

Print Box Stack

By Will Woodgate - www.themeflood.com

What does this stack do?

This stack is based on some code I used in a project several years ago. It has been ported over to RapidWeaver in the form of a stack plugin and is ideal for RapidWeaver themes such as News Media. The print box stack produces a simple divider (box) which you can drop other stacks into. This stack displays a print link at the bottom. When a user clicks this button, the stack content opens in a new window or tab and the browser print dialogue window is automatically displayed.

This is very useful in situations where you have a large amount of content, tables, sections or forms and gives users the ability to print *exactly* what they need without wasting ink or paper.

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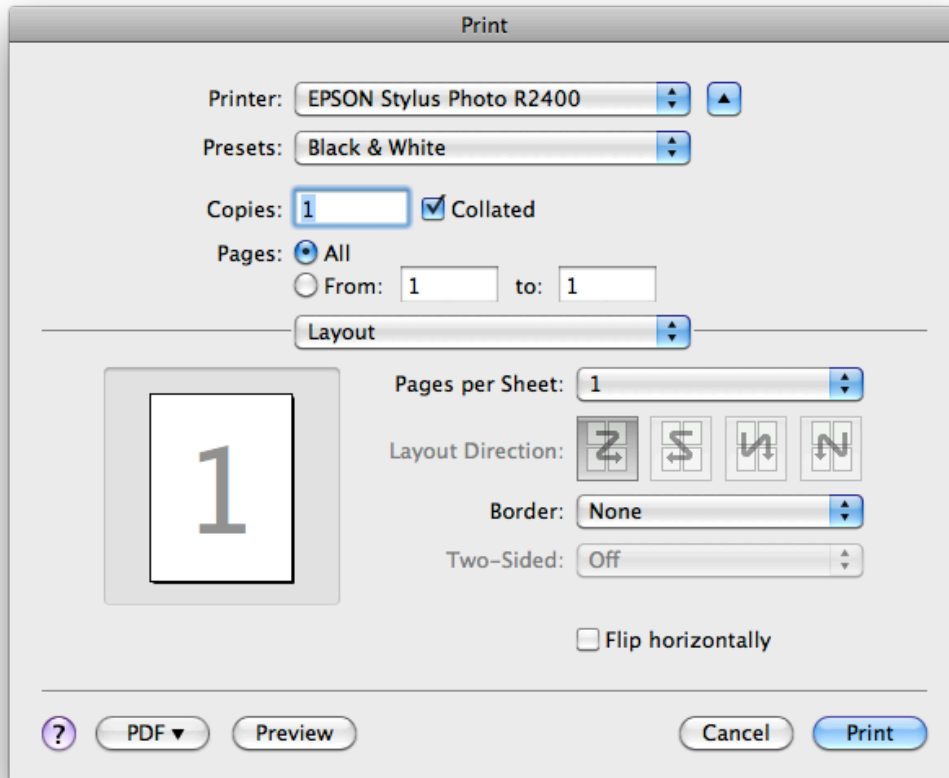
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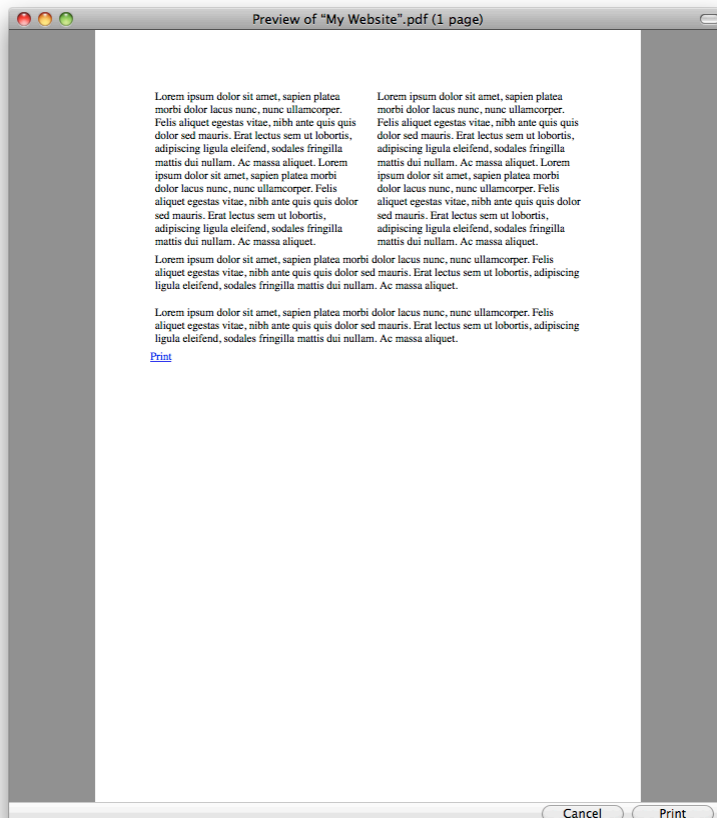
[Print](#)

The print box uses Javascript and is compatible with all major web browsers including Internet Explorer 6, Internet Explorer 7, Internet Explorer 8, Safari, Firefox and Opera. You can add an unlimited number of print box stacks to your page, providing each one has a unique ID (see instructions below). Visitors to your website are still able to print an entire page using the normal print function in their web browser. Code used in this stack is XHTML valid strict.

