

# Fordson

## A theme for Moodle 3.x

Documentation and Setup Instructions

### Introduction & Background

Fordson is focused on students going from login to learning, with features that help teachers build better courses and students engage with content. Your school is unique and Fordson provides impressive customizations for a professional and modern learning platform.

### About Fordson

Moodle 3.5 introduces a new core Boost theme. Fordson is built as a child theme of Boost and the new Boost theme made it very difficult to keep the existing Style Presets of Fordson. This provided us with an opportunity and we are taking Fordson in a new direction that greatly enhances how you can style and customize your Moodle site. Previously, you were limited to 7 or so Style Presets and they were an all or nothing option. Fordson 3.5 now provides over 60 unique style and layout options with plans to exponentially add more!

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## Top Features

1. Over 160 unique layout and style combinations for the ultimate in customization
2. Fordson includes a variety of Site Preset Styles, Page Layouts, Sections Styles, and Course Listing Styles. All of which can be changed instantly from a menu.
3. All major navigation and functionality accessible from one spot on the page for users
4. A re-imagined course management panel for teachers that makes sense of all the links in course administration. It's accessible from anywhere in the course at any time.
5. New Block Display Panel moves blocks into a 3-column collapsible drawer giving a teacher more room for blocks and keeps them hidden until a student wants to see them.
6. Turn Editing On button is "location aware" and accessible at all times on the course homepage. When clicked the page will return to the exact location you were viewing when you pressed the button.
7. Feature the most effective course modules and activities first with Fordson's innovative course activity customizations. Take control of what modules are displayed, module ordering, and the ability to feature modules. Limit what modules a teacher can use and allow Managers to see and use all modules.
8. Keep students informed with progress reports, grades, teacher contacts and more with the Fordson Student Dashboard panel. This panel provides course information at a glance for students.
9. When a course is set to show one topic per page the Fordson theme will show individual topic completion progress on the course homepage. Students can quickly see what topics still have unfinished assignments.
10. Enroll students directly from the site homepage when using the Easy Enrollment Add-on.

# Presets

This panel allows you to set the style, layout of pages, topics/weeks styling, and course listing layout. There are over 60 unique combinations that allow you to keep the default Boost layout and style and customize the layout and style from there.

## Fordson

Presets

Preset Adjustments

Menu settings

Content areas

Icon Navigation

Footer

Custom image settings

Colours

Marketing Tiles

Slideshow

Activities/Resources

Custom Login Page

Theme preset  
theme\_fordson | preset

Modern Moodle

Pick a preset to broadly change the look of the theme.

Additional theme preset files  
theme\_fordson | presetfiles

Maximum size for new files: Unlimited, maximum attachments: 20

Files

You can drag and drop files here to add them.

Default: Empty

Preset files can be used to dramatically alter the appearance of the theme. See [https://docs.moodle.org/dev/Boost\\_Presets](https://docs.moodle.org/dev/Boost_Presets) for information on creating and sharing your own preset files.

Theme Presets allow you to change the color and overall styling of your site.

## Layout Settings

Control page layout by choosing a design.

Layout Chooser  
theme\_fordson | pagelayout

Centered Content / Full Screen Header Image

Default: Centered Content / Full Screen Header Image

Choose from the following layouts. [See this Google Doc](#) for a description of each layout.

Section Style Chooser  
theme\_fordson | sectionlayout

Bold Notecard

Default: Bold Notecard

Choose from the following topic/weekly section styles. [See this Google Doc](#) for a description of each style.

Course Tile Display  
theme\_fordson | coursetilestyle

Horizontal Image Background Full Details

Default: Tile Style Four w/course summary

When viewing course categories you can choose from the following styles to display courses.

Save changes

Layout Settings is very powerful in allowing you to choose and customize: Page Layout, Section Styles, and Course Listings. The Layout Chooser formats the page and positions custom course images in various ways. Section Style Chooser allows you to customize how each week/topic is displayed on the page. Finally, Course Tile Display handles course listings and allows you to choose between a variety of tile and horizontal options.

# Preset Adjustments

Learning Content Spacing  
theme\_fordson | learningcontentpadding

100px ⇅ Default: 125px

This controls how much space between the top of the page and the main course content. Generally, you want this to be less than the height of the header image.

Header Image Height  
theme\_fordson | headerimagepadding

200px ⇅ Default: 200px

Control the padding and height of the header image for courses.

Content Padding  
theme\_fordson | gutterwidth

4rem ⇅ Default: 4rem

This setting controls how much spacing is used on the left and right of the main content.

