Note: For the most up to date "live" documentation, please go here:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/19OC85_BVzXUxDt-uWS2hEB-RAwHywaEE6ArF5RcypcE/edit#

OpenHouse 3.3 Documentation

Getting Started (Read Me First)

Installing this theme

You should be able to install the theme directly inside of WordPress. Go to the Themes menu on the left of wp-admin, select "Add New Themes", and then click "upload". Select the supplied OpenHouse theme zip file and you're done.

Manually installing the theme (recommended)

If you have problems installing directly inside of WordPress (errors, freezing, etc.) you can install the theme manually. To install manually, you'll need an FTP program. The Firefox (web browser) plugin FireFTP works perfectly. Unzip the supplied OpenHouse theme (it should be zipped). On the server, navigate to your /themes folder. Create a subfolder called "OpenHouse" (or something else if you wish), and then upload all the theme files to that folder. (Be sure you upload the unzipped theme, not the actual theme "Zip" file.

Once uploaded, you can go to the Appearance -> Themes section of WordPress and then activate the new theme.

Ok, it should be installed. Now on to the steps to get your new site functional!

Quick Setup (Recommended)

Follow these steps to get set up as quickly as possible. This will automatically create required categories, pages, menu items, and more. It won't get you 100% to the level where the demo site is at, but it will get you most of the way there.

Alternatively, you can set it up totally manually. See section below for that. (Setting up 100% manually is good if you really want to understand how the theme backend works)

Step 1:

Download the demo site's XML data

file:http://dl.dropbox.com/u/418387/themeforest/OpenHouse/openhouse_xml.zip

Unzip it, and then in wp-admin, go to Tools -> Import -> WordPress. Import the XML file, and be sure to include everything, including attachments. After that's done, you will have a bunch of posts, categories, sample home listings, and more.

Note: You will eventually want to delete many of my sample "pages", for example all of the documentation pages. When you do so, **be sure to NOT DELETE the "Search Results", "Contact Us", and "Our Agents" pages**. If you accidentally delete the Search Results page, no problem. Just follow the instructions below in the Manual Setup section. If you delete Contact Us and Our Agents, then follow the instructions in the proper sections of the documentation.

Step 2: Activate Menu bar

Go to Appearance -> Menus. To make sure the menus show up on the site, go to the top left of the screen is a section called "Theme Locations". Be sure to select the header and footer menus accordingly. It should be self explanatory when you see it.

Step 3:

In Appearance -> Theme Options ->General, set the "Search Results Page" to be set to "Search Results" (if it's not already set to it). Even if it is set already, go ahead and click "Save" anyway since it will set lots of theme defaults.

Step 4: Set up the Contact Form for the Listing pages

Each property detail page (Listing page) contains a contact form at the bottom, next to the Google Map. The contact form by default is a generic one that will not go to the Listing's Agent. This step is only for creating this generic contact form. For details on setting up a contact form for each Agent, go to the Agents documentation page.

The contact form requires the Contact Form 7 plugin. Click here to get it. Once installed, go the the "Contact" section in the wp-admin (bottom left of the screen). Set up the form to your requirements, or leave it at the default.

IF you have changed the default form, then copy the "shortcode" at the top of the screen. Now go to Appearance ->Theme Options -> Miscellaneous -> Contact Form Shortcode, and paste the code in that you copied. Note: change each "double quote" character to a single quote.

Step 5: Permalinks

Go to Settings -> Permalinks and make sure any one other than the first choice is selected.
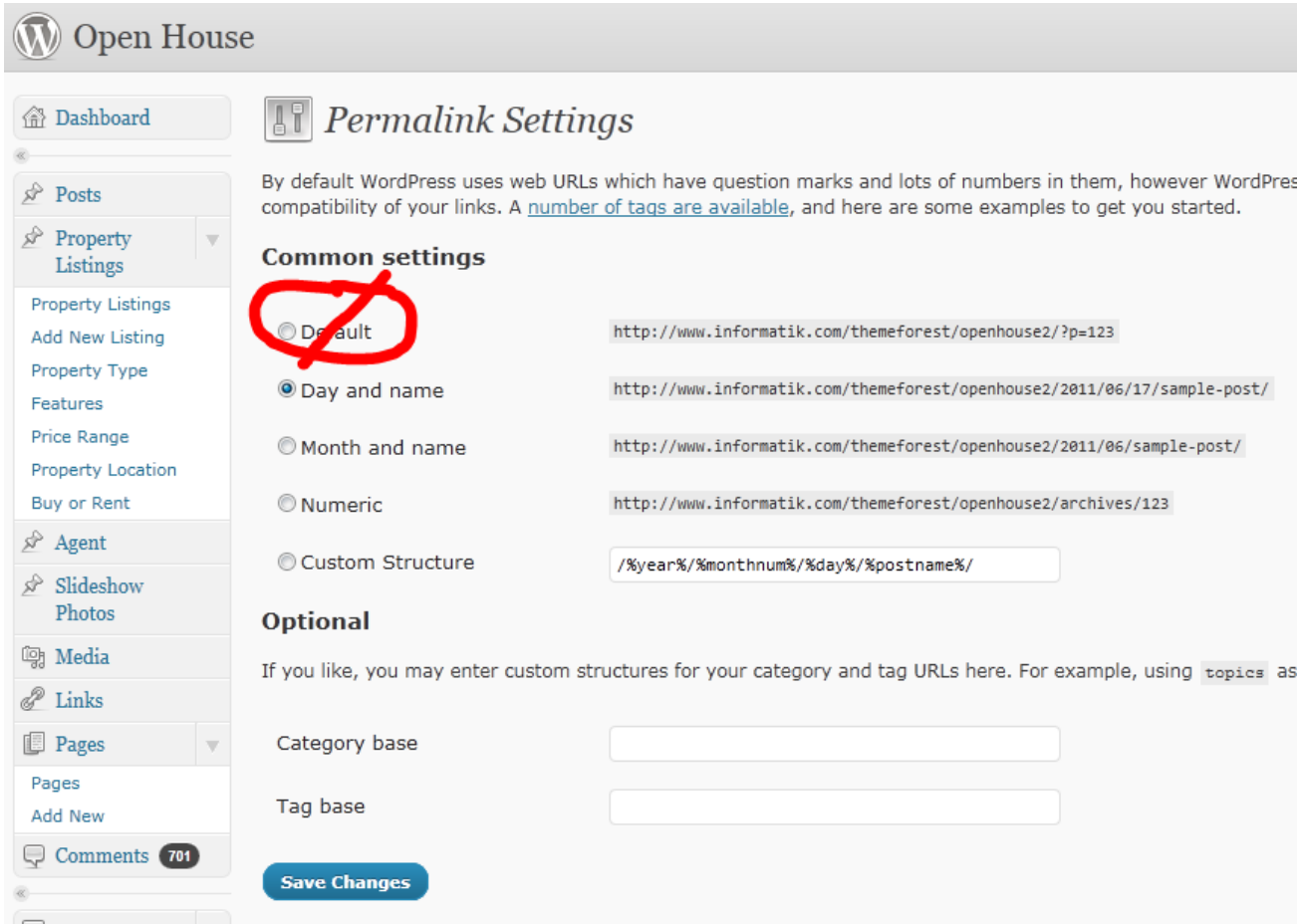
Now you're done!

