

Summarise Box Stack

By Will Woodgate - <http://www.themeflood.com>

What does this stack do?

This stack was originally developed for the News Media theme, but will work with most other RapidWeaver themes. This stack simply creates a box which you can place a short summary or other article inside. It is excellent for use on the homepage of a website or blog. Into the box you can drag a variety of stacks including text, pictures or columns. This stack is also capable of handling more advanced stacks like Twitter feeds, Tumblr stacks and video's. You can use an unlimited number of summarise box stacks on the same page to create a grid layout like the one illustrated below. Summarise box is compatible with the @import feature in PlusKit.

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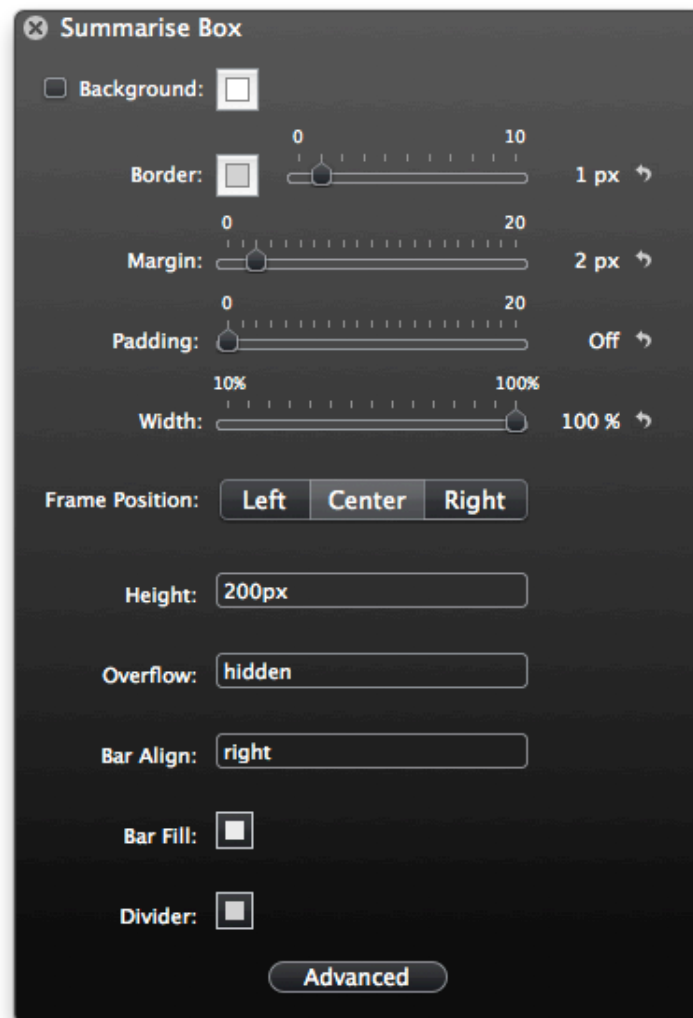
Summarise box stacks have a fixed height by default for a consistent appearance. Overflow can be set to hidden (which will hide overflowing content) or you can set overflow to auto which will apply scroll bars when required. Alternatively you can set the summarise box stack height to auto which will scale vertically to accommodate the content.

This stack is coded using CSS and is safe to use across all web browsers including Internet Explorer 6, Internet Explorer 7, Internet Explorer 8, Safari, Firefox, Opera, Camino and Flock.

How do I use this Stack?

This stack is installed into ~/Library/Application Support/RapidWeaver/Stacks/ where '~' is the name of your home directory. Quit and restart RapidWeaver for the new stack to become available under the stacks library.

Drag and drop the image caption stack into your stacks page like you normally do. In edit mode in RapidWeaver, single click your image caption stack within the page and then click the 'i' button to open the stack inspector, pictured below.



Start by adjusting the stack padding to 0px (off). Padding or margins can be applied later and this makes it easier to setup this stack to begin with.

Drag and drop a text stack into the lower placeholder. This placeholder forms the caption bar at the bottom of the summarise box stack. Into the top placeholder (the main placeholder) you can drag and drop in almost any type of stack you prefer. This will form the main content inside your summarise box stack.

At the same time you will probably want to apply either a border to your summarise box or a subtle background colour to match your theme.

Height controls the height of your summarise box stack. Height can be specified in pixel, em or percentage dimensions. If you want your summarise box stack to be flexible in height, enter 'auto' in the box (lowercase, no quote marks).

Overflow can be left as hidden. Any content overflowing outside of the box will be cropped so the summarise box will abide by its fixed size. If you want to introduce scroll-bars for longer lengths of content, replace 'hidden' with 'auto' in the overflow field (lowercase, no quote marks).

Bar Align enables you to change the alignment of text displayed in the caption box. By default text is right aligned for the purpose of "Read More" links. You can change the alignment of text by entering either 'left' 'center' or 'right' keywords in the bar align box (lowercase, no quote marks).

Bar Fill changes the colour of your caption bar background. By default it is mercury grey (#e6e6e6). Clicking the small coloured square opens the OS X colour picker tool whereby you can select an alternative colour to match your theme.

Divider changes the colour of the 1px border above the caption bar. You can change this colour to match the border applied around your summarise box stack. If you would rather not display a border here, change the colour to match the summarise box or caption bar background.

Important notes:

Note that if you are configuring your summarise box with auto-overflowing (scrollbars) some web browsers like Safari and Firefox render the scrollbars inside the box, but other browsers like Internet Explorer sometimes render scrollbars outside the box.

Care should be taken when selecting an alternative caption bar background. Ideally the background should contrast the text colour to improve clarity.

Text, styling and link colours are controlled by your theme. But you can apply custom CSS to this stack.

Can I make the entire summarise box stack function as a link?

Unfortunately it is not possible to make the whole summarise box stack link to a file or location. The problem is that the W3C stipulate in their XHTML standards that all links are inline elements. Therefore we are not permitted to nest block elements inside a link. Doing so causes XHTML errors and the stack breaks if RapidWeaver is switched into "Tidied" mode. The best workaround is to apply your links to text or images inside the summarise box container itself.

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/>