

Dipping Into Child Themes



- <https://joseph-dickson.com>
- Twitter: @joe4ska

- <https://joseph-dickson.com/dipping-into-child-themes/>

What is a Child Theme?

- **Child Themes were introduced in WordPress 2.7 “Coltrane” (2008*)**
- **A Child Theme inherits features from a Parent Theme**

Why should we use Child Themes?

- **Parent Theme receives updates**
- **Child Theme is untouched**
- **Speed up development time***
- **Learn from other developers**

What is a Parent Theme?



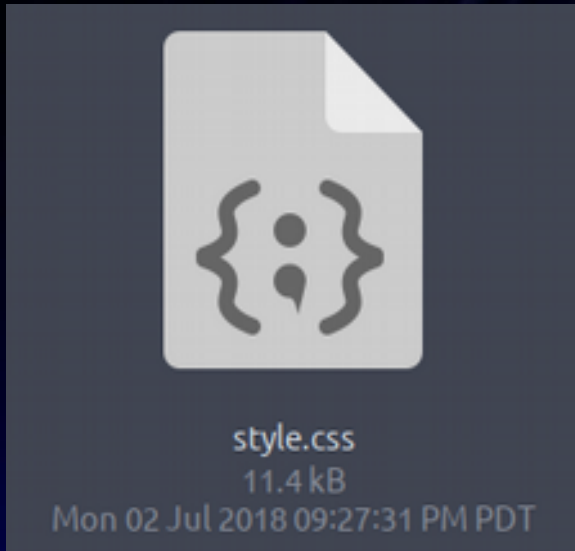
Twenty Seventeen Version: 1.6

By [the WordPress team](#)

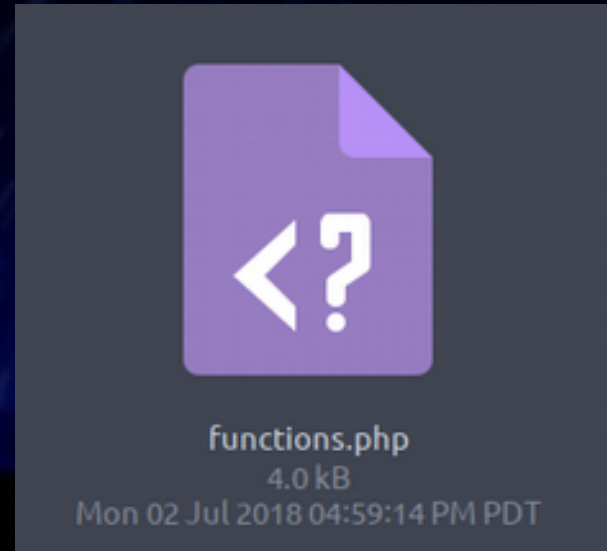
Twenty Seventeen brings your site to life with header video and immersive featured images. With a focus on business sites, it features multiple sections on the front page as well as widgets, navigation and social menus, a logo, and more. Personalize its asymmetrical grid with a custom color scheme and showcase your multimedia content with post formats. Our default theme for 2017 works great in many languages, for any abilities, and on any device.

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

Getting Started



style.css



functions.php

style.css

```
/*
 * Theme Name: WCLAX Twenty Seventeen Child Theme
 * Theme URI: https://joseph-dickson.com
 * Description: A nearly empty child theme based on Twenty Seventeen
 * Author: Joseph Dickson
 * Author URI: https://joseph-dickson.com/wclax-child-theme
 * Template: twentyseventeen
 * Version: 1.0.0
 * License: GNU Public License
 * License URI: https://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html
 * Tags: minimalist, child theme, twentyseventeen, tutorial
 * Text Domain: wclax-2018-twentyseventeen-child
 */
```

- https://codex.wordpress.org/Theme_Development#Theme_Stylesheet

functions.php

```
<?php
add_action( 'wp_enqueue_scripts', 'twentyseventeen_child_enqueue_styles' );

function twentyseventeen_child_enqueue_styles() {

    // include parent theme stylesheet(s) first
    wp_enqueue_style( 'twentyseventeen-style', get_template_directory_uri() . '/style.css' );

    // enqueue child theme stylesheet last
    wp_enqueue_style( 'twentyseventeen-child-style', get_stylesheet_directory_uri() . '/style.css' );
}
```

