Sigurd WordPress Theme

Made By PremiumCoding - www.premiumcoding.com

This is a complete guide to help you manage the installation and setup of the Theme that you just bought.

Thank you for purchasing our theme. We hope that you'll find it easy to use and customize. Please read the following manual, because it covers almost all of the aspects needed about how to install and run the theme. If you have questions that are not answered in this guide, please go to the support system, where your questions will be answered:

https://premiumcoding.com/support/

Please verify the documentation and FAQ before posting.

If you like the theme, please show your appreciation by taking the time to rate it.

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1. Getting Started

To install this theme you must have a working version of WordPress already installed. For information in regard to installing the WordPress platform, please see the WordPress Codex - http://codex.wordpress.org/Installing_WordPress1.1

1.1. Installing the Theme

After you have installed Wordpress, you have to install our Theme (Sigurd.zip). There are two ways of installing the Theme on your Wordpress:

- **FTP Upload:** Unzip the "Sigurd.zip" file and upload the contents into the /wp-content/themes folder on your server. If you get an error while activating the Theme uploaded via FTP, please ensure that transfer type is set to binary.
- **Wordpress Dashboard:** Navigate to Appearance > Add New Themes >Upload. Go to browser, and select the zipped theme folder. Hit "Install Now" and the theme will be uploaded and installed.

Download the zipped theme pack to your local computer and extract the ZIP file contents to a folder on your local computer. If you do not do that and install the first package directly you will get the following error:

The theme is missing the style.css stylesheet

So be sure that you are always installing the file called **"SIGURD.ZIP"**

Once the theme is uploaded, you need to activate it. Go to **Appearance > Themes** and activate Sigurd Wordpress Theme. After the theme is activated, you need to install the required plugins for some extra functionality (Instagram, Contact Form and Shortcodes

Click on begin installing plugins and you will be able to install all neccessary plugins. If you need them later on, you can find them in the **Recommended plugins** directory in the package you downloaded.

- **Instagram feed -** this plugin adds the instagram gallery just above the footer. Instructions on how to connect to instagram are available in the plugin itself. Plugin can be downloaded from Wordpress repository at: https://wordpress.org/plugins/instagram-feed
- **Revolution Slider - a** premium plugin that implements the main Slideshows on the home page. Plugin is a premium one so it can not be downloaded online without purchasing it. It's an added value to the theme ($25). Please note that while you can use all the premium features of the plugin **you need to register it if you want to automatically update** it or if you want to import some of the premium demo plugins. Otherwise, you have to wait for the update until we update the theme (which is frequently). You can read more about the plugin at https://revolution.themepunch.com/
- **Essential grid** - it is the #1 Grid Building solution for WordPress. It is another premium addition ($26) to the theme and is used to create all the beautiful galleries in the Theme. It is highly customizable and allows you to adjust to any of your needs. You can read more about the plugin at https://essential.themepunch.com/

- **Contact Form 7** - CONTACT FORM - this is a plugin that you will need of you want to add the contact form. Plugin can be downloaded from Wordpress repository at http://wordpress.org/plugins/contact-form-7/
- **Shortcodes Ultimate** - this plugin adds the shortcodes. Plugin is not neccessary but if you wish to use some nice typography effects like dropcap, quotes and columns, you will have to install it. Plugin can be downloaded from Wordpress repository at https://wordpress.org/plugins/shortcodes-ultimate/
- **Twitter Feed** - this is a plugin that you will need of you want to add the twitter feed. Plugin can be downloaded from Wordpress repository at https://wordpress.org/plugins/recent-tweets-widget/
- **Facebook Feed** - this is a plugin that you will need of you want to add the facebook feed. Plugin can be downloaded from Wordpress repository at https://wordpress.org/plugins/facebook-pagelike-widget/

1.2. Demo Content - Theme looking like live preview

AUTO IMPORT - After theme installation go to **theme options** and click on the **Import tab**. Read the instructions carefully (we recommend to run it only on fresh Wordpress installation). You can select to import all demo content or only content for sliders. You can also choose which demo you would like to import. Please note that you can **change the skin** later from theme's options with one click. If the auto import fails for some reason below are instructions for manual import.

We prepared an XML file for demo import. In this Theme, we are not using pmc importer since the Theme is minimal and very simple. Please follow these steps:

- Install the Sigurd WordPress Theme
- Import Demo content which is included with the Theme (in DEMO CONTENT directory)
- To use it, go to Tools > Import > WordPress and upload the XML file, choose to import everything, hit the button and wait.
- Set up the Home Page in Reading -> Settings
- You might also have to set Menus locations under Appearance -> Menu -> Menu Settings

TIMEOUT ERROR

If you get a timeout error while installing the demo content, you can contact your hosting provider and ask for a time increase (5 minutes should be enough on 99.9% of servers). Or you can follow the steps above and try to install the demo content manually. If you still have problems with installation, then please contact us via our support system at: **https://premiumcoding.com/wp-login.php?action=register**

1.3. HOW TO SET THE THEME LIKE LIVE PREVIEWS

For exact settings for all 6 live demos please check proper layout in the upper left corner of theme's options:

2. Theme's Options

After activating the theme, you will notice that a new submenu item appeared under Appearance Tab called Theme's Options. To start customizing the Theme's settings click on Theme Options.

2.1. General Settings

You can set the main settings here like default or grid layout for your blog. Here you can turn ON/OFF all the main blocks on the home page:

- the upper bar
- featured categories
- about us block
- Instagram block
- scrollbar

2.2. Logo

Upload logos for your website. For retina version be sure to add @2x at the end, so if the normal logo is logo.png, retina version is logo@2x.png.

