

Hide Sections in Facebook Page/App

One of the things you can do with a Facebook App, is make your website display *inside* Facebook as a "Facebook App". The problem is, when you do this it still shows everything on the page just like it would show as if you were viewing the website directly. You may wish to hide the logo, or maybe hide the left or right column of certain pages. Below are instructions for how to do just that!

Notes:

- These instructions assume you are using a site design *close* to the default design in versions 5.0 and up. If your site is dramatically different, the template files you edit and where you need to add certain parts like JS code and CSS will be different. <
- You will need to already have your Facebook App set up and configured correctly, as instructed in the instructions for setting up Login with Facebook. <

Instructions:

1. Go to **Design > Manager** and edit the template file **header.tpl** in your main template set, usually **my_templates**. Make sure you are on the <..> **Source Code Editor** tab. <
2. Find this part:

```
<div id="header">

<
```

3. Add the CSS class "no_facebook", so that it looks like this:

```
<div id="header" class="no_facebook">

<
```

4. Save the changes. <
5. Browse your templates, and find any other sections or parts that you do not want to show when the site is in Facebook, and add the **no_facebook** CSS class to those parts. For example, if you do not want the left hand column to show on the front page (if you are using the default front page):

1. Edit **front_page.tpl** <
2. Find this line (which is the "start" of the left hand column):

```
<!-- START LEFT COLUMN -->
<div id="navigation_column_left">
```

<

3. Add the "no_facebook" CSS class like this:

```
<!-- START LEFT COLUMN -->
<div id="navigation_column_left" class="no_facebook">
```

<

4. Save changes <

<

1. Later on, you will be able to add the **no_facebook** CSS class to other parts of the template as well, so don't worry too much about finding everything you want to hide right now. Just get the "main parts" you might not want to show, such as anything in the header or footer that you do not want to show. <
2. Now, you will add a section to the head.tpl that will "show" the hidden sections if the page is being viewed normally. Do this by editing the file **head.tpl**, again make sure you are using the <..> **Source Code Editor** tab. <
3. In the **head.tpl** file, find this section:

```
</head>
```

<

4. **Replace** that with¹⁾:

```
<script type="text/javascript">
  //
  /*
   * Facebook show/hide sections of the page, based on if it is in a
   frame
   * or not. (if in a frame, assume it is inside facebook app). Note
   that
   * we "start" by hiding all the sections for everyone, then if it
   detects
   * it is NOT in facebook, it "un-hides" those sections... Using this
   method
   * should prevent the "shows for a second" problem.
   */
  if (top.location == location) {
    //This is "normal" page load, so show all the sections that should
    //only be hidden when in facebook.
    Event.observe(window, 'load', function () {
      $$('.no_facebook').each (function (elem) {
        elem.removeClassName('no_facebook');
      });
    });
  }
  //]]&gt;
&lt;/script&gt;
&lt;style type="text/css"&gt;
/* don't show sections in facebook */
.no_facebook { display: none; }
&lt;/style&gt;
&lt;/head&gt;</pre></div><div data-bbox="68 922 88 937" data-label="Text"><p>&lt;</p></div><div data-bbox="68 951 280 967" data-label="Page-Footer"><p><a href="https://geodesicsolutions.org/wiki/">https://geodesicsolutions.org/wiki/</a></p></div><div data-bbox="742 951 937 966" data-label="Page-Footer"><p>Printed on 2026/03/25 18:55</p></div>
```

1. Save the changes. <
2. Now browse your site "normally", and make sure everything displays normally. If you the sections do not show when browsing normally²⁾, check to see if you have any JS errors. If your design has any JS errors they can prevent those sections of the page from showing when you are not in facebook. <
3. Go to <http://developers.facebook.com/apps> and edit your app's **Basic** settings³⁾.
 - If not already configured, click on **App on Facebook** <
 - Enter the **Canvas URL** to be the main URL for your classifieds site, for instance if the software was installed at the base of example.com you would enter **"http://example.com/" (without quotes)**. < * **Enter the Secure Canvas URL to be the "secure" main URL for your classifieds site (this is required now for Facebook Apps, see notes at top of this page). Using same example as above, the value would be "https://example.com/" (without quotes)**. < < - **Save the Facebook App settings.** < - **Visit the URL it shows for the Canvas Page in the same section within the Facebook App settings. When you visit the site using the Facebook App page (aka the Canvas Page), those sections you added the `no_facebook` class to, should not display! You can now browse the site using the facebook app page, and find any other parts of the page you may not want to show when browsing using Facebook. One place in particular you may wish to pay attention to, if you are using the Storefront Addon, is the Storefront template(s), so that parts of the Storefront pages do not show within Facebook. That way your users can set up their own Facebook apps and "point" them to their own Storefront pages, without it displaying the main site menu links and such.** < - **Optional: Depending on how "wide" your main site is, you may wish to change the Facebook Canvas page to use a "fluid" layout rather than a "fixed" width. If you see a horizontal scroll-bar along the bottom, even after removing parts of the page you do not wish to show within Facebook, you may want to make this change: - Within the Facebook Page settings, click on the Advanced section on the left hand menu. < - Under Canvas Settings, change Canvas Width to Fluid. < - Save changes, then refresh (or visit) your app's canvas page, and make sure it displays without the horizontal scroll-bar now.** < <

1)

NOTE: Make sure it does not already have this in the template, if it does then no need to add it again!

2)

they should show once the main part of the page is done loading

3)

This assumes you have already set up a Facebook app and that it is working correctly, as is needed to use the **Login with Facebook** functionality built into the Social Connect Addon.

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