

Customize the header, search and menu in the classic editor

Classic template editor

The header is the first thing readers see: your logo, a welcoming heading, the search field and a menu of links. In the classic template editor you choose its style and colors, set up the search field and build the menu.

Who can do this: Owners and Admins · **Plans:** All plans

Everything below is in the **Header** group: in the left menu, click **Template editor**, then **Header**. You can also click the header in the preview. Your changes save to a draft automatically, and readers see them after you click **Publish**. See [Save, preview and publish in the classic editor](#).

Choose the header style

Under **Header Style:**, click one of the two pictures:

- **The first picture** is the standard header: a wide band with your logo and menu, a heading, an optional subheading and a large search field.
- **The second picture** is the minimal header: one slim bar with your logo, a search field and the menu. It has no heading, subheading, cover or text under the search field, and of the settings under **Content**, only **Logo Link** applies to it.

Set colors and a background image

Under **Appearance**:

- **Background Color:** fills the header. Until you set one, it's a dark blue.
- **Text Color:** colors the heading, the subheading and the menu links.
- **Header Background Image** puts a picture behind the header. Turn it on, then click **Upload File**, paste an image address into **Header background URL**, or open **Unsplash Library** to search free photos and click one. Open **Advanced** to set the image's **Position**, **Image size**, **Repeat**, **Scroll behavior** and **Color blend**. A photo from the Unsplash Library adds a "Photo by ... on Unsplash" credit at the bottom of your pages.
- **Show header cover** lays a dark layer over the header, which keeps white text readable on a busy photo. Set how dark it is in **Header Cover Transparency:** with a number such as 0.7: the higher the number, the darker the layer.

The classic editor has no setting for a gradient background.

Set up the search field

Under **Search**:

- **Show detailed instant search results:** the results that appear while a reader types show a snippet of matching text with the search words highlighted, not only article titles.
- **Border Radius:** rounds the corners of the search field, in pixels. The default is 5.
- **Search Field Placeholder:** the hint inside the empty field. The default is "How can I help?".

Set the heading, logo and layout

Under **Content**:

Setting	What it does
Logo Link:	Link to Parent Website sends readers who click your logo to the Connected Site you set under General . Link to My Help Center Homepage keeps them in your help center, which is also what happens if you pick neither or have no Connected Site.
Logo Position:	Left (the default) or Center .
Content Position:	Lines up the heading and search field on the home page: Center (the default) or Left .
Vertical Space:	Adds room above and below the heading on the home page: None (the default), Small , Medium , Large or Extra Large .
Show header heading	Shows or hides the heading. It's on by default.
Header Heading	The big heading. Until you change it, it reads "Help Center".

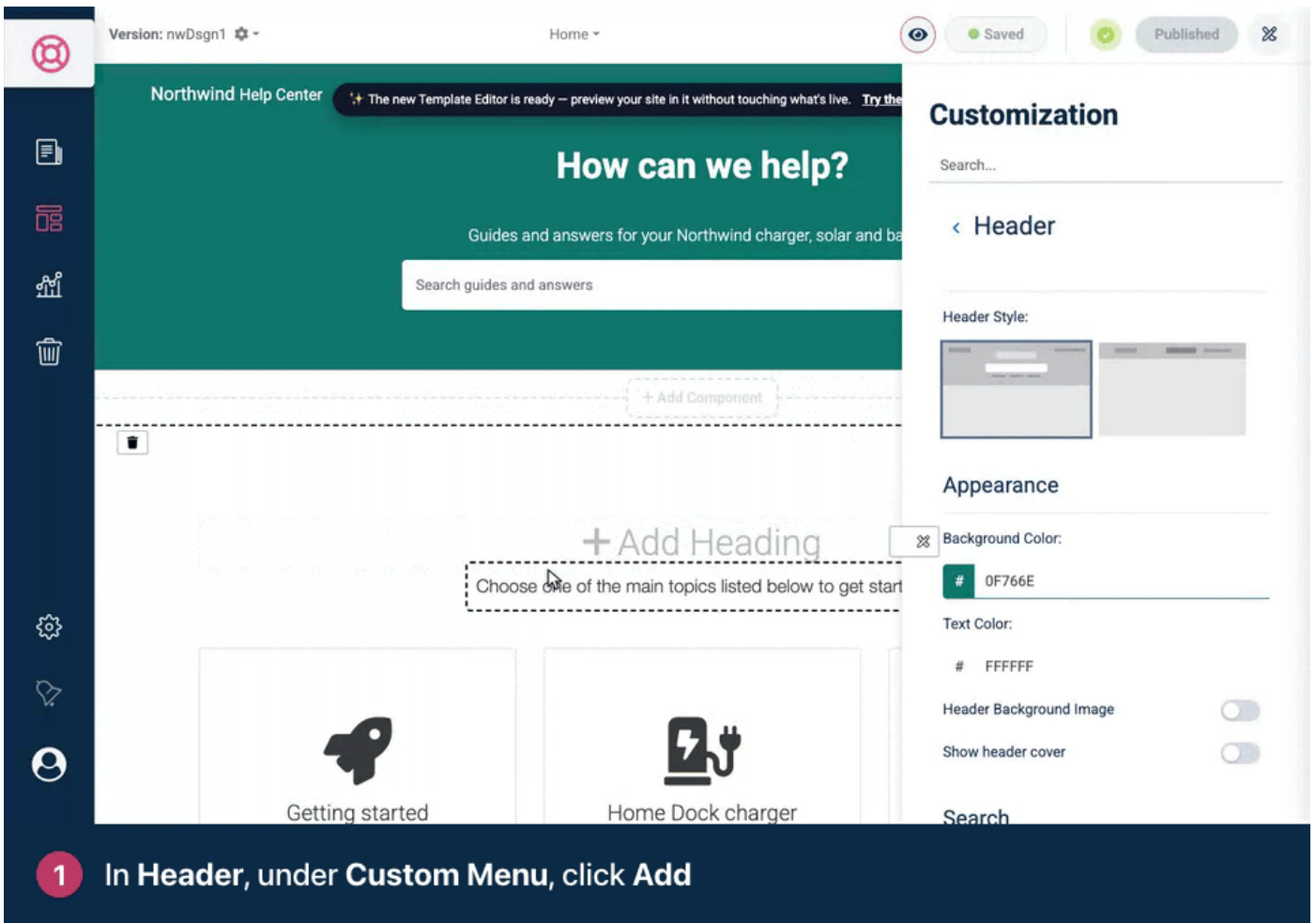
Header Subheading	An optional line under the heading.
Minimal header on all pages except homepage	On by default: category, article and other pages get a compact header with your logo, menu and search field. Turn it off to show the full header, with the heading, on every page.
Categories under search field:	Click category names to show them as quick links under the search field. Click a name again to remove it.
Text to display under the search field:	A short label in front of those links, such as "Popular Topics:".

