

*Golden Dragon*

# Starscape User Guide

**WordPress theme Starscape complete user guide**

User Guide Version: **1.5.5**  
Starscape Version: **1.5.5 Scorpius**  
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Official Blog: <http://blog.starscapetheme.com/>

Donations: <http://blog.starscapetheme.com/donate/>

Support Forum: <http://forum.gdragon.info/viewforum.php?f=5>

Support Email: [milan@gdragon.info](mailto:milan@gdragon.info)

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## Contents

Theme Elements .....	5
Header .....	5
Contents .....	5
Footer .....	5
Post / Page Item Element.....	5
Modules.....	5
Theme Features .....	6
Requirements and compatibility .....	8
Browsers compatibility.....	8
WordPress compatibility .....	8
Requirements .....	8
Language .....	8
Engines .....	9
Classic.....	9
Color Schemes.....	9
Nova .....	9
Control Panel .....	10
Front Tab Panel.....	10
General Tab Panel .....	10
Rendering Engine .....	11
Date Button Style .....	11
Favorite Icon .....	11
Icon Set .....	11

Footer Content.....	11
Engine: Classic Tab Panel.....	12
Theme Style .....	12
Header Background.....	12
Engine: Nova Tab Panel.....	12
Preset Changing .....	13
Global .....	13
Header, Main Menu, Footer, Footer Sidebar, Center .....	13
Header Tab Panel.....	14
Main Menu .....	14
Additional Top Menu.....	14
Top Menu Items .....	14
Header Style.....	15
Standard Text Header.....	15
Logo Image Header .....	15
Modules I Panel .....	15
Sidebars .....	15
Sociable DIGG.....	16
Gravatar.....	16
Print.....	16
Tags .....	16
Comments.....	17
Modules II Panel .....	17
Google Analytics.....	17
Posts Navigation.....	17

Sidebars Search Forms ..... 17

404 Page ..... 18

Post & Page Author ..... 18

Related Posts ..... 18

Author Page ..... 18

Setup ..... 18

Info about theme folders ..... 19

Theme code folders ..... 19

Language ..... 19

Additional user customizations ..... 19

    Buttons ..... 19

    Headers..... 19

    FavIcons ..... 19

    Images ..... 19

    Logos ..... 20

    Nova ..... 20

## Theme Elements

### Header

Header contains three main elements:

1. Blog Title and Subtitle
2. Main Menu
3. Additional Top Menu

### Contents

Contents are the main area, containing posts and pages along with the two sidebars. On the bottom is located footer sidebar (if activated).

### Footer

Footer contains copyright information.

### Post / Page Item Element

Each post contains standard elements, with exception of option 'Print'. This option will open the page in print mode with no header, footer and sidebars. You can then use such generated page to print post or page or to convert them to PDF.

### Modules

Theme contains various build in modules. Most of them have features that can be added by third party plugins, but I have decided that it's better to have this things implemented on the theme level. Reasons for this are:

- Valid CSS and HTML. A lot of plugins generate invalid code.
- Faster loading of the page, because of less WP and DB calls.
- Compact settings for the plugins, easier to set them actual plugins.

You can disable theme modules and use plugins if you like.

## Theme Features

Here is the list of features available with Starscape theme.

1. Two rendering engines
  - a. Classic
  - b. Nova
2. Favorite Icon
3. Date Button in different colors
4. Adjustable footer content
5. Multilanguage support
6. Header
  - a. Text or Image title
  - b. Adjustable size and colors for title
  - c. Main menu transparency, alignment and color
  - d. Additional top menu
  - e. Top menu options settings
7. Sidebars
  - a. Two sidebars on the right with adjustable width
  - b. Sidebar in footer with adjustable number of widgets
  - c. Custom Google search form
8. Post elements
  - a. Gravatar support
  - b. Print layout for posts and pages
  - c. Paged posts navigation
  - d. Comments and trackbacks support
  - e. Adjustable tags location
  - f. Author information
  - g. Related posts
  - h. DIGG Button
  - i. Icons
9. Classic Engine
  - a. Different color schemes
  - b. Adjustable height
  - c. Shadow and rounded
  - d. Header background image
10. Nova Engine
  - a. Fluid or fixed width
  - b. Header width, alignment, color, image
  - c. Main menu width, color, image
  - d. Footer width, color, image
  - e. Center width, color, image
  - f. Footer sidebar color and image
  - g. Different typography color schemes
  - h. Settings Preset
11. Advanced typography

12. Author pages and template
13. Check for new theme version

## Requirements and compatibility

Starscape theme is optimized to be CSS 2.1 and XHTML valid. This can be broken by some third party plugins, so be careful when you add some of these plugins if the valid layout is important to you.

