

Welcome to Your Opulus Theme!

If you downloaded the Lite Version of the Opulus Theme and would like to get all the extended features of the full theme, as outlined in the chart below, sign up to be a Nimbus Member at www.nimbusthemes.com!

FEATURES	Free	Membership
Access to download ALL Nimbus WordPress Themes		✓
Unlimited support		✓
Customizable front page	✓	✓
Frontpage slideshows		✓
Portfolio post type		✓
Alternate portfolio layouts		✓
Shortcodes		✓
Widgets		✓
Design customization	✓	✓
Typography customization	✓	✓
Social media integration	✓	✓
Comprehensive SEO options		✓
Loads demo content	✓	✓

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

Steps for Setting Up Your Nimbus Theme

View a live demo of how the site will look once you set it up at: <http://demo.nimbusthemes.com/opulus/>

- 1) **Sign up for web hosting** if your site is not already being hosted somewhere. We recommend [Bluehost](#)—it is inexpensive and has great 24/7 customer service. Read the Bluehost documentation more information on how to get started using Bluehost.
- 2) If it's not already installed, **install WordPress** through your server's control panel using a quick-install application like Simple Scripts, or by installing manually by following the directions provided at [http://codex.wordpress.org/Installing WordPress](http://codex.wordpress.org/Installing_WordPress).
- 3) Log in to your **Nimbus account**.
- 4) Go to **Download Themes** on the left menu.
- 5) Download your theme to a location on your desktop that you can easily find.
- 6) Log in to the **WordPress dashboard** on your website (www.yourwebsite.com/wp-admin).
- 7) Navigate to **Appearance >> Themes** in the left menu.
- 8) Deactivate any old versions or "Lite" versions of the theme you are going to install/update. This will move previous versions of the theme to the **Available Themes** section of the page, where you can choose to delete them to prevent confusion.
- 9) Select the **Install** tab at the top of the page.
- 10) Select **Upload** from the options at the top of the **Install** page.
- 11) Click **Choose File** and select the downloaded theme from your desktop.
- 12) Once the theme is installed, select the **Activate** option under the theme heading on the **Manage Themes** (aka **Appearance >> Themes**) page.

Now you can get started customizing your theme!

Getting Started With Your Nimbus Theme

In your WordPress dashboard:

From the left menu, go to **Settings >> Permalinks** and choose **Post Name** (or chosen structure—post name is best for SEO).

From **Pages**, select **Add New** and create a **Home** page. Click **Publish**.

Select **Pages >> Add New** and create a page where your blog feed is going to go. You can call it **Blog**, News, Updates, or whatever you'd like. Select **Publish**. Then from the left menu go to **Settings >> Reading** and under **Front page displays** select **A static page**. Then select **Home** (or the name of your home page) for the **Front Page** and **Blog** (or the name of your blog feed page) for the **Posts page**. Click **Save Changes**.

From the left menu, go to **Appearance >> Menus** to create your navigation menu. In the **Menu Name**, call it whatever you want (Main Menu for example). Then add it to the **Primary Menu** in the **Theme Locations** window. Then add it to the **Mobile Menu** as well so that it shows up on smartphones, iPhones, and other mobile devices. If you would like a shortened version of the menu for mobile users, create a new menu by clicking the **+** tab at the top of the page, add the desired pages, save the menu, then add it to the **Mobile Menu** in the **Theme Locations** window. Click **Save**.

Next, add the pages you want on your site (including subpages). Go to **Pages >> Add New** and enter the title of your page in the *Enter title here* field. Hit the **Publish** button. Select **Pages >> Add New** and add the rest of your pages, making sure to **Publish** each one.

If you are new to WordPress and would like to acclimate yourself to the content management system, check out <http://codex.wordpress.org/> for all WordPress-related questions and help. The general info and support forums are awesome.

Go back to **Appearance >> Menus** and select all the pages you want to appear in the navigation (including subpages) from the **Pages** box on the left. Click **Add to Menu**, then organize the menu according to the order you want the pages to appear by clicking and dragging on each object (top will be the left-most menu item, bottom will be the right). For subpages, click and drag to the right under the parent page and an indented box will appear, indicating placement for the subpage. Make sure to click **Save** when finished.

