Child Theme Basics & Twenty Seventeen Theme Demo

Child Theme Basics
Why use a child theme?

- Don't lose customizations when upgrading the original theme

- Don't be afraid to upgrade

Child Theme Basics
What is a child theme?

- A layer on top of your theme that you can edit without modifying the original

- Inherits the properties of the original theme

- "Grandchild" themes are possible, but complicated and not recommended. The child theme system wasn't designed for this, so it involves a bunch of workarounds.

- Reference: https://codex.wordpress.org/Child_Themes

Child Theme Basics
How to set up a child theme

- **Requirements:** folder, style.css, functions.php

- **style.css** needs to include header information, must set "template" correctly

- **functions.php** can be empty, but recommended to enqueue styles from parent theme

- Activate the child theme, don't delete the parent theme

- **Optional:** page templates, assets (images, JavaScript, etc)

- **Or use a plugin:**

  - https://wordpress.org/plugins/one-click-child-theme/ (warning: hasn't been updated in 2 years)

  - https://wordpress.org/plugins/child-theme-configurator/ (haven't tested it, but it looks promising)

Child Theme Basics
style.css

```css
1   /*
2   Theme Name:        Twenty Seventeen Child Theme
3   Theme URI:         https://wordpress.org/themes/twentyseventeen/
4   Author:            the WordPress team
5   Author URI:        https://wordpress.org/
6   Description:       A child theme of Twenty Seventeen
7   Template:          twentyseventeen
8   Version:           1.1
9   License:           GNU General Public License v2 or later
10  License URI:       http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-2.0.html
11  Text Domain:       twentyseventeen
12  Tags:              one-column, two-columns, right-sidebar, flexible-header,
    accessibility-ready, custom-colors, custom-header, custom-menu, custom-logo, editor-style,
    featured-images, footer-widgets, post-formats, rtl-language-support, sticky-post,
    theme-options, threaded-comments, translation-ready
13  */
14
15  .navigation-top a {
16      color: #333;
17      letter-spacing: 0.1rem;
18      text-transform: uppercase;
19  }
20
```

Child Theme Basics
functions.php

```php
1   <?php
2
3   /* Twenty Seventeen Child Theme functions */
4
5   function my_theme_enqueue_styles() {
6       $parent_style = 'twentyseventeen-style';
7       wp_enqueue_style( $parent_style, get_template_directory_uri() . '/style.css' );
8       wp_enqueue_style( 'child-style',
9           get_stylesheet_directory_uri() . '/style.css',
10          array( $parent_style ),
11          wp_get_theme()->get('Version')
12      );
13  }
14  add_action( 'wp_enqueue_scripts', 'my_theme_enqueue_styles' );
```

Child Theme Basics
Alternatives

Plugin like My Custom CSS to replace style.css

May not need this if custom CSS is built-in like Twenty Seventeen

Custom plugin to replace functions.php

Note: code is processed in a different order

Twenty Seventeen Theme Demo Overview

- Theme page: https://wordpress.org/themes/twentyseventeen/

- Custom full screen header (image or video)

- Home page sections with full width images

- You can set a color scheme that affects elements throughout the site

- Mobile responsive

- Good PageSpeed score and load time out of the box (with image header)

Twenty Seventeen Theme Demo Background Dimensions

- >75% of screen widths will be between 1366-1920px (excluding mobile)

- Data from https://www.w3schools.com/browsers/browsers_display.asp

- Check your Google Analytics data for your specific site

< 1366px	1366px	1365-1919px	1920px	> 1920px
16%	35%	21%	19%	9%

- You don't want your image stretched if it's smaller than the screen size

- You don't want to slow down your site with an excessively large image

- **Recommendation:** 1920px wide, 1200+px high (higher if using parallax)

Twenty Seventeen Theme Demo Header

- **Header Image:** 2000x1200px recommended dimensions

- Switches to a shorter version on other pages, so plan accordingly

- License free, high resolution photos: unsplash.com, pixabay.com

- **Header Video:** 2000x1200px recommended dimensions

- From YouTube or your media library (not recommended)

- Video will autoplay without sound

- Can't put a URL to a video file on another source (i.e. Amazon S3)

- Other pages will use a shorter version of your *header image*

Twenty Seventeen Theme Demo Home Page Sections

- Requires "Static Front Page" to be selected

- Create a page for each one with a featured image

- In the Customizer, you can select up to 4 pages to display their featured image and content in their entirety

- You might not want to include those pages in your navigation, as they are exact copies of what you see on the home page (and the featured image is displayed full-size at the top)

- Link to home page sections with IDs (#panel1, #panel2, #panel3, #panel4)

- Use the absolute URL of the section on the home page so it will work from other pages (http://twentyseventeen.flywheelsites.com#panel1)

THANKS!

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