Ok, at this stage, you will be done the required steps to get the site running. You will still need to add your header "logo", set up the footer widget area, and more. Refer to the other documentation pages for more information.

Manual Setup

Follow these steps if you want FULL control over the setup process and you want to fully understand the workings of the theme. Or if things don't go well with the recommended way above, then follow these steps.

Step 1: Create your Blog or News categories

Assuming you want to post articles to your site, you will need to create Categories for them. You can create a category called "News" (to hold news related posts), "Blog" (for general blog type posts), or any other category name. The live demo has 2 categories called "News" and "Blog". Feel free to have only one or the other; both are not required. You can also create sub-categories under the main categories if your posts benefit from them.

Note: DO NOT create a category for your property listings. The listings don't use categories at all.

Step 2: Search Results Page

Create a new "Page", using the Page Template called "Search Results". Enter a "Title" for the post… for example "Search Results". You can leave the content blank. Publish it.

In Appearance -> Theme Options ->General, set the "Search Results Page" to the Page that you just created.

Step 3: Create the Menus

This theme has a main menu in the header and a smaller menu in the footer. The menus are generated using WordPress' "Menus" feature. In the wp-admin, under the Appearance tab, click on "Menus" to access the Menus page.

Click the "+" tab to add a menu called "Main". This will be the main menu in the header. Click the "Save Menu" button. Click the "+" tab again to create another menu called "Footer". Click the "Save Menu" button again.

In the Theme Locations section, set the Main Navigation Menu to be "Main", and the Footer Navigation Menu to be "Footer". Click the "Save" button.

Click on the "Main" tab to activate the Main menu. In the Pages and Categories sections, check all the boxes for the pages and categories that you want to add to this Main menu. You can click/drag the results to be in the exact order that you want.

Click on the "Footer" tab, and do the same thing that you did in the previous step.

Note: Whenever you add a Page or a Category, then you will need to come into this "Menus" page and add it to your Header and Footer menus. Sorry, this is not my fault… it's a quirk from WP 3.0.

Also note: In Step 2 you added a "Search Results" page. You will not want that page in your menus.

To exclude it from the menus, simply don't add it to the menus!

**Step 4: Set up the Contact Form for the Listing pages**

Each property detail page (Listing page) contains a contact form at the bottom, next to the Google Map. The contact form by default is a generic one that will not go to the Listing's Agent. This step is only for creating this generic contact form. For details on setting up a contact form for each Agent, go to the Agents documentation page.

The contact form requires the Contact Form 7 plugin. Click here to get it. Once installed, go the the "Contact" section in the wp-admin (bottom left of the screen). Set up the form to your requirements, or leave it at the default. Copy the "shortcode" at the top of the screen. Now go to Appearance ->Theme Options -> Miscellaneous -> Contact Form Shortcode, and paste the code in that you copied.