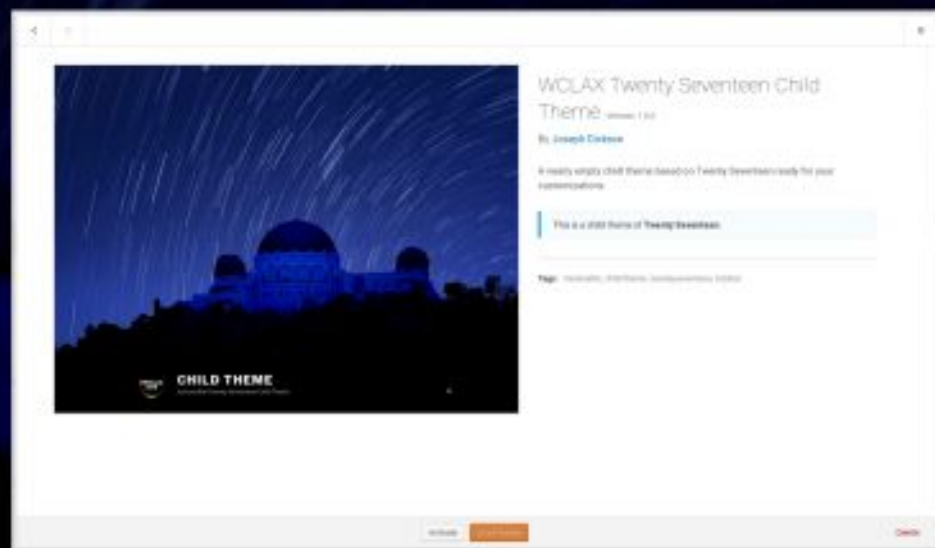
- https://codex.wordpress.org/Child_Themes#Using_functions.php

Bundle and Activate

- Zip files



- Upload and activate



A Broken Enqueue

Sandbox Three

Just another Sandbox Sites site



[Scroll down to content](#)

About Me

[Edit "About Me"](#)

This serves as the blog ramblings of Joseph Dickson, if you're looking for my professional site please visit joseph-dickson.com

Latest Posts

[Edit "Latest Posts"](#)

Posted on [June 16, 2018](#)[Edit "How to Create a WordPress Child Theme"](#)

[How to Create a WordPress Child Theme](#)

A Working Enqueue

#WCLAX
2018

CHILD THEME

Just another Twenty Seventeen Child Theme

JUNE 16, 2018 BY JOE

Hello world!

Welcome to [Localhost](#). This is your first post. Edit or delete it, then start blogging!



RECENT POSTS

Hello world!

RECENT COMMENTS

A WordPress Commenter on Hello world!

ARCHIVES

June 2018

CATEGORIES

Uncategorized

CSS in Action



Browser Inspection

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window with the address bar at `localhost/sandbox-four/`. The page content includes a date "AUGUST 24, 2018" and a post title "Alphabetize posts in all WordPress categories except one using conditional tags". The main text of the post discusses a challenge of ordering posts alphabetically while keeping one category organized by newest to oldest. It mentions a plugin solution and a preference for custom code using the `is_category()` conditional tag.

The browser's developer tools are open, showing the HTML structure. The selected element is an anchor tag within the entry title, with the href attribute containing a URL with a query string: `http://localhost/sandbox-four/2018/08/24/alphabetize-posts-in-all-wordpress-categories-except-one-using-conditional-tags/?rel=bookmark`. The CSS Inspector shows the element's style, including `color: #333` and `margin-left: -2px`. The Box Model diagram shows a width of 417x105.8 pixels.


Advantages of CSS

- **Tweak typography, borders, color etc.**
- **Adjust negative space**
- **Improve readability**
- **Hide elements**
- **Portability**


functions.php

- Add ‘plugin like’ support to a theme
- Best used for theme specific improvements
- Add menus, specific plugin support and adjustments to “functionality”

Example: Open Graph Support

 **Joseph Dickson** @joe4ska · Jun 17
linuxbookpro.com/how-to-create-...

Watch me create #WordPress child theme for 27 minutes. Sure I could have done it in five, but then what would you do for the next 22 minutes?



How to Create a WordPress Child Theme
Watch as I create a Child Theme for WordPress development so that my changes are preserved if and when the Parent Theme is updated at a later date. If y...
linuxbookpro.com