2.3. Revolution Slider

Add Revolution slider alias for the home page. Leave blank if you don't wish to have Revolution slider on the home page.

Set top margin for Revolution slider. If you wish for the Revolution slider to have a margin from the menu set it here in px. In grid layout demo we use 30px margin. Revolution slider aliases can be seen under **Slider Revolution -> Slider Revolution** settings.

The Plugin has an **extensive documentation** and you can access it online **here**.

2.4. Featured Categories

This section is under Revolution slider in the live demo. If you wish to enable this option go to "General tab -> **Display categories under Revolution Slider**?" and set it to "ON" Categories present your photography categories. You can add image, category and subcategory. The content can also be anything from custom images to adverts.

You can set the main title, subtitle, image, and URL to where the post will point.

2.5. About us Block

This section is under Revolution slider. If you wish to have these options enabled go to "General tab -> Display about us block under the three posts?" and set it to "ON". About us block below the slider is especially useful if you are using the full width version of the Theme. It can replace the about us section in the sidebar. Or you can even add something different here like a promotion with image and short description.

You can set an image which will be displayed on the left and text that will be displayed on the right.

2.6. Instagram Block

This section is above the footer. If you wish to have this option enabled go to "General tab ->Display Instagram block?" and set it to "ON" Instagram block above the footer can display your latest images from your Instagram. It's not connected to the Instagram in the sidebar, you can set that under Appearance -> Widgets.

HOW TO PROPERLY SET UP INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT?

1. First, install the plugin **Instagram Feed.** Instructions on how to connect to Instagram are available in the plugin itself so go to **Instagram Feed settings** and connect the plugin. Plugin can be downloaded from Wordpress repository at: https://wordpress.org/plugins/instagram-feed

2. Copy ID number from Instagram Feed plugin and copy it to theme's options. Be sure that it is a **number** and not your username.

2.7. Blog Pages

Settings in this section will impact the functionality and design of your blog and archive pages (a category for posts). You can decide which meta information you wish to display and which social icons you allow for sharing your content. Settings are straightforward, simply set the settings you wish to display to ON.

2.8. Styling Options

Main design aspects of your Theme can be set in the settings below. Set the main theme color. This is the leading color of the Theme and impacts the design in several places. If your blog or company has a leading color in the logo then this is the color you should set.

You can also set the background color for header, footer, body content, menu, etc. These settings will load accordingly to the layout you choose at the start.

2.9. Custom CSS and Javascript

These two boxes are meant for advanced users that need to add custom CSS styling changes or even custom Javascript code. Please contact us if you are unsure how or why you need to use these settings.

2.10. Typography

Typography is an important aspect of any Theme. You can add any font from Google Web font library. First, you need to add fonts that you wish to use in different parts of the theme (headings, body, and menu). Default fonts will be loaded according to the layout you choose at the start.

Click on Add Google Font button and select the desired font from the drop-down menu. Set all variations of the font that you need (regular, italic, latin,...). Numbers from 100 to 900 means how bold the font is, so 100 is extra thin and 900 is extra bold. Please note that not all the fonts have all variations.

After you successfully added all the fonts you need to assign them to different parts of the theme. You need to set them for Body, Headings, menu, and quotes.

2.11. Social Icons

You can add Social Icons that appear in the top bar, sidebar and in the footer. Simply click Add New button to add more social icons. All you have to set is the title, icon and the URL. All available icons can be seen at Font Awesome website.

2.12. 404 Error page and Footer

This is the place to set text for your 404 pages and the copyright in the lower footer section.

