

Build a WordPress Theme Classroom



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The Loop

- ✓ It the main structure of WordPress
- ✓ It's extremely powerful
- ✓ Allows developers to creatively display data

Overview

- ✓ The loop is simply a block of code that displays all of the information that WordPress has about a post or page.
- ✓ Three crucial parts:
 - ✓ Start the Loop
 - ✓ Do something with each post / page
 - ✓ Close the loop

Overview

- ✓ The loop by default will retrieve everything that it can possible find, so we need one more piece: the query
- ✓ Now Four crucial parts:
 - ✓ Define what we are looking for
 - ✓ Start the Loop
 - ✓ Do something with each post / page
 - ✓ Close the loop



One Last Piece : While

- ✓ The while function is commonly used to loop through a database query and dynamically display database information
- ✓ Think of the while function as a librarian that retrieves everything from a database, one line at a time

Layman's Model

Query

```
<?php
query_posts( 'tag=podcast' );
if ( have_posts() ) : while ( have_posts() ) : the_post(); ?>
// DO SOMETHING WITH EACH POST THAT WE FOUND

<?php endwhile; else: ?>
// DO SOMETHING IF NOTHING WAS FOUND
<?php endif; ?>
```

Start
Loop

Do Something

End
Loop



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Layman's Model

Query

```
Look for all posts that are tagged Podcast( 'tag=podcast' );  
  
if ( THERE ARE POSTS ) {  
    while ( THERE ARE POSTS ) : GET THE NEXT POST {  
        // DO SOMETHING WITH EACH POST THAT WE FOUND  
  
    } endwhile  
    else{  
        // DO SOMETHING IF NOTHING WAS FOUND  
    }  
}endif;
```

Start
Loop

Do Something

End
Loop



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Where Does the Loop Reside?

✓ Generally it can be found in any theme file:

✓ archive.php }
✓ index.php } Loop will display lists of posts
✓ search.php }

✓ page.php }
✓ single.php } Loop will display full post content
✓ custom.php }



Example of the Loop

Using WordPress Default (kubrick) as an example



Displaying the Content

- ✓ To display content, we have to be inside the while loop
- ✓ Download the Quick Reference Guide to see popular WP commands

Useful Commands

- ✓ `the_permalink();`
- ✓ `the_title();`
- ✓ `the_excerpt();`
- ✓ `the_content();`
- ✓ `the_category();`

Display a Hyperlinked Title

✓ In HTML it would look like:

```
<a href = "Link_2_Page.html" ><h3>My Title Here</h3> </a>
```

✓ In WordPress / PHP it looks like:

```
<a href = "<?php the_permalink();?>" ><h3> <?php the_title();?> </h3> </a>
```


Manipulating the Loop

- ✓ We need to manipulate the loop to display the proper content
- ✓ Three ways to do this:
 - ✓ Add a query
 - ✓ Define a variable that creates a new query
 - ✓ Nesting loop

query_posts()

- ✓ Before the while statement you add a query_posts() function

```
<?php query_posts('category_name=baseball&posts_per_page=10'); ?>  
<?php while (have_posts()) : the_post(); ?>
```


New Variable

- ✓ Define a variable that creates a new query for the database and essentially a new loop

```
$my_query = new WP_Query('category_name=baseball&posts_per_page=10');  
while ($my_query->have_posts()) : $my_query->the_post();  
    //code  
endwhile;
```

- ✓ This can be helpful if you want to add a second loop to your page

Nesting

- ✓ Nesting is basically a loop within a loop
- ✓ Looks very much like the previous example

```
$my_query = new WP_Query('category_name=baseball&posts_per_page=10');  
while ($my_query->have_posts()) : $my_query->the_post();  
    //code  
endwhile;  
wp_reset_postdata();
```


Nesting Example

```
<div class= "left-column">  
  $my_query = new WP_Query('category_name=baseball&posts_per_page=10');  
  while ($my_query->have_posts()) : $my_query->the_post();  
    //code  
  endwhile;  
  wp_reset_postdata();  
</div>
```

```
<div class= "right-column">  
  if ( have_posts() ) : while ( have_posts() ) :  
    // DO SOMETHING WITH EACH POST  
  <?php endwhile; else: ?>  
    // DO SOMETHING IF NOTHING WAS FOUND  
  <?php endif; ?>  
</div>
```

Pro Educators



Jeremy McCarthy Director, Global Spa Development and Operations at Starwood Hotels and Resorts



Ella Stimpson Executive Director of Salon and Spa Operations at Encore at Wynn Las Vegas, ISPA Chairwoman



