

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Allow my users to switch between set css styles \(themes\) on my bootstrap site?](#)

Bluffer - February 8, 2017, 4:23 pm

Hello I am wondering what the best way to allow my users to switch between different style sheets is.

Basically I want to allow a couple different color schemes and style changes and let the user choose which one they want to display and they can save that one as their default.

I don't imagine this is a difficult task so if somebody wants to explain how I could do it that would be awesome!

My site uses Bootstrap as I mentioned in the title.

slober - February 9, 2017, 5:54 pm

(Feb 8, 2017 05:23 PM)?luffer Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Hello I am wondering what the best way to allow my users to switch between different style sheets is.

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I don't imagine this is a difficult task so if somebody wants to explain how I could do it that would be awesome!

My site uses Bootstrap as I mentioned in the title.

If I would do this I would first make the different CSS styles or design the different templates

After this you could use a cookie to check which theme (set of styles) he previously used and implement the style the user requested

I would advise using JQuery for this

Here are some tutorials:

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/1599287/create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery>

<https://www.sitepoint.com/eat-those-cookies-with-jquery/>

Possible other techniques (although JQuery would be the most dynamic one) would be:
PHP and cookies

PHP and MySQL

Bluffer - February 9, 2017, 9:24 pm

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Possible other techniques (although JQuery would be the most dynamic one) would be: PHP and cookies

PHP and MySQL

Wow, thank you!

SIM-2090815 - February 10, 2017, 4:54 pm

Maybe take a look here http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_intro.asp

They use what your on about here

Bluffer - February 10, 2017, 9:48 pm

(Feb 10, 2017 05:54 PM)Dispaced Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Maybe take a look here

http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_intro.asp

They use what your on about here

Thanks for trying but I don't see where I can find the code for that part of the page. Its just an introduction to CSS page which shows that as an example.

Bluffer - February 16, 2017, 11:22 pm

Anyone else have some ideas?

Bluffer - February 19, 2017, 2:37 pm

Somebody help me plz lol ?

SIM-2908357 - February 19, 2017, 5:18 pm

Slober is correct, you will need JQuery for this.

What the code below does:

- On button click, a function is triggered.
- This function uses JQuery to change your stylesheet.

JQuery is very simple to learn & extremely useful for Front End Design.
If you have any questions please let me know.

Bluffer - February 19, 2017, 6:25 pm

(Feb 19, 2017 06:18 PM)Hydroponics Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Slober is correct, you will need JQuery for this.

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Thanks I'll do my best to follow this.

I recently was doing html/css through FreeCodeCamp just for a refresher but didn't like JQuery when it came to that section I'm sure I'll eventually learn it I just would rather get more experience exclusively in html/css before I move onto that.

Appreciate your help though I'll hopefully be able to implement this into my site.

SIM-2908357 - February 19, 2017, 6:55 pm

(Feb 19, 2017 07:25 PM)?luffer Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Thanks I'll do my best to follow this.

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Appreciate your help though I'll hopefully be able to implement this into my site.

Btw, instead of starting a project and learning everything you need for it as you go, you should stop and take a week off to read documentations (js, jquery, bootstrap, css, css3, html5).

It helps a ton just reading over documentations, and attempting to understand them.

The way your learning has frequent roadblocks which can be demotivating and discouraging.

I'm not saying you can't learn that way, I just feel that my advice could work for you because it did for me.

JQuery is also extremely essential if you want to go beyond building static un-responsive pages so you need to learn it.

grady - February 19, 2017, 6:58 pm

Is this a simple HTML & CSS page or is there anything powering this?

Bluffer - February 19, 2017, 9:44 pm

(Feb 19, 2017 07:55 PM)Hydroponics Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Btw, instead of starting a project and learning everything you need for it as you go, you should stop and take a week off to read documentations (js, jquery, bootstrap, css, css3, html5).

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JQuery is also extremely essential if you want to go beyond building static un-responsive pages so you need to learn it. Thank you for that, I've been needing some advice like that as I've been finding myself stuck as to where to go next... I feel like the CSS tutorials I've gone through have only taught the main things and not all of CSS as I haven't even learnt about things like FlexBox or web-kit. I'll try reading some documentation but today I've been doing some php on codecademy I would really prefer to work with front-end stuff first though.