Step 5: Permalinks

Go to Settings -> Permalinks and make sure any one other than the first choice is selected.
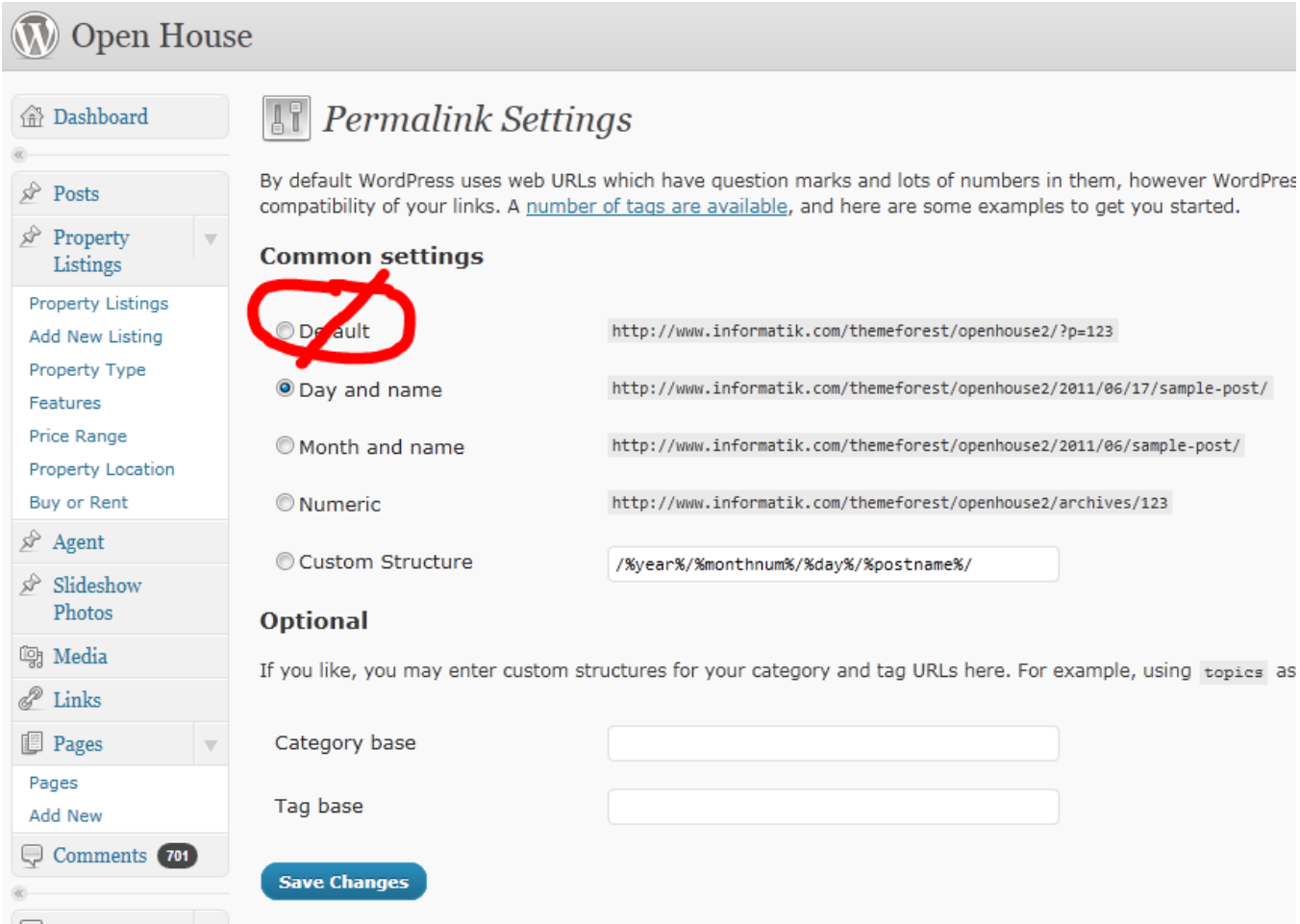
Done!

Enjoy your new theme! You are now ready to post a property Listing, or blog/news post. Click here for details on adding a Listing and news/blog post.

Step 6

It's not critical at this point, but you will notice that your site does not have a logo. Go to Appearance ->Theme Options -> General, under Logo URL, give the full URL to your image. Also set the width and height of the image. If the logo isn't positioned exactly right, you can enter values in "Logo position X" and "Logo position Y" to fine tune it's position.

Every other setting in Theme Options isn't critical at this point. The theme should be working... you

now just need to add some content!

This theme has many great features and options. To get the most of the theme, please read the rest of the online help which is accessible directly from the "Documentation" menu above.

Creating your first post

Creating a Property Listing Post

'Features*', 'Property Type', 'Price Range', 'Property Location', 'Buy or Rent' sections

Before we start anything I want to bring attention to the right sidebar. It contains 5 groups of category types, or what WordPress calls "Taxonomies". They're ways to organize your Property Listings. These 5 taxonomies are custom made for this theme by yours truly. And they are 100% OPTIONAL. They are used ONLY if you want to browse listings by Features, Property Type, Price Range, Property Location, or Buy/Rent. The demo site has a "browse" item in the menu. When you hover over it, you can see that you can browse listings by these taxonomies. For now, to keep things simple, we will ignore these taxonomies. For more information about this, see the "Browse By" section of this document.

First Step

In the left column of wp-admin, click on the "Property Listings" header, then click "Add New Listing". You are brought to a Custom Post Type which is new in WP 3.0.

Title and body

Ok, now on to your first Property Listing post. First create your post "Title". This can be anything you want that will describe the listing. It could the the listing "address", or any other unique thing to describe the property.

Next, in the body of the post, enter all your descriptive text. It can be as long as you like. You don't necessarily need to include the details like number of bedrooms, bathrooms, etc. because they will be entered separately later on. On the Listing page, all those details will appear in a list to the right of the images.

Adding features

The listing "detail" pages has an optional section right under the content area for showing a list of features:

Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et malesuada fames ac turpis egestas. Vestibulum tortor quam, feugiat vitae, ultricies eget, tempor sit amet, ante. Donec eu libero sit amet quam egestas semper. Aenean ultricies mi vitae est. Mauris placerat eleifend leo.

