Create your own Website

using



Another Free Guide

by

Robin Broad B.Sc., M.Sc.



Create your own Website using the easy SDCMS

- Starbird Digital Content Management System

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About This Guide

This guide was written to help you to put your own website online and be able to manage yourself, without needing have any expert knowledge. It describes how to use the easy SDCMS - Starbird Digital Content Management System to manage your own web pages.

This free website guide was written by Robin Broad, a computer scientist and teacher from Newcastle upon Tyne in the UK. Robin achieved a distinction in his masters degree in computing science (MSc), which he studied at Newcastle University, in England from 2007 to 2008.

The decision to publish this book as a free advanced concepts guide under the GNU General Public License was inspired by the example of the American computer scientist Richard Stallman. He started the **GNU Project** in 1983, which had the goal of creating a "complete Unix-compatible software system" composed entirely of free software. Work began in 1984. Later, in 1985, Stallman started the Free Software Foundation and wrote the GNU General Public License (GNU GPL) in 1989.

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Robin Broad B.Sc., M.Sc. - British computer scientist and teacher. Founder and Technical and Creative Director of Starbird Digital web services, Automated Teaching Machines and the author of this book.

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My friends and family for their encouragement and support during the development of the content and software. Newcastle University for allowing me to continue to work in their library, where much of this project was developed.

Richard Stallman who started the GNU Project in 1983, which led to the GNU/Linux environment that was used to build the website and write this book. he also created the GNU General Public License (GNU GPL) and the GNU Free Documentation License.

This service would not exist if it were not for the pioneers of networking, the ARPANET, the Internet and the World Wide Web, namely Claude Shannon, Vannevar Bush, Paul Baran, Donald Davies, Joseph Licklider, Charles Herzfeld, Bob Taylor, Douglas Engelbart, Larry Roberts, Leonard Kleinrock, Louis Pouzin, John Klensin, Bob Kahn, Vint Cerf, Steve Crocker, Jon Postel, Jake Feinler, Peter Kirstein, Danny Cohen, Paul Mockapetris, Joyce Reynolds, David Clark, Dave Mills, Radia Perlman, Dennis Jennings, Steve Wolff, Van Jacobson, Ted Nelson, Tim Berners-Lee, Mark McCahill, Robert Cailliau, Marc Andreessen and Eric Bina.

This work is dedicated to Chris and Barbara.

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Section One

Getting a Template Website

Getting a Template Website

Hello and welcome to the world of the Internet! This guide will show you how to create and manage your own website without needing have any expert knowledge. It describes how to use the easy SDCMS - Starbird Digital Content Management System to manage your own web pages.

To use The Easy SDCMS, you will need to register for a website with Starbird Digital at: www.starbirddigital.com



Starting from a template website, you will be able to control the appearance and content of your website using the admin area. The admin area can be accessed using a web browser, from a web address similar to this one: www.your-site-name.com/sdadmin/

Enter your user name and password to login.

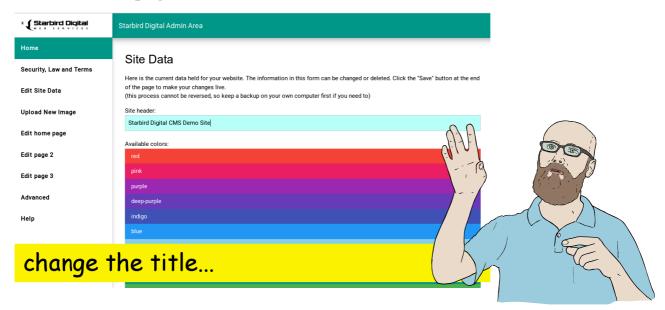
Section TwoEditing the Site Data

Editing the Site Data

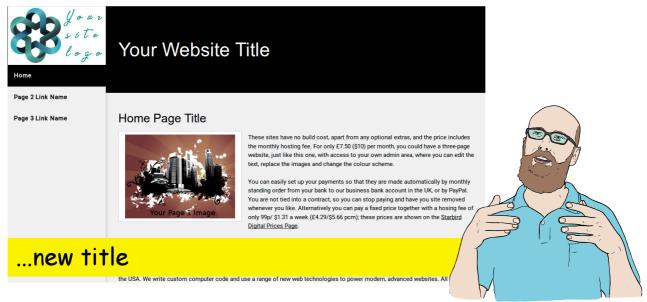
Once logged in to the admin area of your website, select the **Edit Site Data** page. Here, all of the current data about your website is shown.