Now that you have the bones of the site, it's time to get started putting in your content!

Customizing Your Site with the Nimbus Control Panel

To really start having fun and begin customizing your site, go to **Appearance >> Opulus Theme Options**, which will take you to our proprietary Nimbus Panel, where you can customize anything and everything about your site. The navigation nested in the left side of the Nimbus panel will walk you through all the options.

To preview how your site will look, select "Visit site" in a new tab from the top-most gray menu (it will be under your "My Site" tab). It's good to keep this window open in a new tab so you can switch back and forth to view your work.

General Settings Page

1) Logo: If you have a logo, enter it here. The dimensions of the logo image you upload will be the dimension you see on your website, so make sure it's the size you want. In order for the header to look the same as the demo site header, the logo should be *no taller than 77 pixels*. There is a 5px margin on the top and bottom of the logo so it won't butt up against the edges, but make sure to leave some open space in your logo as well for proper spacing.

Select **Browse** and go find the file on your computer. After it's uploaded, select **Insert into Post** and this will auto-populate the **Logo** field with the new URL of the uploaded logo file. Make sure to select **Save**.

Always make sure to Save changes when you're finished customizing your theme from the Nimbus Panel in the Opulus Theme Options section, otherwise your changes will be lost. If you select Reset, ALL your changes in the entire Nimbus Panel will be reset to the original default settings.

To erase the logo, **clear the field** and **Save**. *If you select **Reset**, ALL your changes in the entire Nimbus Panel will be reset to the original default settings.*

2) Logo Text: If you don't have a logo, you can use our preset Google fonts to create a quick logo. Just type in the text you want for the logo in this space. You can style the text on the typography tab later on.

3) Favicon: *Available to Nimbus Members* A favicon is the icon that is displayed in the address bar of every browser. You can customize your favicon to match your site's branding by creating a favicon of your own—either in Photoshop or [GIMP](#) if you're familiar with the process, or by using one of the many favicon generators online. Once you have your **favicon.ico** file (it must be named that), select **Browse** and drop it in the upload box.

4) Default Gravatars: The default avatar is the image that appears in the comments section of the blog if a commentator doesn't have a personal avatar through Gravatar. The theme already has a default avatar but if you'd like to put one of your own in, this is where you do it. The avatar image can be any size as long as it's a square; it will be resized automatically to fit the 75x75px default commentator image. Once you've uploaded the avatar, select **Save** and then go

to **Settings >> Discussion** and scroll down to **Avatars**, select the new default avatar and **Save Changes**.

5) Copyright Text: The copyright text will show up in the footer. Just put your site/company name and year in place of the default "Opulus Theme" text.

Contact Info

Simply enter in your contact info and it will be displayed in appropriate spots on the website (header, footer, contact page, etc).

Frontpage

This is where you can customize all the elements of the front page.

1) Banner Options: You have the option of creating a variety of layouts for the banner area on your home page. More information on slideshows and banner content on the next page. Images being used for the frontpage banner area should be 1170px in width to maintain high-quality resolution. Here's a breakdown of the options:

- **Banner Content, Static Image, No Border:** Banner content is located on the left. Static image is aligned top-right with no border. This is the setting we've used for the Opulus Demo frontpage. You can use this no-border image to place a PNG (or JPG w/the same background color as the header) onto the frontpage.
- **Banner Content, Static Image with Border:** Banner content is located on the left. Static image is aligned top-right with a border.
- **Full Width Static Image With Border**
- **Full Width Static Image, No Border:** This is where you can put full-width transparencies or images with the same background color as the rest of the banner area.
- **Full Width Slideshow:** *Available to Nimbus Members* Full sized slideshow spans across the entire banner area.
- **Banner Content with Slideshow:** *Available to Nimbus Members* Banner content is located on the left. Slideshow on the right side.
- **Full Width Banner Content:** Banner content spans full width, no image.

