osCommerce
Open Source E-Commerce Solutions

USER'S
MANUAL

Theme Switcher

for
osCommerce Online Merchant v2.3.x
Bootstrap

Version 1.5.4
April 2018

REVISION HISTORY

Release No.	Date	Revision Description
1.0	20101203	Original release
1.0.1	20101203	Moved misplaced file
1.1	20110121	Added a function to sort the themes in alphabetical order. Updated the instructions to cover ThemeRoller version numbers.
1.2	20110831	Added capability to select the Jquery and Jquery UI version numbers in the Admin.
1.2.1	20110904	Bugfixes.
1.3	20110918	Added Themeroller Dev Tool files and updated manual.
1.3.1	20120314	Added code to fix conflict with other modules that need jQuery called first
1.4.0	20120722	Added checking for the most common install errors. Cleaned up code and removed external functions file.
1.4.1	20120828	Updated to osCommerce 2.3.3. Fixed compatibility bug with PHP older than 5.0
1.4.2	20121201	Updated manual to deal with changes in the jQuery websites. Removed dev tool and references.
1.4.3	20140617	Fixed bugs related to some versions of PHP/MySQL
1.4.4	20140622	Updated template_top.php to match osCommerce 2.3.4
1.5	20150306	Added Bootstrap version
1.5.1	20150616	Replaced incorrect files
1.5.2	20150715	Fixed a bug in template_top.php
1.5.3	20160323	Updated module file to work with PHP 7
1.5.4	20180406	Updated module file to be compatible with the latest version of Edge

osCommerce Online Merchant

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The included themes are © Thomas Park, and were downloaded from Bootswatch. This software is licensed under the MIT license. See the Github page for more details.

Documentation

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 System Overview

This addon provides a simple way of changing themes in your osCommerce store. You can switch to a new theme for the season or to spruce up your store, or just to test out a new look. Just upload your new theme package using the instructions below, then select your new theme in your store's Admin.

1.2 Software Compatibility

Note: This version is for osCommerce with Bootstrap. If you have an older version of osCommerce that uses jQueryUI, use the other package in this Addon.

This software package was developed using osCommerce Version 2.3.4BS Gold. It will probably work with other versions as well, since the code is mostly self-contained.

Warning: This software was written to run on PHP 5.4 or later. If you are still on an older version of PHP it will probably not run.

1.3 Terminology

1.3.1 Definition of Terms

This manual uses some terms that you may not be familiar with. The following definitions are important to understanding the rest of this document.

Module   Page elements are referred to as modules. Most modules consist of two files, but some may require additional support files. The two main files will usually have the same name, so take care to put them in the proper directories.

Language File   osCommerce keeps language-dependent files in separate directories organized by language. The language files for the customer side can be found in catalog/includes/languages/ and the files for the Admin side in catalog/admin/includes/languages/.

Header Tags   HTML tags in the head section of a web page. These tags perform many functions behind the scenes of a web page. One of those functions includes the files needed for the current theme. This Addon makes it possible to change that tag from the Admin.

1.3.2   Acronyms and Abbreviations

RTFM   Read The Fine Manual. Seriously. Read the whole thing. Now.

1.4 Support

Read this manual first. Read the Troubleshooting section (Page 14) if you are seeing error messages or if the code isn't working the way this manual says it should. If you can't find it here, search in the support thread in the osCommerce forum at:
http://forums.oscommerce.com/topic/367934-addon-theme-switcher/

If you can't find an answer to your problem in the support thread, then post a request for help in that thread. Include the following information in your post:

- Your osCommerce version. (Go to your store's **Admin** panel, click on **Tools** and then **Version Checker**.)

- The version of Theme Switcher that you are using. (It's at the top of the edit panel in your store's Admin >> Modules >> Header Tags >> Theme Switcher.)

- If you are seeing an error message, **cut and paste** the **entire** error message into your post.

- Explain exactly what you have done and what the problem is.

1.5 Bug Reports

Bug reports and requests for new features can be made at the osCommerce Forum support thread at: http://forums.oscommerce.com/topic/367934-addon-theme-switcher/ Bug reports are always appreciated. Code to fix the bug that you found is even more appreciated.

Please note that this is open source software. You are free to create any modifications of this software that you wish provided that you adhere to the terms of the software license. This does not mean that we are required to create such modifications for you. We might, if you ask nicely, and we feel there is a sufficient demand for your change. If you're the only person who wants this, you're still free to make those changes yourself.