You can also click the heading or subheading in the preview and type. To resize the heading, point at it, click the small ruler icon and set its **Size**.

Add links to the menu

1. Scroll down to **Custom Menu** and click **Add**.
2. Type the **Link Text** and the **URL**.
3. Optionally, turn on **Language-specific URL** to enter a different address for each of your languages, or click **Show Advanced** and add **Class Names** to the link, separated by spaces and without the leading dots. For example, btn btn-primary shows the link as a button.

4. Click **Save**.



The screenshot shows the Northwind Help Center editor interface. The main content area displays a header with the text "How can we help?" and a search bar. Below the header, there are two main sections: "Getting started" and "Home Dock charger". The right sidebar is titled "Customization" and contains a search bar, a "Header" section, and an "Appearance" section. The "Header" section shows two header styles. The "Appearance" section includes options for "Background Color" (set to #0F766E), "Text Color" (set to #FFFFFF), "Header Background Image" (disabled), and "Show header cover" (disabled). A red circle with the number 1 is placed over the "Add" button in the "Header" section.

1 In Header, under Custom Menu, click Add

The new link joins the end of your header menu.

- **Change the order** by dragging the links in the list. **Edit** or **delete** a link with the pencil and trash icons next to it.
- **Menu links open in a new tab.** A link you add opens in a new tab even if you turn **Open link in new tab** off while adding it. To open it in the same tab, click its pencil icon, turn **Open link in new tab** off and click **Save**.
- **Display categories dropdown** adds a "Categories" menu that lists your top-level categories.

- **The Contact Us button** in the menu comes from the contact form settings. See [Set up the contact form in the classic editor](#).

When there are no links, no Contact Us button and no language picker, the standard header shows no menu at all, not even the categories dropdown.

Show a language picker

When your help center has more than one language, readers can switch languages in a picker in the menu. It appears once at least one article has a finished translation. Under **Language Picker**, turn on **Short language names** to show each language only by its own name, such as "Deutsch". See [How readers see other languages](#).

Troubleshooting

"Please fill in link text and URL." A menu link needs both. Fill in the empty one and click **Save**.

The heading doesn't show. Check that **Show header heading** is on and that you picked the first **Header Style**: picture. The minimal header has no heading.

My logo links to my help center, not my website. Choose **Link to Parent Website** and fill in **Connected Site** under **General**.

The language picker is missing. It shows only when your help center has another language and at least one article is translated into it. See [Translate an article](#).

Related articles

- [Change your logo, colors and fonts in the classic editor](#)
- [Arrange your home page in the classic editor](#)
- [Set up the contact form in the classic editor](#)
- [Save, preview and publish in the classic editor](#)

- [Move your help center to the new template editor](#)