

Styling Guide- Contact Form 7



#1, STYLING FORMS



This is the first installment of a series of guides to Contact Form 7, a popular WordPress plugin for creating web forms. The plugin is lightweight and flexible. You don't need to be a programmer, I'm not. Likewise, you don't need buggy plugins. All you need to do is copy and paste code snippets and make simple edits to customize it for your form. The results can be breathtaking. This first installment, the guide and video, will deal only with styling the actual form itself. A later guide and video on styling the form generated emails will follow. Hang on to this guide so you have the code and its corresponding explanations when you go to build your own forms in Contact Form 7. A note, people often ask, where does the code go? That's easy. The HTML goes in the individual form layouts in Contact Form 7. The CSS goes into the Additional CSS under the Customize tab of your WordPress dashboard. It may also go in a child theme if you are using one.

Change background color of whole form

This CSS allows you to substitute your hex code after the # or delete the # and add a CSS color name. Right now, the color is set for a grey.

```
.wpcf7 {  
  background-color: #F0F0F0;  
}
```

Detailed treatment of whole form

Here's CSS that allows you to set a background transparency, a border with transparency also, rounded corners, padding and margins.

```
.wpcf7 {  
  background-color: #F0F0F085;  
  border: 3px solid rgba(154, 141, 141, 0.50);  
  margin: 0 2px;  
  border-radius: 10px;  
  padding: 10px 20px 0;  
  margin-bottom: 20px;  
}
```



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Change the margins of the whole form

This CSS sets the margins for the whole form. Change one or more margins as you desire

```
.wpcf7-form {  
margin-left: 10px;  
margin-right: 10px;  
margin-top: 25px;  
margin-bottom: 25px;  
}
```

Change field background color

This CSS changes the field background color for text fields, email fields and text areas. Here, the background color within the fields is set for white (#fff) and the text within the field will be dark grey. (#333). To change either, just add the appropriate hex code or CSS color name. It is possible to add additional field types. For a drop-down menu add this line: `input[type="select"].wpcf7-form-control`.

```
input[type="text"].wpcf7-form-control,  
input[type="email"].wpcf7-form-control,  
textarea.wpcf7-form-control {  
background: #fff;  
color: #333;  
}
```

Change field background color on focus

This is the same code snippet as above but with the focus property added. The color of the field background and text changes according to the colors you set when the cursor is within a field and typing. As before, you may easily add field types that this applies to.

```
input[type="text"].wpcf7-form-control:focus,  
input[type="email"].wpcf7-form-control:focus,  
textarea.wpcf7-form-control:focus {  
background: #fff;  
color: #333;  
}
```



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Input and Text Area Border Styling

This CSS sets the border color, size and transparency for text Areas. The borders are grey with at 86% opaque. It's a nice subtle effect for the borders of fields.

```
.wpcf7-form-control-wrap input { border: 1px solid  
  rgba(154, 141, 141, 0.86) !important;}  
.wpcf7-form-control-wrap textarea { border: 1px solid  
  rgba(154, 141, 141, 0.86) !important;}
```

Field Sets, Border, Legend, HTML

This HTML allows you to put a border and title around groups of fields. You add this code to your actual form within Contact Form 7. It is best that you already have the form layout finished then add the field sets and legend. At the start of a field group add the opening tag `<fieldset>` and at the end of a field group add the closing tag `</fieldset>`. To add the title, use the `<legend></legend>` tags as shown to the right.

```
<fieldset>  
<legend>Your Title Here</legend>  
Your group of fields here  
</fieldset>
```

Field Sets, Border, Legend, CSS

This CSS styles the border for a fieldset. The border is a 3 pixel, double line, with rounded corners, padding and margin. The color is a nice orange to match the Symboc logo.

```
.wpcf7-form fieldset {  
  border: 3px double #e97d04;  
  margin: 0 2px;  
  border-radius: 10px;  
  padding: 10px 20px 0;  
  margin-bottom: 20px;  
}
```



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Styling Single Forms

The CSS to the right is the same as above but applies only to a single form named f266-p166-o2. This is the form ID and can be obtained by inspecting the form in your browser. This process is shown in the video Styling Guide – Contact Form 7. Note the # at the start instead of a dot.

```
#wpcf7-f266-p166-o2 fieldset {  
  border: 3px double #e97d04;  
  margin: 0 2px;  
  border-radius: 10px;  
  padding: 10px 20px 0;  
  margin-bottom: 20px;  
}
```

Text Area Size

The default size of text areas are just too big. The CSS to the right allows you to change that. You may set the width in percent or pixels and the height in pixels.

```
.wpcf7-form textarea{  
  width: 100% !important;  
  height: 80px;  
}
```

Add an Image

If you want to add an image like your logo to the form, use this HTML and CSS. You may also add alternate text if you like.