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Create Theme Templates



Convert from HTML to WordPress

- ✓ In this lesson, I am going to share how to take a static website and turn it into a WordPress theme
- ✓ This will simulate building a site from scratch

How WordPress Works

- ✓ WordPress relies on PHP to call different parts of your site from a database
- ✓ When building a theme you will be substituting PHP for different parts of your code
- ✓ This makes editing much easier in the long run



Bare Minimums

- ✓ WordPress only needs two files to work:
 - ✓ style.css
 - ✓ index.php
- ✓ Create a folder and put these blank two documents in them

style.css

```
/*  
Theme Name: Insert Name Here.  
Theme URI: Your Theme's URI (Optional).  
Description: Brief description of the website.  
Version: 1.0  
Author: Your Name Here.  
Author URI: Your Website Address.  
*/
```

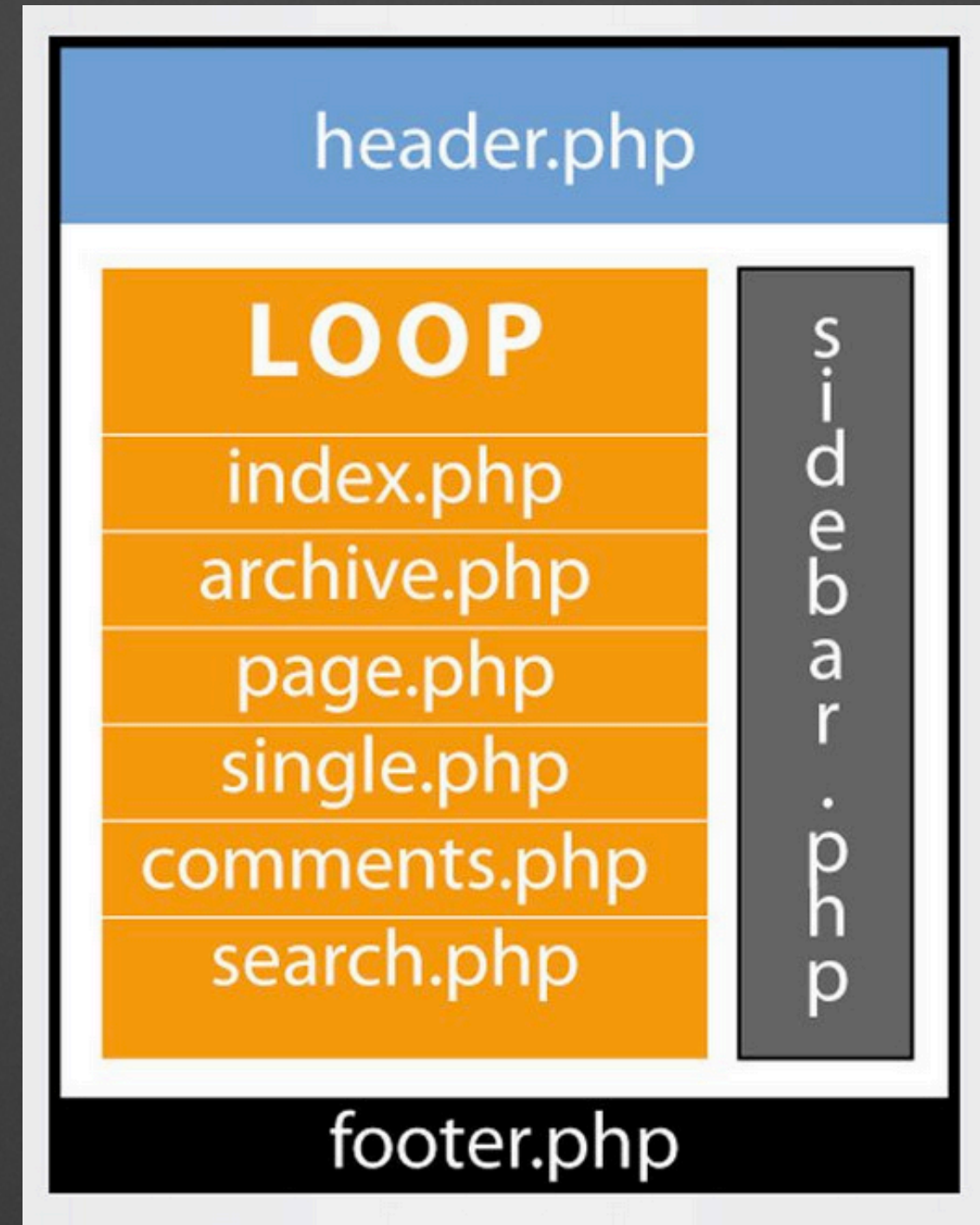


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Slice and Dice

- ✓ Take your index.html content and paste it into index.php
- ✓ Now, let's chop some more

