Personal Website with Minimal Mistakes Jekyll Theme HOWTO - Part II

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> *This is Part II of the website HOWTO series. See* [Part I](#) *on Docker,* [Part III](#) *on deployment with GitHub pages and* [Part IV](#) *on SEO and analytics.*

This website is built with **Jekyll using Minimal Mistakes theme** and hosted on **GitHub Pages**. For development and writing posts I use Docker that builds a static website locally and serves it from a Docker container. I then push the local changes upstream to GitHub which then builds the website on GitHub's servers.

In this second HOWTO serie, I explain most of the changes I made to the [Minimal Mistakes theme (https://github.com/mmistakes/minimal-mistakes)](https://github.com/mmistakes/minimal-mistakes). So if you like how this site looks, it will save you long hours of tweaking and experimenting!

When working on my customization, I found these MM documentation links particularly useful:

- [Creating New Posts (https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/docs/pages/)](https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/docs/pages/)
- [Useful Markup Overview (https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/markup/markup-html-tags-and-formatting/)](https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/markup/markup-html-tags-and-formatting/)
- [Code Highlighting (https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/markup-syntax-highlighting/)](https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/markup-syntax-highlighting/)
- [Image Alignment (https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/markup/markup-image-alignment/)](https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/markup/markup-image-alignment/)
- [More on Image Alignment (https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/markup-more-images/)](https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/markup-more-images/)
- [Overlay Image (https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/layout/uncategorized/layout-header-overlay-image/)](https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/layout/uncategorized/layout-header-overlay-image/)
- [Splash Page (https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/splash-page/)](https://mmistakes.github.io/minimal-mistakes/splash-page/)

> ⊡ **Tip:** You can find these posts in your project to see the raw code and learn from there.

HOW TO CHANGE AVATAR FROM ROUND TO SQUARE?

- Navigate to `_sidebar.scss`

- Find `img`

- Increasing `border-radius` makes it eclipse. Change to 0% if you want the square shape. `padding` and `border` are responsible for frame around your avatar. I don't like it, so set to 0px.

```
img {
    max-width: 200px;
    border-radius: 0%;

    @include breakpoint($large) {
      padding: 0px;
      border: 0px solid $border-color;
    }
  }
```

HOW TO CHANGE SIZE OF AVATAR?

- Navigate to `_sidebar.scss`

- Find `img`

- Change `max-width`, e.g. from 200px to 180px

HOW TO CHANGE SIZE OF AUTHOR BIO AND MAKE IT ITALIC?

- Navigate to `_sidebar.scss`

- Find `.author__bio`

- Add font-size and font-style, e.g.:

```
.author__bio {
  margin: 0;
  font-size: 0.9em;
  font-style: italic;

  @include breakpoint($large) {
    margin-top: 10px;
    margin-bottom: 20px;
  }
}
```

HOW TO CHANGE LOOK OF PHOTO CREDIT IN HEADER?

- Navigate to `_page.scss`
- Find `.page__hero-caption`
- I changed the font-size to 0.6em and opacity to 0.4 here

HOW TO CHANGE LOOK OF TITLE IN HEADER?

- Navigate to `_page.scss`
- Find `.page__title`
- I tweaked text-shadow here:

```scss
.page__title,
.page__meta,
.page__lead,
.btn {
  color: #fff;
  text-shadow: 3px 3px 4px rgba(#000, 0.8);
}
```

HOW TO CHANGE COLOR OF LINKS?

- Navigate to your skin (e.g. `_contrast.scss`)
- Change `$link-color` . I opted for LinkedIn color:

```scss
$link-color: #007bb6 !default;
```

HOW TO CHANGE SIZE OF POST TITLE ON HOME PAGE?

- Navigate to `_archive.scss`
- Add font-size to `.archive__item` , e.g.:

```scss
.archive__item {
  position: relative;
  font-size: 0.8em;
```

HOW TO CHANGE FONT TYPE EVERYWHERE?

- Navigate to `_variables.scss`
- Find `$global-font-family`
- Change it to one specified earlier in that section or add a new one e.g.

```
$global-font-family: $helvetica, Arial !default;
```

HOW TO CHANGE FONT SIZE IN POSTS?

- Navigate to `_page.scss`
- Find `.page__content`
- Change p,a,li,dl font-size from 1em to e.g. 0.9em to make it smaller

```
p,
li,
dl {
  font-size: 0.8em;
}
```

HOW TO CHANGE MARGINS BETWEEN HEADERS/PARAGRAPHS?

- Navigate to `_base.scss`
- Change headers margin (h1,h2,h3,h4…) on the top from 2em to 1.3em
- Change paragraphs (p) margin-bottom from 1.3em to 1.5em

HOW TO DELETE CALENDAR ICON IN POSTS DATE?

- Navigate to `single.html`
- Find `class="page__date"`
- And delete:

```
<i class="fas fa-fw fa-calendar-alt" aria-hidden="true">
```

HOW TO MAKE POST DATE APPEAR AFTER THE TITLE?