Features

- [ ] Attic
- [ ] Pond
- [ ] Fireplace
- [ ] Pool
- [ ] Lake view
- [ ] Wine cellar

To add that section to the detail page, including all the property's features, you check off the features on the right side of the post screen:

Publish

Preview Changes

Status: **Published** Edit

Visibility: **Public** Edit

🗓 Published on: **Sep 28, 2010 @ 14:14** Edit

Move to Trash

Update

Features

All Features   Most Used

- ☑ Attic
- ☑ Basketball Court
- ☑ Fireplace
- ☑ Gas Heat
- ☑ Pond
- ☑ Pool
- ☑ Wine cellar
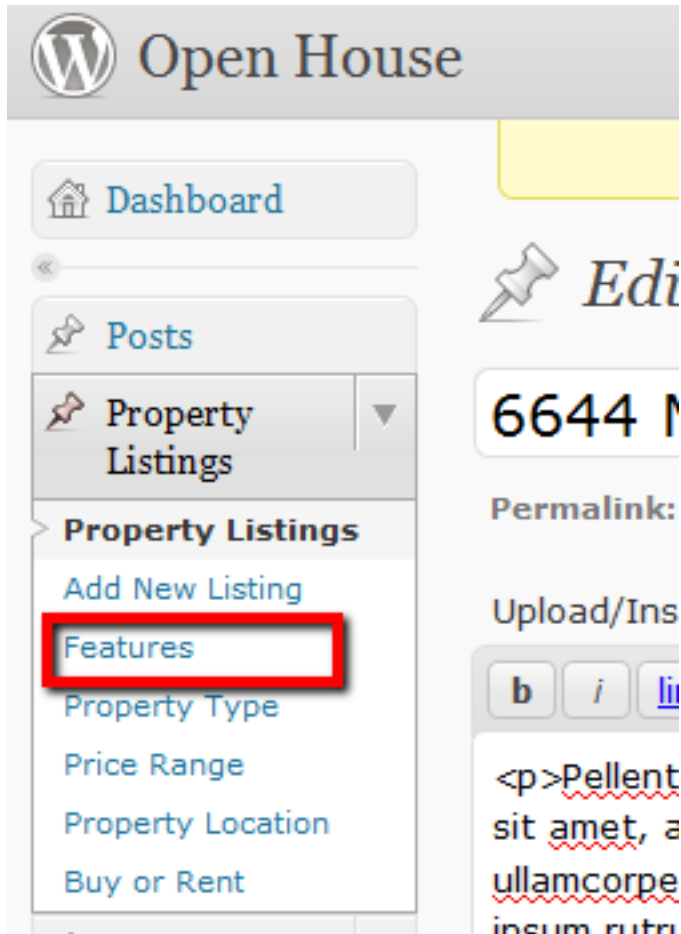- ☐ Gym
- ☐ Lake view
- ☐ Ocean view

+ Add New Features

Property Type

All Property Types   Most Used

- ☑ Townhouses
- ☐ Apartment
- ☐ Condos

If you don't have any features there yet, they are easy to add. Just click the "features" link on the left of the

screen:

The minimum you need to do is add a feature name and then click the button on the bottom:

Features

Add New Features

Name

The name is how it appears on your site.

Slug

The "slug" is the URL-friendly version of the name. It is usually all lowercase and contains only letters, numbers, and hyphens.

Parent

None

Description

The description is not prominent by default; however, some themes may show it.

Add New Features

Bulk Actions Apply

☐ **Name**   **Description**

☐ **Attic**

☐ **Basketball Court**

☐ **Fireplace**

☐ **Gas Heat**

☐ **Gym**

☐ **Lake view**

☐ **Ocean view**

☐ **Pond**

☐ **Pool**

Posts
Property Listings
  Property Listings
  Add New Listing
  Features
  Property Type
  Price Range
  Property Location
  Buy or Rent
Agent
  Agent
  Add New Agent
Slideshow Photos
  Slideshow Photos
  Add New Slideshow Photo
Media
  Library
  Add New
Links
  Links
  Add New
  Link Categories
Pages
  Pages
  Add New

Adding images

You can add as many images as you like for the Property Listing. To add images, above the content section, click on the "Add Media" button. Upload all your images. After they upload, click on the "Save" button. You should be automatically moved into the "Gallery" tab. The Gallery tab shows you all the images that you uploaded for the current Listing. The top most image in the list will be the main image shown in the slideshow. You can click and drag the order of the images around. Make sure the representative image is on top. Click Save when you're done, then EXIT the window by clicking the X on the top right. Don't exit by clicking "Insert Gallery". If you do that, then all your uploaded images will be inserted into the post, which is NOT what you want. If you do this accidentally, no

worries. Just go into the content area of the post and delete the Gallery text that was added.

You can return add, delete, and rearrange the vehicle's images easily by clicking the "Add Media" button again. Remember, all your images associated with the current listing is in the "gallery" tab.

Adding video (optional)

Optionally you can add Youtube or Vimeo video to a listing. The theme will show a thumbnail of the video, and when clicked, it will open up in a lightbox and play. You can add as many videos as you like.

To add video, you need to enter the Youtube or Vimeo URL in the corresponding section. If you want to include multiple videos, enter each URL on a new line.

You also need to add an image that will show as the video's thumbnail. This can be any image, including a video screen capture, or even just a photo. Enter the URL to the image in the "Video thumbnail image" section. If you have multiple videos, enter each image on a new line.

Entering listing location information

In the Address section, enter the exact listing address. This will be displayed throughout the site, and will also be used when generating the Google Map.

In the "City, State, Zip" section, enter the City, State, and Zip/postal code for the listing. This information will NOT be used for Searching, but it will be shown on the listing detail page. This text will be used as the main heading for property listings. It is also used, along with the "title" of the post, to automatically create the Google Map.

The next 2 settings, "Primary Search Location" and "Secondary Search Location" are **very important** because they are used when site visitors search the site by location.

Primary Search Location

Choose a location from the "Primary Search Location" dropdown list. This chosen location will be used when people "Search" for listings. The locations in this dropdown are defined in Appearance ->Theme Options. By default the theme comes with all 50 U.S. states. But if you're a small company, you can edit that list and include just a few states, or even change it to "Counties", "Cities", or "Regions". Tailor it to your own needs. Don't just leave it at States if you don't need States.

