filter blur and then we specify the amount of the blur, so let's try 7 pixels. You see how everything behind that section is blurred out. I think it creates this really nice effect. Unfortunately, it doesn't work in Safari so we do need to make sure that the section without that effect is still working correctly, but for anyone on Chrome they will have that nice effect. We have this section, we align the row and now we can add some spacing in between menu items. So let's try to see if the spacing is added through padding on that list item, we have 11 pixels left and right padding here and we can override it with a different value. So, now to target our menu module we'll also specify the parent container, maya-header and then et_pb_menu, that's the CSS class of menu module. And next we have et-menu, that's the list here. So the first level li items. Not the submenu items, just the first-child, that's the right caret here. We want to specify the padding - 10 pixels top and bottom, and 20 pixels right and left. So that creates more spacing here. And that will also move our drop-down menu further down below, because if the menu module doesn't have an image like this, it is not a part of the module. So this menu module doesn't use the logo image and that makes the submenu to be too close together with the text. So by adding that padding bottom to the li item, we are moving that submenu further down. Now, on hover, the links here are losing the opacity, so we can also fix that by changing the opacity on hover. So all A elements inside here. So, that targets our list item and next we have links inside, which on hover should use 100% opacity. That will fix that. Now, let me maybe copy that to my stylesheet. It's a good practice to comment your code while you're adding stuff. So next time you come back to it you know why you added a certain CSS rule. So it's not something I always do. But I do recommend it if you can be that thorough when writing your CSS using comments as you go, is a great idea. So now let's try to target our submenu. Because by default, we can preview that here. Just by clicking that arrow, or if I enable the hover state on the list item, that will also trigger that menu here. So the submenu has the class of submenu to target it we can basically call our main section ID and then that submenu class as long as it's the only menu module. So, back here, let's try with the maya-header, sub-menu, and then border:none that will remove that top border. Next, a tiny border-radius. Just to make it rounded the same way as the phones have the rounded border. Now change the padding, the width and that moves the content, but we do want to change the width of the list items and links inside as well. So, this can be full width with no padding and our links inside can only have a bottom padding, for example. So 0 0, and then 10 pixels at the bottom, except for the last one, which would be on the last li. So, last-child A, could have no padding okay, that would make it align nicely. Now the font here doesn't need to be as bold and as big as in the main header level. So for our links, we can also change the font family from the condensed version to a regular Barlow font. So font family, sans-serif just as a fallback, and then font-weight:bold, font-size 16 pixels and no text transformation. So text-transform: none. And also we can remove the letter spacing because it's not needed when we're not using uppercase letters. So letter-spacing: 0, that already is looking much better than what we started with. Now, they do have this semi transparent background, which I will also remove so background:none. Now, let's see how that looks. There's no background, that’s how we want it. I do want to move it a tiny bit on hover to the right. So again, back here, if we add a hover state to that li, that is showing us the submenu. Here, we can add a padding on hover. This on hover. Padding left five pixels and we do need to make sure that it is transitioning nicely, not jumps 5 pixels to the side. So we need to add a transition property. And as you remember, transition needs to be added on the element itself, not just on the hover state, but it has to have transition before the hover. We can use the shorthand. Let's see how that looks, lovely. So, nice and simple but I do want to add a little animation when we are opening that menu. I wanted not only to fade in but kind of fade in from the bottom. So let's see how we could do that when we hover over our list item, when this is hovered what's happening with our submenu? So it uses that to calculate its position. So we can use that and change that position before the hover and then on hover bring it back to the correct place. So the default position is 100% from the top minus 1 pixel. That is defining the selector on hover. So we will use the same thing except I will also add my ID to make sure that I am targeting elements within my header only. And now on hover we will bring this default position. So we want this to end at this position. Top. But before we were hovering, we want this UL, so that's our submenu, to have a different position. So we could say top and move it further down. So instead of 100% minus 1 pixel, let's try with plus 9 that would move it by ten pixels below that position. And we will also need a transition here for that submenu. Let's save that. You see, now it kind of fades in from the bottom, which I think is a nice touch. So let me copy what we have for our submenu. Now, let's add a nice hover effect to the first level links. We have nice-looking second level links, but here I would like to incorporate that zigzag style.