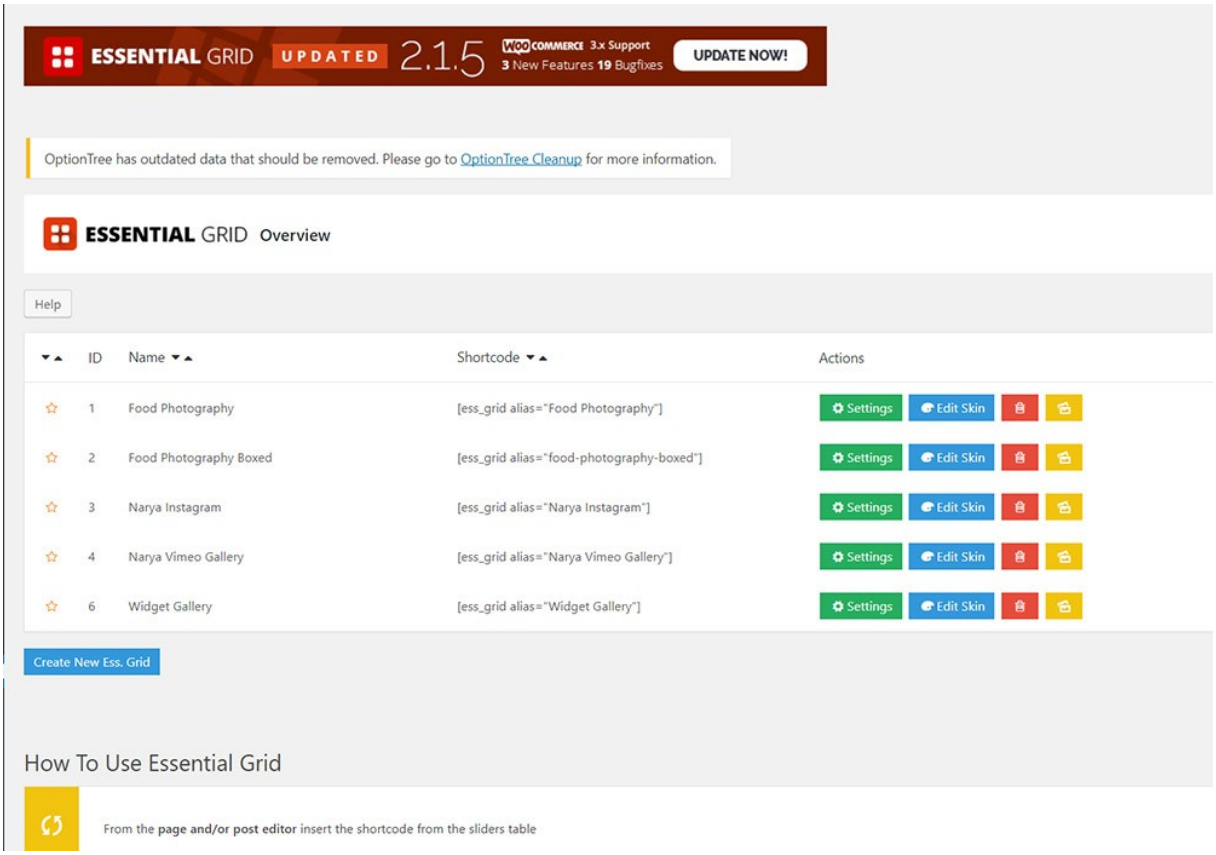
2.13. Import

Simply choose the layout you wish and Import the demo content and settings for the Theme. If auto import doesn't work for some reason please follow the instructions in the Import Tab.

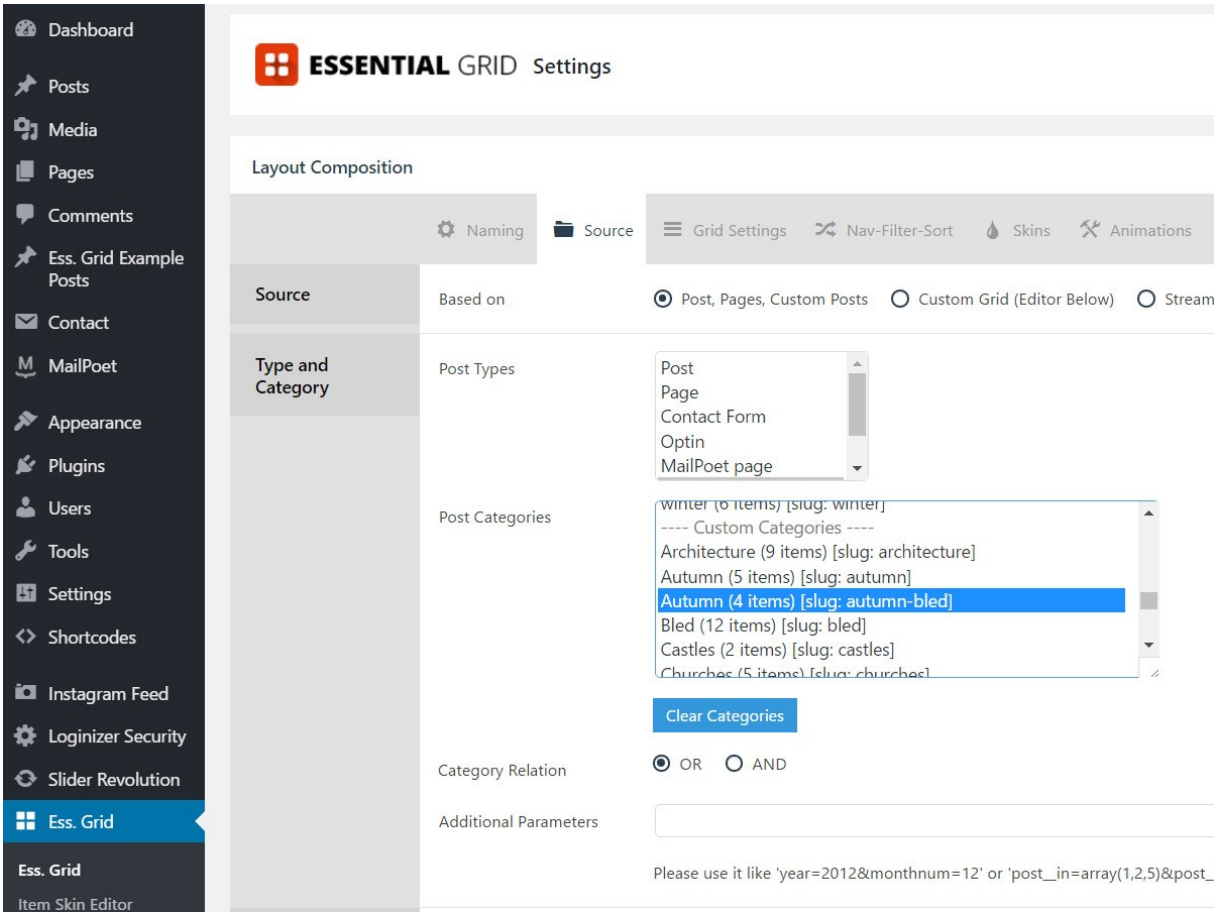
3. Galleries

Galleries are a vital part of the Theme and are implemented through the **Essential Grid plugin**. It's a premium plugin from ThemePunch and is probably number one plugin when it comes to displaying various content formats in a highly customizable grid. We used it because of its high customizability and possibility to easily implement grid galleries from your social networks. The plugin itself has **extensive documentation** and you can access it **here**.