Secondary Search Location

In the demo site, when you do a search, and you choose a Location "U.S. State", after a couple seconds, a secondary dropdown list appears with more specific locations. This is called the

"Secondary Search Location", and is **optional**. You may want it if the first Location dropdown's scope is too large. By default, and as demonstrated in the demo, when you choose a "State" from the first Location dropdown, a second dropdown appears with a list of State Counties. By all means, you can customize this to your needs. Feel free to change Counties to "Cities", "Towns", etc.

If your Primary Search Locations are already specific enough, and you don't want or need a Secondary Search Location, then you can disable it. To disable it, in Appearance -> Theme Options -> General, go to "Enable Secondary Search Location" and choose "Disable".

Google Maps Location

In most cases, you can leave this section blank. The theme will pull the map address from the combination of your post "title" (which should be the address) and the "City, State, and Zip" entry that you made.

But if for some reason, Google Maps can't find the location, or it's not listed in Google Maps, then in this section, you can manually enter a location.

Property Information

Most of these settings are self explanatory, but I will explain things that need more explanation.

Property Type

Choose a property type. The list of types is defined in Appearance ->Theme Options. This setting is used when site visitors search by Property Type.

Last Step…

Click on the Publish button!

Creating a news/blog post

Creating a regular news/blog/whatever post couldn't be simpler. Simply add a new "Post". Type in a title and body text.

Setting a Featured Image

You can have a "Featured Image" for your posts. This image will show up as a small thumbnail or full width

image depending on the page view. The image is added with WordPress' "Featured Image" feature. Click "Set featured image", and the rest is self explanatory.

The last step is putting your post in the correct category. In the Categories section, put your post in your desired category (i.e. Blog, News, or even both!) Then click on the Publish button.

Theme Options
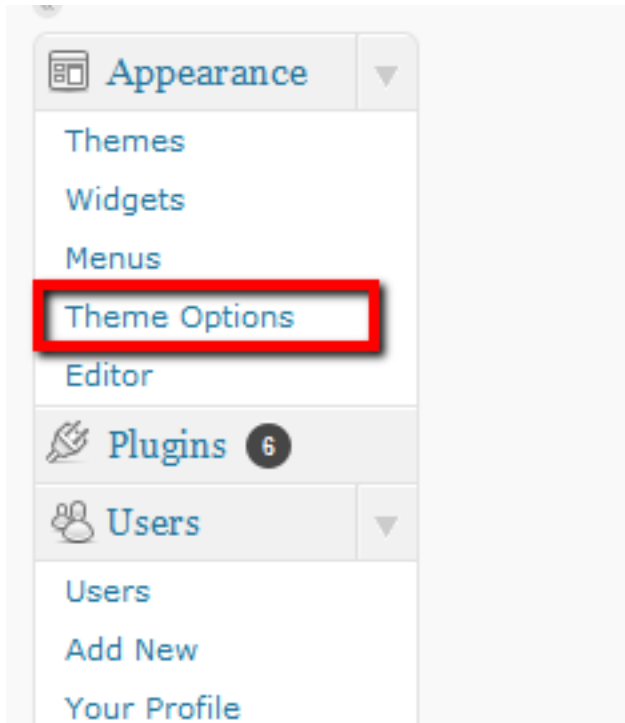
The Theme Options page in the wp-admin dashboard is your Control Central for everything in the theme. It is found in Appearance -> Theme Options. It is critical that you become comfortable with it and are aware of it's many settings. All of the settings include a description of what they do. If anything is unclear or confusing, please don't hesitate to contact me.

The Theme Options are divided into 8 sections:

General

Includes settings for color scheme, Logo settings, and some critical settings that must be set or the theme won't work.

Slideshow

Includes all the settings for controlling the behavior of the Slideshow on the homepage. You can control the transition effect, number of items to show, the order of items, exactly which items show, and more.

Social Networking

Includes all the settings you need for setting up your Twitter, Facebook, and other social networking sites.

Hide or Show Stuff

Settings to hide or show elements/features of this theme. For example, if you don't use Twitter, you can "hide" it from the homepage and the sidebar.

Custom Text

Controls all the headings and labels used throughout the site. Handy if you don't like my wording, or if your site is in a language other than English.

Browse By

Options for the "Browse by" section in the menu bar. Change wording of the menu items, include/exclude certain Browse By items, etc.

Miscellaneous

Settings that didn't find a home in any section above. Like Jpg quality, Google Maps API Key and lots more.

Browse By...

To better understand what this feature is, check out the demo site's main menu. There is a Browse item. When you hover over it the dropdown shows that you can browse listings according to "Property Type, 'Price Range', and 'Property Location'. This is an alternate way to find a listing if you don't want to perform an actual Search.

In the right column of each Property Listing post are sections for 'Property Type', 'Price Range', and 'Property Location'. I said in a previous page that these sections are optional, and only required if you want to be able to browse by these categories (WP calls them Taxonomies).
On a fresh theme install, these taxonomy groups will be blank. You will need to populate them with values. You can add them right in the Listing Post right sidebar, or in the left sidebar (Under Property Listings you'll see Property Type, Price Range, and Property Location). Once all your taxonomy items are added, you simply check off the appropriate one for each Property Listing post. For example, if a Single Family home in Miami is $550,000, you could check off the following:

- Property Type: Single Family
- Price Range: $500,000 – $600,000
- Property Location: Miami

Note: Setting these DO NOT affect the search engine at all. The search engine looks at the other Property Listing post data.

Finally, make sure the "Browse By" menu item is enabled by going to Appearance -> Theme Options (Browse By section). Make sure the first option is set to "Yes". Also below that, you can customize the wording of your browse categories, as well as options to exclude them from the menu altogether.