Using an Image

So I'm thinking of adding that zigzag line, underline that could be animated when we hover, that zigzag could kind of scroll through underneath. So, in order to do that, I will need to define my own animation for that element. But first, let's add that element and then we can see how we can animate it. And because I will be adding that inside my child theme stylesheet I do want to create a folder here for my images that element will use a zigzag image, which I will then animate. But to use an image I would create a new folder here - that's the image. So, this image is, basically, an SVG with the zigzag shape. And it is seamless. Meaning if I would use the background repeat and repeat that image horizontally, it would connect with the right side, so it can be used as a pattern, as a background pattern. So now, since I have that here I can specify my top level menu hover effect. So I know I will need to add a before pseudo-element, and the reason I'm adding before and not after is because the after pseudo-element is already used by that arrow here. So, it already comes with some pre-styled CSS. So if I don't want my hover element to conflict with that arrow I will simply use the before and I can obviously position it after with position:absolute. So it doesn't really matter which one I use. And since only the before pseudo-element is free for these links, that's what we are going to use. So, you see that the A first-child is already using the after pseudo class, but here for other li and links A elements within our li we can add a before pseudo-element. But here we can specify the same element so we want to target only the first level list items and links inside, and then create the before pseudo-element. So, obviously, we need the content which can be empty, we'll display: block. We'll position it absolutely. And that means that our links itself they need to be positioned relative. Because we want to position that line, that element relative to the link itself. Now bottom position, negative 20 pixels, left:0, right:0, height- let's try with 10 pixels. And we need a background. Okay, so background and we can specify the URL and we only need to select the path. So if our style sheet is within that same folder as the image folder, we only need to specify our URL like this. And then this background, I want this to be repeated horizontally, so repeat-x. I need to copy that inside my stylesheet. So that it connects with the proper image. And this displays the image correctly, we should move it closer to the text, but we can do that on hover. So it also uses that slide from the bottom effect, but I haven't targeted the only direct links within the lis so that's why our submenus are affected as well. So, we need to fix that. And that is basically the selector right here. It targets only the first level lis, but then it targets all the As within these lis. So we want to be more specific, maybe that will make it clearer. So only the first level lis and only the first level As within these lis.

Animating the image

Now we want to add the animation. And to define the animation, we need keyframes, and then the animation name. And here we have to specify the different steps so at zero percent and then at 100% we can use different CSS properties. So for the 0 state, my background-position would be at zero. And then at 100%, my background-position will be moved by the width of the image. So there's no jump. So I know that my SVG is 70 pixels. Once the background position is moved by 70 pixels it basically is still in the same place because we are repeating the background horizontally it's just going to be shifted to the side. We have our animation that changes the background position. And now we want to apply that animation to that element. So, here, we specify the animation property, animation name. Then how long is the animation duration. We'll make it infinite and linear. So no ease-in for that animation. So, we also wanted this to be hidden at first. So, opacity 0, and then when we hover over, so the same selector, but on hover. So a:hover:before. We'll change the opacity to 1, and we'll change the bottom position: negative 10 pixels instead of negative 20 pixels. And we do want to edit a transition here, because we're changing the opacity so transition. Let's try that. I think that looks pretty nice. It does animate on hover, it has this nice slide in effect and it also moves to the side while we're hovering. So it's a pretty fun effect I think it will play nicely with the rest of the website later on. Hopefully, that shows you how easy it is to define any type of underline here. You just have to make sure you create your before pseudo-element and then define how it looks before and after you're hovering over the parent element, okay? So the desktop version of our navigation looks pretty great.

Mobile Navigation

And now the next part is to make it look great on mobile as well. If I inspect the page, let's see how that - right there at the tablet breakpoint our row structure is changing to full width. We don't want that. We want to move all these columns to a single line. So we need to change the alignment of that row. We need to target the row container and basically we want this to be displayed: flex. Just like that, that's a great start. But we only want that to apply to smaller screen sizes. So media max-width 980 pixels, which is the standard tablet breakpoint between desktop and tablet. Here I would also change the order of these two elements.
I would put the button in the middle and keep my hamburger icon on the right side and to do that, we can change the order of these columns. To target each of the columns we can use the nth-child selector. The first column would use order one, remember zero is the default. That's why just by using that we moved that to the last position, but once we define each column order, they can be placed in a different place. The second column, the one with the hamburger icon, should be the third one and third one, the last one with the button will be the second one. Now we have to kind of fix the alignment as well. The button module, we can change it to be in the center using the module settings, but this, we will need to move that with CSS I think. So, let's see this wrapper, this

et_pb_menu_wrap is using justify-content: center, if we would use the flex-end that would put it to the right side. So we can only target the wrapper, the et_pb_menu_wrap and change the justify-content property to flex-end and each of the columns is taking more space because there is a margin I think. So that's the first last column. It doesn't have margin but the first and then the third one also the with the menu so this column, this one and not this one, but the first two columns, have bottom margin on mobile. So you have to make sure that none of these columns is using any margin. So, back here, each column, margin-bottom: 0. It may be hard to see but it did fix the alignment of that elements. And now back in the theme builder, let's make sure that this button alignment is set to center on tablet. Okay, much better. And we have that sticky navigation on mobile as well.