### Browsers compatibility

Theme is tested in following browsers, and works as designed:

1. Opera 9
2. Opera 9.5
3. Mozilla Firefox 2
4. Mozilla Firefox 3
5. MS Internet Explorer 6 (minor transparent PNG issues)
6. MS Internet Explorer 7
7. Safari 3 (minor text rendering issues)

### WordPress compatibility

Theme is tested in WordPress 2.3, WordPress 2.5 and WordPress 2.6 and works great.

### Requirements

Classic engine requires minimal screen resolution of 1024x768. For Nova engine this is not the case, and you can set it to work with any resolution with fluid or fixed layout.

### Language

Files with translations need to be named like POT file with addition of local language code. For instance, here is the name of the French and Serbian translation names:

**French:** `starscape-theme-fr_FR.mu`

**Serbian:** `starscape-theme-sr_RS.mu`

When you translate a theme to a new language, send me translation files, and I will include it in the theme release.



## Engines

### Classic

Theme is 980px wide. This is fixed value, and on this complete designed is based. If you want different width, you must change all images, a lot of php / css files and this can be big job. So, for Starscape theme this is how it is going to be. Starscape II will have totally different design and width will be fluid and set to any value.

### Color Schemes

Classic engine has the following color schemes:

1. Blue
2. Dark
3. Green
4. Red
5. Yellow (1.2.0 Hydra)

### Nova

Nova engine is very much different from the Classic engine. You can change a lot more things in the blog appearance including the width, which can be fluid or fixed. Also, you can set width and height for:

- Header
- Main Menu
- Contents (only width)
- Footer (minimal height)

## Control Panel

Control panel contains several tabs (as on the picture bellow) used to set up the theme.

### Front Tab Panel

Front General Engine Header Modules I Modules II Changelog Setup

Version: **1.5.0 [Final]** | Edition: **Scorpius**

a wordpress theme  
**STARSCAPE**

You are using the latest version of Starscape theme.

**Donations:**

I am developing Starscape theme in my free time, and if you like the theme, and use it on your blog I would appreciate if you can make a donation to help further development. Thanx. [Donate](#)

**Starscape:** RSS

- Starscape Home
- Starscape Blog
- Starscape Download

**WordPress Plugins:** RSS

- GD Star Rating
- GD Pages Navigator
- GD Plugin Core
- GD LinkedIn Badge


**GDragon:**

- GDragon Home Page
- Support Forum Projects Portal

This first tab shows list of important links, and also the status update check. Update check will be performed at most once a day.

### General Tab Panel

When it comes to the blog design, this is the main tab used to set engine and some other important settings.

Front	General	Engine	Header	Modules I	Modules II	Changelog	Setup
<b>Rendering Engine:</b>		Select Engine: <input type="text" value="Nova"/>		<b>Favorite Icon:</b>		Select Favicon: <input type="text" value="blue_globe.ico"/>	
<b>Footer Content:</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show Style Name <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show Powered By		<b>Icon Set:</b>		Select Icon Set: <input type="text" value="Fam Fam Fam"/>	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show Valid XHTML <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show Valid CSS		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show additional icons for article elements			
<b>Date Button Style:</b>		Color: <input type="text" value="Red"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Render rounded button			
		Render: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> With posts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> With pages		<input type="checkbox"/> Align to the right			
<input type="button" value="Save Changes"/>							

### Rendering Engine

Starscape rendering is controlled by the engine. Hydra version of Starscape is the last version with only one engine. This engine is called Classic. Cygnus will have one more engine added. This engine is called Nova. When you change active engine, tab Engine will change complete set of options available exclusively for the selected engine.

### Date Button Style

This is the look of the date button displayed beside the posts and pages titles. Again, you can choose color and the some additional settings: rounded, alignment and whether to display it with posts and pages.

### Favorite Icon

Theme has its own FavIcon. If you use some plug-in for your own FavIcon, disable this option. You can select and use favorite icons included with the theme, or add your own icons in the FavIcon folder.

