Widgetize Pages Plugin & Page Builder Plugin

PLUGIN IGNITE PRESENTATION, PORTLAND, OR

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This presentation covers:

- Why you need a page builder/widgetizer
- Widgetize Pages overview
- Page Builder overview
- How Widgetize Pages works
- How Page Builder Works
- Points of interest / comparison
- Alternatives - connect

“Can’t you just put my calendar in the middle of the page?”

- These plugins address layout limitations on themes that you can’t change without doing a lot of coding for things like padding, margins, etc.

- RE: permanence - Nothing in core to address these layout limitations yet. Greg Priday (Page Builder creator): “I was at a small WordPress meetup in Cape Town and spoke to Matt about a page/content builder for WordPress. He gave a rough guess of WordPress 3.9 being the time when they'd look at including drag and drop Page Builder functionality in the core. That would still be over a year off given the current release cycle.” (May 2013)

- Widgetize Pages and Page Builder allow users to easily drop sidebar items into pages, posts & other theme locations, or even create rows and columns and build all the main site content entirely out of widgets.

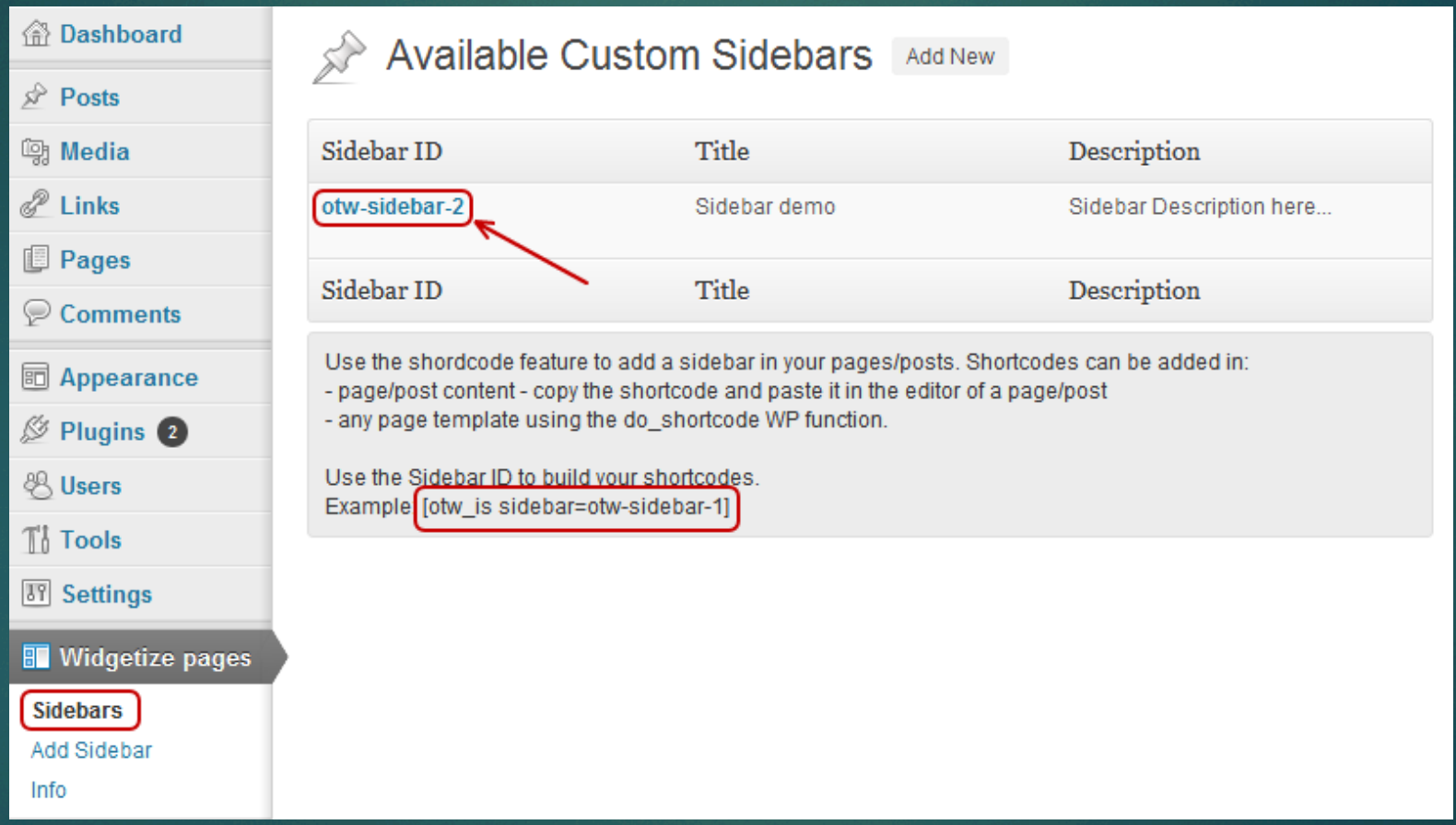
Widgetize Pages Plugin

- Plugin Author: OTWthemes (codecanyon.net)
- Available since October 2012
- Both free version and full version; the full version retails for $20 single use; extended license is $100.
- Free version is ideal for isolated widget drop-in when you already have most column issues worked out. Full version has many more options, even allowing one to manage ALL sidebars, create both vertical & horizontal columns, and good integration with a number of other plugins such as WPML, WooCommerce & BuddyPress.
- Ajax-based. “Fits well into core.” Not currently in core, however.

Page Builder Plugin

- by Site Origin – Greg Priday http://siteorigin.com/page-builder/
- First available to public in the middle of April 2013; same approx. number of downloads to date as Widgetize Pages. Free. Also free widget inclusion.
- Drag & Drop, easy column creation
- User doesn't need to work with shortcodes even
- Grid Engine: The CSS generated by Grid Engine is up to 10-50 times lighter than typical CSS grid systems. The CSS is inline style. Heavy Javascript.
- Very active current development and support.