The Preset Adjustments Panel allows you to fine tune your display settings once you set the overall layout and style. There are three items to pay attention to on this page:

- **Learning Content Spacing** (space between top of page and course content)
- **Header Image Height**
- **Content Padding** (padding space on left and right of content)

Depending on which Page Layout you choose you might need to adjust one or all of these settings to get best results. Later in the documentation you will notice that some layouts might recommend certain settings. Most likely these settings will be found on this page.

## Menu Settings

This panel helps you setup additional menu options such as Teacher and Student Dashboard panels, My Course drop-down, This Course drop-down, and other optional setups you can achieve with Fordson. We recommend using the defaults with the exception of changing the My Courses terminology and adding a message for the student and teacher dashboards.

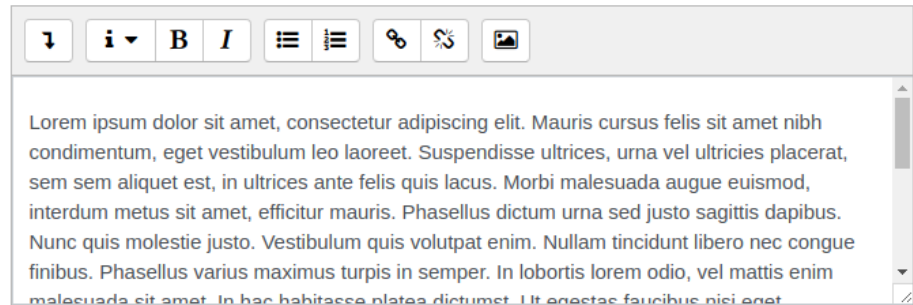
PRO TIP: Use the Course Management Message textbox to provide links to documentation on course setup and management to teachers.

# Content Areas

## Custom Content

Use the textboxes below to add a customized information for users.

Homepage Textbox  
Authenticated User  
theme\_fordson | fptextbox

A rich text editor interface with a toolbar at the top containing icons for undo, font color, bold, italic, bulleted list, numbered list, link, unlink, and image. The text area below contains a paragraph of Lorem Ipsum text. A vertical scrollbar is on the right side of the text area.

Default: Empty

This textbox appears on the homepage once a user authenticates. It is ideal for putting a welcome message and providing instructions for the learner.

Fordson provides a homepage textbox that can display a different message for logged-in users and logged-out users. You will also find the homepage alert on this page.



# Icon Navigation

## Homepage Icon One

Name of the icon you wish to use. List is [here](#). Just enter what is after "fa-", e.g. "star".

Icon  
theme\_fordson | nav1icon

Default: home

Name of the icon you wish to use. List is [here](#). Just enter what is after "fa-", e.g. "star".

Link Text  
theme\_fordson | nav1buttontext

Default: Dashboard

Text to appear below the icon.

Link URL  
theme\_fordson | nav1buttonurl

Default: http://localhost/moodle35/my/

URL the button will point to. You can link to anywhere including outside websites just enter the proper URL. If your Moodle site is in a subdirectory the default URL will not work. Please adjust the URL to reflect the subdirectory. Example if "moodle" was your subdirectory folder then the URL would need to be changed to /moodle/my/

Unique to Fordson is a special homepage navigation feature built using large buttons with icons. Each of the 8 buttons can be customized with an icon, text, and link. By default there are 4 buttons created automatically. You can remove them by simply deleting the text in the icon field. There also two special buttons: Create a course and a Special Slide button. Create a Course button is only displayed for those who have Course Creator permissions. The Slide button toggles the display of a textbox. This is great for instructions, news, or other information that doesn't need to be seen all the time.

# Footer

## Customize the footer of the homepage

The items below allow you provide branding to the theme footer.

**Organization Name**  
theme\_fordson | brandorganization  Default: Empty

Organization name to appear in the footer.

**Organization Website**  
theme\_fordson | brandwebsite  Default: Empty

Website address to appear in footer for organization.

**Organization Phone**  
theme\_fordson | brandphone  Default: Empty

Phone number to appear in footer.

**Organization Email**  
theme\_fordson | brandemail  Default: Empty

Email address for organization that appears in footer.

The Footer panel is where you can apply organizational branding and social icons. This will be displayed at the bottom of every page.

## Custom Image Settings

This page allows you to upload images for various purposes used in the theme. These include: Favicon, Header Logo (In addition to the default Moodle Logo options), Default Header Image, Default Page Background, and Default Login Image.