### Icon Set

Theme has different icon sets included for menu options, post elements options and search forms. You can disable post elements options if you don't like it.

### Footer Content

Footer contains basic copyright notices, and some additional elements you can choose to hide or show.

## Engine: Classic Tab Panel

Front
General
Engine
Header
Modules I
Modules II
Changelog
Setup

**Classic**

**Theme Style:**

Color:

Classic:  White Footer background  Rounded Bottom  
 Drop Shadow  Rounded Top

Header Height:  px

**Header Background:**

Image:  Color:   Header Height from background image

Classic engine is the rendering introduced from very first version of Starscape. It was changed a lot, and now includes a wide range of options.

### Theme Style

Here you can set actual theme used by the Starscape. There are different colors schemes build in. Also, you can set some additional parameters, like rounding the top and the bottom of the design, using white as a background color for outside of the footer, and should blog use default Starscape icon. Also, shadow of the theme is a separate parameter.

Also, you can set header height. This value can be overridden by header background option bellow.

### Header Background

You can choose custom picture for the background of the header. All background images you want to use must be located in the theme subfolder: 'styles/headers'. You can choose also a color for the header background if you don't use image. Also, if you use image, you can set height of the header from image height. As you can see header image is rendered beneath the main menu and main header area.

## Engine: Nova Tab Panel

This panel is used to control new Nova rendering engine.

Front
General
Engine
Header
Modules I
Modules II
Changelog
Setup

Nova

**Global:**  
 Width Type: Fixed Width [px]:   
 Typography: Red on Light

**Footer Sidebar:**  
 Background Color:   
 Background Image: No Image

**Header:**  
 Width [px]:  Height [px]:   
 Background Color:   
 Background Image: star\_draco.png

**Main Menu:**  
 Width [px]:  Height [px]:   
 Background Color:  Use:   
 Background Image: No Image

**Center:**  
 Width [px]:  Align: Top  
 Background Color:   
 Background Image: star\_draco.png

**Footer:**  
 Width [px]:   
 Background Color:   
 Background Image: No Image

**Preset Changing:**  
 Preset:  

This will change current colors and images for Nova settings. Set widths, heights and alignments will not be affected.

Nova engine is very different from Classic engine when it comes to rendering of the elements around posts and pages. Some elements of both engines use the same settings, and they are not on the engine page.

### Preset Changing

Since the theme comes with different images fitted for different overall visual styles, presets have saved color and image settings. There are few presets included, and they will change current colors and images for Nova engine. Widths, heights and alignments will not be changed.

There is no way to save presets. This will be available in Starscape 2.

### Global

Width of the theme can be fluid (no width is set or used) or fixed, and you need to specify the width of the theme. Also, you need to select typography colors for a text. All typographies are created for dark or light backgrounds so the text will be visible on different settings.

### Header, Main Menu, Footer, Footer Sidebar, Center

These elements have more or less same settings. Width and height are values only for that element. Width will override global width if it is higher than zero. If the theme is in Fluid width type, then individual widths will not be used. Each element can have background image and background color. Locations for images used

are individual folders in 'styles/nova' folder. Center element can't have height set, but it has one option other elements don't have: Align. This value is for background image.

For footer sidebar: the number of widgets you would like to have in this sidebar. This value can be 3, 4 or 5. Engine will resize all elements based on this value to best fit number of widgets you want to have there.