Setting up the Search Box

The Open House theme features an advanced search box where you can perform a specific search for a property based on location, number of bedrooms, bathrooms, minimum, maximum price, and property type. The Locations, minimum price, maximum price, and Property Type need to be configured. This page details how to do that.

Location

Searching by location is quite powerful. Before going through this, please check out the [theme demo](#) to review how it functions. This tutorial will make more sense. When you click on the main "Location" dropdown, a dropdown of all the U.S. states appears. (This can be changed to anything you like). Because U.S. States is quite general, you may want to narrow down the location a bit. So choose a state from the list. In a couple seconds another dropdown menu appears with more specific locations in the selected state. In the demo, state Counties are shown. Again, this can be changed to meet your needs.

In this documentation, i refer to the first Location dropdown as "Primary search location", and I refer to the second location dropdown as "Secondary search location".

Keep in mind that the Secondary Search Location is optional, and is only needed if your Primary Search Locations are large in scope.

Customizing the Primary Search Locations

In Appearance ->Theme Options -> General, you will see a section to enter your Primary Search Locations. By default you'll see all 50 U.S. States. But feel free to change it to however general or specific you need. For example, countries, regions, cities, zip codes, etc. Enter each location on a separate line.

If you will only have the Primary Search Locations (not the Secondary Search Locations), then in Appearance -> Theme Options -> General section, be sure to "disable" the Secondary Search Locations.

Adding Secondary Search Locations

First, in Appearance -> Theme Options -> General section, be sure to enable "Secondary Search Locations".

This part is relatively tricky, so I think the best way to learn how this works is to look at the demo. As I have mentioned a few times, the Primary Search Locations default to U.S. States. So in this tutorial I will assume you have the same. Lets choose a State: California, as an example. When you click on California, a secondary listbox appears with "Counties" in California. Where are the counties for California stored? They are in a folder called /secondary_search_locations, right in the root of your site. Go in that folder, and you'll see some text (.txt) files, each one corresponding to a State. The Counties for California are in the California.txt file. Note how "California" is spelled exactly the same as it is in the Primary Search Locations in "Theme Options". Open that file. You'll see each County is on it's own line. Follow the same code format to add or edit the locations.

The key here is that each text (.txt) file must be in the /secondary_search_locations folder and must have the EXACT SAME NAME (case sensitive) as it's name in the Primary Search Locations list that you set in Theme Options.

Remember, the theme is set to States and Counties, but you will probably have to customize this to your own needs. I think now that we saw how the California state works, that you will be able to create your own Primary and Secondary Search Locations.

Using this structure of Primary and Secondary Locations is very flexible, and is by far the most powerful search location feature on Themeforest.

Customizing the Max and Min Price

Enter the price levels to be used in the Min and Max prices dropdowns in the Search, in Appearance -> Theme Options -> General -> Price Levels. There is a section for prices for Buy (non-rentals) and for rentals. Leave the rentals one blank if you aren't using the Buy or Rent dropdown in your search.

Editing the Property Types

By default, the Search allows you to search by Property Types of Single Family, Townhome, Condo, and Apartment. But you can easily edit this list. In Appearance ->Theme Options -> General -> Property Types, enter each property type on a new line. Make sure to not have any blank entries.

Setting up the Footer (widgetized areas)

The footer is entirely made up of 4 Widgetized areas. When you go to Appearance -> Widgets, you'll see Footer1, Footer2, Footer3, and Footer4. Here is how we set up the demo footer:

Footer1

We dragged in the "Recent Posts" widget into this Widget area.

Footer2

This is a standard Text Widget. Drag a Text Widget in there and give it a title and some content.

Footer3

The Google Maps is actually a Text Widget. You'll need to go to http://maps.google.com and find your business location. Then click on the button called "Link" in the top right of the screen. Then click the "Customize and Preview embedded map" link.

In the window that pops up enter a custom size of Width: 200 and Height: 180. Then copy the code at the bottom to the clipboard, and then paste it into your text widget. In the code, i also removed all text inside and including the <small> tag.

Footer4

The fourth and last footer widgetized area uses the "Contact Us" widget. Drag it into the Footer4 widget area, and fill in the textboxes with your contact information.

Customizing text

You can customize the text of various parts of the site, like for the search box labels, heading text, error messages, the intro text, and more. To do this, go to Appearance -> Theme Options -> Custom Text. For the wording for the features list (in the Listing Detail page, next to the large slideshow image), you need to hand edit /includes/features.php. A future update will allow editing this text from Theme Options, but for now you must edit this file.

If you need to change the wording for things that are shown in the WP backend, like when you make a Listing post, etc., you need to hand edit the functions.php file. Just do a search for the word you need to change and you'll find where to change it. Just be careful to not break the code.

Changing the Header image

The header image by default is a subtle image of a "floor plan". There is no way to change this in the Theme Options currently, but it's not difficult to change. The image is called header.png and it's stored in the /images folder. It's 960×152 in size. Feel free to create any header image you want that is the same size. Save it in the /images folder with the name header.png. If you name it something else, then you must edit the style.css. (In style.css, change the file name for the "#header" selector. Should be self explanatory when you see it.)

Creating Agents

Create Contact Form for each Agent

First, if you haven't already done so, make sure you install the Contact Form 7 plugin:http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/contact-form-7/ With it installed, go into the settings and make a contact form for each agent. Make sure each agent has their own email address set for it.

When you create the contact form for each Agent, up top you'll see a "shortcode". You need to copy that shortcode to the clipboard because you'll need it in the next step.

Create Agent Posts

Now create an Agent: To create an Agent, go to the left column of wp-admin and click on Agent -> Add Agent. For the title, enter the Agent's name. For the content, put in some bio text for the agent. And under that, enter phone, fax, email, etc.