## Colours

Tweak the preset styles by targeting Bootstrap elements and a few page areas. There is also the option to change SCSS variables.

# Marketing Tiles

Fordson


[Presets](#)[Colours](#)[Menu settings](#)[Content areas](#)[Custom image settings](#)[Footer](#)[Icon Navigation](#)[Marketing Tiles](#)[Slideshow](#)[Activities/Resources](#)

ADMIN BOOKMARKS

[Fordson](#)[Purge all caches](#)[Install plugins](#)[Manage activities](#)[Handlebar](#)[Theme settings](#)[Theme selector](#)[Unbookmark this page](#)

Marketing Tile Position

theme\_fordson | togglemarketing

Display at Bottom of Page  Default: Display at Bottom of Page

Determine where the marketing tiles will be located on the homepage.

Marketing Spot One

Enter the settings for your marketing spot. You must include a title in order for the Marketing Spot to appear. The title will activate the individual Marketing Spots.

Title

theme\_fordson | marketing1

Marketing Tile





Default: Empty


Title to show in this marketing spot. You must include a title in order for the Marketing Tile to appear.

Image

theme\_fordson | marketing1image

Maximum size for new files: Unlimited, maximum attachments: 1

 Files   











You can drag and drop files here to add them.

Default: Empty

This provides the option of displaying an image in the marketing spot

Content

theme\_fordson | marketing1content

Ut enim ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur adipiscing elit. Maecan ipsum consequat interdum. Nullam euismod mattis enim. Phasellus non

Fordson supports up to six marketing tiles which can appear at the bottom of the page or up at the top just below the Icon Navigation Bar. Add text, images, and links to help draw attention to certain things.

# Slideshow

Fordson

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Purge all caches

Install plugins

Manage activities

Handlebar

Theme settings

Theme selector

Unbookmark this page

Activate Slideshow

theme\_fordson | showslideshow

☒ Default: No

Check this option to turn on the slideshow feature.

Slideshow Height

theme\_fordson | slideshowheight

250px ▾

Default: 250px

Adjust the height of the slideshow.

Slide 1

Slide 1 details.

Slide Title

theme\_fordson | slide1title

Introducing Fordson

Default: Empty

Enter a title for this slide.

Slide Description

theme\_fordson | slide1content

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🖼️

A Boost-based theme built for Moodle 3.2 and newer

Default: Empty

Add a description for this slide.

Add up to three slides. At a minimum you must add two. Supports a title, description, and image.

## Full Width Slideshow on Custom Login Page

Utilizing the slideshow on the custom login page will allow for a fullwidth slideshow that appears beneath the login form. This feature can be activated in the latest version of Fordson soon to be released.

Slideshow Pages  
theme\_fordson | slideshowpages

Show on custom login page only

Default: Show on custom login page only

Determine what main pages the slideshow should appear on. If using the slideshow on custom login page, it is recommended to only upload images and do not use the slide text options below. NOTE: The slideshow will not appear on mobile devices.



### Sneak Peek

This is the Moodle Sandbox where we play with tools still under development



### Moodle

This site is built on Moodle



### Fordson Theme

The Fordson theme helps make your users happy with innovative features and navigation



### Easy Enrollment

The easy enrollment plugin allows students to enroll into courses directly from the homepage.

### About the Fordson theme for Moodle

Fordson is focused on students going from login to learning, with features that help teachers build better courses and students engage with content. Your school is unique and Fordson provides impressive customizations for a professional and modern learning platform.



You are not logged in.  
[Home](#)  
[Data retention summary](#)  
[Get the mobile app](#)

# Activities/Resources

Fordson

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Activities/Resources

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Purge all caches

Install plugins

Manage activities

Handlebar

Theme settings

Theme selector

Unbookmark this page

Custom Chooser Label

theme\_fordson | modchoosercustomlabel

Top Modules

Default: Empty

Add your own custom label for this new menu in the Chooser Module panel.

assign,quiz,lesson,workshop

Default: Empty

Comma separated list of activities/resources to list at top of Activity/Resource Picker.

Default Activities:

assign,chat,choice,data,feedback,forum,glossary,lesson,lti,quiz,scorm,survey,wiki,workshop

Default Resources:

book,file,folder,imscp,label,page,resource,url

Show Only Custom Menu

theme\_fordson | showonlycustomactivities

☒ Default: No

If checked only the custom menu will be displayed. This allows an organization to pick and choose which activities and resources will be used in courses.