If you imported demo content for galleries also, you can edit them in Ess. Grid tab in WordPress:



After you click on settings for each particular gallery you can then set Name and Source of the gallery. In our Theme, we used **two different kind of sources**. One is from categories and posts that you can create specifically for Galleries under **Ess. Grid Example Posts.** This is separated from normal posts so there is no confusion.

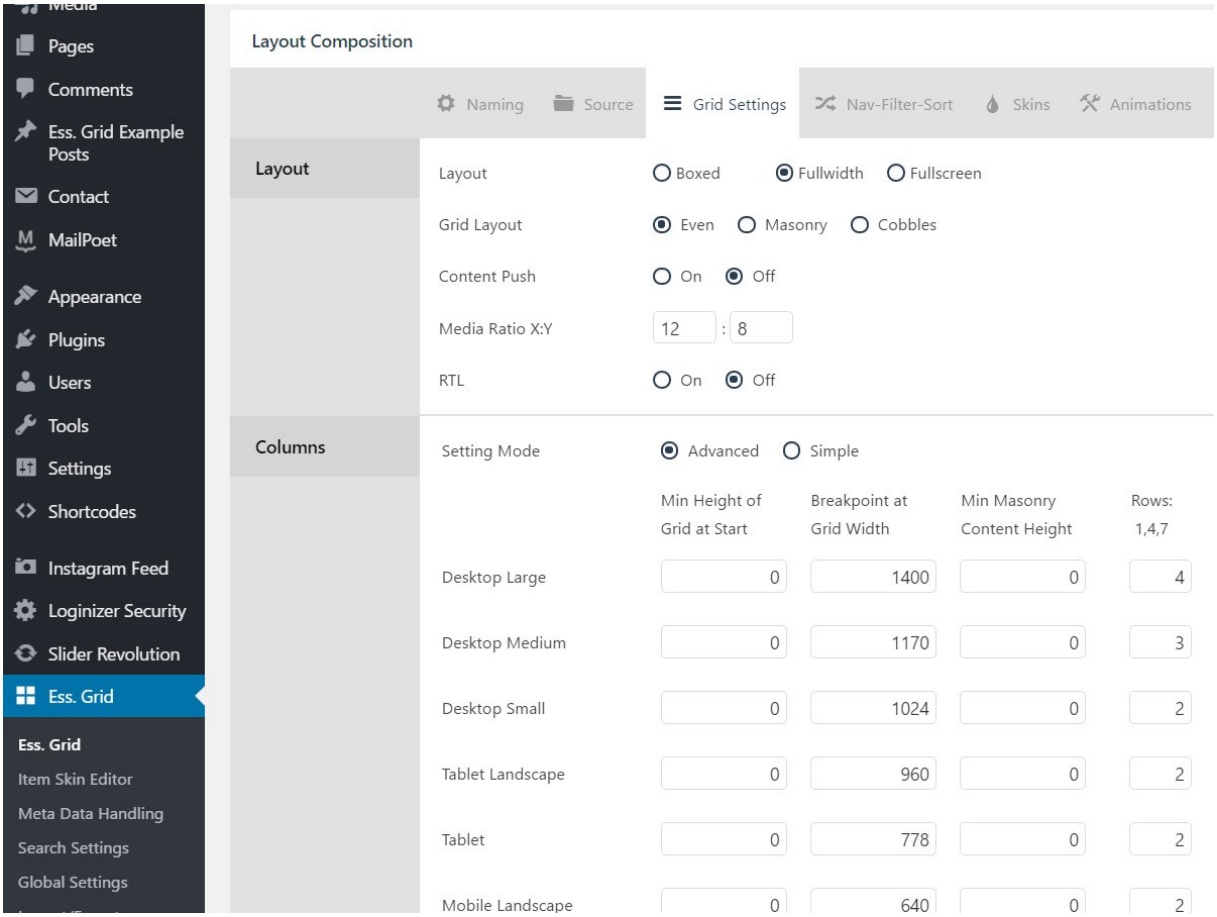


The other source that we used is **Stream.** After you select it new options will open with the possibility to add a grid from your Social network.

GRID SETTINGS

Probably the most important tab when it comes to designing your gallery. Most of the settings are intuitive so simply choose your layout, grid layout, and media ratio. Beneath under Columns are important settings for displaying your gallery on

different screen sizes. The great thing about Essential Grid is that you can have different mobile and desktop appearance for different galleries.

