

# VIVA THEMES

We Help You Look Good

## ELIXIR THEME INSTRUCTION MANUAL

Thank you for purchasing this theme. This is your first step towards having a great looking site. Please read the instructions below. If you need more help please use our [support forum](#).

If you like this theme you might consider switching to the ALL THEMES PACKAGE. Please [click here for details](#)

# THEME OVERVIEW

Elixir is a professional portfolio theme for WordPress. You can use this theme to build your personal website.

- Theme compatible with latest WordPress version.
- Post and page thumbnail feature.
- Custom menu navigation system, multi-level dropdown
- Portfolio page template.
- Featured portfolio carousel.
- Background customization panel.
- Theme options panel.
- Front page featured posts.
- Blog page template
- Full width page template
- Custom shortcodes.
- One widget ready locations
- Threaded comments.
- Integrated blog pagination.
- CSS & XHTML valid.
- Cross-browser compatible.
- Delivered with .png source files (.psd files available in the forum)

# HOW TO INSTALL THE THEME

Please unzip the '[elixir\\_unzip\\_first.zip](#)' file that you received.

The theme is the '[elixir.zip](#)' file inside the folder. In your WordPress administration area, go to '[Appearance - Themes](#)'. In the top there appears a new tab navigation. Click on the '[Install Themes](#)'

tab, then click the '[Upload](#)' item in the new menu and browse for the '[elixir.zip](#)' file in your computer and after locating it press the '[Install Now](#)' button and after that '[activate](#)' the new theme.

You can also install this theme the traditional way, by unzipping the '[elixir.zip](#)' file, and upload the theme folder using an ftp client to the '[wp-content/themes](#)' folder of your WordPress installation.

After installing the theme, go to '[Appearance-Themes](#)' in your WordPress administrator area, and click the '[activate](#)' link of the newly installed theme. The theme is now the active one.

## THE THEME OPTIONS PANEL

This theme comes with an options panel that allows you to configure some aspects of the theme without touching code. To access the options panel, in your WordPress administration area go to '[Appearance – Elixir Options](#)'. Please take a look at the different options you have there.

## CHANGING THE LOGO

You have to upload your logo image in the Media Manager, and enter the image url in the Logo Image Location field, in the theme panel.

You can also switch to text logo from the theme panel.

## CONFIGURING THE MENU

The theme uses in full the custom menu navigation system introduced in WordPress 3.0. There is one menu locations in this theme: the 'Main Menu'.

You need to go to '[Appearance – Menus](#)' in your WordPress admin to start configuring your menu. You first need to create a menu in the right side and then from the left you can select the pages and categories you want to be part of each menu. Don't forget to click 'Save Menu' after you add the

items. *Note that you have to have created your pages and categories first and they will be available in the list to include in the menu.*

In the left you will see the active menu location and you need to assign the new menu to the location using the dropdown selection.

To enable dropdown in the menu interface, you have to drag the menu items below another menu item (child item).

If you are still having difficulties you can watch this tutorial

<http://www.vivathemes.com/configuring-the-wordpress-custom-menu/>

## USING THE THUMBNAIL FUNCTION

When you edit a post or a page, in the bottom of the right column you have a new area called *Featured Image*. Click on the [Set Featured Image](#) link and you will be taken in the image uploader interface, where you can upload or select one of the existing images. Make sure that after you view your image press the '[Use as Featured Image](#)' link. The image will be resized and cropped to fit your thumbnail size.

You can add featured images in both pages or posts. Note that the images will be resized automatically. In full view of post or page, the image size is 900x400px, so it is suggested that it should be the minimum size of your uploaded image to avoid distortions.

## THE FRONT PAGE FEATURED POSTS/PAGES

As you can see you can include three featured posts or pages in the front page, two in the left and one in the right.

The featured image will become the image in the front, and it will be resized automatically.

To include the posts in the left, in the post you want to include create a custom field named '[featuredleft](#)' and in the value area enter '[1](#)'. Do this for two separate posts/pages.

To include the post/page in the right, create another custom field in another post, named [‘featuredright’](#) and in the value field enter [‘1’](#).

The custom fields section is located below the editor when you edit a post/page. If the custom fields section is not visible, please enable it in the [‘Screen Options’](#), top right corner when you edit a page/post.

## THE PORTFOLIO PAGE

You need to create a category named [‘portfolio’](#) and include your portfolio posts there. After that, create a page (you can name it whatever you want) and in the template selection dropdown in the right, select [‘Portfolio Page’](#).

The portfolio posts will be automatically excluded from the latest posts in your front page and in the blog page.

Note again the featured image size should be a minimum of 900x400px.

## THE PORTFOLIO CAROUSEL

As you can notice, the latest portfolio entries are included in a carousel slider in the front page. From the theme panel [‘Appearance-Elixir Options’](#) you can disable this carousel, or assign the amount of the portfolio entries to be displayed there.

## THE BLOG PAGE TEMPLATE

All you need to do is create a page, and in the template selection dropdown select the [‘Blog Page’](#) template.

Portfolio posts will be automatically excluded from that page.

Alternatively you can include separate categories in the menu if you want multiple categories to show up.

## THE LATEST POSTS IN THE FRONT PAGE

The theme will automatically include the latest posts in the front page. The title 'Latest News' is managed from the theme panel. Please go to 'Appearance-Elixir Options' to change that.

Alternatively you can have a static page in front instead of the latest posts. You need to assign that in your WP admin area, by going to 'Settings-Reading'.

## THE WIDGET AREAS OF THE THEME

This theme has one widget ready areas. The RIGHT SIDEBAR is the right bar visible in all pages. You can add widgets to each area by going into 'Appearance – Widgets' in your WordPress administration area and dragging & dropping widgets into each bar. Note that you can add as many widgets as you want to each area.

You might also find these articles useful :

<http://www.vivathemes.com/blog/how-to-add-links-in-a-text-widget/>

<http://www.vivathemes.com/blog/adding-an-image-in-a-text-widget/>

## CUSTOM BACKGROUND PANEL

One of the new features introduced is the custom background that enables you to easily change the background color of your website or upload an image as your background.

To do so, in your WordPress admin go to '*Appearance – Background*' and there you can easily make the necessary changes.

## USING SHORTCODES

Shortcodes are custom styled elements ready for you to use. You can use them in your posts, pages or text widgets. To check out our shortcodes please see here :

[http://demo.vivathemes.com/themes/elixir/?page\\_id=39](http://demo.vivathemes.com/themes/elixir/?page_id=39)

Sample usages:

Big buttons: `[bluebutton]link text[/bluebutton]` html is

`[bluebutton]<a href="your url">text</a>[/bluebutton]`

Small buttons: `[smallblue]link text[/smallblue]`

Boxes: `[download]some text[/download]`

Half column: `[halfcolumn]some text[/halfcolumn]`

One third column: `[onethirdcolumn] some text[/onethirdcolumn]`

Best regards,

The Viva Themes Team