Template Breakdown



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Three New Files

- ✓ header.php
- ✓ sidebar.php
- ✓ footer.php

header.php

- ✓ Take all of the content from the main menu above and paste into header.php

footer.php

- ✓ Take all of the content from below the main content and paste into footer.php

sidebar.php

- ✓ Take all of the content that makes up the sidebar and paste into sidebar.php

index.php

✓ Now we need to put it back together!

✓ New first line for index.php

```
<?php get_header(); ?>
```

✓ New last lines for index.php

```
<?php get_sidebar(); ?>  
<?php get_footer(); ?>
```



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Add the loop

```
<?php  
if ( have_posts() ) : while ( have_posts() ) : the_post(); ?>  
// DO SOMETHING WITH EACH POST THAT WE FOUND  
  
<?php endwhile; else: ?>  
// DO SOMETHING IF NOTHING WAS FOUND  
<?php endif; ?>
```



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Add a screenshot

Current Theme
Default

By [Michael Heilemann](#) | Version 1.7.2

The default WordPress theme that graced version 1.5 to version 2.9, based on the famous [Kubrick](#).

[Customize](#) OPTIONS: [Widgets](#) | [Menus](#) | [Custom Header](#)



The WRC Theme Viewer
Choosing a theme has never been so easy.

Welcome to the WordPress Theme Viewer
May 21st, 2005

Welcome to the WordPress Theme Viewer.
After a short time offline due to some server issues, we are now back and have a new address and new server. Thanks to Matt!

The basic aim of this site is to give users the opportunity to try out the hundreds of themes available and give them a quick test-run.
That's it. Simple really.

If you have any problems, find new themes which are not listed, or simply want to make a suggestion, please get in touch with Shadow at shadow12 at gmail dot com.

Have fun!
As at June 1st, 2005 - 250 Themes on display!

Posted in [Uncategorized](#) | [00 Comments](#) »

Pages
• An example of a page
• Another page with text as much writing...

Archives
• May 2005
• April 2005
• May 2004

Categories
• Text Category 1 (1)
• Text Category 2 (1)
• Text Category 3 (1)
• Uncategorized (1)

Blogroll
• WordPress Reference Centre
• PunditMan
• Contributors

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Add Screenshot

- ✓ Add screenshot.png to root directory

functions.php

- ✓ One way to change the default behaviors of WordPress is to add a functions.php
- ✓ Behaves much like a plugin, but can have numerous blocks of code used for different purposes.

Add Menu Functionality

- ✓ You have to enable the drag and drop menus
- ✓ Add this line of code in your functions.php file

```
function register_custom_menu() {  
    register_nav_menu('custom_menu', __('Custom Menu'));  
}  
add_action('init', 'register_custom_menu');
```



Add Menu to Theme

- ✓ Once you've enabled the feature, you have to add it to your theme
- ✓ Find in your header.php where the menu is located

```
<?php wp_nav_menu( array( 'sort_column' => 'menu_order',  
'container_class' => 'menu-header' ) ); ?>
```

- ✓ This will take some massaging to get your menus to look right:
http://codex.wordpress.org/Function_Reference/wp_nav_menu

Widget Areas

- ✓ Widgets are what make WordPress, well WordPress
- ✓ Easy for site owners to change
- ✓ Content in sidebar and footers normally are controlled by widgets

Enable Widgets

```
if ( function_exists('register_sidebar') )
    register_sidebar( array(
        'name' => __( 'Footer Widget 1' ),
        'id' => 'Footer_1',
        'description' => __( 'Footer 1 widget area', 'twentyeleven' ),
        'before_widget' => '<aside id="%1$s" class="widget %2$s">',
        'after_widget' => "</aside>",
        'before_title' => '<h3 class="widget-title">',
        'after_title' => '</h3>',
    ) );
```



Add to Theme

```
// Custom widget Area Start  
if ( !function_exists('dynamic_sidebar') || !dynamic_sidebar('Footer Area 1') ) : ?>  
<?php endif;  
// Custom widget Area End
```


Extra Template Files

- ✓ page.php
- ✓ single.php
- ✓ archive.php
- ✓ 404.php
- ✓ comments.php

Live Demo



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