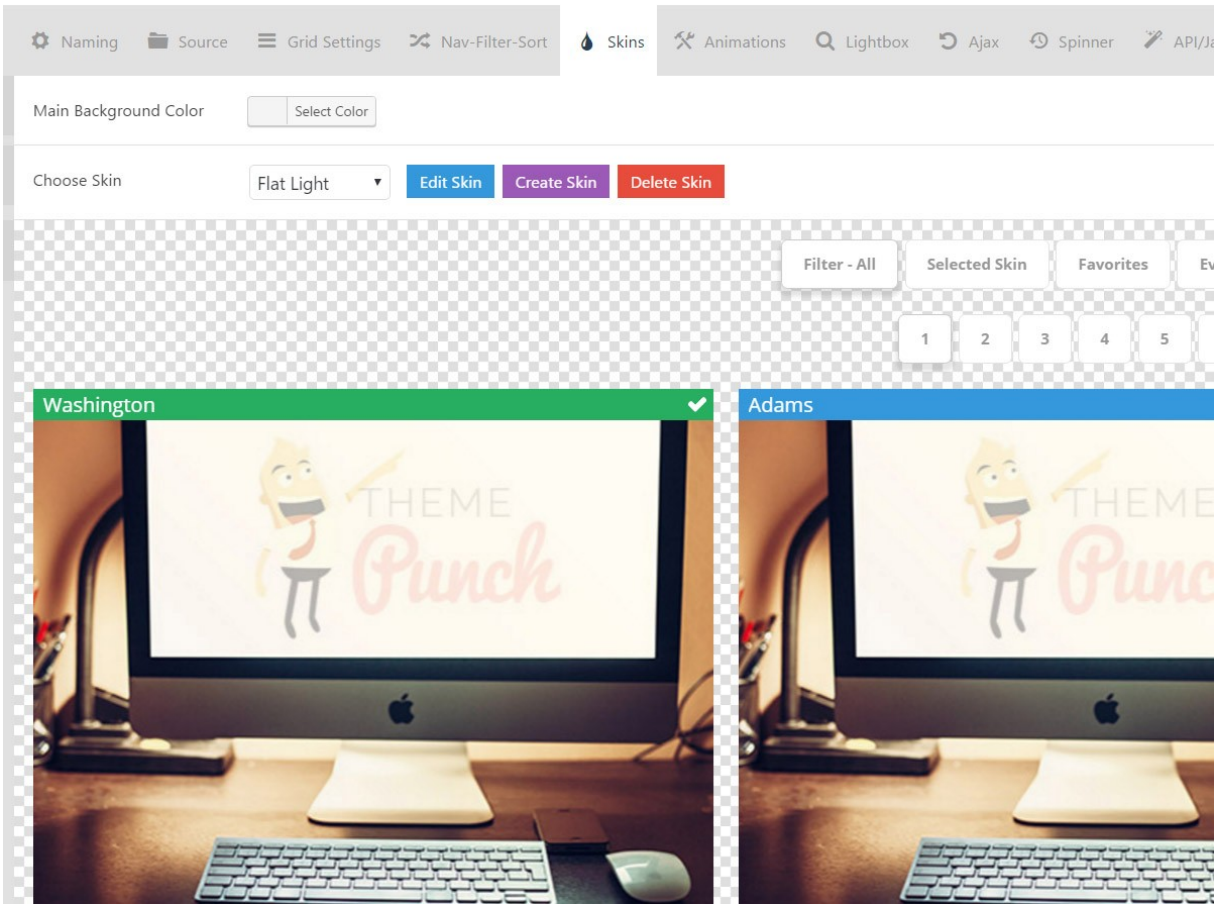


NAVIGATION FILTERS

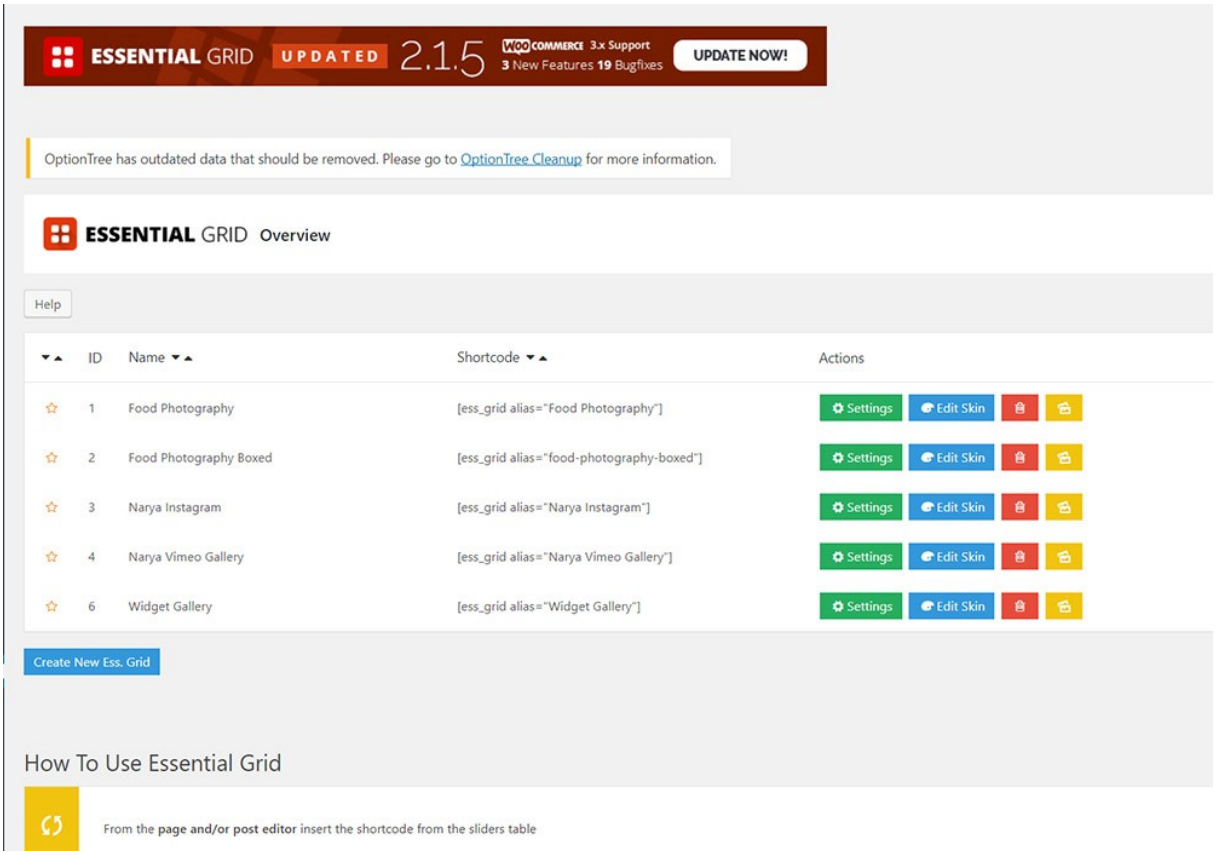
You can add several navigation filters like categories, search, forward buttons. We only used categories in our demos since we wanted to keep it clean and simple.

