osCommerce
Open Source E-Commerce Solutions

USER'S

MANUAL

Theme Switcher

for
osCommerce Online Merchant v2.3.x

Version 1.4.3
June 2014

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

osCommerce Online Merchant

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External Software

Documentation

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

This software package was developed using osCommerce Version 2.3.4. It is also fully compatible with any osCommerce version from 2.3.1 up. Use with older versions may cause errors unless modifications are made to accommodate the older version. Some versions of 2.3 will work and some will not. I recommend that you update to 2.3.4 before adding this software package.

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   Front 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.

Theme Switcher

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   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.

Note: If you are starting with an unmodified copy of osCommerce 2.3x, you can simply upload all of the **New** and **Modified** files in the **catalog** directory of this Distribution to your site, copying over any existing files. You can now skip to the Configuration section of these instructions.

For the rest of you, read on.

2.2.2   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, or if you are upgrading your version of Theme Switcher, 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 all of these changes can 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.

2.2.3   New Files
catalog/includes/languages/english/modules/header_tags/ht_theme_switcher.php
catalog/includes/modules/header_tags/ht_theme_switcher.php

Theme Switcher

2.2.4 Modified Files

catalog/includes/template_top.php (Delete lines and move lines)

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.

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 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, and you can create custom themes of your own using a WYSIWYG theme editor. We'll cover this in detail later.

Also, osCommerce versions prior to 2.3.4 come with an obsolete version of jQuery and jQueryUI, so you should update those before adding new themes. The *redmond* theme that ships with 2.3.x is also outdated and needs to be updated. See Section 3.3 of this manual for instructions. **Warning**: The jQuery files are also used by the Admin side of your store. **Do not delete** the old versions unless you also modify your Admin to use the new versions.

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 is installed, click the **Edit** button to change the parameters:

• **Version: 1.4.3.** 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. **Warning:** If you turn this module off, you'll need to replace the modified version of *catalog/includes/template_top.php* or all of the jQuery scripts in your store will stop working.

• **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 will stop working.

• **jQuery Version.** The version number of the jQuery file that you are using. Look in your *catalog/ext/jquery/* directory. You should see a file named jquery-###.min.js, where ### is the version number. The current number is 1.11.1, but this changes fairly often. Enter the number that you found on your file in the box here.

• **jQuery UI Version.** The version number of the jQuery UI file that you are using. Look in your *catalog/ext/jquery/ui/* directory. You should see a file named jquery-ui-###.min.js, where ### is the version number. The current number is 1.10.4, but this changes fairly often. Enter the number that you found on your file in the box here.

- **Theme.** This is where you select the theme that you want your store to use. Since there is only one theme in a stock osCommerce store, you currently only have one choice here. We'll fix that in the next couple of sections.

- **The jQuery file was found.** This tells you that your jQuery file is in place and is the same version as you set above. If you see **The jQuery file is missing!** instead, you probably set the version number wrong. Go check that again.

- **The jQuery UI file was found.** This tells you that your jQuery UI file is in place and is the same version as you set above. If you see **The jQueryUI file is missing!** instead, you probably set the version number wrong. Go check that again.

- **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.

- **The selected version of the theme was found.** This tells you that the version of your theme matches the version of your jQuery UI file. If you see **The theme CSS file is the wrong version or missing!** instead, you probably updated the jQuery UI file without updating the theme. Go check that again.

- **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.

3.3 Updating jQuery and jQuery UI

Everything needed to update your osCommerce store to the latest version can be found at the jQuery website. Follow the instructions in this section to get the updated files.

If you can't download a new version for some reason, there's a current (as of the date of this package) in the Extras folder. It's named *jquery-ui-1.10.4.redmond.zip.*

1. Navigate to http://jquery.com/.

2. Find the **Download (jQuery)** button on the right. Check that the PRODUCTION box above the button is checked.

3. Click the button to download jQuery and save the file to your computer. If the file opens in a browser page, use your browser's Save Page As dialog to save the file to your computer.

4. If the file you downloaded is a ZIP or other archive, use your unzip/unpack/archive program to extract the .js file from the archive.

5. Rename that JavaScript file to *jquery-###.min.js*, where ### is the version number of the file you downloaded. The current version number is below the download button on the above web page.

Theme Switcher

6. Copy the file to your store's *catalog/ext/jquery/* directory.

7. Navigate to http://jqueryui.com/download/.

8. Scroll to the bottom of the page and find the **Theme** section. Change the pulldown menu to read **Redmond** if it does not already.

9. Type **redmond** in the box under **Theme Folder Name**, if it is not already there.

10. Click the **Download** button. Save the file to your computer.

11. Open the directory where you have saved the downloaded theme. You should have a file named *jquery-ui-###.custom.zip.* Again, the version number is represented by the *###*. **Note**: The jQuery website seems to change filenames frequently. Your file may have a different name. These instructions should still work no matter what the filename. If they do not, a polite note in the support thread would be appreciated.

12. Use your unzip/unpack/archive program to extract the Zip file.

13. You should now have a directory with the same name as the above file. Open that directory. If you're using the copy provided in the Extras section, open the *jquery-ui-1.9.2.custom* directory.

14. Open the *js* directory.

15. There will be a jQuery UI file in that directory. The filename is usually *jquery-ui-###.custom.min.js*. Rename that to *jquery-ui-###.min.js*. **Note:** The jQuery downloader is not consistent in the naming, so you may not have to rename the file. There will be other files in that directory as well, so be careful to get the correct file.