Mobile Menu

Let's work on that mobile menu. So the first thing I would do is to change the size of that hamburger icon. We could simply change the font size here, mobile_menu_bar: before. Let me copy that. Which is inside our header ID. Let's change the font size to 40 pixels. Yeah, I think that matches the rest of the content better. Now remember that the mobile menu parent is getting the opened class once we click the element here. Now, this link has the class opened and we can target that before and change it to the closing icon. So I already showed you that in a previous lesson so just real quick. If we go to the stylesheet here and we'll target the same selector, but when it's inside the container with the opened class, the content would be 4d. I checked that inside the Elegant Themes, ET modules, icon font article and this makes that, creates that nice closing icon here. This is a good start, but I would also want to move that whole icon further down because right now, it's at the top. I would want to position it more at the bottom. I think we need to target our row again. Change the alignment from baseline to center maybe? Yes, center would work nice. This needs to go inside a media query as well along with - well, this wouldn't need to be inside a media query because the mobile menu bar is not visible on desktop but we can keep it together. It's not a problem. The last part now is to make sure that the mobile menu is looking better. And it's not squished like that because we've all that flex and different styling, we kind of broke this but I would want to display it sliding from the side anyway. So this doesn't look great, but we can fix that pretty easily. We will need to target our et_mobile_menu. That's the element that's being shown and hidden once we click. That's the parent container and also our list of elements inside the mobile menu. So et_mobile_menu, which is inside the maya-header. We want this to use position fixed. We want this to be always visible because we'll move it outside of the viewport with CSS and then move it back when it gets the opened class. We don't want this to be displayed:none at any time, the animation will hide and show it, but it is basically visible all the time. So display:block and we need to say important because the display:none is added inline with JavaScript, so that's the only way we can override it. And there's this animation going on which we do want to remove for the slide in effect and that requires setting the margin to 0 all with important tags. Also, the height. Let's set it to 100: important. Will also change the min-height to 100: Viewport height padding is being animated - we can start with 0: important but. I would imagine we might want to move it a bit further down below the closing icon. We could see how 100 pixels from the top and then 0 from each side could work better. That's a pretty good start, let's see. The padding needs an important tag. And that should stop all the animation. That's what we wanted because now we can add it ourselves. We have this and now once it is inside the opened class we'll change the right position to 0. While without that class, so when it's closed, right minus 100 % that should move it to the right, but right now it also uses the left 0. Let's see. Yes, there's left 0. So if we are only defining right, it won't move it away from the left. We have to change the left position to auto. And then the right value does work. And we want to add a transition as well. So we can also kind of limit the width of that element. So let's add a maximum width. Let's try with 300 pixels. Let's move it to the top so it's not below our navigation but it's right there at the side of the screen. So top 0 and now the closing icon is below behind it. So we also have to fix the z-index. Let's see, this span has a z-index of, let's see. It doesn't use the z-index, so we have to define it ourselves. So that mobile_menu_bar needs a z-index, maya-header. Let's try with 40 and then our mobile menu can use as a z-index of 39. I think it does look great.

Bug!

But the problem is right here, as soon as the navigation is changed to the sticky version, this alignment doesn't work. And that is a problem with some bug that makes the position fixed not working correctly when it's within an element that has a transform property set. So right now the parent containers for that mobile menu list, use transform property. Let's check which one exactly. Like the menu header transform, translate X and Y 0. So as soon as we disable that transformation, that kind of works better. So we do want to make sure that when it's inside that et_pb_sticky, that's the moment when we scroll down our div, with our main section, gets that additional et_pb_sticky CSS class. So once it has that class, we want to make sure that all elements inside that section do not have any transform added. When our maya-header is et_pb_sticky, we define the children element with a star that selects everything inside and we want to add transform:none, important. That basically fixes it and I must say, I spent a while trying to figure it out. It is some weird issue with that fixed position within an element with transform property.

Submenu Alignment Mobile

The last element here in this mobile menu I would like to fix that submenu alignment because we've added that padding to each of our A links but it doesn't work well when it's inside the mobile view. So first, our submenu, we don't need that width and that padding, let's try to fix that submenu styling. But only for mobile actually, you can put everything here in that media query, width: auto, okay, and padding:0. And now the padding can be defined by the links inside. So, if we target each link like this and also on hover. So there's not this 5 pixel left padding. Let's try 10 pixels at the top 25, 25 along the right side, 10 at the bottom and then 35 on the left so it's indented like this. And this doesn't apply to the last-child. So let's also add this as a separate selector. Much better, right? Now our submenu works correctly both when it's fixed and also when we are still at the top of the page, it slides down nicely. So the last element is that button here. I would simply hide it on very, very small screen size or we could hide the logo. So it would be up to you or just maybe change the text to something shorter, but for this example, I would simply hide that column for screen sizes smaller than 430 pixels to a separate media query. The third column inside our maya-header, the last column, so et_pb_column: nth-child 3, display: none. Just like that. And this way it can scale to even super small phones and still look very nice.

I will copy that to my stylesheet and that is the end of this lesson. I think we've managed to create a pretty great looking header for our website.