

HTML Twitter Stack

By Will Woodgate - www.themeflood.com

What's different with this Twitter stack?

This Twitter stack is based on the standard HTML code widget supplied by Twitter. This means it should be quicker to load with less risk of it conflicting with other scripts running in the page. Additionally, if you set your RapidWeaver page output to optimised (under the Page Inspector) your page will validate as XHTML strict without validation errors. This stack still uses some Javascript, but it is more RapidWeaver friendly.

How do I use this Stack?

Start by installing the stack. As you are probably already aware, new stacks should be copied and pasted 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 HTML Twitter stack into your stacks page like you normally do. Make sure the container you are putting the HTML Twitter stack in has adequate space around it to prevent the feed being clipped by other elements.

In edit mode in RapidWeaver, single click your HTML Twitter 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 video ID, height and width which are pictured below.

Background:

Border: 0 10 Off ↗

Margin: 0 20 2 px ↗

Padding: 0 20 5 px ↗

Width: 10% 100% 100 % ↗

Frame Position:

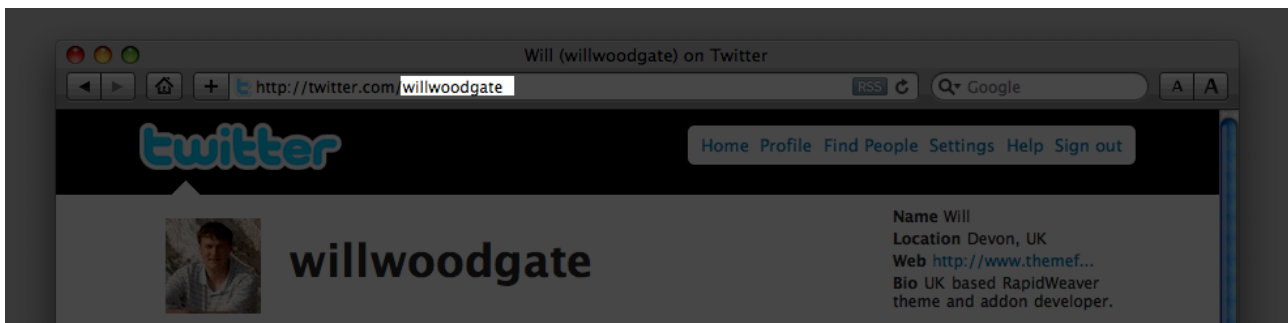
Username:

Title:

Tweet Count:

Follow Link:

Username is the name of the Twitter account you want to follow. When you login to Twitter and click the “Profile” link at the top, your username is displayed in the address bar:



Copy and paste the username into the username field in the stack inspector. The stack will then find and embed the Twitter feed automatically for you.

Title gives your HTML Twitter feed a basic title or caption. You can either leave it as it is, or change it to something else.

Tweet Count enables you to customise how many of your recent tweets are displayed. The default value is 5 which will mean your last 5 tweets are displayed. You can increase or decrease this number based on your personal preferences.

Follow link can be customised and simply links to your public Twitter profile. If you would rather use an image or icon, use the standard HTML image code such as this:

```

```

This code above would use an image called twitter.jpg uploaded with your page as a site asset. You can link to another file if you prefer using a full URL.

Important notes:

Due to the way these Twitter feeds are handled by Twitter, it is recommended you only include one Twitter feed per-page. During testing of this stack, it was found that multiple Twitter feeds on the same page could sometimes block one another or crash Internet Explorer due to a code conflict.

Switch RapidWeaver to optimised output under the page inspector. This will move CSS code to the head section which in turn will give you a valid XHTML page. Pages with valid code are better for SEO (Search Engine Optimisation) and reduces the risk of browser compatibility issues.

If planning to use someone else's Twitter feed in your page, it would be wise to seek their permission before embedding their feed in your website. Twitter is a relatively new service, hence the perspectives surrounding content copyright are unclear.

Customising your HTML Twitter stack

Because this stack uses some basic HTML tags in its creation, you can customise it using CSS code.

Your whole HTML Twitter stack is nested inside a box called twitterWrapper. So if you wanted to apply a dotted grey border, you could use CSS code similar to this:

```
.twitterWrapper {  
    border: 1px dotted #e5e5e5;  
}
```

The title is wrapped inside a container named twitter-title. Using the following CSS code will change the colour to red:

```
.twitter-title {  
    color: #ff0000;  
}
```

To customise the unordered list of feeds, you can use custom CSS code such as this:

```
#twitter_update_list {  
    padding: 0px;  
    margin: 0px;  
    list-style: none;  
}
```

Alternatively you can customise list items themselves like this:

```
#twitter_update_list li {  
    padding-top: 3px;  
    padding-bottom: 3px;  
}
```

Finally to customise “Follow me on Twitter” link, the following CSS code will customise the link, in this instance it will be shown in red:

```
#twitter-link {  
    color: #ff0000;  
}
```

NB: When using custom code, take care with the selector types. You will notice from the above code that some of the selectors are classes (.) whereas others are ID's (#). If you are custom editing your HTML Twitter stack, it is strongly recommended you don't change selector names in the template.html file because this could risk breaking your twitter feed.

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/>