The theme, and where it ends

What Spectrum renders, what this site owns, and how the pinned theme is updated.

JWOGRADY

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The theme is hugo-spectrum ‹https://github.com/jwogrady/hugo-spectrum›, vendored as a git submodule a `themes/hugo-spectrum`.

1. What it does and does not own

It owns presentation. It carries **no content types, no taxonomy and no URL structure** — those are declared in `hugo.toml` here. That is why the `[taxonomies]` and `[menus]` blocks live in this repo.

The homepage selects the configured Journal section (`posts` here). Lab Notes have a separate section and chronological `log` layout. Both use the same publication typography, metadata and subject indexes, but the homepage and its RSS feed remain Journal-only. Tags, archives and projects can include both writing types and label the records explicitly.

2. Config it will not build without

```
timeZone = 'America/Chicago'
[params.spectrum]
  timezone = 'America/Chicago'    # must equal the above
```

Unset, Hugo uses the build machine's zone, and the same commit renders different times on a lapto and in CI. The theme fails the build rather than let that happen.

3. Cloning this repo

```
git clone --recurse-submodules <url>
```

Without `--recurse-submodules` the `themes/` directory is empty and the build fails in a way that reads like a content problem. To fix an existing clone:

```
git submodule update --init --recursive
```

4. Updating the theme

```
cd themes/hugo-spectrum && git pull origin master && cd -
git add themes/hugo-spectrum && git commit -m "chore: update theme"
```

The submodule pins a commit. Nothing changes until that pin moves.

5. Overriding it

Project files beat theme files at the same path. `layouts/page.html` here wins over `themes/hugo-spectrum/layouts/page.html` entirely — there is no merging, so an override is a fork of that one fil and stops receiving theme updates to it. Override as little as possible.

6. The params it actually reads

`accentHue` used to be documented here as "one knob, the whole palette derives from it". **The them does not read it.** It appears once in the theme's own `hugo.toml` and in no layout, partial or stylesheet, so setting it in this repo changes nothing. It has been removed from this page rather tha left to mislead the next person who wants to change the colour.

The palette is chosen by name:

```
[params.spectrum]
  palette = ''      # '' for the default, 'ultraviolet' for the preset
```

Everything under `params.spectrum` the theme reads, as of hugo-spectrum v0.7.0 — grep the layout before trusting this list, it is a snapshot:

KEY	WHAT IT DOES
`owner`, `standfirst`, `copyright`, `footerNote`	Masthead and footer text
`palette`, `theme`, `css`	Presentation selection
`timezone`, `zones`, `tz`	The clock, and the zone every date renders in
`entryAside`	Keeps the clock, spectrum and archive beside a flat entry
`tagHueSpan`, `tagBandCeiling`, `tagRotate`, `tagRotateSeconds`	How the subject index colours and cycles
`banners`, `disallow`	Page banners; robots exclusions
`themeCredit`	The credit line in the footer
`journalSection`, `labSection`	The Journal collection and the working-log section; defaults `posts`, `lab-notes`

The Docs section opts into preview rows with `previews = true`. Images come from explicit `preview`, `cover` or `featured_image` fields, in that order. No image means a typographic plate, nc a broken image or a made-up cover. The theme resizes local raster images; it does not fetch remote images or convert downloadable documents.

Canonical: https://www.jwogrady.com/docs/site/theme/ ‹https://www.jwogrady.com/docs/site/theme/›