



How To Set Up & Use Your Blueball StyleSwitchr Stack

Rapidweaver Skill Level: Intermediate to Advanced

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1. What does the StyleSwitchr stack do?

The Blueball StyleSwitchr stack allows any Rapidweaver user to add in “Style Switching” on their Stacks pages. The StyleSwitchr stack adds in 6 small different color square images in it that a viewer to your site can click on to change the look of your site page by switching css style sheets. **The StyleSwitchr stack is completely self contained** and does not rely on any external javascript files for it's functionality. This also virtually eliminates any javascript conflicts with themes and other third party stacks.

The benefits of using the StyleSwitchr stacks on your site pages:

- **You can change the look of your site instantly adding up to 6 different style options!**
- The styles you use can be as simple as just changing the background color on your site page to as involved as you want them to be. That's completely up to you.
- Ideal for sites like photography sites, as an example, where different background colors may enhance the viewing of images versus using the theme's stock background color. This is just one example.

2. How to install the StyleSwitchr Stacks.

Your Blueball StyleSwitchr stack bundle download includes 1 StyleSwitchr stack file, a Photoshop CS3 file for the color square images, and the StyleSwitchr_Readme file.

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To install the StyleSwitchr stack, drag the StyleSwitchr stack into the Stacks folder located within the Application Support Rapidweaver folder. This folder can be found by going to the User > Library > Application Support > Rapidweaver > Stacks folder. Then restart Rapidweaver, open up your site file, and add in a new Stacks page to get started.

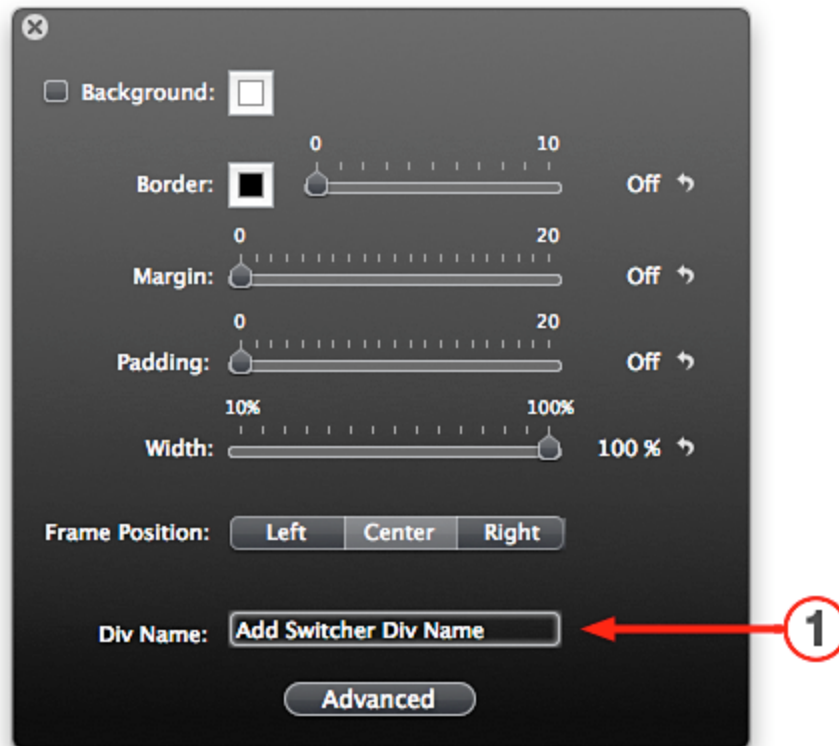
3. Adding a StyleSwitchr stack to your Stacks page.

First, add a new Stacks page to your Rapidweaver site by clicking the small “+” icon in the lower left corner of the Rapidweaver window and then select the Stacks page plugin icon. This will add in a new Stacks page to your site.

By default there is an empty Stack in your new Stacks site page you will see. Then select the StyleSwitchr stack icon displayed in the Stacks library area at the far right side of the Rapidweaver window and drag and drop it on top of the existing Stack and release it.

Let’s get started using your Blueball StyleSwitchr Stack!

4. Setting up your StyleSwitchr stack with the built-in HUD interface option just requires a unique div name. That’s it.



1 - Div Name: This is the name that will be created for the div in your StyleSwitchr stack. **This must be a unique div name, one that is not used by your theme or another other stack in any of your site’s pages.** This div name cannot have spaces or special characters used in it!

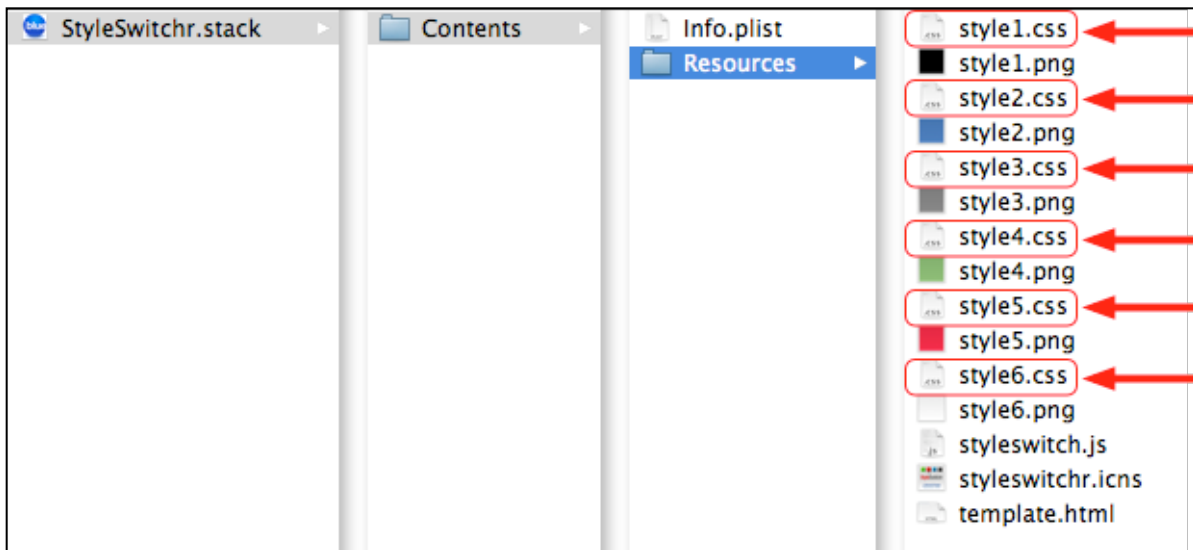
5. How To Customize Your StyleSwitchr Stack.

