FLEXOR

A Blueball Design Responsive Sandvox Design

Flexor Responsive Design User Guide v1.0

Flexor Responsive is a responsive Sandvox design which makes it unique among current Sandvox designs. As you will note in the information that follows in this user guide, **Flexor Responsive does several things differently** from what you are used to doing when using a traditional Sandvox design, due to its unique structure, css styling, and responsive behavior.

PLEASE BE SURE TO READ **through the user guide to get the best results for your Sandvox site with Flexor Responsive.** We have tried to make the user guide as brief as possible with simple-to-follow directions and details for working with Flexor Responsive while using it to make your Sandvox site "mobile-friendly".

What comes in your Blueball Flexor Responsive zipped product download.

After purchasing Flexor Responsive, you will receive a download email with a link in it to download your Flexor Designs bundle with. The download by default will be placed into your Downloads folder. Once you download it, drag it onto your desktop and double click on it to unzip the folder.

Inside your Flexor Responsive folder you will find your Blueball Flexor Responsive Sandvox design, a folder of bonus banner images, and 2 read me files. Your Flexor Responsive design includes 9 built-in color versions for you to select from and apply to your Sandvox site.

How to install the Flexor Responsive design.

Double click on the Blueball Flexor Responsive design file itself to install it into Sandvox. Then restart Sandvox.

What version of Sandvox does Flexor Responsive require?

The Flexor Responsive design requires at least Sandvox v2.8. We recommend using Sandvox v2.9.5 and above for the best results.

What browsers does Flexor Responsive support?

The Flexor Responsive design display layout and functionality supports and works with the following browsers:

Desktop: Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Internet Explorer 9+
(Flexor Responsive will function and display in Internet Explorer 8 but no CSS3 styling will be displayed.)

Mobile: iOS 6+ on iPad and iPhone, Android, Windows

What does "responsive" mean for your Sandvox site?

A responsive site layout will display equally well for your viewers on any device from traditional desktop and laptop Macs and PCs, to tablets and smartphones. Depending on the screen width of the device and browser being used, page elements are scaled down and repositioned using media query breakpoint widths in the css file. **So for example**, a traditional 2 column desktop layout with the content area beside the sidebar will become a 1 column layout with the content area above the sidebar on a smartphone using the Flexor Responsive design layout.

Another example is the banner image in the Flexor Responsive design, that has a larger banner image displayed on desktop and laptop browsers, a medium sized banner image displayed on tablets, and a smaller banner image displayed on smartphones. This again uses media queries to determine which banner image gets displayed, and helps keep page load times to a minimum on all devices.

Responsive also means that the nav menu uses two completely separate layouts in the Flexor Responsive design. On desktop browsers you see a traditional but custom horizontal nav menu that spans the full width of the browser window with drop down sub menu levels. On mobile devices below a certain screen width, you see a completely different mobile nav menu layout that mobile device users are used to seeing and using.

The great thing about the Flexor Responsive design for Sandvox users is that you only have to select and apply the Flexor Responsive design of your choice to your new or existing Sandvox site like you do with any Sandvox design, and do a few small things as noted below for your Sandvox site to become a responsive Google "mobile-friendly" site layout.

What is different about using Flexor Responsive that I need to know for my Sandvox site?

First before I get started, please note that most of the items noted below are all done for you automatically by the custom javascript and unique css coding that the Flexor Responsive design comes with. There is very little input needed from any Sandvox user when applying the Flexor Responsive design to your Sandvox site.

The information below is meant to inform you of some of the things that the Flexor Responsive design does that is different from the normal non-responsive Sandvox design you are used to using.

You MUST be connected to the Internet while working on your Sandvox site when using the Flexor Responsive design due to calls made to Google, Font Awesome, and jQuery for your Flexor Responsive design's display functionality.

Banner Images

The banner image display in the Flexor Responsive design layout spans the full width of the screen/page and is positioned directly below the nav menu.

You cannot use the custom banner image feature in Sandvox when using a Flexor Responsive design. This is due to the fact that the Flexor Responsive design uses 3 different banner image sizes for the banner image in each Flexor Responsive design. The banner image size used and displayed depends on the device being used to view the site with and its screen width. Please see the "Customizing_Flexor_Responsive_v1.pdf" readme file that came with your download for more details on customizing banner images in Flexor Responsive.

Flexor Responsive comes with 9 preset banner image sets with one banner image set to display for each of the 9 Flexor Responsive designs. We also include a

Bonus_Banners_Flexor folder and details on how to use them in the "Customizing_Flexor_Responsive_v1.pdf" readme file.

Be sure to look through each of the Flexor Responsive demo sites to see what banner images are available for each Flexor Responsive design.

Nav Menu

The Flexor Responsive desktop nav menu layout features a horizontal nav menu that is fixed in position to the top of the browser window with 2 sub menu levels. The nav menu spans the full width of the browser window allowing for a large number of pages to be displayed in the parent menu level. NOTE: the parent level menu only displays a single line of page links and will not wrap to a second line.

Keep your nav menu names in the parent level as short and concise as possible for the best display results.

The mobile nav menu initially displays the traditional mobile nav menu layout of the "hamburger" nav menu icon with the word Menu beside it. Click on this and the mobile nav menu drops down for you to select a page to go through. Please note that all menu levels are displayed including any sub menu levels.

You can easily customize the word "Menu" by using a bit of custom css with Site Code Injection. So if you need to change it to another language or want to use another word besides Menu, you can do this.