You add an Agent "image" the same way that you do for adding images to a Listing. Click on the "insert/upload image" button. Upload a single image to represent the Agent. When you're done, exit the window by clicking the "X" at the top right.

In the Contact Form section, paste the shortcode (from Contact Form 7) that you copied to clipboard. Remember, each Agent will have their own shortcode.

Add more agents the exact same way. Now, when you make a Listing post (or edit one), there is a dropdown menu to choose an Agent. That's all there is to it!

Creating the 'Our Agents' Page

Create a "Page". Give it a title like "Our Agents". Add some content if you want, or not.

Give this page a Page Template of "Agents", then click Publish.

Now add it to your menu bars by going to Appearance -> Menus. Add the Agents page that you created to the menu and drag it in position. (For detailed information on creating menus, see the video in the Getting Started page)
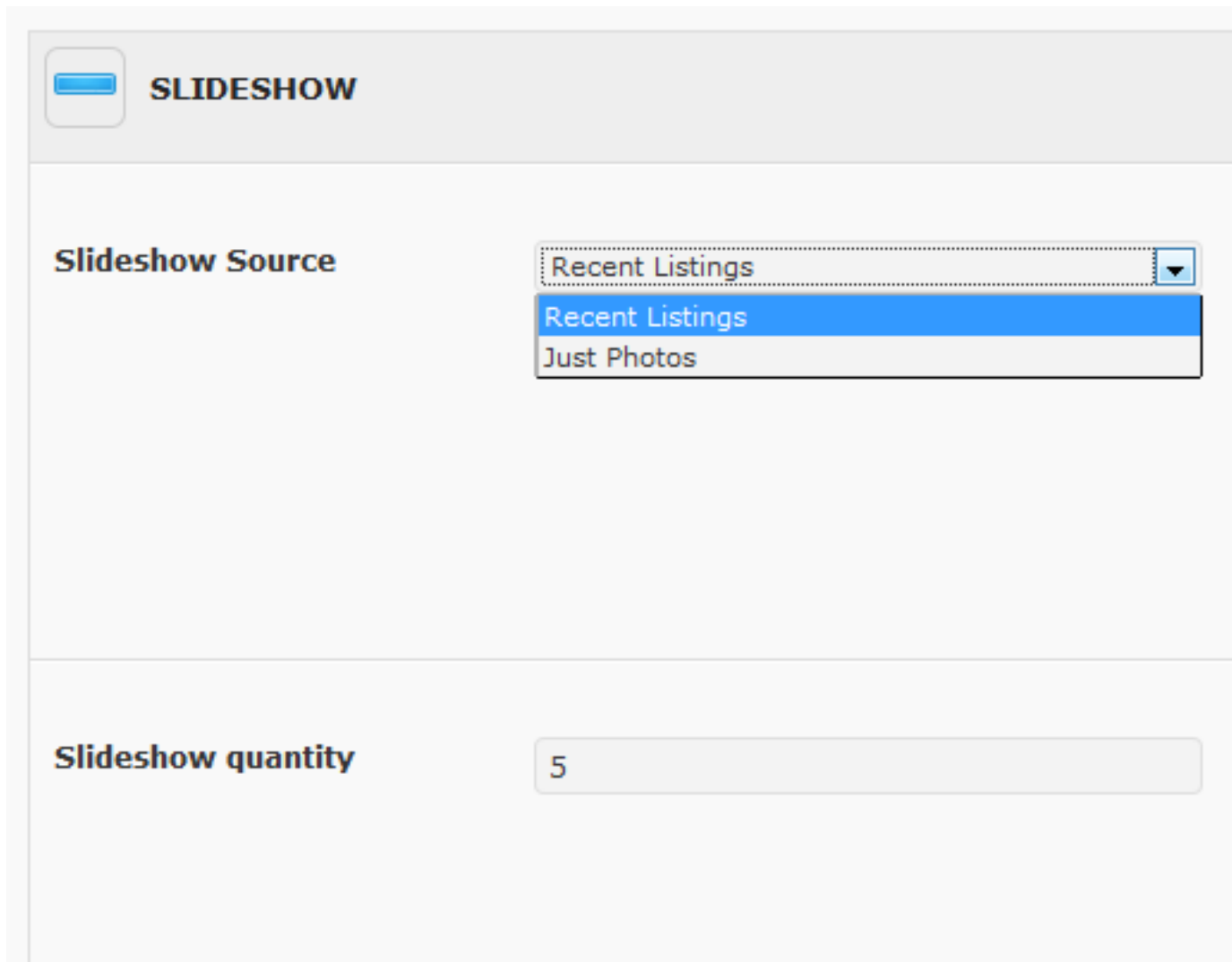
Setting up the Contact Us page

The contact form is made possible by the fantastic [Contact Form 7 plugin](#). Once installed and activated, go to its Control Panel (bottom left of the wp-admin dashboard). You can configure the form however you like, or just keep the defaults.

When it's all set up, copy the shortcode at the top of that page.

Create a new "Page", and set the Template to "Contact". Enter a page title, and some optional body text. In the body of the post, PASTE the shortcode that you copied. Publish the page, and you're done!

Customizing the Slideshow

Source of the Slideshow

The slideshow on the homepage can pull in slides from one of two places.