## Header Tab Panel

Front	General	Engine	Header	Modules I	Modules II	Changelog	Setup																								
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p><b>Header Style:</b></p> <p>Header Style: <input type="text" value="Standard Text Header"/></p> <p>Horizontal Alignment: <input type="text" value="Left"/></p> <p>Vertical Alignment: <input type="text" value="Top"/></p> <p>Padding (px): Left: <input type="text" value="30"/> Right: <input type="text" value="30"/></p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p><b>Standard Text Header:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display Title Color: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom: <input type="text" value="ffff00"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display Subtext Color: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom: <input type="text" value="ffffff"/></p> <p>Title Size (em): <input type="text" value="6"/> Subtext Size (em): <input type="text" value="2.4"/></p> </div> </div>																															
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p><b>Main Menu:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visible Alignment: <input type="text" value="Right"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Home Items Color: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom: <input type="text" value="ffffff"/></p> <p>Transparency level: <input type="text" value="90%"/></p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p><b>Top Menu Items:</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Available:</th> <th colspan="2"></th> <th>Selected:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>New Post</td> <td>-&gt;</td> <td></td> <td>Home Page</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Forum</td> <td>&lt;-</td> <td></td> <td>RSS</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Admin</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Register</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Login</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Forum URL: <input type="text" value="http://"/></p> <p>New Post: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display if user is logged and can post</p> <p>Register: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display if user is not logged in</p> <p>Login: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display if user is not logged in</p> <p>Admin: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display if user is logged in</p> </div> </div>								Available:			Selected:	New Post	->		Home Page	Forum	<-		RSS				Admin				Register				Login
Available:			Selected:																												
New Post	->		Home Page																												
Forum	<-		RSS																												
			Admin																												
			Register																												
			Login																												
<p><b>Additional Top Menu:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visible Alignment: <input type="text" value="Right"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Icons Items Color: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom: <input type="text" value="ffffff"/></p>																															
<input type="button" value="Save Changes"/>																															

### Main Menu

Main menu can be hidden or visible, aligned left or right, it can have home page link or not and can be displayed in any custom color apart from the color set by the style.

### Additional Top Menu

This menu is on top of the header, and items can have items, you can change alignment and color.

### Top Menu Items

You can choose from 7 available options for the top menu what will be visible. Also, for forum option, you can specify the URL to a Forum.

Some options have conditional rendering, and will be hidden in some instances, and you can set that with this additional checkboxes.

## Header Style

There are 3 main configurations for the header:

1. Display Nothing
2. Standard Text Header
3. Logo Image Header

When you choose option 2 or 3 you can set more stuff. These fieldset will appear on the bottom of this tab. You can set alignment for the header. You can also set the height of the header. You can set additional padding for left and right side.

### Standard Text Header

Standard Text Header:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display Title	Color:	<input type="checkbox"/> Custom:	<input type="text" value="ffffff"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display Subtext	Color:	<input type="checkbox"/> Custom:	<input type="text" value="ffffff"/>
Title Size (em):	<input type="text" value="5"/>	Subtext Size (em):	<input type="text" value="2"/>

If you decide to use standard text header, you can display only title, subtitle or both, and both can have custom colors.

### Logo Image Header

Logo Image Header:	
Image:	<input type="text" value="No Logo"/>

Logo images are located in theme subfolder: 'styles/logos'.

## Modules I Panel

This panel will contain a lot of different features modules you can use in the theme.

## Sidebars

Theme has two classic sidebars (both on the right), and the third additional located in the footer. You can set width for both classic sidebars, and number of widgets you want to show in the footer sidebar.

Front	General	Engine	Header	Modules I	Modules II	Changelog	Setup
<b>Sidebars:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left      Width: <input type="text" value="180"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Right      Width: <input type="text" value="180"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Footer      Widgets: <input type="text" value="3"/>		<b>Sociable DIGG Button:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Active      Button Style: <input type="text" value="Default"/> Position: <input type="text" value="Top"/> Align: <input type="text" value="Left"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Home Page <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> With Posts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> With Pages					
<b>Gravatar:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> With Comment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> With Post authors Allowed rating: <input type="text" value="General rating"/>		<b>Print:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display with Posts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display with Pages <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Print Comments					
<b>Tags:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display with Posts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display with Pages <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display on Front page <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display in Archives Tags location: <input type="text" value="Bottom"/>		<b>Comments:</b> Display: <input type="text" value="Comments and Trackbacks"/> Trackbacks: <input type="text" value="Mixed with Comments"/>					
<input type="button" value="Save Changes"/>							

### Sociable DIGG

This will be used to set DIGG button for a post. You can set the type of button:

- Default: this is standard DIGG button with count of diggs and digg button
- Compact: smaller version with count and button
- Icon: only small 16x16 icon

Also, you can set where to show icon on in the post area, and should the button will be visible on front page, single post or page.

### Gravatar

Gravatar support is introduced in WordPress 2.5, but implementation depends on the theme. When first install Starscape in WP2.5 your settings from WordPress will be copied to Starscape.

Gravatar images can be displayed with Comments or post authors data. Also, you can set Gravatar image rating.

### Print

Print is an interesting feature. It will add option Print to post and / or page. This will display only post or page without any additional markup: header, sidebars and menus.

