

Colonial WordPress Theme: Initial Setup

Initial setup of the Colonial WordPress theme is very easy. Assuming you have already uploaded and activated your theme, you are only a few simple steps away from using your new Theme.

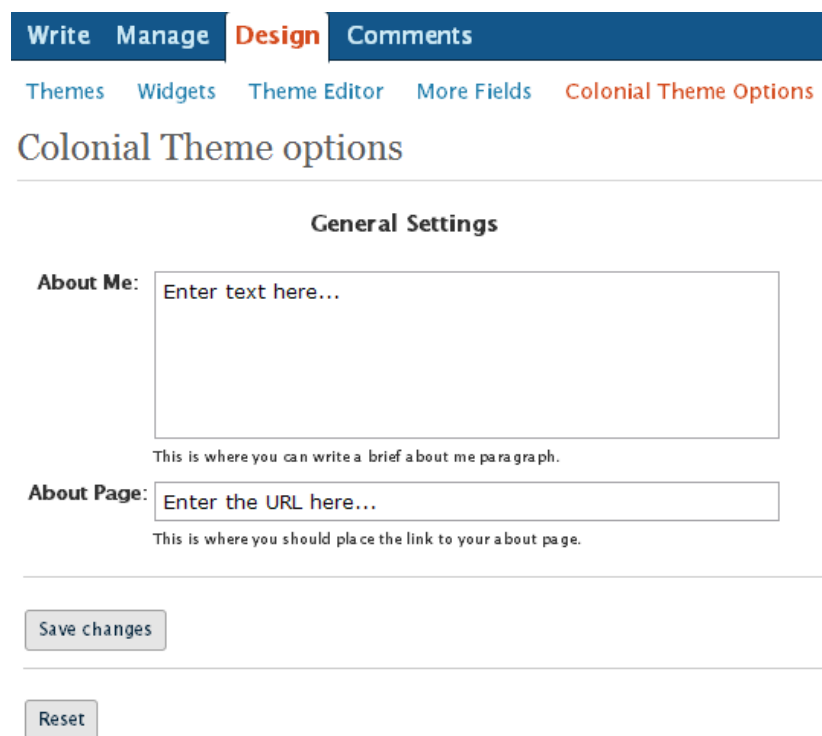
1. Install Plugins

In the main theme folder, you'll find a sub folder called "plugins". In this folder, you will find two plugins: wp-gbcf and limit-post.php.

You will need to upload both the wp-gbcf folder and the limit-post.php file to your WordPress /wp-content/plugins/ directory using your favorite FTP program. Then log into your WordPress Admin, and click on the plugins in the far right of the header.

Find the "Limit Posts" plugin and activate it. Then find the "Secure and Accessible PHP Contact Form" plugin and activate it.

2. Setting the theme Options




The screenshot shows the WordPress Admin interface. At the top is a navigation bar with tabs: "Write", "Manage", "Design" (highlighted in orange), and "Comments". Below this is a sub-menu bar with links: "Themes", "Widgets", "Theme Editor", "More Fields", and "Colonial Theme Options" (highlighted in orange). The main heading is "Colonial Theme options". Below this is a section titled "General Settings". It contains two form fields: "About Me:" with a text area containing the placeholder "Enter text here..." and a description "This is where you can write a brief about me paragraph.", and "About Page:" with a text input field containing the placeholder "Enter the URL here..." and a description "This is where you should place the link to your about page.". At the bottom of the form are two buttons: "Save changes" and "Reset".

Log into your WordPress Admin, if you haven't already done so, and click "Design", then "Colonial Theme Options". Here you will find the ability to enter a short description of you or your company, along with the URL for your about page, normally something like <http://example.com/about/>

3. Setting Up the Categories

The key to using this theme is to understand that categories will separate your content. If you want a blog, then you need to set up a blog category. If you will be publishing property listings, then you'll need to set up a property category. (We highly recommend that you use these categories as specified).

Add Category

Category Name	<input type="text" value="Blog"/>
The name is used to identify the category almost everywhere, for example under the post or in the category widget.	
Category Slug	<input type="text" value="blog"/>
The 'slug' is the URL-friendly version of the name. It is usually all lowercase and contains only letters, numbers, and hyphens.	
Category Parent	<input type="text" value="None"/> 
Categories, unlike tags, can have a hierarchy. You might have a Jazz category, and under that have children categories for Bebop and Big Band. Totally optional.	
Description	<div>This is the category that my blog posts will be filed under... </div>
The description is not prominent by default, however some themes may show it.	

Add Category

In order to set up your categories, you'll need to navigate to Manage > Categories then scroll down until you see the section in the image above. You'll want to create two categories: "Blog" and "Properties". Be sure to set the "Category Slug" to the lowercase equivalent of the "Category Name".

Once you have these set up, you're set to start posting Properties and Blog posts!

4. Setting the About Image

More than likely, you are going to want to change the image in the about section on the homepage to a picture of you, or perhaps your team or logo. Whichever it is, here is how you do it...

Open your favorite image editing program and pull up the image you would like to use in the About section. You are going to want to crop or resize this image down to the following dimensions: 100x160 pixels (that's 100px wide by 160px tall). Save the image as about.jpg.

Then, all that's left to do is upload your new about image to your server. You'll want to use your favorite FTP program and navigate to the /wp-content/themes/colonial-10/images/ folder, and overwrite the old about.jpg image with your new one. Once it has been replaced, you should now see your new about.jpg image used on the homepage.

5. Start Using Your Theme!!!

You're now ready to start writing pages, and publishing blog posts and property listings!