(i) Change the Website Title

The **Site header** section contains the text used to display your website header. To change this, edit the text and then click the save button at the bottom of the page.



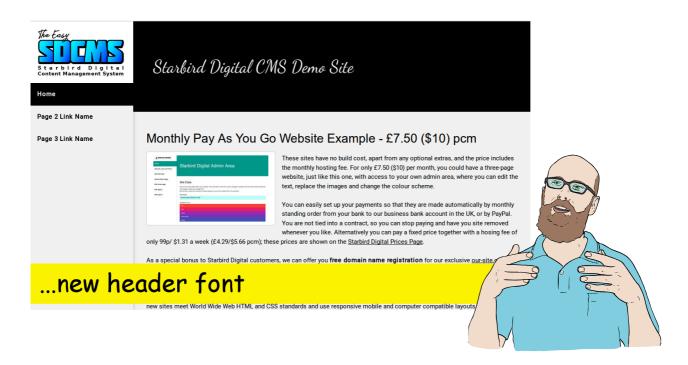
Now, return to your website and refresh the page to see the changes.



(ii) Change the Header Font

In the **Edit Site Data** section, select a font from the drop down menu. There are six choices of font: Roboto, Frederick, Dancing Script, Spicy Rice, Amatic and Karla Stencil. Select your font, click save at the end of the page and then refresh your website to see the changes.





(iii) Changing the Website Colour Theme

In the admin area select the **Edit Site Data** page and then select a site colour from the drop down menu. Click the save button at the end of the page and then refresh your website to see the changes.



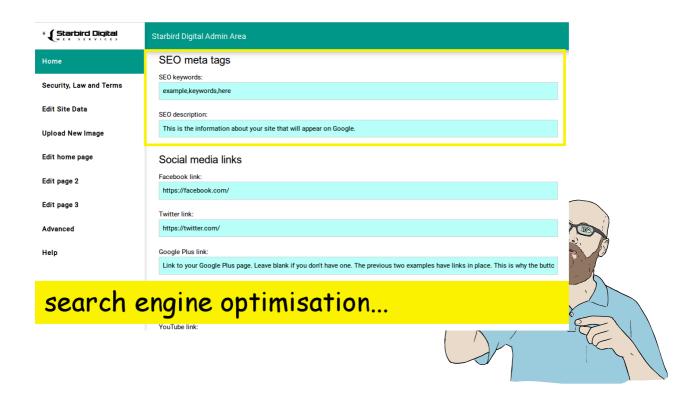


(iv) Changing the SEO Meta Tags

You can also edit the SEO keywords and SEO description tags used on your website. SEO stands for Search Engine Optimization and is a method used to increase the ranking of your website in the organic search results. The keywords that you list indicate to the search engine what your website is about. The SEO description may be used by the search engine to describe what your website is about in the search listings.

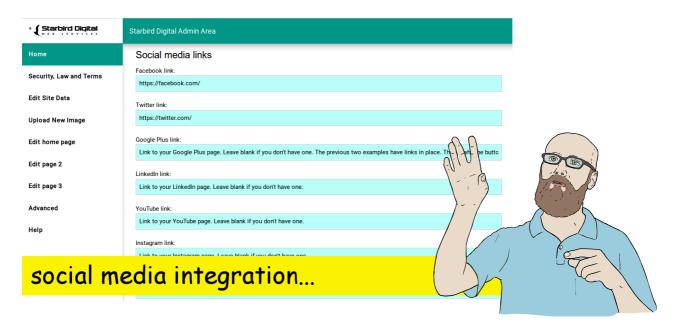
Search engines also look at the titles and content of your pages to help them determine what your page is about. It is important to include the terms that users may search for when looking for a website like yours online.

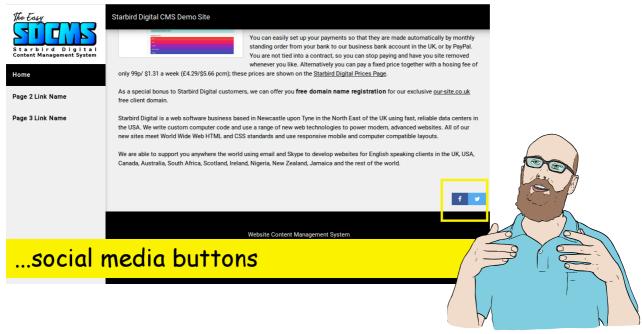
In the admin area select the **Edit Site Data** page and then edit the SEO keywords and SEO description tags. Click the save button at the end of the page and then refresh your website to see the changes in the page source code.