Posted in [Uncategorized](#) | [Edit](#) | [Print](#)

### Tags

Post or Page tags can be shown or not. Set it here. You can set if the tags are shown for post, pages on front page and in the archives. You can also set the position of the tags: top or bottom of the post.



## Comments

Comments can be displayed with or without trackback. Also, trackback can be displayed along with the comments or separated on top or bottom.

## Modules II Panel

Front	General	Engine	Header	Modules I	Modules II	Changelog	Setup
<b>Google Analytics:</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active		Tracking Code: <input type="text" value="UA-4455483-2"/>			
<b>404 Page:</b>		Select Page: <input type="text" value="Golden"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show search form on 404 page.			
<b>Post &amp; Page Author:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Display with Posts		<input type="checkbox"/> Display with Pages			
<input type="checkbox"/> Display email		<input type="checkbox"/> Display other contact info		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show post date		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show comments count	
<b>Author Page:</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display only titles		Posts on page: <input type="text" value="10"/>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display email		<input type="checkbox"/> Display other contact info					
<b>Posts Navigation:</b>		Posts index page navigation: <input type="text" value="Advanced"/>					
<b>Sidebars Search Forms:</b>		Wordpress Search: <input type="text" value="Above Sidebars"/>		Google Search: <input type="text" value="Disabled"/>			
<b>Related Posts:</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active		Number of posts to display: <input type="text" value="5"/>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show only posts in related categories.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show post date		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show comments count			
<b>GD Star Rating:</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activate GD Star Rating comment review feature.					
<input type="button" value="Save Changes"/>							

This panel will contain some more modules you can use in the theme.

## Google Analytics

Simple module that will add code for Google Analytics tracking. You must activate module, and add tracking code you wish to use (generated by the Google Analytics website).

## Posts Navigation

This navigation will be displayed on all pages that show posts. You can use standard simple navigation (previous and next page links), or more advanced paged system.

## Sidebars Search Forms

Theme can integrate two search forms: WordPress Search and Google Search. Google search only blog. You can set where the forms can be displayed: above or below sidebars (or both). Search forms will be displayed if at least one sidebar is active.

### 404 Page

Pick the 404 page you want to use, and should this page contain search form or not. Currently 2 different layouts are included.

### Post & Page Author

This will add author info bellow the post or page. This will contain author gravatar, 5 latest posts, author full name, website address and also email and other contact info if you set options for this module for that.

### Related Posts

This module will add list of posts related to the current one. Relations will be determined by the categories and tags of the post. There are few additional parameters you can set.

### Author Page

Each author has his own page. Visitor can get directly to this page by clicking on the author name found in the post title or post/page author details.

Author page contain all author info available, and also shows some basic statistics like number of posts and comments. You can set number of posts displayed per page and also should this list be only post titles, or should it be regular archive list.

### GD Star Rating

This module will integrate support for my rating plugin if it's available. Right now only comment review integration is available.

### Setup

All maintenance options are not on the front tab. You can reset all theme settings to default, reset update data or uninstall the theme.

## Theme Folder Structure

Starscape theme has following folders:

- code
- css
- images
- info
- languages
- modules
- styles
- themes
- user\_guide

### Info about theme folders

Folder **info** contains change log, license and readme files. PDF User guide is in **user\_guide** folder.

### Theme code folders

These folders contain all the code needed by the theme, and I don't recommend changing anything there. There are 3 folders in this group: **code**, **modules**, **themes**, **images** and **css**.

### Language

Here you can find POT file needed for translating theme. Here you need to add translated files. It's best to include both PO and MO files for future reference and easier tracking of changes.

### Additional user customizations

Folder **styles** are used to store images used by the theme. You can modify images in there, add or delete.

### Buttons

Here are all the date time buttons located. I don't recommend changing this.

### Headers

This folder contains images for header background used by the Classic engine.

### FavIcons

This folder contains FavIcons.

### Images

This folder contains images used by the Classic engine. Don't change this.

### **Logos**

This folder contains images used as logo for header both for Classic and Nova engines. If you want your own logo for header, add that files in this folder, and they will be visible in the logo selection in control panel

### **Nova**

This folder contains images used by Nova engine. Here you can add images you want to use for header, center and footer. Images you add here will be visible in control panel for Nova engine settings.