2.0   INSTALLATION

2.   INSTALLATION

2.1 Backup

Backup your database and your files. Backup to a different computer than your store runs on. Do it now. Continue doing this throughout the life of your store. Yes, it's that **critically important.**

2.2 Files

2.2.1 Quick Start
This section is for those who have installed osCommerce modules before and are familiar with the process. **If you are new at this, skip ahead to Section 2.2.2 and go from there.**

To install this module:

1. Upload all of the files in the catalog directory to your store's directory.
2. Go to your store Admin >> Modules >> Header Tags and click the install button.
3. Click on the Theme Switcher, then click Install Module.

That's it; you're done. You can change to one of the supplied themes in the module settings. If you want to upload your own theme, read Section 3 of this manual.

You can skip the rest of section 2.

2.2.2 Add New Files
Upload the files listed under **New Files** below to your store, keeping the directory structure the same as the installed copy of your store. Note that there are multiple files with the same name. These files have different content, so don't mix them up.

For those of you who are new to osCommerce: A default installation puts osCommerce in a directory named **catalog**. If you have installed your store in a different directory, substitute the name of that directory for **catalog** in the file listings below. If you installed using your host's one-click installer, ask them where your store is installed.
There are a number of files in the catalog/ext/bootstrap/ directory. These are free themes for you to try. They are optional, but I recommend that you upload them to test out your install. You might like one of them, or it may give you ideas for your own custom theme. You can always delete them later.

Theme Switcher

2.2.3 Modify File

Remember that you only have to do this if you have already modified this file for some other reason. If you have not modified this file before, it's a lot easier to just overwrite the existing file with the one from this package.

If you really need to, go ahead and modify the file listed in 2.2.4. Pay close attention to the instructions and make the changes as stated. **Warning**: Failure to make this changes will make Theme Switcher misbehave, and can break some of the functions of your store.

For modifying files, I recommend a good file comparison utility, such as Meld. There's a [list of alternatives](#) for those of you on other operating systems. There are free/open source programs available for all of the major operating systems. Get one of these and learn to use it. This will be extremely helpful when you add more complicated Addons than this one.

2.2.4 New Files

catalog/ext/bootstrap/ (All directories and files)
catalog/includes/languages/english/modules/header_tags/ht_theme_switcher.php
catalog/includes/modules/header_tags/ht_theme_switcher.php

2.2.5 Modified Files

catalog/includes/template_top.php (Modify one line)

If you are modifying this file because you have already made changes to it, I strongly suggest that you use a file comparison program as stated in Section 2.2.2 above. Use that program to find the changes.

If you are not using a file comparison program, use a plain text editor or a code editor that is designed for the purpose. **DO NOT** use Word or any other word processing program. **Notepad++** is a good code editor and it's free. There are others available for other operating systems; just make sure that it's a plain text/code editor.

There is only one line to modify. That's the line that imports the default theme. You need to change that so that Theme Switcher can control that import. The line looks like this:

```
<link href="ext/bootstrap/css/bootstrap.min.css" rel="stylesheet">
```

Theme Switcher

Replace that line with this code:

```
<?php if ( !defined ( MODULE_HEADER_TAGS_THEME_SWITCHER_STATUS ) ||
MODULE_HEADER_TAGS_THEME_SWITCHER_STATUS != 'True' ); { ?>
 <link href="ext/bootstrap/css/bootstrap.min.css" rel="stylesheet">
<?php } ?>
```

That's all for the changes.

2.3 Database

All database changes are made automatically by installing the module and editing the module's configuration. No manual database changes are necessary.

3.0 CONFIGURATION

3. CONFIGURATION

This section covers the capabilities and basic configuration of the included module, as well as creating and importing new themes.

3.1 Overview

This module allows you to switch themes with a few clicks in your Admin, but you need more than one theme for it to be useful. There are a number of pre-made themes that you can get, both free and for a modest cost, and you can create custom themes of your own. We'll cover this in detail later.

This addon comes with several themes. I suggest that you try those first to get an idea of what the theme controls. It will also give you an idea of what you want in your store's theme.

3.2 Theme Switcher Setup

This module can be installed by logging in to your store's Admin panel, clicking on **Modules** in the left column, then on **Header Tags** under that. Click the **Install Module** button to get the list of modules that can be installed.