Widgetize Pages (Light) – Step 1



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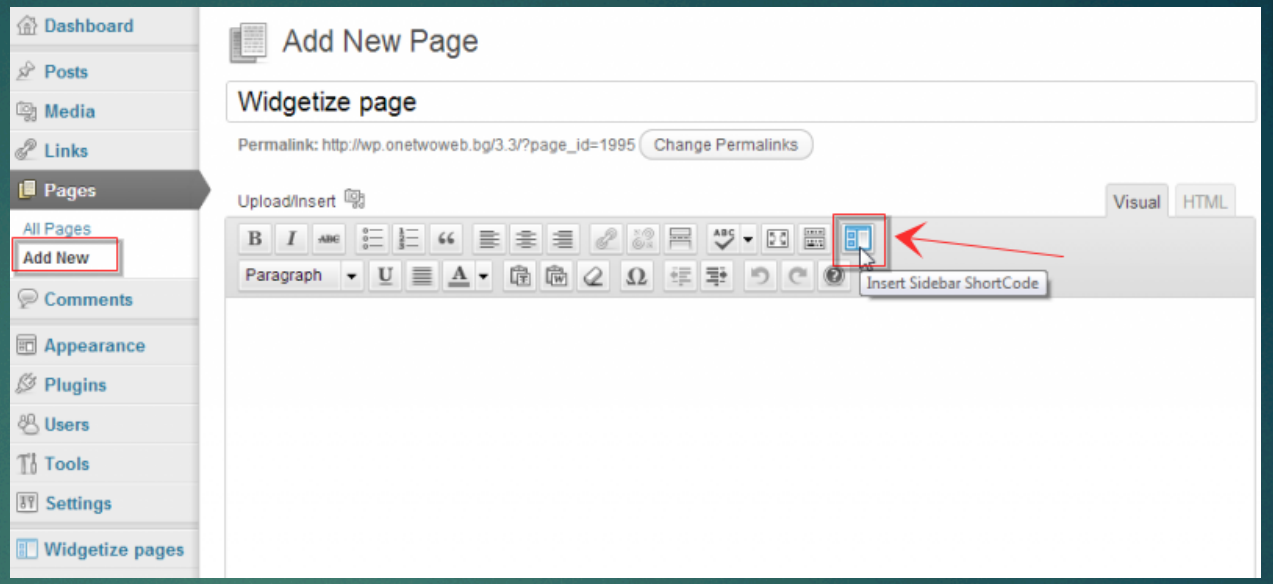