2) Action Text: The action text is displayed in the gradient box just below the large banner area on the frontpage.

3) Display Featured Pages: The three images you see below the action text are the featured pages. Select **Show Featured** to display the three featured pages. You can choose which pages you want displayed in options 4-6 of the **Frontpage** settings in the Nimbus Panel

4) Left Feature Column: From the dropdown, select the page you want displayed in the left feature column. The image will be the feature image associated with that page.

5) Center Feature Column: From the dropdown, select the page you want displayed in the center feature column. The image will be the feature image associated with that page.

6) Right Feature Column: From the dropdown, select the page you want displayed in the right feature column. The image will be the feature image associated with that page.

7) Display Content Position: The content from the **Home** page will be displayed if you choose to activate this option (this is the content being pulled from the top text-editor box on the page, NOT from the Nimbus Frontpage Banner Panel box). Choose where you want it displayed on the frontpage, whether **Above Featured Pages**, **Below Featured Pages**, or choose **Don't Display Content**.

8) Display Blog Feed Row: Will display a small blog feed on the frontpage if you choose **Show Blog Row**.

9) Frontpage Blog Feed Title: If you've chosen to display the blog feed on the frontpage, enter the title you would like to have displayed above the blog feed here.

Make sure to save changes as you go.

Slideshow

There are a lot of options in the slideshow. If you don't want to mess with them, don't worry about it, we've got awesome defaults in place. Know that you can come back to it at any point.

The options in the slideshow are pretty straightforward, so play around with them to see what kind of variety you have.

Here is one option you might want to be aware of:

12) Caption Opacity: changes the percentage of black in the caption background—a number closer to 1 will give you a rich black, while a number like 0.5 will give you half black and half of the slideshow image colors.

A little about featured images, slideshows, and banner content...

Featured Image

A featured image is a special image attached to a post or page that is used to represent that particular page in other areas of the site, for example on the home page or on the main portfolio page. To insert a featured image into a post or page, go to that post/page, scroll down and on the right side you'll see a **Featured Image Box**. Click **Set Featured Image** and select the image you want to attach. The lightbox will show the image details once the image is uploaded; scroll down and select **Use as Featured Image** to the right of the **Insert into Post** button. You can then close out of the lightbox by clicking the **X** in the top right corner. Now you have an image attached to that page/post and it will be resized to fit all the various places it may be used on the site (blog thumbnails, single post images, portfolio images, slideshow, etc.) Just make sure the image size is at least 1170px wide if you're going to set it as a full-width banner image on the frontpage to maintain clarity.

To change or remove the featured image, click **Remove featured image**.

****Note that the Featured Image on the home page will show up ONLY for the static content options in the Banner Options section of the Nimbus Panel (#1 on the Frontpage tab). All images associated with a page that have Include Image in Slideshow selected will appear in the slideshow.**

How to Make a Featured Image Appear in the Slideshow

After uploading an image from the **Featured Image** box in a post/page, scroll up to see the **Nimbus Featured Image Options** box on the right above the **Publish** box. Select **Include Image in Slideshow**, and if you'd like a caption to show up at the bottom of the slideshow image, enter a caption. The slideshow image will automatically link to that particular post/page. If you'd like the image to show up at the top of that specific post/page, also click the **Include Image at the Top of the Page** option.

Frontpage Banner Content

The **Nimbus Frontpage Banner Panel** is located on the **Home** page under the **SEO Panel**. This is where you will enter content that will show up in the **banner** area of the home page (on the left side) if you choose a layout that includes text content. You can style the content using shortcodes for large, colorful text and buttons using either the visual or HTML

editor, or style it yourself in HTML if you're a pro!

Frontpage Widget

The gray newsletter box on the demo frontpage is a widget. You can put whatever you want in that spot. We've used the **Opulus Box Widget** and entered newsletter form information. To access the widget, go to **Appearance >> Widgets** and locate the Frontpage Right widget title on the right of the page. Click the arrow down and drag the **Opulus Box Widget** from the **Available Widgets** box into the **Frontpage Right** box (you'll see dotted lines when you get close). Customize the widget by clicking the arrow down and enter in the appropriate content. You can change the background color and border color by entering in a different hexadecimal color for each. Make sure to **Save Changes** when you're done.