WARNING: You must have a comma separated list of activities/resources set in the textbox above. Otherwise you will not see any activities or resources when editing a course.

Show All Activities and Resources to Managers

theme\_fordson | showalltomanager

☐ Default: Yes

This setting will allow users who have the role of Manager see and access ALL activities and resources even if it is set to only show the custom menu. Generally, a manager role is given to a user at the site or category level. Teachers will still only see the custom menu. This feature is determined by the user permission: View the Site Administration Tree - moodle/site:configview . Site Administrators will always see all activities and resources.

This panel allows you to take control of what activities and resources teachers can access on your site. You can highlight most used activities or even control the ordering of what appears. Managers can see all tools. Site Admins always see all tools.

**WARNING:** All activities will disappear if you click the “Show Only Custom Menu” and you have not added any modules in the text box above. Clicking this option eliminates all modules except those named in the text box. This is great if you only want teachers to use certain modules but want Admins and Managers to have full access.

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# Custom Login Page

Turn on Custom Login  
theme\_fordson | showcustomlogin

☒ Default: No

You must turn this on to activate the custom settings below.

Login Page Banner Image  
theme\_fordson | logintopimage

Maximum size for new files: Unlimited, maximum attachments: 1



Files

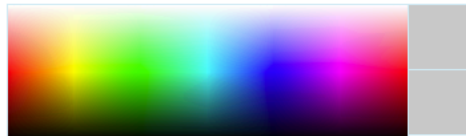


books\_wide.jp

Default: Empty

This image appears on the login page to the right of the login form. This is ideal for a logo or banner with a transparent background.

Login Form Color  
theme\_fordson | fploginform



#ccc

Default: Empty

Background color of the login form on the custom homepage.

This allows you to create a custom login page. Other settings in the theme that will display on the login page include the following:

- Site Administration > Security > Site Policies > Force Users To Login = Make sure this is checked so that users will be taken to your custom login page.
- Site Administration > Appearance > Logos > Logo = Upload an image here and it will appear above the login form.
- Fordson > Custom Image Settings > Default Login Image can be used to change the background image for the login page.
- Fordson > Content Areas > Homepage Alert can be used to provide a notice on the top of the page.

# Layouts and Style Screenshots

## Theme Preset: Modern Moodle

Various Layout, Sections, and Course choosers. These are some of the customizations you can achieve with this.

## Section Styles with the default Boost Layout









### Week 2: Communication and Changes in Behaviour

The overall aim of this topic on communication is to explore the barriers relating to communication that can arise for the person with dementia and their carer.







The Learning Outcomes of this topic of the course are to:

- explore the different barriers relating to communication that can arise for the person with dementia
- explore some strategies to improve communication techniques

The reading involved in this Topic should take approximately 60 minutes to complete.











	Communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	The Importance of Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Your communication experiences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Behavioural Issues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Changes in Behaviour	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Behaviour Changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Additional Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Factsheets: Communication & Behaviours	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Carer's Diary	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Optional Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Week 2: Care Delivery Action Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Feedback: Week 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Induction and Orientation








	Introduction to the Course	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Let's get to know each other	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Any technical issues?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Course Announcements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Feedback: Induction Week	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	HBC HBE Pre-Course Questionnaire	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



## Week 3: Healthy Living


<b>Food and Drink</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Nutrition and Eating Well</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Your Experience: Nutrition and Eating Well</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Stay Active</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Engaging Activities</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Your Activities</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Additional Resources</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Factsheet: Eating</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Nutrition websites</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Factsheets: Activities</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Booklet: Eating Well with Dementia</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Optional Activities</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Week 3: Care Delivery Action Plan</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Feedback: Week 3</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>


## Week 5: Looking After the Carer

<b>Caring for the Carer</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Strategies for Looking After Yourself</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Caring for Myself</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Information and Support</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Finding Relevant Information</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Additional Resources</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Factsheet: Carers - looking after yourself</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Website: Care Alliance Ireland</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Optional Activities</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Week 5: Care Delivery Action Plan</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 <b>Feedback: Week 5</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>


## Week 5: Looking After the Carer

### Caring for the Carer


 Strategies for Looking After Yourself


 Caring for Myself

### Information and Support


 Finding Relevant Information


### Additional Resources

 Factsheet: Carers - looking after yourself

 Website: Care Alliance Ireland

### Optional Activities

 Week 5: Care Delivery Action Plan

 Feedback: Week 5



## Let's Read About It

Read the eBook to learn about the Liberated Slaves and their settlements in The Bahamas.

