

# WordPress Dashboard and Themes

## WordPress Dashboard

This is the back-end that WordPress users see when logged in. Administrators see all the options. Editors, authors, subscribers, and contributors see fewer options.

- The main area of the dashboard initially shows news from WordPress and from plugins that you use.
- The horizontal menu bar shows your site name, pending messages, and some menu items for plugins.
- The vertical menu bar shows things like pending updates, media library, pages, appearance, plugins, users, tools, and settings.
- It's really handy to have multiple tabs open so you can edit a page and see the user view without leaving the editor. You can do this with the right mouse button. For example, hover over the name of the site until the Visit Site option appears. Then click it with the right mouse button to open the user view of the site in a new tab.
- For each menu item there are often sub-items. If you click a menu item that has sub-items, the first sub-item will be selected automatically.
- Appearance > Menus. The menu hierarchy is shown on the right pane, and you can add pages to it from the left pane. Screen options enable you to specify whether or not the newly-opened page should appear in a new tab.

## WordPress Code

Each WordPress web page is composed of the following components.

- **Content:** Text, images, videos, PDF's added by the webmaster
- **HTML:** The structure of the web page (headings, lists, paragraphs)
- **CSS:** The look and feel of the page (colors, fonts, spacing)
- **PHP:** The programming language that glues it all togetherTheme

# Themes

A site's theme defines the overall look and feel of the site. The theme may define attributes such as the banner, favicon, font, and whether links are underlined.

- Created by a theme developer using CSS and PHP
- WordPress provides a new theme each year (e.g. Twenty Twenty One, Twenty Twenty Two)
- Some themes are minimalist; others give the webmaster many options. Some include their own sub-themes and plugins. Some include page builders that replace the classic editor and block editor. Themes that include page builders typically run more slowly.
- Only one theme is active at a time
- You can modify a theme yourself, but this is almost always a bad idea because your modifications will get out of sync with the developer's code over time. If you absolutely must modify a theme, put the net changes into a child theme.
- Dashboard > Appearance > Themes > Customize: Each theme has a different set of customization options.

## Weaver Xtreme Theme.

These are examples of theme settings you might want to change.

- Customize > Global Site Settings > Site Identity:
  - Admin Options > Set Options Level and Interface > Full/Standard/Basic
  - Admin Options > Set Options Level and Interface > What/Where
  - Logo (banner) at the top of each page
  - Site icon (favicon): SIR rooster in each browser tab
- Typography > Wrapping Areas > Fonts > Lato
- Typography > Links > Underline Link