To install the module, click its name to highlight it, then click the **Install Module** button. Once it's installed, click the **Edit** button to change the parameters:

- **Version: 1.5.** This is the version number of this module. If you are asking for help on the osCommerce forum, include this number in your request. You cannot make any changes here.

- **Enable Theme Switcher.** This should normally be left at True. Set to False to disable this module and return to the default theme.

- **Sort Order.** Enter a number to set the position in which the theme will appear in the page's Head section. **Note:** This module should always be loaded before other Header Tag modules to prevent a conflict. Leaving the Sort Order set to 1 is a good way to do this. Don't set any other module to the same sort order or one of them may stop working.

> **Never set any osCommerce module's Sort Order to 0.** Bad things will happen.

- **Theme.** This is where you select the theme that you want your store to use. The theme named css is the stock osCommerce theme. If you loaded the themes from this distribution package, you should see several additional themes in the pulldown menu.

Theme Switcher

- **The selected theme was found.** This tells you that your theme directory is in place. If you see **The selected theme was not found!** instead, you have deleted the theme without selecting a new one. Go select a theme from the list.

- **template_top.php has been modified.** This tells you that your template_top.php file has probably been modified according to these instructions. It is possible to see this when you have not completed all of the modifications, so go check again if you are seeing weird results after installing Theme Switcher. If you see **template_top.php has not been modified!** instead, you have not modified the file correctly, or you have not uploaded the file. Go fix that.

- **The language file was found.** This tells you that your language file has been uploaded to the correct location If you see **The language file is missing!** instead, you need to upload catalog/includes/languages/english/modules/header_tags/ht_theme_switcher.php.

3.4 New Themes

Fortunately, new themes are easy to obtain. There are several web sites that offer free Bootstrap themes,a dn there are more that offer themes for a fee. Use your favorite search engine to find these.

There are also sites that have theme generators. I don't have a favorite one of these, so search for this as well. If you find one that's really great, come and tell us on the forum support thread at http://forums.oscommerce.com/topic/367934-addon-theme-switcher/.

3.4.1   Using a Stock Theme

If you find a theme that you like, download the theme package and take a look at it. There may be several files and directories, but what you need is a file named bootstrap.min.css.

If you only have a directory named after your theme, with that file inside, that's exactly what you need. If you have more than that, delete the extra files/directories, or just make a new directory and put that file in it. Then upload that direcory (with the file inside) to your catalog/ext/bootstrap/ directory. You can now choose that file in the Theme Switcher module in your Admin.

3.4.2   Creating a Custom Theme

Use the theme generator that you found to make a new theme, then download the theme package and follow the instructions in section 3.4.1 above.

3.5 Limitations

Bootstrap themes are limited by the implementation of Bootstrap in osCommerce. Bootstrap doesn't control everything, so you may need to add some CSS to the catalog/user.css file. That's what it's there for.

4.   TROUBLESHOOTING

4.   TROUBLESHOOTING

If you are having problems with your installation, check this section first. If you don't find your problem here, search the osCommerce support forum thread. If you still can't find a solution, post a question in that thread.

4.1 Template Missing

Do your buttons show as just text, and your column boxes don't have any formatting? Your store can't find one or more of the jQuery or template files. This is probably because you didn't make the correct changes to your catalog/includes/template_top.php. Go fix that.

If it's not that, open your site in Firefox, right click on the page and select **View Page Source**. Find the links near the top of the page and click on each one, one at a time. You should get another page source for each one. If you do, go back and try the next one.

If one of these results in a 404 Not Found, you have found a problem. Look at the location the code is looking for and see if the file is there. You need to provide the missing file or correct the name of the file so the code is looking for the correct file.

In some cases you will see a permissions error when you click on one of those links. If you do, contact your host for the correct permission settings for those files.

4.2 Theme Doesn't Show in Theme Switcher

Missing themes could be because:

- You didn't upload the theme directory to the right place. Check the *catalog/ext/jbootstrap* directory on your server. Is the theme directory you uploaded there? If not, upload it there.

- You didn't upload the entire theme directory. Open your theme directory in your FTP client on both your server and your local computer. Compare the two directories. Are all of the files present in both? Look at the file sizes. Are the files on the server the same size (or nearly) as the files on your local computer? Upload any missing/corrupted files again.

- You didn't upload the correct directory. Read Sections 3.3 and 3.4 again.

- The name of your theme directory has a space, apostrophe, or other special character in it. Change the name to something that has only letters and numbers, just to be safe.