 African Settlements in The Bahamas

 African Settlements eBook

## Working with Images and Pictures

**Restricted** Not available unless: The activity (**Missing activity**) is marked complete (hidden otherwise)

Images and pictures are powerful communication tools. However, it is important to convey that same information to users who do not have the gift of full sight. This section will help you learn to deal with images and pictures.

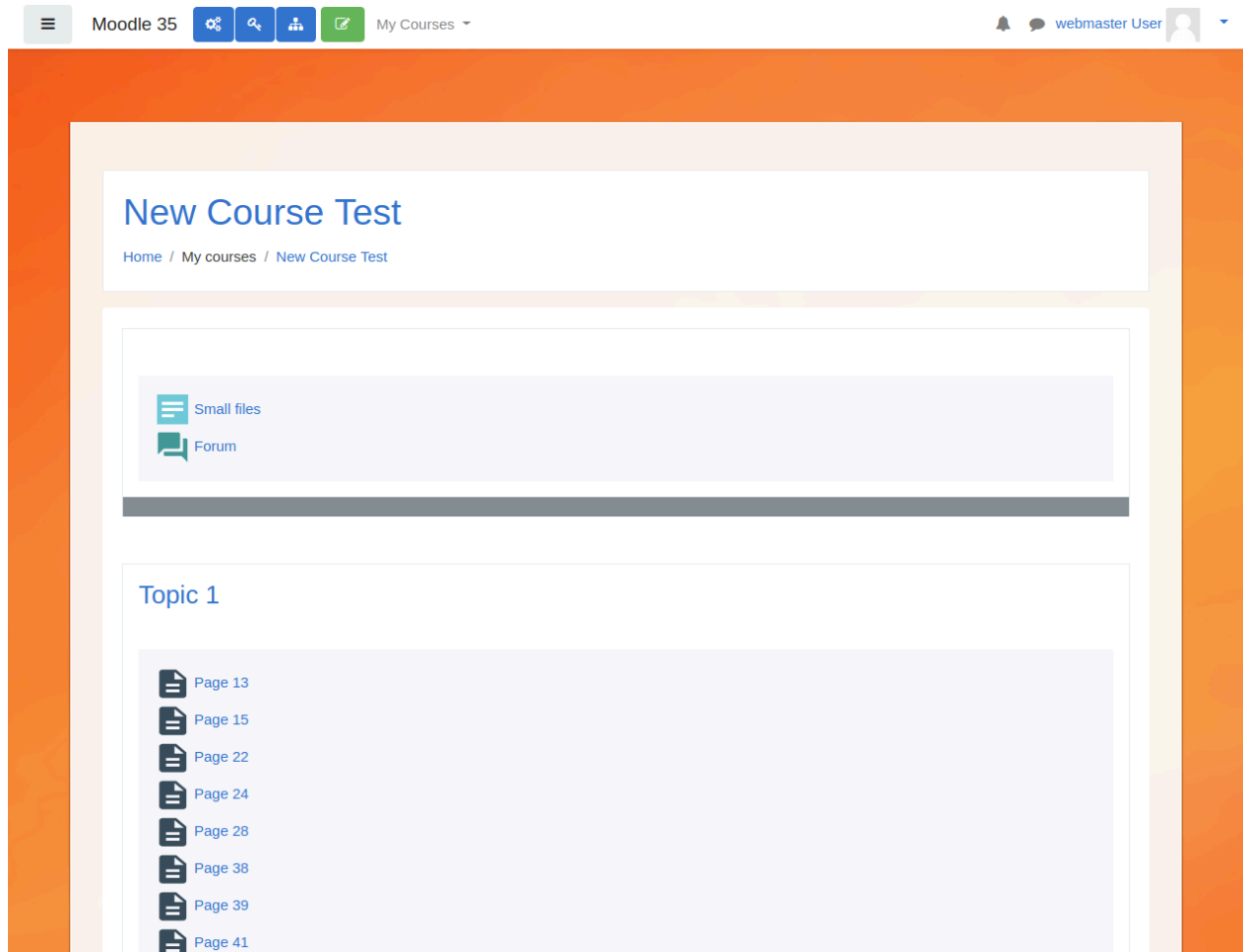
*There is one Lesson included in the section. Estimated time to complete is 15 minutes.*



Working with Images and Pictures



eLearning Preset with Centered Content/Full Screen Header Image Layout and Simple Box Section Style.



