

## **How to Build a Website with Genesis - Lesson 10 - Understanding and Using Plugins & Widgets**

### **Understanding WordPress Widgets**

1. What's a Widget?
  - a. A module that adds content or functionality to a page
  - b. Can only be placed in a widget area
2. Understanding the Widgets panel
  - a. Sidebars
  - b. Available widgets
  - c. Inactive widgets
3. Add a widget to a sidebar
4. Parts of a widget
  - a. Title
  - b. Settings
5. Arrange widgets within a sidebar

### **Types of WordPress Widgets**

1. Blog related widgets
  - a. Archives
  - b. Calendar
  - c. Categories
  - d. Genesis -eNews and Updates
  - e. Genesis - Featured Posts
  - f. Recent Comments
  - g. Recent Posts
  - h. RSS
  - i. Tag Cloud
2. Safely Ignored Widgets
  - a. Genesis Category Menu
  - b. Genesis - Page Menu
  - c. Genesis - User Profile
  - d. Meta
3. Widgets Useful on a Static Site
  - a. Custom Menu
  - b. Genesis - Featured Page
  - c. Genesis - Latest Tweets
  - d. Links
  - e. Pages
  - f. Search
  - g. Text

### **Understanding WordPress Plugins**

1. What's a plugin?
  - a. A module that adds functionality to your site
  - b. Does not necessarily display anything on a page
2. Understanding the plugin dashboard
  - a. plugin navigation
  - b. bulk actions

- c. plugin status
  - i. Name
  - ii. Description
  - iii. Action links
  - iv. Author link
  - v. Plugin link
- 3. Updating Plugins

### **Installing Plugins**

1. Quick Installation Method
  - a. Install screen
    - i. admin screen links
    - ii. search form
    - iii. browse tags
  - b. Search for term - NextGen Gallery
  - c. Select from list
  - d. View Details
  - e. Install - NextGen Gallery
  - f. activate
2. FTP Method
  - a. Locate on WordPress.org plugin repository - Genesis Favicon Uploader
  - b. Download to your computer
  - c. unzip file to appropriate location
  - d. ftp
  - e. activate
  - f. Add the favicon
    - i. What's a favicon
    - ii. favicon.cc
3. De-activate Plugin
4. Delete Plugin

### **Add contact information using a text widget**

1. Add text widget to your sidebar
2. Add a title to the widget
3. Add Contact Information
4. Automatically add paragraphs

### **Create a call to action using a text widget**

1. Install Black Studio Tiny MCE Widget
2. Text based Call to Action
  - a. title - centered h3
  - b. phone number link
  - c. heading link - centered h4
  - d. text
3. Opt-in form
  - a. get the code
  - b. paste the code

### **Add a video using a text widget**

1. Get the video embed code
  - a. Set the width correctly
2. Add a title
3. Add the code

### **Configure the NextGen Gallery plugin**

1. What NextGen Gallery does
  - a. Collects pictures in a gallery
  - b. Displays gallery on a page
  - c. Click the thumbnail results in the expanded view
2. Initial Settings - Options
  - a. General Options
  - b. Thumbnails
  - c. Images
3. Create a gallery
  - a. Upload images
  - b. Manage gallery
  - c. Add alt tags
  - d. Add descriptions
4. Add the widget
  - a. Title
  - b. Number to show
  - c. Width and Height
    - i. Sidebar width - 280px
    - ii. available width - 246 px
    - iii. image width
5. Optimize the Thumbnail Size
  - a. Find the ideal image width
  - b. Regenerate thumbnail images
6. Add the widget to the footer
  - a. Widget settings