There are 2 items you can customize in the StyleSwitchr stacks which I will detail below for intermediate and advanced Rapidweaver users - The css files included in the StyleSwitchr stacks Resources folder and the square color images also in the Resources folder.

Customizing the css styles in StyleSwitchr

This is not near as hard as it sounds to do. As long as you have a basic knowledge of css, can cut and paste css code from one source to another, and know how to get to the StyleSwitchr stack's Resources folder, you're good to go.

Locating the css files - Go to the Stacks folder located in the Rapidweaver Application Support folder. Then click on the StyleSwitchr stack and go to the Resources folder to locate the css files you will need to edit (see image below).



Now open up each css file in the css editor of your choosing (We use CSSEdit here but another good one to use that's free is Simple CSS. You can even use TextWrangler if you like which is also free), and add in your custom css code for that style and then save it keeping the same name.

The default css files only have the body background color set in each of them to swap out the background color behind your site page. You can add in other css for items like changing the headline colors, text color, banner images, content area background colors, etc.

You could create a unique theme style for 6 different pages on a site and export your site to a folder on your hard drive and then open up the colortag.css file for each page and copy and paste the css code from each colortag.css file into one of the style.css files and save them for some really major and cool style switching with the StyleSwitchr stack as another example.

As you can see, you're only limited by your imagination as to what css styling you can add into each style.css file in the StyleSwitchr stack.

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Customizing the color squares in the StyleSwitchr stack

We include a simple Photoshop CS3 image file for you to use to create your own custom color square images that are used in the StyleSwitchr stack.

You can use the default color squares that are provided or you can create your own new images. Each color square image is 12px by 12px in size.

To create your own color squares, open up the style_square_master.psd file. You'll find a simple 12px by 12px image on one layer in a default gray color. Add in the color you want to use for the square, then save it using the "Save for web and devices" feature and save it as a png-24 file using the exact names already in place for the image files in the StyleSwitchr stack.

Whatever color scheme and css styling you have in place in your style1.css file, your style1.png color square image file would match up with it.

After you finish creating your custom color square images and named them style1.png, style2.png, style3.png, style4.png, style5.png and style6.png, drag them into the StyleSwitchr stack's Resources folder replacing the default color square images. That's it

Duplicating and renaming the StyleSwitchr stack to use on multiple sites

You can easily create unique StyleSwitchr stacks for any number of Rapidweaver sites.

Say you have 4 web sites you need to use a unique StyleSwitchr stack on. How do you do that?

First, select the StyleSwitchr stack and duplicate it (Command + D). Then rename it. This could be as simple as StyleSwitchr 1, StyleSwitchr 2 and so on. Keep it simple!

Now go into the duplicated StyleSwitchr stack you just renamed and open up the Info.plist file using TextWrangler (or the code editor of your choice). You will need to adjust 2 names in it, one at the top and one at the bottom of the file (see the 2 images below). The top name will not have any spaces in it and the bottom will be exactly like the name you gave the stack including spaces and capitalization.



So the top name for a renamed StyleSwitchr 1 stack would be "styleswitchr1" and the bottom name would now be "StyleSwitchr 1". Note that the names will not include the quote marks. After changing the names in the Info.plist file in the 2 locations noted above, save the file.

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Now restart Rapidweaver, open your site file up, go to a Stacks page, and your newly renamed StyleSwitchr stacks will now display in the Stacks library to the right of the Rapidweaver work window area.

How to place the StyleSwitchr stack into your sidebar area

You can easily place your StyleSwitchr stack into your sidebar area by using Pluskit.

First create a stacks page with just your StyleSwitchr stack on it and give it a unique short name with the Show in menu check box unchecked. Then use Pluskit and place the `@import()` page import command in your sidebar. When you preview your page next you'll see your StyleSwitchr appear in your sidebar area.

Any know conflicts with other Stacks?

Since the StyleSwitchr stack javascript is contained within the stack itself and does not rely on any external javascripts for its functionality, there should not be any conflicts with other third party stacks or themes. That said though, due to the large volume of third party stacks and themes out now it's impossible to test the the StyleSwitchr stack out with all of them to be sure there are no conflicts, so like any stack use it with caution and do not overload your Rapidweaver site's Stacks page with too many stacks. Our testing along with our beta testers using a wide variety of third party stacks and themes did not result in any known issues or conflicts.

Comments, Feedback, and Suggestions Are Welcome!

What do you think of our StyleSwitchr stack? Any suggestions on how to improve the stack? Any new features that you'd like to see added into the stack? Let us know about them please and we'll see what we can do. Email us at blueballdesign@gmail.com.

Best,
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