SKINS

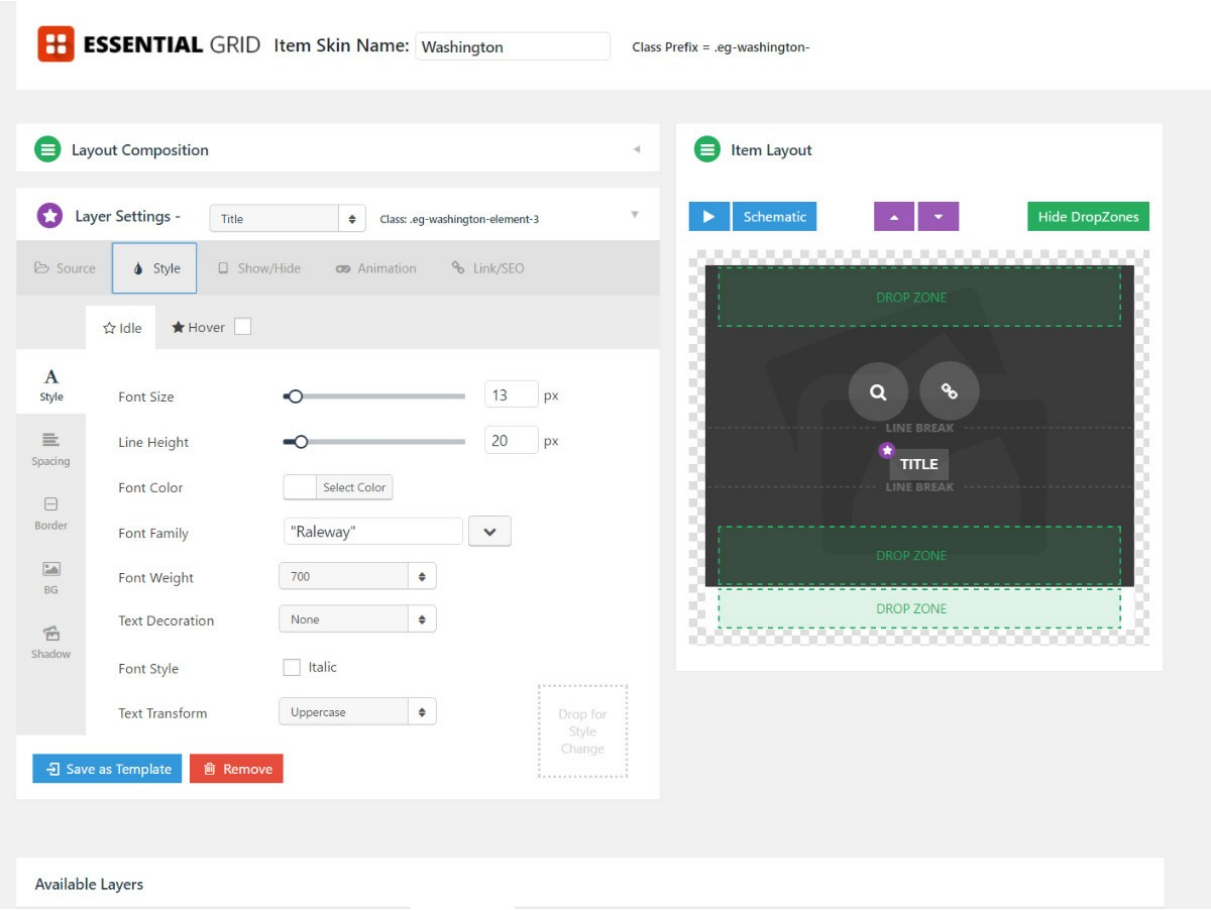
Other important settings are **skins**. This is where "the magic" happens when it comes to displaying and animation. There are almost 50 predefined skins to choose from.



If you want to make additional changes to the chosen skin, you need to first choose it and save the settings. After that go back to the first page of the Essential grid and **click on Edit Skin.**



A new window will open where you can edit everything about the skin. Settings might seem a bit complex at first, but possibilities really are endless. To begin familiarizing with the settings you can click on the **TITLE** and then **Style tab**. You can now edit Font size, color, family, weight and much more.



These are basic steps to set up your own gallery. As you will dive further and deeper into all the settings of **Essential Grid** you will see why this plugin is probably the best one for displaying your galleries in grids.

To read more about the plugin, you can check their website and for further documentation head over to their **specialized documentation and support page**.

4. Setting up the Home Page

After you decide what page do you want to use, go to **Settings > Reading** and in the Front page displays choose **"Your latest posts".** After this, you should change the **Blog pages** show at most value from 10 to 3-5 posts (for the same appearance as in our live demo). This theme works best with this setup. Hit “Save Changes” and you’re done.

Next, you should setup your **permalinks** to look pretty. Please go to Settings > Permalinks, choose the Custom Structure, and use this: /%category%/%postname%/

READ THIS about permalinks on Windows Servers!

5. Navigation and Menu Settings

The last step before you can start working with the new theme is to create your menu. Go to Appearance > Menus and you will see a panel where you can create new menus. Create one, add your created pages to it (from the left side panels) and save it. Now set the locations for the menu that you just created. The main menu will probably be set at Main Menu, Responsive Menu, and Scroll Menu.