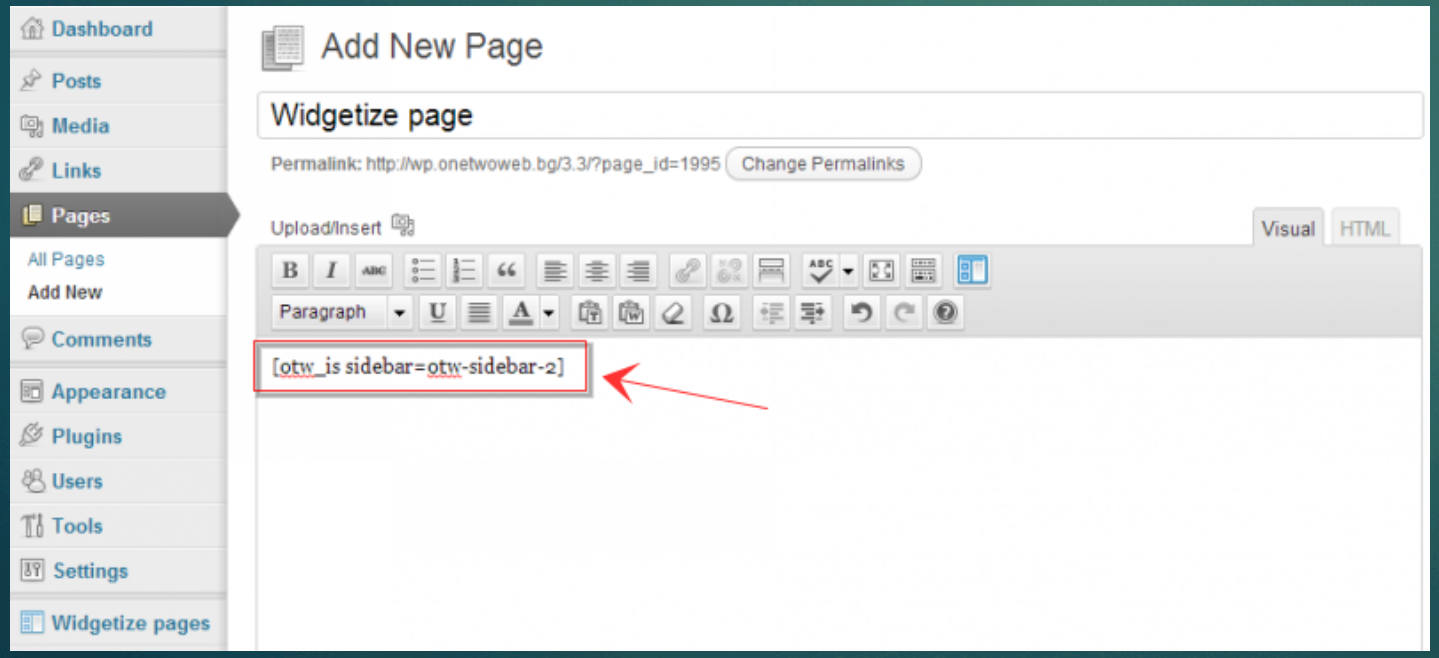
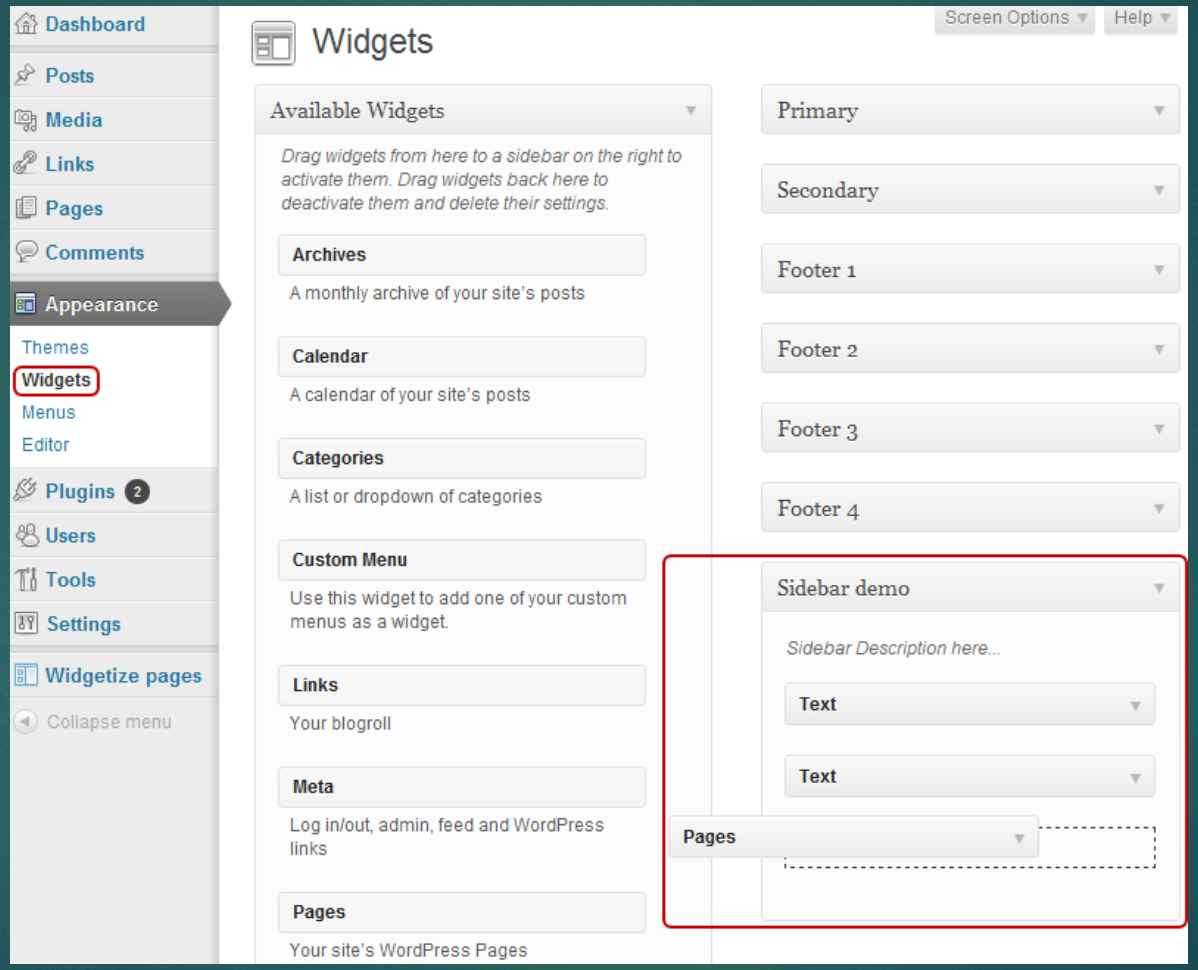
Shortcode.





