



Blueball Showcase Sandvox Designs

Overview and Usage Tips For Our Blueball Showcase Designs

Thank you for purchasing one of our original Sandvox Designs bundle.

Below we have listed various sections of information to help you maximize the use of your Blueball Design Sandvox Design(s) as you use it with Sandvox to produce your new web site.

If you see something we can do to make your experience better when using our design with Sandvox to create your web site, or have a suggestion, please let us know!

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1. Blueball Showcase Designs Information and Tips

Your Showcase design bundle includes:

- 6 Blueball Showcase Designs - Blue, Gray, Green, Orange, Red, and Sky Blue.
- 1 Fixed Page Width - Overall background image layout width of 996px with active content area width of 918px.
- 3 Readme files
- 1 layered Photoshop file that includes all 6 colors, gloss white color area, left and right page slit shadows, and a layer mask to use for positioning your custom image with. Each of these items is on their own individual layer within the Photoshop CS3 image file.

Adding Your Own Custom Banner Images Into Showcase

See the [“Custom banner readme file”](#) for detailed information on placing your own custom banner image into your Sandvox site layout using Blueball Showcase.

Nav Menu Usage Tips - Important!

The Blueball Showcase’s unique and true 3-column design gives the nav menu a column by itself. This allows you to add in a very large amount of pages into the nav menu and still keep the site navigation clean and easy for your site’s viewers to use and navigate through your site with.

Although we have set up and coded the Blueball Showcase design so all long nav menu item names will wrap correctly to multiple lines if needed, we recommend keeping your names as short as possible for your site pages on the nav menu to make for a better viewing and navigation experience for your site's visitors.

Logo Image

The logo image is placed in the right side of the banner image area. **The image size is 180px wide by 110px tall. Your logo image file must be that exact size or it will not display correctly in the design layout.** Be sure it is set to 72 dpi and RGB color mode and saved as a jpg or png image file.

Color Hexcodes Used In The Blueball Showcase Designs

Blue: #0064B0

Gray: #687981

Green: #009F8D

Orange: #FF7501

Red: #C81322

Sky Blue: #2BBBF2

Text Color: #383d44 (all Blueball Showcase designs)

Link Color: Will match the above colors on their respective designs.

Title and Title Paragraph Text Length

Title Text - You must keep the Title text limited to one line of copy with any of the Blueball Showcase designs. Using 2 lines will result in display errors with this design.

Title Paragraph Text - You can have up to 2 lines of text. Using more than 2 lines of text will result in display errors with this design.

Using Images With Sidebar Pagelets

When placing images into Sidebar Pagelets and Callouts, the Showcase design will automatically resize your images to fit using the default sizing we have placed into the Showcase design's plist file. You do not need to resize your image files.

Your Site Page Image Sizes Will Be Displayed The Full Width Of The Content Area By Default If Wider Than The Content Area Width.

We have increased the image sizing for the content area images to better utilize the available content area widths in the Blueball Showcase design. In other words, the widths are set to fill up the available content area width (less 15px) instead of being restricted to just the Sandvox default maximum 320px width.

***NOTE: You may have to refresh your page after adding in a new image to a page to force Sandvox to resize your images that are affected by this built-in image scaling in the Blueball Showcase info.plist file.**

We had to make one concession to get Blueball Showcase's 3-column layout to work correctly in Sandvox. You must select "Inline With Text" for any images positioned in text on your pages for them to display correctly. This wraps the text around the images. The other 2 image positioning options do not work with the Blueball Showcase 3-column layout.

Working With Sandvox's Default Sizing - For new and average Sandvox users we recommend you create your own images at the final display size, and drag and drop them into position on your site pages. This will also keep your site file size down to a minimum. Be sure your images are at 72dpi and in RGB color mode. Sandvox does not yet support png file transparency so be sure to flatten your image files before saving them.

Or you can let Sandvox resize them and not do any image file creation. Either way will work but be sure to open the preferences window and set your final image output quality levels if you are letting Sandvox crop and reduce your original image files.