5.1. Customizing Menu Item

The Navigation Label – this field specifies the title of the item on your custom menu. This is what your visitors will see when they visit your site/blog.

The Title Attribute – this field specifies the Alternative ('Alt') text for the menu item. This text will be displayed when a user's mouse hovers over a menu item.

- Click on the arrow in the top right-hand corner of the menu item to expand it.
- Enter the values for the Navigation Label and Title Attribute that you want to assign to the item.
- Click the Save Menu button to save your changes.

5.2. Creating Multi Level Menus

When planning the structure of your menu, it helps to think of each menu item as a heading in a formal report document. In a formal report, main section headings (Level 1 headings) are the nearest to the left of the page; sub-section headings (Level 2 headings) are indented slightly further to the right; any other subordinate headings (Level 3, 4, etc) within the same section are indented even further to the right.

The WordPress menu editor allows you to create multi-level menus using a simple 'drag and drop' interface. Drag menu items up or down to change their order of appearance in the menu. Drag menu items left or right in order to create sub-levels within your menu.

To make one menu item a subordinate of another, you need to position the 'child' underneath its 'parent' and then drag it slightly to the right.

If you need to backup your theme's options or import them later on, you can do that in this tab. Copy the code in the text field to a TXT file so you can use it later on if needed.

How to position the sub-menu item

- Position the mouse over the ‘child’ menu item.
- Whilst holding the left mouse button, drag it to the right.
- Release the mouse button.
- Repeat these steps for each sub-menu item.
- Click the Save Menu button in the Menu Editor to save your changes.

5.3. How to set up the Navigation

When going to Appearance / Menus you will see the structure of the template's navigation. You can easily edit menu labels, and move them using drag and drop. On the left column, you have the possibility to add menu items using “custom links”, “pages” or “categories”. The newly added item will appear at the bottom of the menu structure and can be moved to its desired location. Make sure to always save the menu after making changes.

The Screen Options allow you to choose which items you can use to add to a menu. Certain items, like Posts, are hidden by default.

- Locate the pane entitled **Pages.**
- Within this pane, select the View All link to bring up a list of all the currently published Pages on your site.
- Select the Pages that you want to add by clicking the checkbox next to each Page's title.
- Click the Add **to Menu button** located at the bottom of this pane to add your selection(s) to the menu that you created in the previous step.
- Click the **Save Menu** button.

5.4. Deleting Menu Item

- Locate the menu item that you want to remove in the menu editor window
- Click on the arrow icon in the top right-hand corner of the menu item/box to expand it.
- Click on the Remove link. The menu item/box will be immediately removed.
- Click the Save Menu button to save your changes.

6. Adding Content

6.1. Adding Posts

These are the default steps that you need to do in order to add a blog post:

- Go to Posts > Add New
- Enter a title and some content.
- Select a post category.
- Add some relevant tags.
- Choose a post format from the right. There are a few types of custom formats that can be used (Standard, Link, Gallery, Video, Audio).
- Setup the content of the post format(either a gallery, a link, an image, a quote, a mp3 or a video).
- Insert all of your remaining content in the content area. You can have images, paragraphs, etc..
- Write a few words excerpt(it is good for search results and SEO to have an excerpt, no matter what kind of content do you have in your post).
- Hit “Publish” and you’re all done.

Recommended size of Post's featured image is 1500 x 800.

6.2. Special Options of Posts

Below the main content of the post, you will notice a special block of options that are only relevant to Sigurd Theme. It's called Sigurd Options and it allows you to define a few special characteristics of Sigurd Posts:

- **Set fullwidth layout for this post -** if set to ON, the post will have no sidebar.
- **Use different sidebar for the single post -** you can use a different sidebar for certain posts, turn this option ON and set the widgets under Appearance - Widgets.
- **Use Revolution slider instead of the featured image -** instead of the featured image, you can put Revolution slider in its place. It brings versatility and animation to your recipes.

6.3. Adding Pages

- Go to Pages > Add New
- Enter a title and some content.
- Select a page template or leave the default(more on this just after).
- Select a layout for the page. Each page can have a custom sidebar or not.
- Write a few words excerpt(it is good for search results and SEO to have an excerpt, no matter what kind of content do you have on your page).
- Hit “Publish” and you’re all done.

6.4. Recommended image sizes

- Blog 1500 x 800
- Upper three posts - 640 x 400
- About us avatar - 320 x 320

7. Tips and Tricks

7.1. Child Theme

A WordPress child theme is a theme that inherits the functionality of another theme, called the parent theme. Child theme allows you to modify, or add to the functionality of that parent theme. Instead of modifying the theme files directly, you can create a child theme and override within.

You will find child Theme version in the package you downloaded in the directory called CHILD-THEME.

More information about Wordpress child themes can be found on Wordpress Codex.

7.2. SEO Advice

The theme is built in a way to be SEO friendly, by emphasizing titles with heading tags, having the content before anything else, stripping out useless content, fast loading, setting titles in the header for better crawling, etc.. But you have to remember that Content is King! So you shouldn't blame the theme because your website doesn't appear in search engines. You should always focus on providing good content and in this way, your website will definitely look great in search engines. Also, you should always install a popular SEO plugin which will make the most of keywords and descriptions.

We recommend using the Yoast Plugin for SEO.

7.3. Make your website run faster

7.3.1. Get a good hosting

You may not think that this is important, but if you want your site to display really fast you need to get a good hosting. This is the first step in having a fast site, which also translates into more views, which also translates into a better SEO.