Done.


Dashboard
Posts
Media
Links
Pages
Comments
Appearance
Themes
Widgets
Menus
Editor
Plugins 2
Users
Tools
Settings
Widgetize pages
Collapse menu
Widgets
Screen Options
Help
Available Widgets
Drag widgets from here to a sidebar on the right to activate them. Drag widgets back here to deactivate them and delete their settings.
Archives
A monthly archive of your site's posts
Calendar
A calendar of your site's posts
Categories
A list or dropdown of categories
Custom Menu
Use this widget to add one of your custom menus as a widget.
Links
Your blogroll
Meta
Log in/out, admin, feed and WordPress links
Pages
Your site's WordPress Pages
Primary
Secondary
Footer 1
Footer 2
Footer 3
Footer 4
Sidebar demo
Sidebar Description here...
Text
Text
Pages

Widgetize Pages: Styling & Columns

- Styling the new sidebar widgets – need to know code to do this.
- Each sidebar has its own class, or they can all be styled via the main tag (otw-sidebar)

- For individual styling use:

.otw-sidebar-1 for the whole sidebar
.otw-sidebar-1 hw.widgettitle for the headings
.otw-side-bar .widget for the individual widgets.

- No column creation/management included in free version.

Deeper integration

- If you want to insert the sidebar in the **page content editor**, paste the shortcode there.