[Back to the Nimbus Panel...](#)

Blog

1) Title of Blog: You can change the name so that it displays differently in the header section of the Blog pages. Note that if you want to change the name of the Blog as it appears in the navigation, you can rename it in the **Menus** editor under **Appearance**—just click the arrow down next to the page you want to rename and enter in the new name under **Navigation Label**.

2) Number of Posts on the Blog: You can change the default number of posts visible on the Blog, Archives, Tags, and other Blog-related pages. If you would like pagination instead of Older/Newer at the bottom of these pages, install the WP-PageNavi plugin (see the end of the document for references).

3) Display Meta Information on Posts: The information you select will be displayed on single post pages. If you are not going to use tags, deselect it. Same with categories, authors, etc.

4) Display Meta Information on Blog and Archive: The selected information goes on the **Blog** main page and **Archive** pages.

5) Display Comments: If you would like comments to be enabled, select **Display comments** (this is default).

6) Display Author Bio: The author bio will be displayed at the bottom of the post. This information is coming from the **Profile** page located under **Users >> Your Profile**.

Portfolio

Choose which layout you'd like to use for the portfolio from this page. First, name your portfolio. Then choose the desired layout. You can choose from the following layouts:

- **Two Column with Excerpt:** *Available to Nimbus Members* This will give you two thumbnail images per row, with a short description and the sidebar.
- **Three Column with Excerpt:** *Available to Nimbus Members* Three thumbnail images per row, with description, no sidebar.
- **Two Column without Excerpts:** *Available to Nimbus Members* Two thumbnail images per row, no description, with sidebar.
- **Three Column without Excerpts:** *Available to Nimbus Members* Three thumbnail images per row, no description, no sidebar.
- **Large Images and Full Page Width:** Large images, no sidebar, with description.

Design

You can change the color of every element of the layout on this panel. Click the **Color Picker Box** to the left of the **hexadecimal color code** (ex: #ffffff) and you can choose what color you want for that particular layout component of the site.

Note that you will most likely want to make font color changes in the **Typography** section if you change the background colors in the **Design** section of the control panel, especially if you create a dark background.

Typography

1) Body Settings: The **Body** font is the default font that will show up in most instances on your website. If you want your type to be legible, keep the majority of the default settings as they are. You can play around with the Font Face, Size, Line Height, and Color, but the others should probably stay as they are.

- **Font Face:** These are all the font options you have for the body text. We've included our favorite and the most popular Google Fonts as well. If you want to know what a font looks like, search for the font online. Note that the body text is the text that will be displayed in small, paragraph format, so you want to pick a very readable font (not a display font that should be used only as a **Header** font)
- **Font Size:** The typical size for a **Body** font ranges between 10 and 14 pixels depending on the font. Bottom line, it should be readable.
- **Line Height:** This is the space in between the lines. 1 em is equal to whatever the font size is that you've chosen. Generally, 1.4-1.6 is a good line height. If in doubt, keep the default and then play around with it to see the difference.
- **Font Style:** **Normal** would be good for a body font, but you can also choose bold, italic, or bold italic.
- **Font Case:** This allows you to choose to capitalize every letter, or make every letter lowercase. For a body font, this should remain in the **Normal** setting.
- **Font Color:** Use the **Color Picker Tool** to the left of the **hexadecimal color code** (ex: #535353) to choose a new body font color.

2) Link Color: This is the color all your links will be in.

3) Link Hover Color: This is the color your links will be when you hover over them.

4) Default Logo Typography: Allows you to change the typeface of your logo if you are using text instead of an image. Also allows you to change all other attributes we described in the **Body Settings** section above.

5) Navigation Font: Allows you to choose the font settings for the main and drop-down navigation.

6) Action Text Settings: This is the font preferences for the action text on the frontpage, located underneath the main banner area.