16. Copy the *jquery-ui-###.min.js* file from that folder to your store's *catalog/ext/jquery/ui/* directory.

17. Now go back to the main directory (from step 13) and open the directory named css inside it.

18. You should now see a directory named *redmond*. Open the *redmond* directory.

19. Find the file named *jquery-ui-###.custom.min.css*. Change the name of that file to *jquery-ui-###.css*, where ### is the same number as the jQuery UI file in step 15. **Note**: Again, that file may be named something else. This changes often. If it's different, look for the .css file ending in min.css.

16 Copy the *redmond* directory in its entirety into the *catalog/ext/jquery/ui* directory on your server. Copy the entire directory with all of its files and subdirectory structure intact. Do **not** copy the *themes* or *development-bundle* directory or the Zip file. If your FTP client warns you that the files are already there, tell it to overwrite them.

17. Go back to Section 3.2 and edit the Theme Switcher settings again. Change the jQuery and jQuery UI version numbers to the numbers of the files that you uploaded in steps 5 and 15 above. Be careful to keep the numbers exactly the same as you see them on the files. The numbers should always be in the form 12.34.56 without any additional characters.

18. Check your site for correct operation. It should look the same as when you started. Missing formatting usually means that you made a mistake in one of the above steps. Go back and check until you find the error.

Theme Switcher

19. **Warning**: Do not delete the old version of these files. They are used by the Admin side of your store. You can update your Admin's includes/template_top.php to use the new files if you want, or install the Admin Theme Switcher from the Addons section to change your Admin theme, and then and only then you can remove the old jQuery files.

3.4   New Themes

Fortunately, new themes are easy to obtain. You can also generate your own theme using a WYSIWYG editor.

First, open this web page in your browser: http://jqueryui.com/themeroller/. ThemeRoller is the theme system that osCommerce uses to generate the headings, boxes, and buttons on your store page.

There are two ways to get new themes:

• Download an existing theme from ThemeRoller.

• Modify an existing ThemeRoller theme.

We're going to cover all of these methods. All of these methods depend on the theme installation procedure in Section 3.3, so check back there if you forget a step.

3.4.1   Using a Stock ThemeRoller Theme

You have that ThemeRoller page open, right? The black box on the upper left side of the page is the ThemeRoller control box. The rest of the page shows what the various page elements look like with the theme applied. To use a stock theme:

1. Click on the **Gallery** tab at the top of the box. The available themes will appear below the tab.

2. Click on one of the theme calendar page images to select it. I'm going to use the **Le Frog** theme as an example. Feel free to select a different theme if you wish. Note that the rest of that page changes to match the theme you selected.

3. Click on the **Download** button under your selected theme. This brings up the Downloads page with your theme selected.

4. Follow the steps in Section 3.3 to download and install your new theme. Note that the theme directory mentioned in step 19 will be named *le-frog* (or whatever theme you selected.) It may also be named *custom*, in which case you should rename it to something more useful.

5. Go back to your Admin and select your new theme. Check your store to see how it looks. If you used the same example I did, it will be very green.

6. Repeat as many times as you like. You can never have too many themes. Yes, I have every single one available installed, just in case I get bored.

Theme Switcher

3.4.2   Creating a Custom ThemeRoller Theme

Go back to the ThemeRoller page we mentioned above. Note that all of the themes have an Edit button below the calendar image. While you certainly can create a theme entirely from scratch, it's usually easier to start with something similar and make changes.

1. Find a theme that you want to modify and click that Edit button.

2. You now have a list of menu items that represent each quantity that can be changed. Most of these are self-explanatory, so go play with them and watch what happens on the page. **Note**: Round corners do not show in Internet Explorer due to IE not supporting the CSS properties used. I recommend that you use Firefox to create your theme.

3. When you are finished making changes, click the **Download theme** button.

4. Continue with the same steps that you used in the previous section. **Note**: ThemeRoller seems to want to use the same filename for the download archive every time, so change the name or put it in a different directory.

5. If you decide that you don't laike some part of your theme after you have installed it, you don't have to start over from scratch. Open the theme that you just downloaded and find the CSS file (Step 20 in section 3.3). Open that file and look in the comments near the top. Find `* To view and modify this theme, visit http://jqueryui.com/themeroller` followed by a very long string of characters. Copy that entire URL (starting with http:// to the end of the line) and paste it into your browser's address bar. That will load your custom theme into Themeroller. Make any changes you want and follow the download and install instructions to install your modified theme.

3.5   Limitations

ThemeRoller is limited by the implementation of the Jquery UI in osCommerce. Most of it works, but there are some parts that aren't quite there yet. Also, most of the current Addons don't fully support the Jjquery UI (or don't support it at all.) This should improve with time.

If you find something that doesn't work the way it should, or the way you want it to, search the support forum. Somebody may already have a fix for this. If not, and it's not something that you added to your store, you can always file a bug against osCommerce version 2.3.3. Just don't spam the bug reporter with requests for help; that's not what it is for.

Theme Switcher

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   oscTemplate Errors

If you see any error message that contains **oscTemplate**, you are probably not running osCommerce version 2.3.1 or later, or you have an early version of 2.3 from Github. The solution is to upgrade to 2.3.2.

4.2   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 got the version numbers wrong for jQuery and/or jQuery UI. Check those again.

If it's not the version numbers, 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.

4.3   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/jquery/ui* directory on your server. The *redmond* directory should be there. 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. Did you extract the correct directory? If not, do it again.

• You didn't set the jQuery version numbers correctly. Check the Theme Switcher settings in your Admin against the actual file names.

• 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.

4.4   That @#~$%^&*) Color Picker....

Yes, the ThemeRoller color picker is buggy. I suggest that you find a free color picker program for your computer and use it, then just copy the color numbers into the box in ThemeRoller. Use your favorite search engine and search for "color picker" — there are plenty of choices.

Theme Switcher