(v) Adding Social Media Links

In the admin area go to the **Edit Site Data** page and find the Social Media Links section. You can provide links to your Facebook, Twitter, Google Plus, LinkedIn, YouTube, Instagram, Pinterest and Snapchat pages. You can leave any of these sections blank if you wish. Once the link has been inserted, save your changes by pressing the button at the bottom of the page and then refresh your web page to see the social media links now included on your homepage.





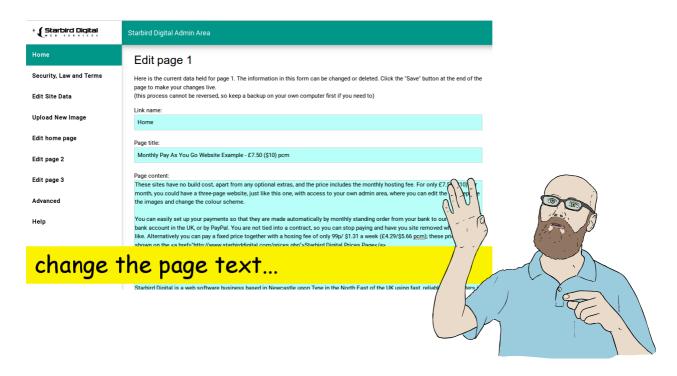
Section ThreeEditing the Site Pages

Edit a Website Page

All of the pages of your website can be edited using the admin area. From the admin area, choose the page that you wish to edit and enter the text into the fields shown. It is advisable to prepare the page content first, using a word processor and to proof read, spell check and save the document on your own computer before copying and pasting your text into the page content section.

To save your changes click the save button at the end of the page. To view your changes, return to your website and refresh the page.

At the end of this section there is a show/ hide image option. This allows you to have some pages on your website which contain text without an image if you wish.

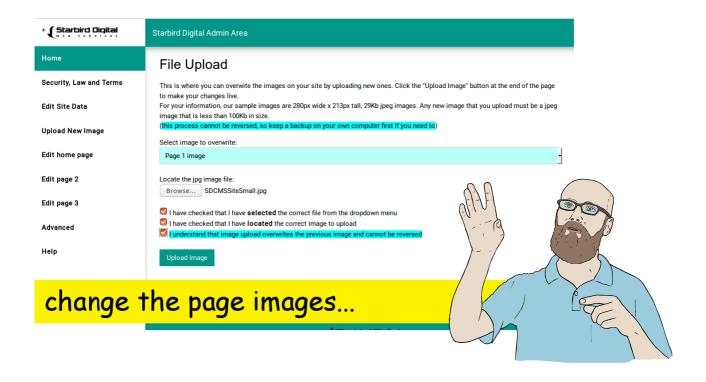


Section Four Uploading Images

Uploading Images

To upload a new image, go to the admin area and choose the **Upload New Image** page. Select the image to overwrite from the drop down menu and then locate the JPEG image file on your computer using the browse button. Read and check off the points on the check list before clicking **Upload Image**.

Some checks are carried out on the file that you are trying to upload. It may be rejected if it is the wrong type of file, or if it is too large. If the content management system accepts your file and uploads it to our server then you should see a success message. To view the new image on your website, return to your website page and refresh the page. You may need to press shift-refresh to force the browser to reload the new image.



Section Five Advanced Features

Advanced Features

We have allowed you to use some advanced features to enhance your page content.

Create Headings

To mark something as a heading, enclose it in SQUARE brackets like this: [This is a Heading]

Our system will display this as a bold heading on your actual web page. These square brackets must be opened and closed. Do not forget to close the heading with]

Insert links

You can insert links, but you have use some HTML code like this: BBC News

Bold Print

You can mark bold print, but you have use some HTML code like this: This is some bold text

Italic Print

You can mark italic print, but you have use some HTML code like this: This is some italic text

Highlighted Print

You can mark highlighted print, but you have use some HTML code like this:

This is some yellow highlighted
text

Or:

This is some green
highlighted text

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