

## Image from URL Stack

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### Why use this Stack?

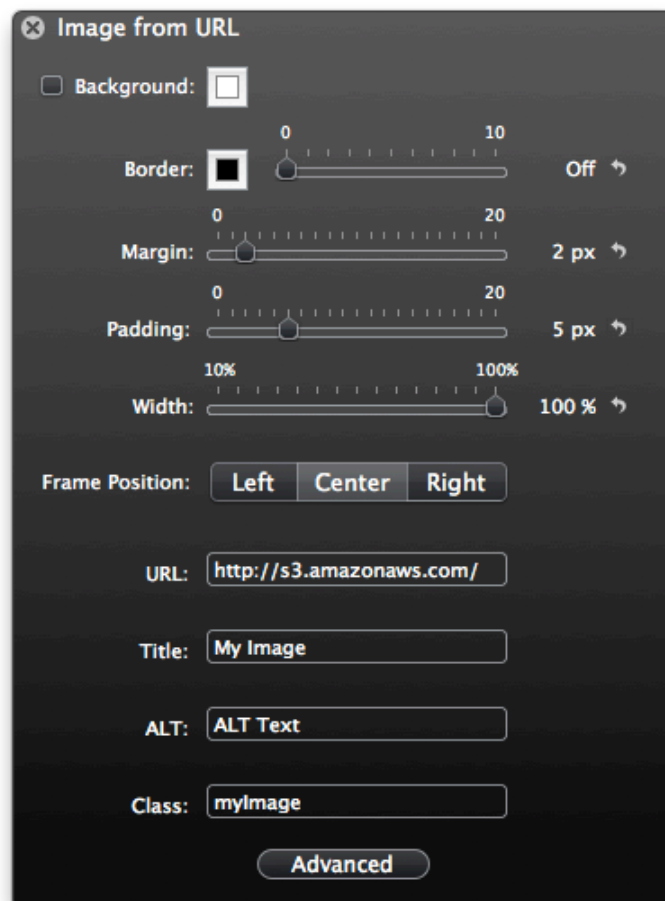
Although Stacks offers you an option to drag and drop an image into a variety of different stacks, sometimes the image you want is already published or is held on another website. This stack allows you to add images from an external source and uses the standard HTML `<img>` tag. You can safely use this stack multiple times on the same page. In addition you can provide a class name (selector name) enabling different images to have different formatting. For example you could use custom CSS code to apply different coloured borders to various images.

### How do I use this Stack?

The stack is installed into `~/Library/Application Support/RapidWeaver/Stacks/` where `'~'` is the name of your home directory. Restart RapidWeaver for the new stack to become available.

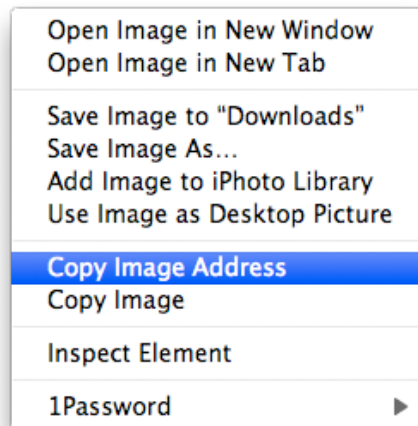
Drag and drop the image from URL stack into your stacks page like you normally do. Make sure the container you are putting the image from URL stack in has adequate space around it to prevent the image being clipped by other elements.

In edit mode in RapidWeaver, single click your image from URL stack within the page and then click the 'i' button to open the stack inspector. Essentially the only three items you need to provide details of are the image URL, Title and ALT text, pictured below.



**URL** is the address where the image is stored. The image URL should start with `http://` and end in the name of the image and its file extension (e.g. `.jpg` or `.png`).

You can find the URL of an image by opening the website in Safari and right-clicking (or `Ctrl + clicking`) on the image. From the popup menu, click on the **Copy Image Address** option, pictured below:



This will copy the image URL to your clipboard. Paste the URL straight into the URL field within the stack inspector.

**Title** enables you to give your image a short description. This title is normally invisible, but search engines can often see it and in some older web browsers, hovering a mouse cursor over the image will display the title in a small balloon or in the browser status bar.

**ALT** is an abbreviation for 'Alternative Text' and you must always supply an ALT tag with any image used in a website. An ALT tag can just be a short description similar to an image title and is used to aid accessibility when images are not available or cannot be viewed. If you don't use ALT tags with images, your page will fail HTML validation and the image may not be displayed in some web browsers.

**Class** is an optional value and can be used by advanced users to apply selector names to individual images. This in turn acts as an anchor to apply custom CSS code to. An example of CSS styling could be borders, padding or background textures. If you want to experiment with CSS 3 code, then you may also be able to apply rounded corners or drop-shadows using advanced CSS techniques.

#### **Important notes:**

Internet Explorer 6 and lesser has very limited support for PNG images with semi-transparency. Although Stacks and some themes have basic PNG fixes, it would be safe to assume PNG images will be rendered in Internet Explorer 6 without transparency.

Always seek permission from the copyright holder before using this stack to publish images from an external source. Do not link to images which you do not have permission to use in your own website. It is your responsibility to check and verify copyright status before using images from a third-party source.

This stack can be used multiple times in the same page. But it is worth remembering that fetching images from an external source may slow down page rendering, especially if those images are not stored on the same server as your website. If an image cannot be found, it will be shown with a broken image icon when previewed in a web browser.

### **Change Log:**

Updated on 27th October 2009:-

- Documentation updated
- Class selector option added
- Renamed “Image from URL” stack (previously URL Image stack)
- Stack now distributed and installed as a package

### **Questions, comments or suggestions for improvements?**

Please contact me via the ThemeFlood website: <http://www.themeflood.com>

RapidWeaver forums: <http://www.realmacsoftware.com/forums/index.php/forums/>