

LWN Theming

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After a poll by @karan, I started thinking about where I get my news and decided to subscribe to LWN. Their content is really good, they've been running for a long time, and I want to support their work. However, I think the default theme is quite terrible. I spent about an hour last night messing with it and I think I improved it significantly; it's based on the theme of this site.

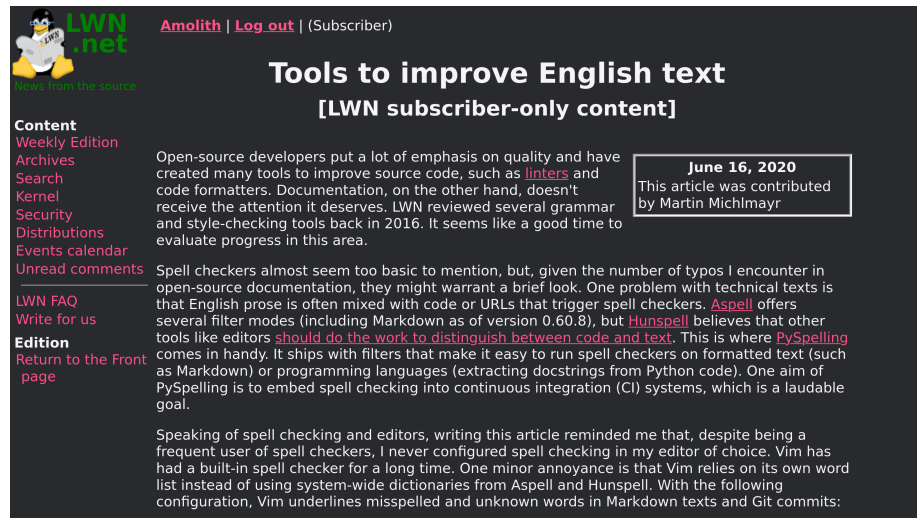


Figure 1: The theme has a dark background, vibrant pink links, and light text

Screenshot of my LWN theme

After [subscribing](#), navigate to [your account page](#) then click the link under

Customization. The following tables are the options and values I've set for my theme but note that I have *not* changed the `Old (seen) comment background color` as I haven't had an opportunity to experience what that looks like yet. Once I do, I'll update my theme and this post accordingly.

Display preferences

Option	Value
Page background colour	#292a2d
Left column background	#292a2d
Middle column background	#292a2d
Headline background	#3b3d42
Form/byline background	#292a2d
Sidebar background	#292a2d
Text colour	#f5f4f7
Link colour	#fe5186
Visited link colour	#d0738f
Quoted text (in email) colour	#7ec699
Old (seen) comment background colour	#cccccc
Navigation box on printable page	:white_check_mark:
Minimum width of main text column (em)	40
Maximum width of main text column (em)	50
Display old parent in unread comments screen	:large-green-square: (unchecked)

New page engine preferences

Option	Value
Use the new page engine	:white_check_mark:
Left column color	#292a2d
Maximum width for handset presentation (em)	48
Fixed navigation menu on small screens	:white_check_mark:
Font family to use	:white_check_mark: sans-serif

Quoted text preferences

Option	Value
Quoted text style	:white_check_mark: normal
Quoted text weight	:white_check_mark: bolder
Quoted text colour	#a9a9b3

Option	Value
Quoted text background	#292a2d

After applying the changes, this is what comments look like:



Figure 2: The theme is basically the same as above with slightly lighter headers and a soft green for the quotes

Screenshot of LWN comments

Conclusion

I'm already happy with my LWN subscription and plan to remain subscribed for a long time. The recent post about *Tools to improve English text* looks especially interesting and something I'm already looking into for [Arbor's documentation](#) (big blog post about the project coming soon™). If you have an extra \$3.50/mo, I really encourage you to subscribe to LWN. News is important and high-quality news especially so. Blinding though the default theme may be, LWN is, bar none, the best news site I've ever seen and I want to ensure they stick around.

This was day 12 of [#100DaysToOffload](#), an [awesome idea](#) from [Kev Quirk](#). If you want to participate, just write something every day for 100 days and post a link on social media with the hashtag!