# Course Listing Display Options

The screenshot displays the Moodle 3.5 course listing interface. At the top, the header includes the Moodle logo, version 3.5, a 'My Courses' dropdown, and a user profile for 'webmaster User'. Below the header, there is a search bar with the text 'Search courses' and a 'Go' button. A 'Collapse all' link is visible on the right. The main content area is titled 'Miscellaneous' and 'Sub Category', followed by 'Available courses'. Three course cards are displayed, each with a unique background image. The first card, 'New Course Test', has a brown background and lists 'Teacher: webmaster User'. The second card, 'ADA 2018', has a blue and red background with bokeh effects and lists 'Teacher: webmaster User'. The third card, 'Medium Demo Course', has a green and purple background and lists five teachers: 'Teacher: Adéla Němcová', 'Teacher: Adéla Němcová', 'Teacher: Adéla Němcová', 'Teacher: Adéla Procházková', and 'Teacher: Adéla Procházková'. At the bottom, there is an 'Add a new course' button and a small blue button with a plus icon.

Moodle 3.5 My Courses webmaster User

Search courses Go

▼ Collapse all

▼ Miscellaneous

► Sub Category

Available courses

New Course Test Teacher: webmaster User

ADA 2018 Teacher: webmaster User

Medium Demo Course

Teacher: Adéla Němcová  
Teacher: Adéla Němcová  
Teacher: Adéla Němcová  
Teacher: Adéla Procházková  
Teacher: Adéla Procházková


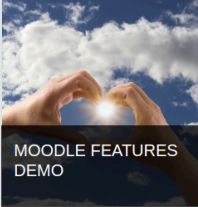

Add a new course

Moodle 35
My Courses
webmaster User

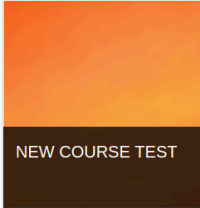
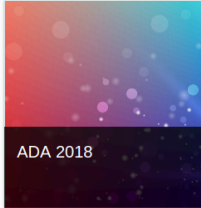
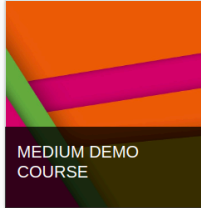
Search courses
Go

Collapse all

Miscellaneous
Sub Category
Available courses

Available courses

Moodle 35
My Courses
webmaster User

Search courses
Go

Collapse all

Miscellaneous
Sub Category
Available courses


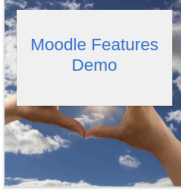

New Course Test
Teacher: webmaster User
New Course Test This is the course description.

ADA 2018
Teacher: webmaster User
This course is designed to give you the skills and understanding to make your work on the web ADA compliant. Once you view the Introductory Video, you can complete the sections in any order you wish. There are Resources at the end so that you have a reference. This course is designed to ...

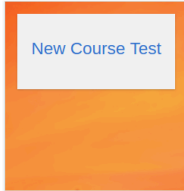

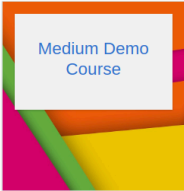
Medium Demo Course
Teacher: Adéla Němcová
Teacher: Adéla Němcová
Teacher: Adéla Němcová
Teacher: Adéla Procházková
Teacher: Adéla Procházková
Medium Demo Course

Moodle 35 My Courses webmaster User

▼ Miscellaneous  
▼ Sub Category  
Available courses

Available courses




Add a new course

Moodle 35 My Courses webmaster User

Search courses  Go

▼ Collapse all

▼ Miscellaneous  
► Sub Category  
Available courses

**New Course Test**  
New Course Test This is the course description.  
**Teacher: webmaster User**

**ADA 2018**  
This course is designed to give you the skills and understanding to make your  
**Teacher: Adéla Němcová**

**Medium Demo Course**  
Medium Demo Course  
**Teacher: Adéla Němcová**

Add a new course

This is a custom footnote.

You are logged in as [webmaster User](#) (Log out)  
[Home](#)

**Dearborn Public Schools**  
<http://dearbornschools.org>  
[kennibc@dearbornschools.org](mailto:kennibc@dearbornschools.org)

Moodle 35

My Courses

webmaster User

Search courses


Go

▼ Collapse all

▼ Miscellaneous


▼ Sub Category

Available courses



Home Based Care - Home Based Education


Teacher: webmaster User



Moodle Features Demo

Teacher: webmaster User

This course outlines Moodle's features by providing examples of activities and resources.




