Bootstrap Designer
Quick Start Guide
A Step-by-step Guide to Designing Responsive HTML5 Templates
GETTING STARTED

We will see how to implement a Book Store website design idea using Bootstrap Designer. Before going through the steps, here is a screenshot of the final result.

![Book Store Website Screenshot]

Now, let us get started. Log into Bootstrap Designer and click “New Design” button. Choose **STANDARD 1 (HEADER TEXT)** layout.
Bootstrap Designer allows a user to choose common layout options, so that they can quickly focus on the design aspect of a project.

By clicking the Design Tool, a list of menu items is displayed, containing Background, Font, Site Name, etc.

Selecting More will open additional menu items: Footers, Buttons, Top Area 1, Top Area 2, and more.

Let us now focus on each element of the design.
SITE NAME

(ESTIMATED TIME: 2-3 MINUTES)

Select Site Name from the design tool and enter “Book Store” (you can remove the Tag Line text). Then, open Site Name dialog by clicking the Style link.

Choose “Fjalla One” from Google font’s selection and adjust the font styles as follows:

You will also need to adjust the site name position by opening the Site Name Container dialog.

Specify the Top Spacing to around 18px.

Now select MORE on the design tool and open Top Area 2 dialog.

Adjust the background gradient color to: #ab1d1d - #8f0000.

Here is the final result of our site name:
BIG PHOTO HEADER

(ESTIMATED TIME: 2-3 MINUTES)

In this example, I used a photo from:

http://photodune.net/item/happy-owner-of-a-bookstore/1127574

Tips: before buying a stock photo for use in your project, you can try first using the watermarked preview provided.

In this example, I choose a Medium size photo (1586 x 1261) and crop the photo to fit the header background proportionally:
The photo dimension does not have to be accurately proportional, as Bootstrap Designer will automatically adjust it to fit the intended area.

Now, from the design tool, select Top Area 1.

Open My Files tab. Here you can upload the photo.

Select the photo and check the STRETCH option. The photo will be displayed, but may still not place nicely in the header area (Top Area 1). We will fix it by adjusting the Header Text.
Select Back on the design tool and choose the header’s TEXT setting.

Enter up to three lines of text:

Adjust the styles of each line by selecting the Style link. Try the following settings (the same way as you have adjusted the Site Name):

Line 1 Font: Fjalla One (59px, Letter Spacing: 2px, Uppercase)
Line 2 Font: Garamond (23px, Letter Spacing: 1px, Italic, Highlight: #a30000)
Line 3 Font: Fjalla One (17px, Letter Spacing: 1px, Uppercase)

On the 3rd line you may use a button:

```
<a class="btn btn-large btn-primary" href="#">Call to Action !</a>
```

For more button elements, please refer to the Bootstrap framework documentation (http://twitter.github.com/bootstrap/).
You can style the button later using *Buttons* dialog.

![Buttons dialog](image)

Now, going back to the header text, open the *Container* dialog.

![Container dialog](image)

Adjust the Header Text container position, which will automatically adjust the header area size (Top Area 1).
Specify Top/Bottom padding and Vertical Position as seen on the screenshot:

**Top Padding: 200px, Bottom Padding: 0px, Vertical Position: 200px**

(Note that these settings will be automatically adjusted on smaller screen)

Choose **Right** to make the header text aligned right.

You will now see that the big photo header is displayed nicely together with the header text on top of it.
From the design tool, select **Fonts**.

Select **Add New** to add a new font scheme.

*New Font Scheme* dialog opened.

Choose **Header** from the dropdown to define font for all content headers (H1, H2, ..). Select “**Fjalla One**”, and then choose **Paragraph** from the dropdown.
Select “Forum” as our paragraphs font. Click Save to save the selected fonts as a new font scheme that can be used for other projects.

Here is our content look using the selected fonts:

For more detailed settings, select More from the designer tool and open More Text Styles dialog.

Select Page Links from the dropdown.
Use \#cc3d00 for *Page Links* color

Now specify color for *Sidebar Links*, *Footer Links*, and *Breadcrumb Links* with the same color as *Page Links*. 
MENU

(ESTIMATED TIME: 1-2 MINUTES)

Select Menu’s Settings.

Specify:

- **Active & Hover Color:** #ab1d1d
- **Sub Backcolor:** #000000
- **Sub Normal Text Color:** #ffffff (white)

Keep other settings as they are.

The result is as follow:
FINAL DESIGN

Now we have completed our quick design mockup.

You can capture it as a mockup for client.

After a client is happy with the result, you can download the complete HTML template from the download menu for the next implementation process.

The downloaded template includes some sample pages containing some goodies:

- Pages - contains Bootstrap snippets + extensions (icons, responsive video embed).
- Grid - contains a sample media gallery with responsive lightbox.
- Simple – simple sample page for you to start with your own content.
MORE ELEMENTS (SIDEBAR AND FOOTER)

On the initial phase of design, you don’t need to work with every element in detail. For example, you can work with the sidebar and footer later, after the client has agreed and is happy with the main elements of the design we have created previously.

To see the default sidebar, open the Simple page.

Here you will also see the Sidebar setting displayed on the design tool. Sidebar dialog provides settings for choosing colors and visual look of the side box container.
In practice, I rarely change the default settings of the sidebar. When I do set the Sidebar Link color (as I did previously in More Text Styles dialog) it automatically adjusts the link color here in Sidebar Settings dialog. The same also applies to Footer text.