1 retweet 3 likes

 **Joseph Dickson** (@joe4ska) · Jul 6




Open Graph Support fix
This "should be" working on Twitter and Google +.
linuxbookpro.com

retweet likes

 **Joseph Dickson** @joe4ska · Jul 6

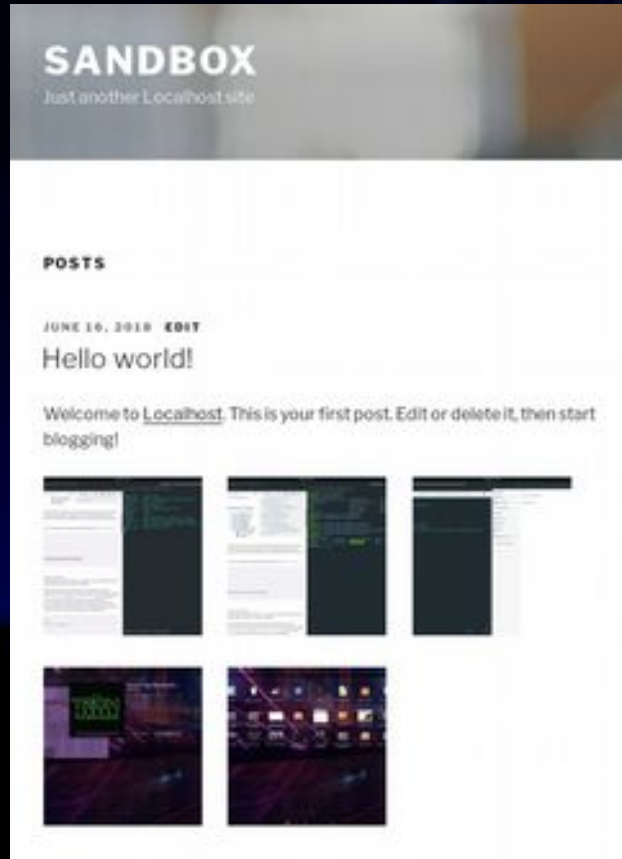
This last Open Graph test of my home page should pull information from the latest post.



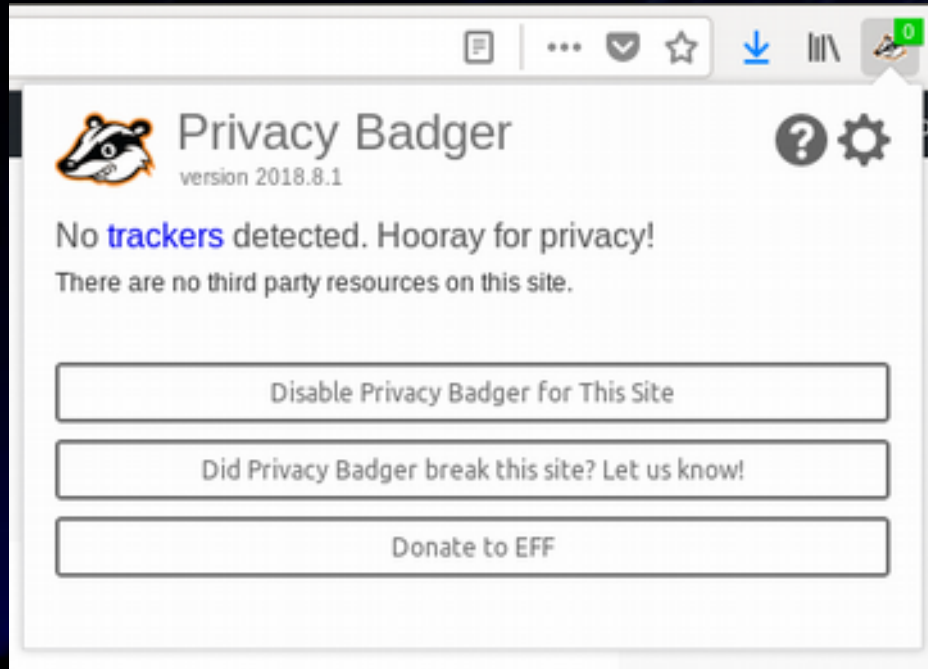
LinuxBookPro
Form the desktop of Joseph Dickson
linuxbookpro.com

1 retweet likes

Replace Google Fonts...



With Self Hosted Fonts



Template Hierarchy

- **A Child Theme's template will override the Parent Theme version**
- **Useful for small adjustments**
- **Fantastic for introducing new templates**



Override home.php



- Create a custom homepage

Template Hierarchy

- **Add custom page templates**
- **Customize archive templates**
- **Create conditional templates**

Template Tags

- **Used within templates to display information from the database**
- **Dynamically or otherwise customize your site**
- **https://codex.wordpress.org/Template_Tags**