Images Become Responsive Automatically

Images in a responsive site layout do not use fixed width and height amounts on them. They use a max-width set to 100% with a height set to auto. This allows images to scale down as needed in size to display in full on mobile devices. Due to

this, it is always best to start with an image at 100% of the maximum size you want it to display at. So for example let's say you have an overall desktop page max-width set to 980px, and you want your photo album image to display the full width of the page on the single image page. To do this your original image needs to be at least 980px wide for the best display results on both desktop and mobile devices. Images will only display up to the max-width of the original image size.

A custom javascript that we created just for the Flexor Responsive design will remove any fixed widths and heights in place for images on your site pages, and automatically add a max-width:100%; and height:auto; setting to each image in your site to make all your images responsive.

Page Content Area Width

The default page content width is set to a max-width of 1024px. This means that your page content will display up to 1024px and not above that. On any screen width below that amount, the elements in the page content area will be fluid in behavior until the media query breakpoint width amount for the mobile layout is reached at which time the mobile layout and styling will be displayed. You can easily adjust the page width to be wider if needed for your site layout using a bit of custom css code with Site Code Injection. See the "Customizing_Flexor_Responsive_v1.pdf" readme file for more details.

Objects in Sidebar and Callouts

In the Flexor Responsive mobile layout, all Objects in the sidebar and Callouts will display the full width of the device's screen.

Collection Layout Option

DO NOT use the "Tabular Layout" option for your any of your main collection pages. Any of the other three "Collection Layout" options will all work fine with Flexor Responsive.

Larger Thumbnail Display in Photo Album Collection Grid

We have increased the size of thumbnail image display in a photo album collection page along with rounded thumbnail image corners and a nice hover effect. The images will automatically reposition themselves as needed to one or two columns depending on the device's screen width. **NOTE! We highly recommend using the "Scale To Fill" option for your thumbnail images** for the best display results with Flexor Responsive.

Larger Single Image Display In Photo Album Collection

By default, all images in a photo album collection will display the full width of the content area when viewed individually in Flexor Responsive. For the best individual image display results, it is highly recommended that you keep your image sizes and orientation consistent in your photo album collections, and that **your image is at least as wide as the max-width page amount you are using**. **1024px is the default max-width amount in Flexor Responsive.**

Graphical Title Option

The Flexor Responsive layout DOES NOT use this feature for any of its text display. **BE SURE to NOT have this option selected in the Inspector window.**

Flexor Responsive Design Features

Some of the unique and awesome design features included with your Blueball Flexor Responsive designs.

Design Colors

There are 9 Flexor Responsive designs that each come with a distinctive color scheme and banner image.

Blueball Flexor Responsive Black

Blueball Flexor Responsive Blue

Blueball Flexor Responsive Brown

Blueball Flexor Responsive Green

Blueball Flexor Responsive Gray

Blueball Flexor Responsive Orange

Blueball Flexor Responsive Purple

Blueball Flexor Responsive Red

Blueball Flexor Responsive Teal

Font Styles

The Flexor Responsive design offers 4 custom Google font styles for you to use. The default font styles used are Roboto Slab for the headlines and Source Sans Pro for the remaining text. You can easily modify the font style combinations by using some custom css. See the "Customizing_Flexor_Responsive_v1.pdf" readme file for more details.

Roboto Slab

Roboto

Montserrat

Source Sans Pro

Font Awesome Icons

In Flexor Responsive design the sub menu level arrow indicators use a Font Awesome icon instead of the normal arrow image used in current Sandvox designs. A call to the needed Font Awesome files is automatically placed into the head area on each site page at export or publishing for this.

Page elements that use ordered lists will also have a Font Awesome icon displayed as will some of the blog layout elements like the date for example.

Logo Image

The logo image size used in Flexor Responsive can vary some but we strongly recommend it be within the following size limitations for the best display results:

Height - Keep the height between 100px and 150px

Width - up to a maximum width of 500px

For example, the logo image size we used on our Flexor Responsive demo sites was 235px wide by 122px tall. Since the logo image displays above the banner image, we recommend using a png image file with a transparent background if appropriate for your logo image, or a .jpg image file with a solid background color that will let your logo image stand out from the banner image.

Publishing and replacing your old Sandvox site and its files with your new Flexor Responsive site.

After you apply your Flexor Responsive design to your site, make any adjustments or additions to the site pages and save it, you have to publish or export your site. PLEASE NOTE that you will have to completely replace your old published site files with your new Flexor Responsive Sandvox site files.

To do this when you are ready to publish and go live with your Flexor Responsive site, select the "Publish > Republish All" menu option in Sandvox. This option will force your entire site and all its files to be republished to your server directory. Note that in some cases, you may have to use a FTP program like Cyberduck (free), Transmit or YummyFTP to log into your server directory and manually remove all your old site files before doing the Republish All step.

We offer great Sandvox support before AND after the sale.

Blueball Design has been providing outstanding customer support to all our Sandvox users over the past 9+ years, and are happy to help you out with any questions on our Flexor Responsive designs. **If you have a question, please submit it to us using our product support page form here: http://blueballdesign.com/support/index.php or email us at themesupport@blueballdesign.com.**

While we also try to help out with Sandvox specific questions, we do not have the time or resources to provide Sandvox training. **Please see the excellent Sandvox help documentation that Karelia provides here instead:** http://www.karelia.com/support/sandvox/help/

Send Us Your Site URL When You Have Your Flexor Responsive Site Up and Running!

We want to see the "mobile-friendly" responsive sites you build with Flexor Responsive. Please send us your site url so we can check it out.

Thanks for your continued support and best of luck with your Flexor Responsive design Sandvox site!

Best,

Charlie

http://sandvoxdesigns.blueballdesign.com