Overview

Topic List Previews allows you to:

- Add images, excerpts, buttons and topic stats to topic list items; and
- Change the layout and style of topic list items
- Add ‘Featured’ topics above topic lists and topics.

These settings can be applied to all or selected topic lists on a site-wide or category-specific basis.

This flexible feature-set allows you create a variety of different topic list styles, including

Reddit Style

Pinterest (Masonry) Style

Featured Topics

Maintainers: @merefield and @angus
Examples in the Wild

- **Blender Artists**, who use “Featured Topics”
- **Nature Photographers Network**, who also use “Featured Topics”.
- **Real-Time VFX**, who use thumbnails and excerpts.
- **SE23.life**, who use thumbnails with some custom CSS.

Support

You can donate to support the development of this plugin. Select “Topic list Previews” as the “Cause”. If you have an account on my sandbox, you will appear as a project “Backer” in the [Topic List Previews category description on my sandbox](https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec). All donations are split equally between current maintainers.

Contributors

Many folks have contributed to the development of this plugin through both feedback and direct development work. In particular

- [@merefield](https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec) who is currently maintaining and extending the plugin with me
- [@pmusaraj](https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec) who has contributed various pieces of code
- And a whole lot of users who have given great feedback, in particular [@Johani](https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec), [@Pad_Pors](https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec), [@bartv](https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec), [@_vincent](https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec), [@keith1](https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec), [@ChrisBeach](https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec) and [@ckshen](https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec).

What plugins do you recommend?
- 2018: The Year in Review
- Topic list custom view
- Move tag to a column
- Latest view broken on tablet
- 6 more

Chris Beach Theme Author

Hi @Angus and @merefield - thanks for this awesome plugin.

One observation - lately I’ve seen a lot of errors in my logs along these lines:

```javascript
TypeError: undefined is not an object (evaluating 'e.layout')
```

URL: https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8eccc1cbdf0c880c3bec
Line: 14
Column: 21951
I believe this originates in the TLP plugin as this is where I found e.layout in the referenced javascript.

Angus McLeod angus Plugin Author Nov '18

Hey!

ChrisBeach:

I believe this originates in the TLP plugin as this is where I found e.layout in the referenced javascript.

hm, could you show me a screenshot / or line reference?

@merefield It might not be the culprit, but looking at the Masonry code, we'll need to put a check around masonryObserver so that it only triggers applyMasonry when tilesStyle is enabled.

Chris Beach Theme Author Nov '18

Hi Angus,

It's line 14 in the following file: https://se23.life/assets/plugin-third-party-6ad4371fbb4eb40935dcbc8ecc1cbdf0c880c3bed7517e91485a3f1887a06be.js

The e.layout reference appears to be within “masonry” code, and although I can't say for sure that it's TLP related (the code is minified and quite hard to interpret), it does seem to be right next to other TLP code.

merefield Plugin Author Nov '18

OK let me deal with these separately (if they are indeed separate issues!):

angus:

@merefield It might not be the culprit, but looking at the Masonry code, we'll need to put a check around masonryObserver so that it only triggers applyMasonry when tilesStyle is enabled.

Apologies, currently some of the masonry code is running on routes without a tile grid. This will generate a javascript error but is probably otherwise harmless because the grid element is missing, so there is no work. I'll fix this on next release. Not sure how that slipped through! (Well I do, only happens on non-tiles routes when you scroll down far enough to pull in more records).

However, that error is this one:

TypeError: msnry is undefined[Learn More] plugin-third-party.js:176:17
applyMasonry/< javascripts/discourse/initializers/preview-edits:176:17 t.emitEvent javascript:

@ChrisBeach it might be worth me pushing a fix for that and then re-checking.

Chris Beach Theme Author Nov '18

Thanks @merefield. Depending on the browser and the situation, JavaScript errors can have quite serious consequences for Discourse.
A couple of people have complained of issues lately (unable to sign up, unable to post etc) and although I haven’t got to the bottom of their problems yet, I’m nervous when I see heaps of errors in the logs.

**merefield**  Plugin Author  Nov ‘18

I’m not seeing “heaps of errors” though, just that one, at each pull of new records. Are you using Tiles?

**Chris Beach**  Theme Author  Nov ‘18

No, I’m not using tiles.

My error log page looks like this:

```javascript
Uncaught TypeError: Cannot read property 'layout' of undefined
Url: https://se23.life/a_
```

A couple of people have complained of issues lately (unable to sign up, unable to post etc) and although I haven’t got to the bottom of their problems yet, I’m nervous when I see heaps of errors in the logs.

**merefield**  Plugin Author  Nov ‘18

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**Chris Beach**  Theme Author  Nov ‘18

No, I’m not using tiles.

My error log page looks like this:

```javascript
Uncaught TypeError: Cannot read property 'layout' of undefined
Url: https://se23.life/a_
```

It could be related Chris, I will address this bug and ask you to check again.

**merefield**  Plugin Author  Nov ‘18

It could be related Chris, I will address this bug and ask you to check again.

**merefield**  Plugin Author  Nov ‘18

@ChrisBeach  bug fix merged, please let me know if this solves your problem

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**added tiles check before scheduling masonry run**

by merefield on 12:01PM - 15 Nov 18 UTC

2 commits changed 1 files with 3 additions and 1 deletions.
Chris Beach  Theme Author  Nov '18

Serious probs now "undefined method custom_thumbnail_height"
Forum is down 😞

Dan RoldanLT  Nov '18

Same for me 😞
What to do?

Chris Beach  Theme Author  Nov '18

RoldanLT: What to do?

remove TLP plugin for now in your app.yml and ./launcher rebuild app – will mean a few mins more downtime but will hopefully rescue your forum. That's what I'm scrambling to do

Chris Beach  Theme Author  Nov '18

Vital IMO that we have automated smoke tests on plugin CI (or during forum upgrade, prior to new version being put live) to avoid this happening again.
Smoke-testing plugins during upgrade process

Apologies, I don’t think I explained my idea fully. Yes, I totally accept that the core team doesn’t support third-party plugins. So, my proposal avoids the core team having to do any direct support or ongoing development around third-party plugins. All tests on all plugins would be run during the upgrade process. If any fail, the upgrade is seamlessly and automatically cancelled. This happens on self-hosted instances, not on meta. It is the self-hosting admin’s responsibility to disable fai...

Edit:

My forum is now back up, after I removed the TLP plugin and rebuilt the forum. For your reference, this is the error that brought the forum down:

merefield  Plugin Author

Thanks. There have been some other commits to TLP in last 24 hours ... will have to discuss this issue with @angus asap. Sorry for your troubles.

Angus McLeod  angus  Plugin Author

ChrisBeach:

Serious probs now “undefined method custom_thumbnail_height”
Completely my fault. Apologies! Fixed.

cc @merefield @RoldanLT

**add custom_thumbnail height and width thumbs**

by angusmcleod on 10:41PM - 16 Nov 18 UTC

changed 1 files with 8 additions and 0 deletions.

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**Chris Beach** Theme Author Nov '18

Thanks @angus 👍

Have scheduled an overnight rebuild and will let you know if there are any probs.

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**Chris Beach** Theme Author Nov '18

All looks good now. Thanks @angus and @merefield for your swift turnaround on the fix 👍