- If you want to insert it **in a template file of your theme** use the do_shortcode WordPress function

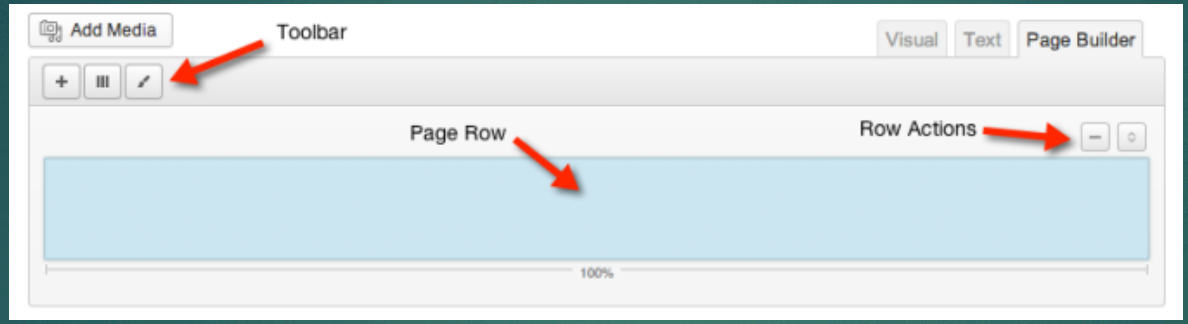
- Example:

[otw_is sidebar=otw-sidebar-1]

<?php echo do_shortcode('[otw_is sidebar=otw-sidebar-1]'); ?>

Page Builder: How to.

- Install Plugin. Open content editor – 3rd tab is Page Builder

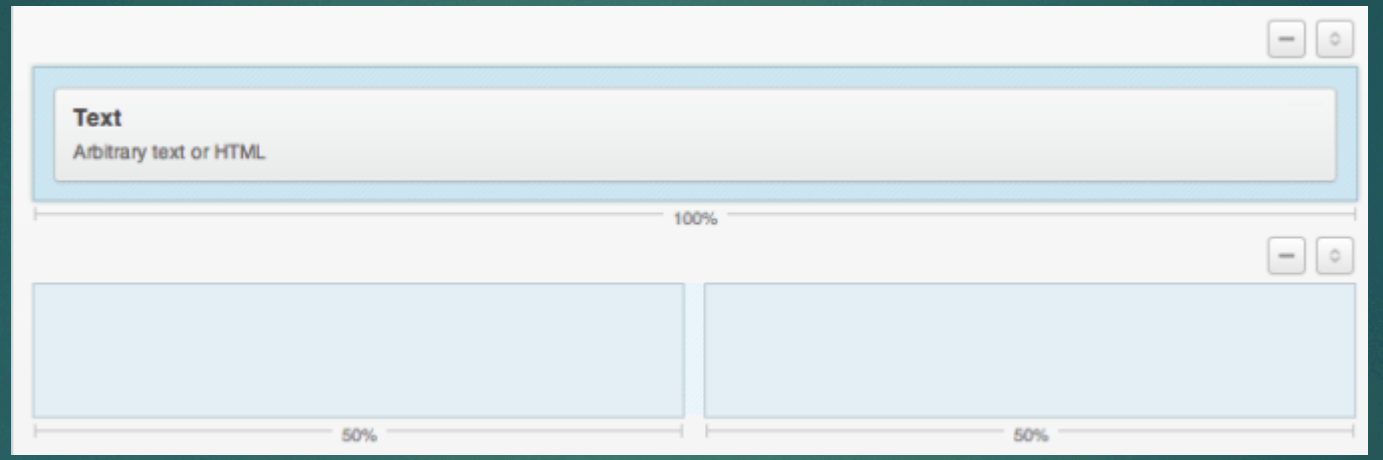


- To add a new row of columns, click on the add columns button (3 upright bars). You can choose how many columns you want in your new row.

- Widgets form the building blocks of your pages. Click on the add widget button (plus icon) in the toolbar to bring up the widget selection interface.

- Can also load preexisting layouts as a starting point – supplied either by theme or by cloning your own page layouts built with Page Builder.

Insert widget; drag & drop. Boom.



Styling: Follows theme specs.
Integrates with: Black Studio TinyMCE (WYSWYG), translation-ready
Includes: various self-hosted widgets, ie, video player

Points of interest

Widgetize Pages

- Does not integrate with theme styles. Custom individual and universal sidebar styling possible using coding.
- Copying layout more circuitous
- Free, simple version ideal for single-instance use.
- Has been around longer

Page Builder

- Adopts current theme styles. Can customize if desired via CSS.
- Easy to clone layouts
- Ideal for clients who want something like the Wix setup on Wordpress
- Responsive
- More recent; more popular

Some Alternatives

- Pagebuilder (Elegant Themes)
- Visual Composer (WP Bakery)
- Aqua (ThemeForest)

(all paid)

- Your experience? Your favorite?

Please share now or @WiredPinecone / js@jennystoffel.com