(Feb 19, 2017 07:58 PM)?Infamy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Is this a simple HTML & CSS page or is there anything powering this? This website uses Bootstrap.

grady - February 19, 2017, 10:08 pm

(Feb 19, 2017 10:44 PM)?luffer Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This website uses Bootstrap.
For future reference, Bootstrap is just an HTML, CSS, and JS library.

Bluffer - February 19, 2017, 11:37 pm

(Feb 19, 2017 11:08 PM)?Infamy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) For future reference, Bootstrap is just an HTML, CSS, and JS library.
yes thought that is what you were asking ?

masterfan - February 21, 2017, 2:18 am

If you want that change to be permanent (or at least for some time) then you will have to save the change in cookie / localStorage. The thing that "Hydroponics" said works, but once the user refreshes the page he will have the old stylesheet.

gambit~ - February 21, 2017, 1:00 pm

Well, the jQuery solution is great. And can be a lot more user friendly - however you're probably going to want a way to save a users style choice provided they decide to come back to your site. This can be accomplished using PHP.

This can seem daunting at first, however providing you follow these instructions you should hopefully have it working pretty quickly.

Before using PHP on you're site - make sure you meet these requirements: Your pages end with .php - you can rename index.html to index.php and it should work the same!

Your web host/server actually has PHP installed. If when renaming your pages to have PHP extensions they break and spit out all of the code, then you don't have PHP installed.

If this happens then I recommend that you don't follow this post. And change any extensions back from .php to .html.

--

Now that those prerequisites have been met, you'll want to put this at the top of every page, before absolutely everything including your <html> or DOCTYPE declarations. (If you're including a header file, then you only need to put it at the top of the header file)

PHP Code

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

Now. Where you include the stylesheet for the theme, you'll want to change a few things. I've

included a before and after example. Hopefully you can get your head around it. If not, let me know and I'll give you some help.

BEFORE

Code <link rel="stylesheet" href="style/stylesheet1.css" type="text/css" />AFTER

Code <link rel="stylesheet" href="style/<?php if(isset(\$_SESSION['theme'])) : echo
\$_SESSION['theme']; else : echo 'stylesheet1.css'; endif; ?>Just rename stylesheet1.css above to whatever the default theme stylesheet is.

Finally, create a new file called 'settheme.php' or something similar.

Just paste this code into the file.

PHP Code

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<?php
session_start();
if(isset($_GET['theme'])) {
    $_SESSION['theme'] = preg_replace('/[^A-Za-z0-9-.V]/', '', $_GET['theme']);
}
?>
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Done!

Now to allow people to set their stylesheets, then you just need to have them click on a link like this:

Code Theme 1or

Code Theme 2etc..

Bluffer - February 21, 2017, 4:00 pm

(Feb 21, 2017 02:00 PM)morganjp2 Wrote: [CITE](#) Well, the jQuery solution is great. And can be a lot more user friendly - however you're probably going to want a way to save a users style choice provided they decide to come back to your site. This can be accomplished using PHP.

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Code Theme 2etc..Thanks I will give this a try.

The site I'm putting this on is already using a source that has a lot of PHP already so hopefully I can still add this in.

I'll let you know if there's some thing that comes up as an issue for this but I ultimately think doing it in PHP is the best option.

grady - February 21, 2017, 4:27 pm

(Feb 21, 2017 05:00 PM)?luffer Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Thanks I will give this a try.

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That's what I was attempting to ask lol.

Trying to see if there's any dynamic language powering it, or if it's just a simple static page site.

And yes, the above solution should work.

Bluffer - February 21, 2017, 5:49 pm

(Feb 21, 2017 05:27 PM)?Infamy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's what I was attempting to ask lol.

Trying to see if there's any dynamic language powering it, or if it's just a simple static page site.

And yes, the above solution should work.

My mistake man didn't quite know what you meant but yeah its using an existing source.

Haven't really had a chance to try his solution yet however because my site uses Bootstrap I know there is several CSS files that I would have to apply this to? Curious how that would work as the

poster provided a solution if my site only has one css file.

Bluffer - *February 22, 2017, 11:43 pm*

I made a deal with Xez for him to code this in php for me, I'm satisfied. thanks for all the help guys.