- Navigate to `single.html`
- Move the following code from `<footer>` to `<header>` :

```
{% if page.last_modified_at %}
  <p class="page__date"><strong>{{ site.data.ui-text[site.locale].date_label | default: "Updated:" }}</strong>
<time datetime="{{ page.last_modified_at | date: "%Y-%m-%d" }}">{{ page.last_modified_at | date: "%B %d, %Y" }}
</time></p>
{% elsif page.date %}
  <p class="page__date"><strong>{{ site.data.ui-text[site.locale].date_label | default: "Updated:" }}</strong>
<time datetime="{{ page.date | date_to_xmlschema }}">{{ page.date | date: "%B %d, %Y" }}</time></p>
{% endif %}
```

(Optional)

Delete "Updated:" from `single.html` and from `ui-text.yml` (called date_label)

HOW TO MAKE SHARE BUTTONS APPEAR AFTER THE TITLE ON TOP OF THE PAGE?

- Navigate to `single.html`
- Move this code from footer to header:

```
{% if page.share %}{% include social-share.html %}{% endif %}
```

Few more nicities for the look of share buttons and we are done.

- Navigate to `social-share.html`
- Delete the first if Liquid block with h4 `page__share-title`
- Delete the words Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook in between `<span>` `</span>` tags
- Navigate to `_page.scss`
- Find `.page__share`
- Delete `border-top` , `padding-top` and `margin-top`

HOW TO DELETE PAGINATION IN POSTS?

These are the buttons "previous"/"next"

- Navigate to `single.html`

- Delete `{% include post_pagination.html %}`

HOW TO CHANGE WIDTH OF CONTENT IN POSTS?

My MacBook Pro has dimensions larger than `$max-width` specified in `_page.scss` like so:

```scss
@include breakpoint($x-large) {
    max-width: $max-width;
  }
```

`$max-width` currently is 1280px and lives in `_variables.scss`. I have increased it to 1400px to have more space for content.

HOW TO CHANGE CODE HIGHLIGHTING?

There are two ways to highlight code:

WAY 1

```
{% highlight html linenos %}
some code
{% endhighlight %}
```

WAY 2

Just use markdown for block of code:

```
    ``` python
    Your block of code here
    ```
```

In both cases, the colors to use are specified in your skin. For instance, contrast skin uses these colors, which you can find in `_contrast.scss`:

```scss
/* contrast syntax highlighting (base16) */
$base00: #000000;
$base01: #242422;
$base02: #484844;
$base03: #6c6c66;
$base04: #918f88;
$base05: #b5b3aa;
$base06: #d9d7cc;
$base07: #fdfbee;
$base08: #ff6c60;
$base09: #e9c062;
$base0a: #ffffb6;
$base0b: #a8ff60;
$base0c: #c6c5fe;
$base0d: #96cbfe;
$base0e: #ff73fd;
$base0f: #b18a3d;
```

> 🗔 **Tip:** You can specify colors from another skin. Or check other [base16 colors (https://github.com/chriskempson/base16)](https://github.com/chriskempson/base16).

You also have base16 in the `_variables.scss` where they are specified as default colors

> 🗔 **Note:** If you have Liquid syntax in your code block, don't forget to wrap it into raw/endraw tags or it won't be displayed otherwise.

HOW TO CHANGE FONT SIZE/FONT TYPE OF CODE?

To change size/background color of inline code highlighted with `` (backticks):

- Navigate to `_base.scss`

- Change font-size in this part of code :

```scss
p > code,
a > code,
li > code,
figcaption > code,
td > code {
  padding-top: 0.1rem;
  padding-bottom: 0.1rem;
  font-size: 0.9em;
```

To change font type and font size of code blocks:

```
tt,
code,
kbd,
samp,
pre {
  font-family: $monospace;
  font-size: 0.9em;
}
```

HOW TO CHANGE LINE HIGHT IN HIGHLIGHTED CODE?

- Navigate to `_syntax.scss`

- Find `div.highlighter-rouge`

- Change `line-height`

HOW TO CREATE TAGS ARCHIVE?

- Create `tags/tag-archive.md` with this content:

```
---
title: "Posts by Tag"
permalink: /tags/
layout: tags
author_profile: true
---
```

- Navigate to `0.0.0.0:4000/tags/` in your browser to see tags archive.

> 🗒 **Note:** Make sure that the following code is uncommented in your `_config.yml`:

```
tag_archive:
  type: liquid
  path: /tags/
```

HOW TO CREATE POSTS BY YEAR ARCHIVE?

- Add to `navigation.yml` another nav link, e.g.

```
- title: "Archive"
  url: /year-archive/
```

- Create `year-archive.md` with this content:

```
---
title: "Posts by Year"
permalink: /year-archive/
layout: posts
author_profile: true
---
```

Tags: CSS   Minimal Mistakes Jekyll

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