The printer dialogue window displayed when the “Print” link is clicked:



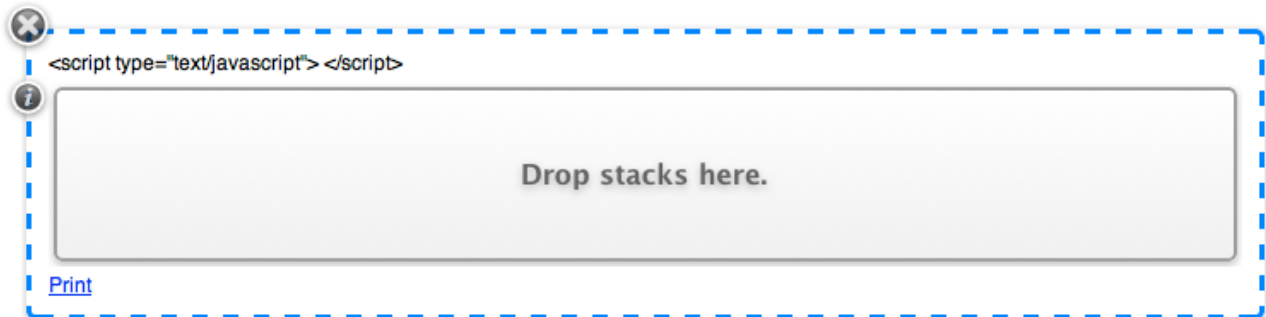
The print output:



How do I use this stack?

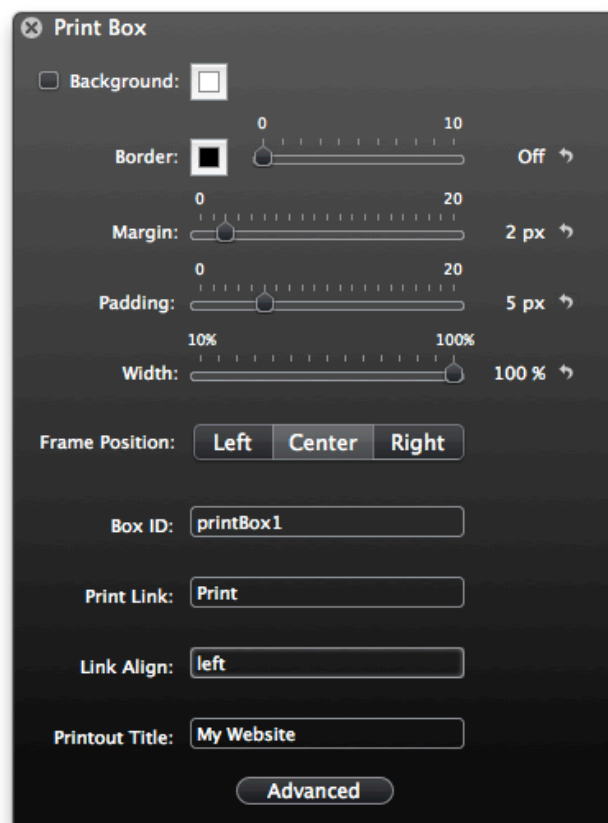
Start by installing the print box stack. As you are probably already aware, new stacks should be copied and pasted into `~/Library/Application Support/RapidWeaver/Stacks/` where `'~'` is the name of your home directory. Restart RapidWeaver for the new stack to become available for selection from the stacks library.

In edit mode, drag and drop a print box stack into your stacks page like you normally do. This is what the print box stack looks like after you have added it to your stacks page:



Drag and drop stacks into the "Drop stacks here" placeholder shown above. You can add most types of stacks into this print box stack such as text, columns, left/right aligned images, captions and images. Note that after you add the first stack to the print box stack, the "Drop stacks here" placeholder is hidden. But you can still continue adding stacks and the print box will accept them. Stacks can be reordered at anytime if required or removed.

Open the stack inspector for this stack (pictured below) by clicking the small "i" icon.



Box ID is the unique selector name for your print box. It is very important that every print box stack added to a page has a unique selector name to prevent the wrong content being printed. Selector names should be kept fairly short with no spaces or special characters. Hyphens and mixed case letters or numbers are permitted. If you intend to use multiple

Print Link allows you to customise the print link presented to users of your website. If you would prefer to use an image button, upload a suitable image to your website and insert the following HTML code:

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This is the minimum HTML code for a image which can act as a button when clicked. It is possible to combine an image with a text link. If you intend to use any special characters in your print link, be sure to use HTML entities instead of raw characters. Search online for more information.

Link Align enables you to change the alignment of your link or print button. By default it is left aligned using the keyword 'left'. Alternatively you can replace that keyword with one of 'center' or 'right' (all lowercase, no quote marks).

Printout Title Displays a page title on your printout. Not all web browsers support titles on printouts or have titles turned off by default. But in this box you can enter the name or your page or short description about what it is about or provide a link back to the original content.

Usage Tips:

You may want to enclose the print box inside a border to highlight to site users which section gets printed with the corresponding print link. Borders, backgrounds, margin, padding and width settings can all be changed under the stack inspector as normal.

Known Issues / Bugs:

The latest versions of Safari and Chrome sometimes print a blank page after the content has printed. This is a bit of an odd bug and it's still not clear why it occurs or whether it is something that will be fixed by Apple or Google.

Some stacks do not print correctly due to the way they are configured. This print box stack is best used for simple forms of content like text and pictures.

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/>