African Settlements in The Bahamas

Teacher: webmaster User

At the end of this lesson, you would be able to: Define the term "Liberated Africans" Name the governor who granted crown land to free blacks. Identify at least 5 areas where they settled Describe life for freed slaves in The Bahamas Evaluate reasons why many of these free settl...

Available courses



New Course Test

Teacher: webmaster User

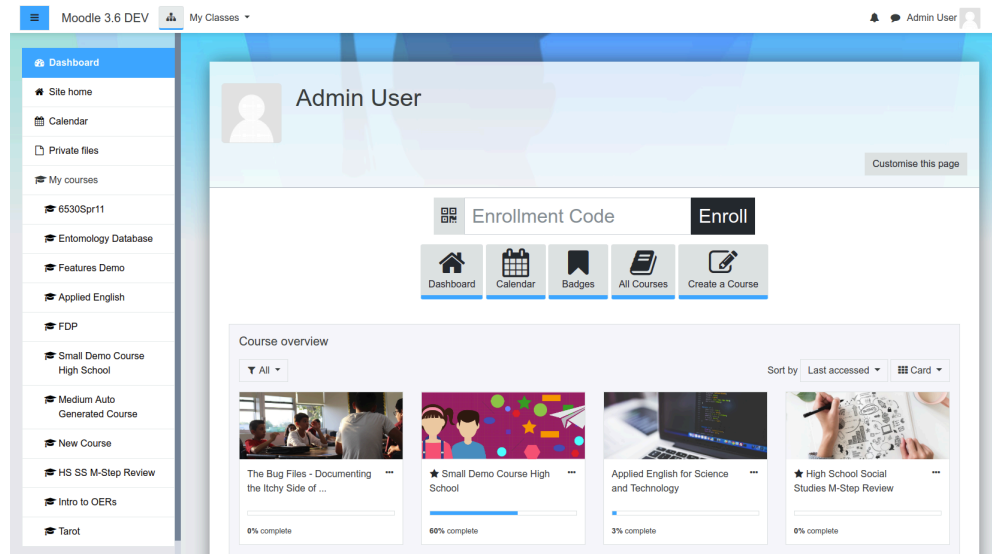
New Course Test This is the course description.

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# Recommended Theme Settings for Presets

## Perception Preset

The Perception Preset is introduced in Fordson v1.3 and is the new default. Perception provides a clean and modern style to Moodle without sacrificing features and improvements to help learners and teachers alike.



## Preset Settings

Layout Chooser => Default Boost Layout

Section Style Chooser => Boost Default

Course Tile Display => Default Moodle Course Display

Marketing Tile Style => Simplicity

Block Display => Three Column Fordson Default

## Preset Adjustment Settings

Show Login Form => unchecked. We like to force users to login.

Content Padding => 3rem

Header Image Height => 400px to 700px is ideal.

Enhanced MyDashboard => Yes, checked

Activity Icon Size => 36 or 40px. Default is 32px but the larger icons help learners.