- Recent property listings
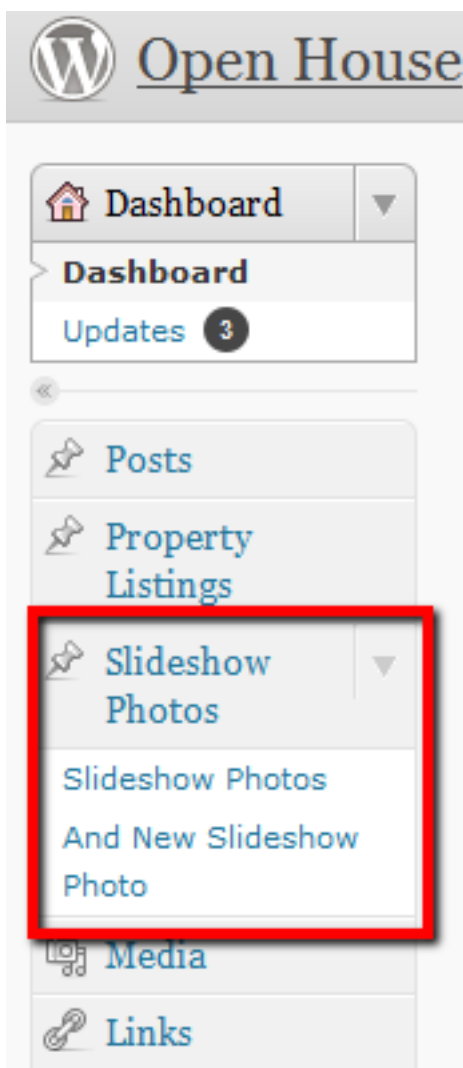- Slideshow photos "post type"

Recent property listings

This is the default. In Appearance ->Theme Options -> Slideshow, be sure the Slideshow Source setting is set to "Recent Listings".

The slideshow will get populated by recent Property Listings. When you create a Property Listing, be sure to set the "Include in Slideshow" setting to "Yes". The Appearance ->Theme Options -> Slideshow, has settings for the slideshow transition type, quantity of slides to show, and more.

Slideshow Photos "post type"

In Appearance -> Theme Options ->Slideshow, be sure the Slideshow Source setting is set to "Just Photos".

In the left side of the wp-admin Dashboard is a post type called "Slideshow Photos". Under that, click on "Add New Slideshow Photo". Add a single photo to each post. To add a photos, click on the "insert/upload image" button above the content textbox. Upload your image, and then exit the window by clicking the "X" in

the top right. Publish the page. Add another post for your next slideshow

Multilingual (translatable) version

If you have version 3.3 (downloaded from Themeforest, not from a previous patch) then you will have the option to use a custom version that is translatable. This version of the theme is modified from the standard version, and is only recommended if you will want multiple translations of your site. If you will have only ONE language (whatever it its) then you should use the standard version.

Note: The Loan Calculator is NOT translatable.

How to get translatable version

To get this special version, in your Themeforest Download, you will see a folder called "openhouse_multilingual_version". Go in there and view the .txt file. That .txt file has a download link to it. (this way I can update it from any possible problems instantly without needing to annoy Themeforest and wait sometimes days for approval)

So, download it, unzip it, and install it like you would any theme. Once installed, you'll see a folder called /lang. In there is en_EN.po. That is your starting point for creating all your language versions. I'm not going to explain what do to with the .po or how multilanguage sites work since it can get a little tricky, but here are some resources.

Important resources

Poedit
Software to convert .po to .mo
WPML.org
Lots of info on translating your site. But the WPML plugin is not recommended. See below.
Qtranslate plugin
This is a required plugin. See below.

qTranslate Plugin

The qTranslate plugin is the required one to use for one BIG reason: You only need to post a property listing ONCE. Only the title and "content area" is entered for each language, but the listings, and all other info is entered just once. Great!

In the /lang folder you'll see a file called en_US.po. This file was generated from the theme to get every bit of text that can be translated. You need to make a COPY of this file and rename it for all of your site languages. For example, for German, copy and rename it to be de_DE.po, for french, fr_FR.po, etc.

To translate, you will need to open each .po file in a program called Poedit: http://www.poedit.net/download.php. Once opened, you click on each bit of text, and at the bottom of the window type in your translation for that text. Do this for all the bits of text. If you leave anything untouched, then the site will show it in the default theme text.

Once you're done translating the .po file, for example, fr_FR.po, go to File -> Save. This will AUTOMATICALLY create a file called fr_FR.mo. (it takes the .po file and saves it with the same name, but with a .mo file extension). Upload that file (e.g. fr_FR.mo) to the theme's /lang folder.

Do this same process for all your .po files. When you're done, you may have files like this in the /lang folder:

/lang/en_EN.mo
/lang/fr_FR.mo
/lang/de_DE.mo
/lang/ru_RU.mo

...etc.

Even if your default language is English, and you need to change the default English text included with the theme, you will have to work with an en_EN.po file (do translations in English, and then convert to en_EN.mo). So don't directly edit the php files for changing the default English text!

Now when you switch languages in your theme, the site should use the .mo files to change all the text.

If you make any changes or additions to the site, regarding to anything translatable, you may need to create a new .po file. To do that, you can use Poedit, but I honestly find it way too difficult and not very intuitive. I find it easier to use this web site: http://www.icanlocalize.com/tools/php_scanner   You'll need to put all your php files from the root of the theme + the /includes folder into a single zip file. Then upload that zip to the site and it will make a .po file very quickly.

Property Types

The search area has a dropdown of Property Types. You'll need to edit the html for that dropdown for your default language. Edit near the bottom of /includes/customsearchform.php. Important: The values of each hard coded Property Type MUST MATCH EXACTLY with the Property Types that you have entered in

Theme Options -> General. (The Property Types in the Theme Options aren't used for the search, but it is used when you choose a Property Type when you make a new Listing).

Custom Shortcodes

See [here for examples and documentation](#) for basic shortcodes

See [here for examples and documentation](#) for multi-column text shortcodes (for full width layouts)

See [here for examples and documentation](#) for multi-column text shortcodes (when there is one sidebar in your layout)