We've Arranged Our main.css File Code Into Groups For Easier Modification By Advanced Sandvox Users

If you open the main.css file you will see that the css code in our file is arranged in groups by areas of the design layout. We designed it this way to make it easier for advanced Sandvox users who want to "tinker under the hood" and customize the css some.

BE SURE TO MAKE A BACKUP COPY OF YOUR DESIGN BEFORE ATTEMPTING ANY MODIFICATIONS OF THE CSS CODE!

***NOTE: We do not recommend modifying the css code in this design unless you are well versed and familiar with css styling and coding.** Modifying the css code could break the display functionality of the design in your Sandvox site. Any modifications are at the sole risk of the user and Blueball Design does not guarantee the performance of any Blueball Sandvox Design which has been altered or modified and we cannot be held liable if problems arise from your modifications.

If you have questions on how to modify the css code elements used in this theme, post them on our Blueball Sandvox forum on our site at sandvoxdesigns.blueballdesign.com or on the Sandvox Yahoo user group at: <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/sandvox/> or the Sandvox Yahoo CSS user group at: <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/sandvoxcss/>.

Another very helpful resource is available from Karelia Software for doing simple modifications to your Sandvox design at: http://docs.karelia.com/z/Quickly_modifying_existing_designs.html

We Offer Great Support Before and After Your Design Purchase

Blueball Design has become known for our great customer support with our Rapidweaver Theme users over the past 4 years and now offer the same support to our Sandvox Design users. If you have a question, please submit it to us using our contact form page. Our Technical Support policy is listed below.

Technical Support

Technical support will be limited to questions and problems specifically associated with unaltered designs in normal conditions. We do not have the resources to offer free Sandvox technical support or to provide training on how to use Sandvox.

We also cannot provide support for modified themes or graphics. We will be glad to assist you with modified design questions as time permits, but recommend you post questions in our Blueball Sandvox forum or in the Sandvox Yahoo groups.

You are responsible for adding or editing your web site's content. A complete and very helpful on-line Sandvox user manual with videos and tutorials can be found at: <http://docs.karelia.com>.

We do offer support relating to our design products and encourage you to report any bugs or problems you have with one of them. We also welcome any questions you may have about one of our Sandvox design products.

We Offer Sandvox Design Modification Services

Blueball Design offers Sandvox Design modification services starting from \$40 and up. If you are wanting to change your color scheme, add in a new image, adjust the sizing of certain items, change the font styles, etc., please email us what you are wanting and we'll be happy to help you out with your Sandvox design mod. We do not do "one off" custom Sandvox designs at this time.

A Final Word On Our Sandvox Designs

We believe that web design should be clean, simple, unique, professional and straightforward in functionality and design. Our Sandvox Designs will be developed following this mission statement. By keeping image use in the layout to a minimum our Sandvox Designs will produce sites that publish quicker and download faster for your site viewers, and will offer more stable display functionality in all the major browsers.

2. Browsers Supported By Our Blueball Showcase Design.

The Blueball Showcase Designs have been tested and will display correctly on the following browsers: Safari (Mac/PC), Firefox 3.5 (Mac/PC), and Internet Explorer 6 and 7 (PC). We are currently testing all our designs on Internet Explorer 8 and will issue updates for all designs if needed. This covers approx. 98.5% ± of the internet browser market. We do not support MAC Internet Explorer 5.2 or test our designs on Opera or Camino at this time.

Help Us Improve Our Sandvox Designs For Sandvox Users! Comments, Feedback, and Suggestions Are Welcome!

What do you think of our Sandvox Designs? What would you like to see? We need you to let us know what we can do to make your experience using Sandvox with our Sandvox Designs better for you. Use the contact form on our site or email us at sandvoxdesigner@gmail.com.

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

We like to see what Sandvox users have done with our designs. And we are developing a new Sandvox showcase area in our Blueball Sandvox site. If you'd like to have your site considered for our showcase area, please send your site url to us so we can check it out.

Good Luck With Your Sandvox Web Site!

Best,
Charlie

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