## Menu Settings

Navbar Color Switch => Do not change navbar color based on role

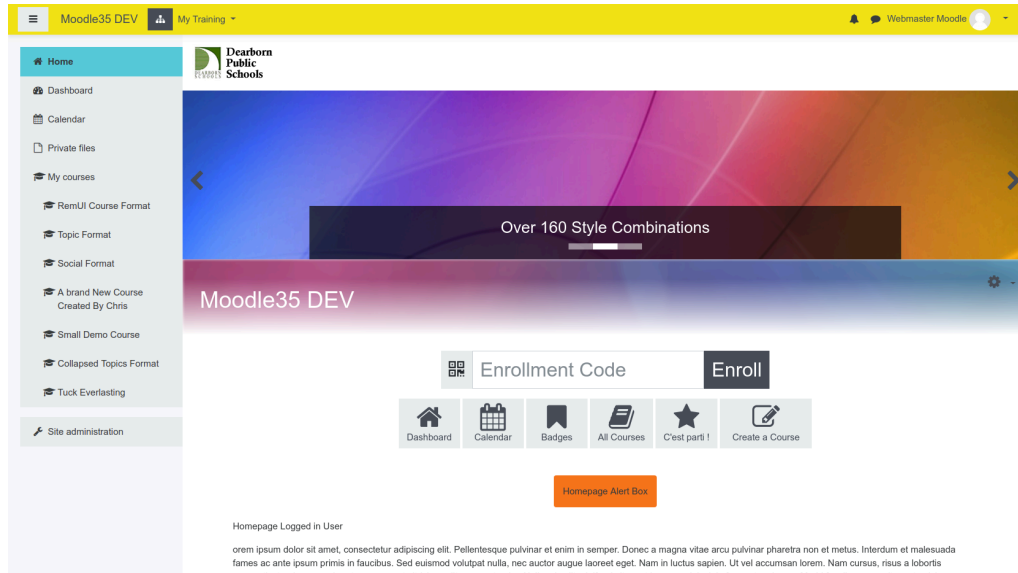
## Slideshow

Activate Slideshow => Unchecked. We prefer no slideshow on the homepage.



# Spectrum Achromatic Preset

The Spectrum Preset is focused on maximizing screen space while still providing amazing visuals that utilize teacher uploaded photos in the header area of the course. Spectrum is sleek and modern with a bold title and breadcrumb area and a full-width presentation of course materials.



## Preset Settings

Layout Chooser => Default Boost Layout / Header Image in Course Title Box

Section Style Chooser => Highlighted Section Title

Course Tile Display => Tile Style One

Marketing Tile Style => Top Bar Highlight

Block Display => Three Column Fordson Default

## Preset Adjustment Settings

Show Login Form => unchecked. We like to force users to login.

Content Padding => Orem

Enhanced MyDashboard => Yes, checked

## Slideshow

Activate Slideshow => Checked. Spectrum looks great with a full width slideshow if needed.

## SCSS Variables for Style Adjustments

SCSS Variables are used throughout a theme to create consistency and an easy method to change the look of a page very easily. Knowing what variables you can change and where to find them is a valuable skill if you want to style a theme beyond what front-end user controls a theme developer might provide. I'd like to share some of the more important SCSS variables we use in the Fordson Preset and show you how to find additional variables and with a simple cut/paste you can instantly tweak the style of the theme.

To see and find the main variables used in Fordson we put them in 2 places: the actual preset files ( /moodle/theme/fordson/scss/preset folder) and a file fordson\_variables.scss ( /moodle/theme/fordson/scss/fordson\_variables.scss file).

If you download the Fordson theme to your desktop and open up the zip file you will see the preset folder and fordson\_variables file. Open the files and you will see at the top of the Presets variables that look like this:

```
$gray-100: #f8f9fa !default;
$gray-200: #e9ecef !default;
$gray-300: #dee2e6 !default;
...
$body-color:    $gray-800 !default;
$body-bg:       $gray-200 !default;
$drawer-bg:     rgba($body-bg, .6) !default;
$card-bg:       $white !default;
$footer-bg:     #1e2429 !default;
$perception-base:  #14a9fe !default;
```

Some of these might be pretty obvious what they do like \$drawer-bg = drawer background color.

To change the drawer background color you would go to the Fordson theme Admin page and go to the Colours tab. At the top of the page you will see a text box for **RAW Initial SCSS**. You can define new colors for each of the variables you want to change by using something like: **\$drawer-bg: #000000;** if you wanted to change the color of the nav drawer to black. With this new skill, you can customize Fordson and Boost-based themes beyond color pickers that are provided for quick changes.

The screenshot shows the Moodle 3.6 DEV interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Dashboard', 'Site administration', 'Appearance', 'Themes', and 'Fordson'. The 'Fordson' theme page has tabs for 'Presets', 'Preset Adjustments', 'Custom image settings', 'Colours', 'Content areas', 'Menu settings', 'Icon Navigation', 'Activities/Resources', and 'Slideshow'. The 'Colours' tab is active, showing 'Colour Settings'. A green banner at the top says 'Changes saved'. Below, the 'Raw Initial SCSS' field is highlighted with a red box and contains the code '\$drawer-bg: #000000;'. A red arrow points from this field to the 'Site administration' link in the left sidebar. Below the SCSS field is a 'Brand Primary' color picker.

# Get the Most Out of Fordson - Style Preset Videos and Tips

## Boost Style Preset

In this video we cover how to make the Fordson theme look and feel like Boost. It's clean, modern, and simple. We also show you what the Section Style Display and Course Style Display dropdowns do. It's quite amazing how quickly you can manipulate the settings of Fordson and have a completely different look to your elearning platform!

Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/8ueT7LYmRAs>

Read the blog post:

<https://michiganmoodle.dearbornschools.org/plugins/fordson-boost-style-preset-advanced-moodle-theme-controls/>