Below are some hosting companies that we recommend:

- Media Temple - if you want a premium WordPress hosting which is easy to manage and works pretty well, this is a good choice to host your website on.
- 040 Hosting - this is the hosting that we use and it's top notch. Fast servers and fast & reliable support.
- WPEngine - not as cheap as the two examples above, but if you really want an incredibly fast website, WPEngine is the way to go. With it you don't have to worry about security, caching, updates, etc. Everything is handled by a great theme of professionals ready to help you with everything.

7.3.2. Optimize images

Always optimize/compress your jpeg images before uploading them to the server /your Wordpress. Large images should be compressed at around 80%-90% image quality and you should also try to limit the use of lossless image files (uncompressed png format).

7.3.3. Use a caching plugin

I can't recommend enough the necessity of a good caching. If you use a managed hosting such as WPEngine you don't need this. But if you are using ASO or MT or any other hosting you need to cache your content. For this purpose, we recommend W3 Total Cache! It's a great and easy to use plugin, and with only a bit of work, you can double your site's speed.

8. FAQ

8.1. What to do if I get error upon Theme Activation

If you receive the following error:

Parse error: syntax error, unexpected $end in .../wp-content/themes/Sigurd/admin/theme-options.php on line 1

This happens if you install the Theme via FTP and the transfer type is not set to **binary**. So set the transfer type to binary as can be seen on this link.

8.2. How to change cropping size of images

Sigurd uses several different image sizes which are listed below:

- Blog 1500 x 800
- Upper three posts - 640 x 400
- About us avatar - 300 x 300

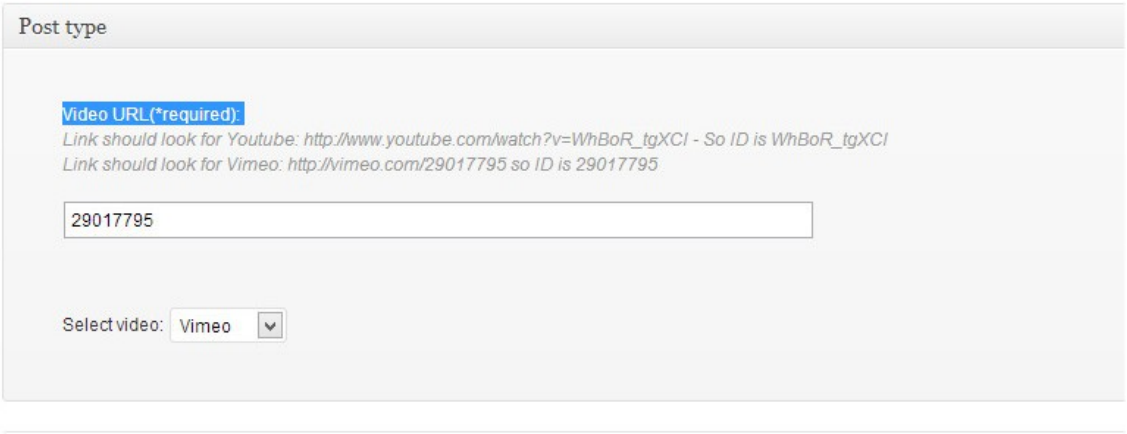
These are the general sizes used. Different sections of the Theme uses different croping. To change it, open functions.php and at the top you will notice code like:

add_image_size('blog', 1500, 800, true);

After you change the size of the image, you need to regenerate Thumbs for the changes to be visible.

8.3. How to properly set up Video Post

Video Post - Go to the post and set it to video format, then set the field just below the post text that says: Video URL(*required). Also, check the Screenshot below that is showing where you have to set the link:



8.4. Theme's settings are not saving

First try to save settings twice, that will help on some servers/cases. If it is not working then try this:

Go to your theme's directory and set CSS directory's permission to 755. Then go inside the folder and set permissions of all PHP files to 755. If it is not permissions issue and it is still not working, then drop us an email.

8.5. How to completely remove responsive mode

If you don't wish to have responsive mode and unchecking in theme's options doesn't have the desired effect, you can easily remove all the responsive features. For iPhones

and Ipads it is enough to simply remove one line from header.php. Open header.php and remove the line:

```
<meta name=”viewport” content=”width=device-width, initial-scale=1, maximum-scale=1″ />
```

or other mobile devices you need to remove all the CSS that is used for media queries. Open style.css and go almost to the end of it where the following line is:

```
@media screen and (min-width:0px) and (max-width:1180px)
```

Now delete everything that is beyond this line in style.css (including this line) up until CUSTOM CSS. Do not delete this last part, since the custom CSS box from theme’s

options is included here. The responsive part is now completely removed and your website will be seen in full on mobile devices.

8.6. The theme is missing style.css stylesheet

If you get this error message while uploading your Theme to Wordpress it means that you are uploading the whole package you downloaded. You need to uninstall the package and install the file called **Sigurd.zip**. This is the Theme.

8.7. How to update your Theme

Below is a short guide on how to update your Theme.

- First and best practice is to **make a backup**, download your current theme to your desktop via FTP. After that delete theme from WordPress.
- Go to your account, to your downloads page and download Sigurd theme
- Upload the new version of the theme **via your WordPress dashboard** or via FTP and that's it.
- Add widgets block to where you would like to have the search bar.

9. Custom Work

Please remember that WordPress themes are purchased as-is. If you want to make changes to the theme, changes that require custom editing or the addition of new features, you should hire a freelancer to help you out. I suggest using Elto, which is a marketplace specialized in tweaking theme.

Thank you for purchasing Sigurd

If you have questions that are not answered in this guide, please go to the support system, where your questions will be answered:

https://premiumcoding.com/support/