7-12) H1 Settings: An H1 tag is a heading, which is simply a title. H1 is typically the largest heading, H2 the next largest, and so on. To test out what the default headings look like, go to <http://demo.nimbusthemes.com/opulus/features/basic-elements/> to see all our features in action.

13) Blockquote Settings: The blockquote is a way to highlight a piece of text so it's separated from the rest of the paragraphs. Go to <http://demo.nimbusthemes.com/opulus/features/basic-elements/> to see what the default blockquote looks like (there's also a more stylized blockquote).

14) Code/Pre Settings: Code/Pre is used for working with pieces of HTML code.

15) Sidebar Titles: These appear at the top of the sidebar.

16) Footer titles: The default font settings that will be used for footer titles

17) Copyright Text: The default font settings for the copyright text at the bottom of every page.

Social Media

We've equipped all our themes with incredibly flexible social media capabilities: just enter in your information one time and it will be displayed in all relevant parts of your theme.

To enter your information, go to your Facebook/Twitter/LinkedIn page and copy the URL in the address bar. If there's a Public View option, make sure to copy the URL from the Public View. Then paste the URL in the corresponding social media field in the Nimbus Panel and click save.

6) Display Social Media Buttons: Make sure this box is checked in order for your social media icons to be displayed in the footer.

SEO

Available to Nimbus Members

We've built in all the SEO features you'll need to get started—simply fill out the fields in the SEO panel to get started.

6) Turn on URL Canonicalization: The default is checkmarked and should stay active if you want URLs to be modified and standardized. Visit this [Google page](#) for further information.

Scripts And Tracking

This is where you can add Javascript libraries and enter tracking scripts into various areas of your blog.

Outside the Control Panel

How to Add Subpages/Dropdowns

Use the **Menus** editor (under **Appearance**) to add pages. Find the page you want to add in the **Pages** box on the left side of the page, select it and click **Add to Menu**. Then drag the page to the correct position within your existing menu and select **Save Menu**.

Portfolio

Portfolio items can be created by navigating to Portfolio >> Add Portfolio Item. Portfolios work like blog posts, you can enter content about the portfolio item in the main content editor. It is also important to upload a **Featured Image** to accompany your text content. After publishing your first portfolio item, you can navigate to www.yourdomain.com/portfolio/ to view the main portfolio page.

Portfolio categories can be created by navigating to Portfolio >> Portfolio Category. Create the categories by following the same steps as you would to create blog post categories.

Widgets

The Opulus Theme is widgetized, and in addition to the standard widgets that come packaged with your WordPress installation, we've added custom widgets for you to use on the site. To access the widgets, go to **Appearance >> Widgets**. There you will see all available widgets for use on your blog. Activate the widgets by clicking the **arrow down** on the sidebar/footer spot/frontpage right widget spot and drag the desired widget from the left into the blank space of the desired box on the right. Click the arrow down on the widget to make changes. Make sure to **Save** each widget after activating it and making changes. We've customized the default color/width/style of each widget to work with the Opulus Theme so you don't have to worry about making detailed changes to the widgets.

For general information about widgets, see http://codex.wordpress.org/WordPress_Widgets.

Here's a summary of the widgets we've added:

- **About Me Widget:** *Available to Nimbus Members* This widget allows you to enter information about yourself or your business such as name, gravatar image, description of you or your business, educational history, interests, and custom information you'd like displayed. **Save changes** when done.
- **Box Widget:** *Available to Nimbus Members* This widget is a simple box and is the one featured on our demo front page in the newsletter spot (Frontpage Right Widget). You can choose to change the background color, border color, and then enter in whatever content you want in the **Box Content** space. **Save changes**.
- **Contact Info Widget:** *Available to Nimbus Members* The contact info widget can be used to display your contact info in the sidebar.
- **Facebook Widget:** *Available to Nimbus Members* We've simplified the process of integrating Facebook feeds into your website so you can easily integrate it yourself! Enter your **Facebook page URL** and desired width/height/ border color if you'd like it to be something other than the default. **Save changes**.
- **Twitter Widget:** *Available to Nimbus Members* Enter your **Twitter handle** and **Save**. Change the number of tweets, colors, etc if desired.
- **Popular Posts Widget:** *Available to Nimbus Members* You can change the title and number of posts on this widget if you'd like. **Save changes**.
- **Recent Comments Widget:** *Available to Nimbus Members* Change the title and number of recent comments.