HTML:

```
<p class="aligncenter">  
    
</p>
```

CSS

```
.aligncenter {  
  text-align: center;  
}
```



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Add an image Submit button

The default submit button in Contact Form 7 is simple. Sometimes you want something more exciting. The HTML to the right allows you to use any image as a submit button. This code replaces the default submit field. Note that the border :0px removes that nasty border that an image has in some browsers.

```
<input type="image" style="border: 0px"
"onclick="submit" src="insert your image url here ">
```

Basic responsive grid system CSS

This is the default CSS that applies to all multi column grid systems, it never changes. This, and the code that follows were obtained at a website called <http://responsivegridssystem.com> . You should not alter this code. Insert it in your Additional CSS under the customize tab or in your child theme if you are using one. This applies to all the other CSS that follows.

```
/* SECTIONS */
.section {
    clear: both;
    padding: 0px;
    margin: 0px;
}
/* COLUMN SETUP */
.col {
    display: block;
    float:left;
    margin: 1% 0 1% 1.6%;
}
.col:first-child { margin-left: 0; }
/* GROUPING */
.group:before,
.group:after { content:""; display:table; }
```



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```
.group:after { clear:both;}  
.group { zoom:1; /* For IE 6/7 */ }
```

Two column responsive grid system HTML

This code goes in the form. Use one set for each two-column row you want. Replace “This is column...” with the content you want to add. Here, it would be a field and a label, but it really can be anything you want.

```
<div class="section group">  
  <div class="col span_1_of_2">  
    This is column 1  
  </div>  
  <div class="col span_1_of_2">  
    This is column 2  
  </div>  
</div>
```

Two column responsive grid system CSS

This is the code needed for a two-column row. It defines the width of the columns, margin and uses a media query to define a breakpoint for mobile devices. You should not alter this code.

```
/* GRID OF TWO */  
.span_2_of_2 {  
  width: 100%;  
}  
.span_1_of_2 {  
  width: 49.2%;  
}  
/* GO FULL WIDTH AT LESS THAN 480 PIXELS */  
  
@media only screen and (max-width: 480px) {  
  .col {  
    margin: 1% 0 1% 0%;  
  }  
}
```



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```
    }  
  }  
  @media only screen and (max-width: 480px) {  
    .span_2_of_2, .span_1_of_2 { width: 100%; }  
  }
```

Three column responsive grid system HTML

This code goes in the form. Use one set for each three-column row you want. Replace “This is column...” with the content you want to add. Here, it would be a field and a label, but it really can be anything you want.

```
<div class="section group">  
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">  
    This is column 1  
  </div>  
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">  
    This is column 2  
  </div>  
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">  
    This is column 3  
  </div>  
</div>
```




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Three column responsive grid system CSS

This is the code needed for a three-column row. It defines the width of the columns, margin and uses a media query to define a breakpoint for mobile devices. You should not alter this code.

```
/* GRID OF THREE */  
.span_3_of_3 { width: 100%; }  
.span_2_of_3 { width: 66.13%; }  
.span_1_of_3 { width: 32.26%; }  
/* GO FULL WIDTH BELOW 480 PIXELS */  
@media only screen and (max-width: 480px) {  
    .col { margin: 1% 0 1% 0%; }  
    .span_3_of_3, .span_2_of_3, .span_1_of_3 { width:  
100%; }  
}
```

This is the end of the styling guide. In the video, Styling Guide – Contact Form 7, we demonstrate the application of each of these code snippets. Following is an image of the final form created in that demonstration and the form markup used. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us.

Symboc Designs
<https://symboc.com>
727-457-4426

A screenshot of the fully styled sample form

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TEST

Contact Information

First Name MI Last Name

Email Phone Alternate Phone

Practice Information

Practice Name Specialty

Here you could put some instructions or an image, whatever you want. Like, "You must be licensed in Florida to participate".

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Employer Identification Number NIP Number DEA Number

Services to be provided
House Calls Telemedicine Medical Center
Hospital

Comments



The Example Form Markup

```
<p class="aligncenter">
  
</p>
<fieldset>
<legend>Contact Information</legend>
<div class="section group">
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
    <label> First Name
    [text* firstname] </label>
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
    <label> MI
    [text initial] </label>
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
    <label> Last Name
    [text* lastname] </label>  </div>
</div>
<div class="section group">
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
    <label> Email
    [email* email] </label>
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
    <label> Phone
    [text* phone] </label>
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
    <label> Alternate Phone
    [text altphone] </label>  </div>
</div>
</fieldset>
</fieldset>
```

```
<legend>Practice Information</legend>
<div class="section group">
  <div class="col span_1_of_2">
<label> Practice Name
  [text* practice] </label>
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_2">
<label> Specialty
  [text* specialty] </label>
  </div>
</div>
<div class="section group">
  <div class="col span_1_of_2">
<h4> Here you could put some instructions or an image, whatever
you want. Like, "You must be licensed in Florida to
participate".</h4>
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_2">
<label> Street Address
  [text* street] </label>
  </div>
</div>
<div class="section group">
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
<label> City
  [text* city] </label>
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
<label> State
  [text state] </label>
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
<label> Zip Code
  [text* zip] </label> </div>
</div>
```



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```
<div class="section group">
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
    <label> Employer Identification Number
  [text* ein] </label>
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
    <label> NPI Number
  [text nip] </label>
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_3">
    <label> DEA Number
  [text* dea] </label></div>
</div>
<div class="section group">
  <div class="col span_1_of_2">
    <p>Services to be provided</p>
    [radio radio-823 label_first default:1 "House Calls" "Telemedicine"
    "Medical Center" "Hospital"]
  </div>
  <div class="col span_1_of_2">
    <label> Comments
  [textarea comments] </label>
  </div>
</div>
</fieldset>
<input type="image" style="border: 0px" "onclick="submit"
src="https://demo.symbocdesigns.com/wp-
content/uploads/2021/07/butt-logo-send-button.png">
```