



Lesson #29

# Image Alignment

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## **Introduction**

You've seen by now just how much the WordPress is intertwined with its theme. A lot of what you see on a typical WordPress page is controlled by the theme. This includes image alignment.

When WordPress included image alignment inside the gallery, many people were confused because they'd set the image to align left or right or center and nothing would happen. Images seemed to have a mind of their own and either didn't obey the commands or simply aligned one way no matter what the user chose.

Many theme developers were caught off guard because this was not something that the WordPress engine controlled, rather it had to be built into the theme to work. There's the background. But another point I'd like to make here, if you develop custom themes, do keep your eye on the changes for each new version that comes out. You can check out their change log for each version [here](#). Unfortunately a lot of that stuff is going to be quite technical but you're not there to figure coding out. Scan for template changes and new features that might affect your themes. Usually there aren't many.

## **Marketing Tip**

There's also a reason why you keep up with these changes. So that you have an excuse to contact your previous clients again. Don't wait for them to call you because when they do it's either very urgent or too late. Be pro-active. It'll also help you get some money coming in when things are slow and keep your incoming cash flow more regular.

When you find some new features in WordPress that would require theme editing to work, contact your clients to tell them about the updates. Offer to upgrade their site for them and to fix their theme. Make it easy on both of you. Create a fixed package price to make their decision making process easier. This also reduces back and forth communication.

## ***Fixing Image Alignment***

Thankfully, to make your theme compatible with WordPress's image upload is easy. When a user sets the image to align left, WordPress adds a class to the HTML for the image. Whenever there is a 'class' or 'id', then that means we can modify that element using CSS.

All you need to do is to add the following into your stylesheet.css. You may want to edit the margin for more or less spacing around the images.

```
img.alignleft {  
    float: left;  
    margin: 10px 10px 10px 0;  
}  
  
img.alignright {  
    float: right;  
    margin: 10px 0 10px 10px;  
}  
  
img.aligncenter {  
    text-align: center;  
    margin: 10px auto;  
    display: block;  
}
```

## ***Troubleshooting***

On some themes, especially the BlogThemeBootcamp theme we are developing here, just adding the above code will work because we have not aligned any of our images. But in certain themes, the developer has decided all images should be aligned in a certain manner by default. This means if the above fix didn't work,

you'd have to hunt down the code in your style sheet where the original developer has set images to align a certain way.

Unfortunately, it is not possible for me to tell you the exact code to look for or where it might be in the style sheet. This is where Firebug will come to the rescue again. Open the problem page and Firebug, Click Inspect and then click the problem image. Firebug will tell you exactly which line is controlling the image alignment in your CSS. If you need a refresher how to use Firebug, open up lesson 34.

Once you've determined the code and line number from Firebug, open PsPad, log in via FTP (if the site is online), open the theme's stylesheet.css and go directly to the line number. This makes finding the problem code much easier.

You can either comment it out (which is what I normally prefer) or delete the code altogether. Refresh the theme, make sure you check the alignment of the image using the image editor in WordPress again. That normally fixes the issue.

If you need the theme package for this lesson, download it [here](#).

Before I let you go, here's a quick follow up about the technical training resource I mentioned a few lessons back. Tech Training Hall's goal is to help freelancers like you and VA's get the technical training they need to better service their clients.

WordPress will naturally be one of the big features inside Tech Training Hall, but that's not all. You'll find training on membership site systems, forums, PHP, CSS, a place to get technical assistance without being talked down to, code snippets to help you get things done quickly and more. I'd like to invite you to [get on the priority notification list](#) so that you get first dibs at opening and other goodies.

Now, on to the next...

## **Next Lesson...**

Many things can only be learned from experience. Good for you either myself or people whom I know have gone through the hard stuff so you can learn about them. I'll be sharing several case studies from now on. Our next lesson will be the first and one of the more curious ones. Watch for it.

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