Template Tag Examples

- `the_title()`
- `get_the_title()`
- `the_excerpt()`
- `get_the_excerpt()`

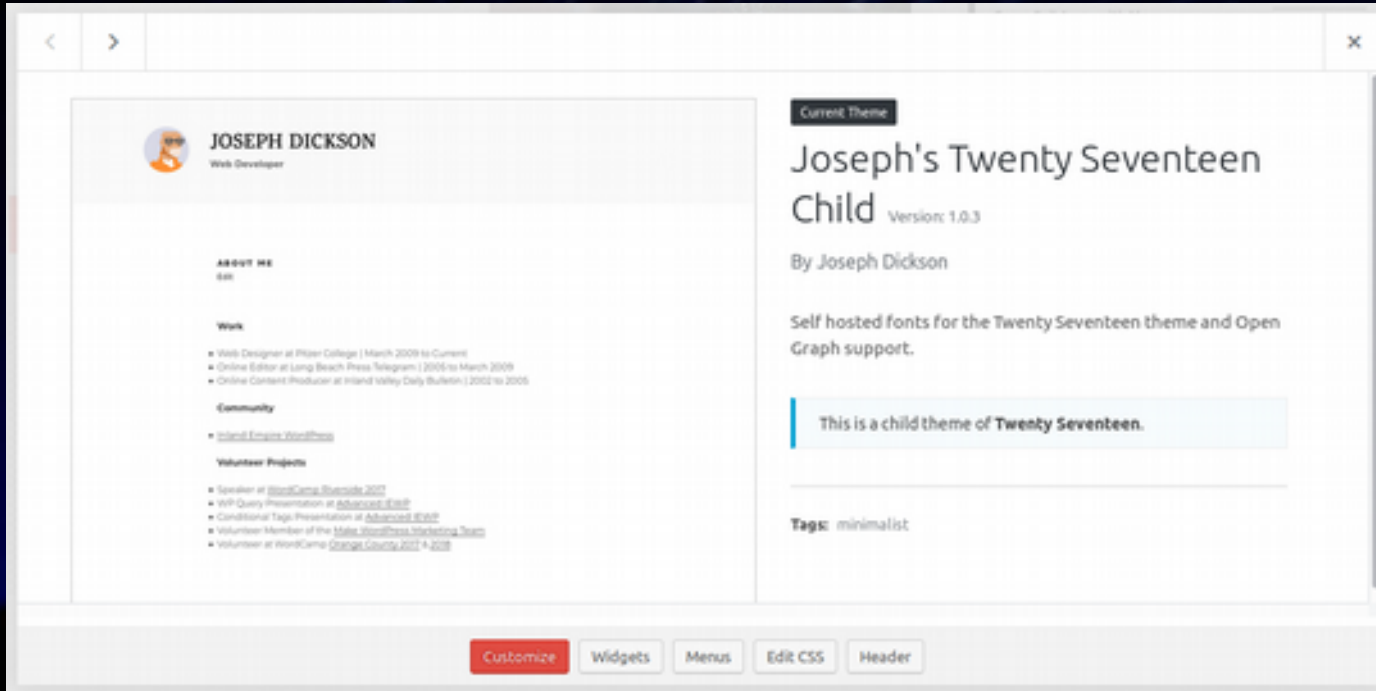
Conditional tags

- **Conditional Tags can be used in your Template files depending on what conditions are met**
- **https://codex.wordpress.org/Conditional_Tags**

Conditional Tags

- `is_home()`
- `is_front_page`
- `is_front_page()`
and `is_home()`
- `is_admin()`
- `has_tag()`
- `in_category()`

Make it your theme!



The screenshot shows a WordPress theme preview window. On the left, a preview of the theme is displayed with the following content:

- JOSEPH DICKSON**
Web Developer
- ABOUT ME**
see
- Work**
 - Web Designer at Pitzer College | March 2009 to Current
 - Online Editor at Long Beach Press Telegram | 2005 to March 2009
 - Online Content Producer at Inland Valley Daily Bulletin | 2002 to 2005
- Community**
 - Inland Empire WordPress
- Volunteer Projects**
 - Speaker at [WordCamp Riverside 2017](#)
 - WP Query Presentation at [Advanced EEP](#)
 - Conditional Tags Presentation at [Advanced EEP](#)
 - Volunteer Member of the [Make WordPress Marketing Team](#)
 - Volunteer at [WordCamp Orange County 2017 + 2018](#)

On the right, the theme details are shown:

- Current Theme**
- Joseph's Twenty Seventeen Child** Version: 1.0.3
- By Joseph Dickson
- Self hosted fonts for the Twenty Seventeen theme and Open Graph support.
- This is a child theme of **Twenty Seventeen**.
- Tags:** minimalist

At the bottom of the preview window, there are five buttons: **Customize** (highlighted in red), **Widgets**, **Menus**, **EDR CSS**, and **Header**.