Sidebars and Alternate Sidebars

To format the sidebar go to **Appearance >> Widgets**. The **Default Page Sidebar** is the default sidebar and will appear on each page unless you create **Alternative Sidebars** also. Drag and drop available widgets from the left over to the right in the **Default Page Sidebar** box.

If you would like to use several different sidebars on various pages of your website, drag and drop the relevant content into **Alternative Sidebar 1 (or 2-20)**. Make sure to **Save**. Then, remember what the **Alternative Sidebar number** is and go to the page where you want that sidebar to be used. In the top right, second blue box down from the top, you will see the **Nimbus Sidebar Options** box. Enter the number of the alternate sidebar you would like to apply to that page. Save changes by clicking **Update or Publish**.

Footer

To format the footer go to **Appearance >> Widgets** and locate **Footer Left**, **Footer Center**, and **Footer Right**. From here you can format the footer to look however you'd like using the widgets on the left.

Shortcodes

Shortcodes are available only to Nimbus Members

For a complete list of our custom shortcodes, login to NimbusThemes.com and go <http://demo.nimbusthemes.com/opulus/shortcode-documentation/>.

Find out the shortcodes WordPress ships with here: <http://en.support.wordpress.com/shortcodes/>

Some notes on shortcodes:

You must put a line of space above and below shortcodes in your HTML code otherwise they won't display correctly. Like this:

```
<h3>Current Date (Short)</h3>
[nimbus_current_date_short]
```

```
[nss][nimbus_current_date_short][nss]
```

```
[nimbus_spacer height="40px"]
```

Or use `
` tags.

In the column shortcodes, the last column always needs to be designated by adding “_last” to the end of the shortcode, like this:

```
[nimbus_one_fifth_last] Your column text. [/nimbus_one_fifth_last]
```

Shortcodes that style objects like buttons and dividers only need one opening shortcode (ex: [shortcode]). Others, like columns or tables that have content in them, need opening and closing shortcodes like the column code above.

You can add space above or below an object with the following shortcode:

```
[nimbus_spacer height="40px"]
```

Or clear formatting:

```
[nimbus_clear]
```

More Questions?

If you are new to Wordpress, a lot of your questions can be answered by visiting Wordpress.org and either reading through the relevant pages or searching the codex. If you have a theme-specific question that was not covered in this document, please visit our support forums on Nimbus Themes and take out a ticket. By becoming a member of Nimbus Themes, you gain access to our 24/7 support forums.

Recommended Plugins

Akismet protects your blog against awful spammy comments.

WP-PageNavi for pagination (Page 1 of 20, etc instead of Older/Newer)

Other Resources

[GIMP](#) is an open-source image editor akin to Photoshop.

[Inkscape](#) is an open-source vector program akin to Illustrator.

[Notepad++](#) is an awesome, free source code editor. It's always a good idea to work in the text editor and save a copy of the original code if you're making HTML changes to a page or template file so you don't lose your work.


[Bluehost](#) for cheap, great domain hosting.

MeasureIt is a great browser plugin on Chrome and Firefox. It allows you to measure anything on a website.

[ColorZilla](#) is another browser plugin for Chrome and Firefox. You can grab hexadecimal colors from anywhere on the web.

The Web Developer package is another amazing plugin, helps you pull up code, get image information, easily clear your cache, and a host of other great functions. Get it today and save yourself time and headaches!

*****If you downloaded the Lite Version of the Opulus Theme and would like to get all the **extended features** of the full theme, plus **ongoing support** and **access to download all our other themes**, sign up to be a Nimbus Member at nimbusthemes.com!***



Access **HUNDREDS** of additional theme features, download **ALL** of our themes, and get **UNLIMITED SUPPORT** on the Nimbus forums.

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