WordPress Menus: Creating a Menu, Adding and Removing Items, and Sub-Menus in Classic and Block Themes

WordPress Guides · https://www.hyyat.com/en/knowledgebase/create-menus-wordpress/

In short First find out your theme type. **Classic theme**: **Appearance › Menus**, create a menu, add items from the left, choose its location, then **Save Menu**. **Block theme** (such as Twenty Twenty-Five): **Appearance › Editor › Navigation**, and add items with **+**. Removing an item from a menu does not delete the page itself.

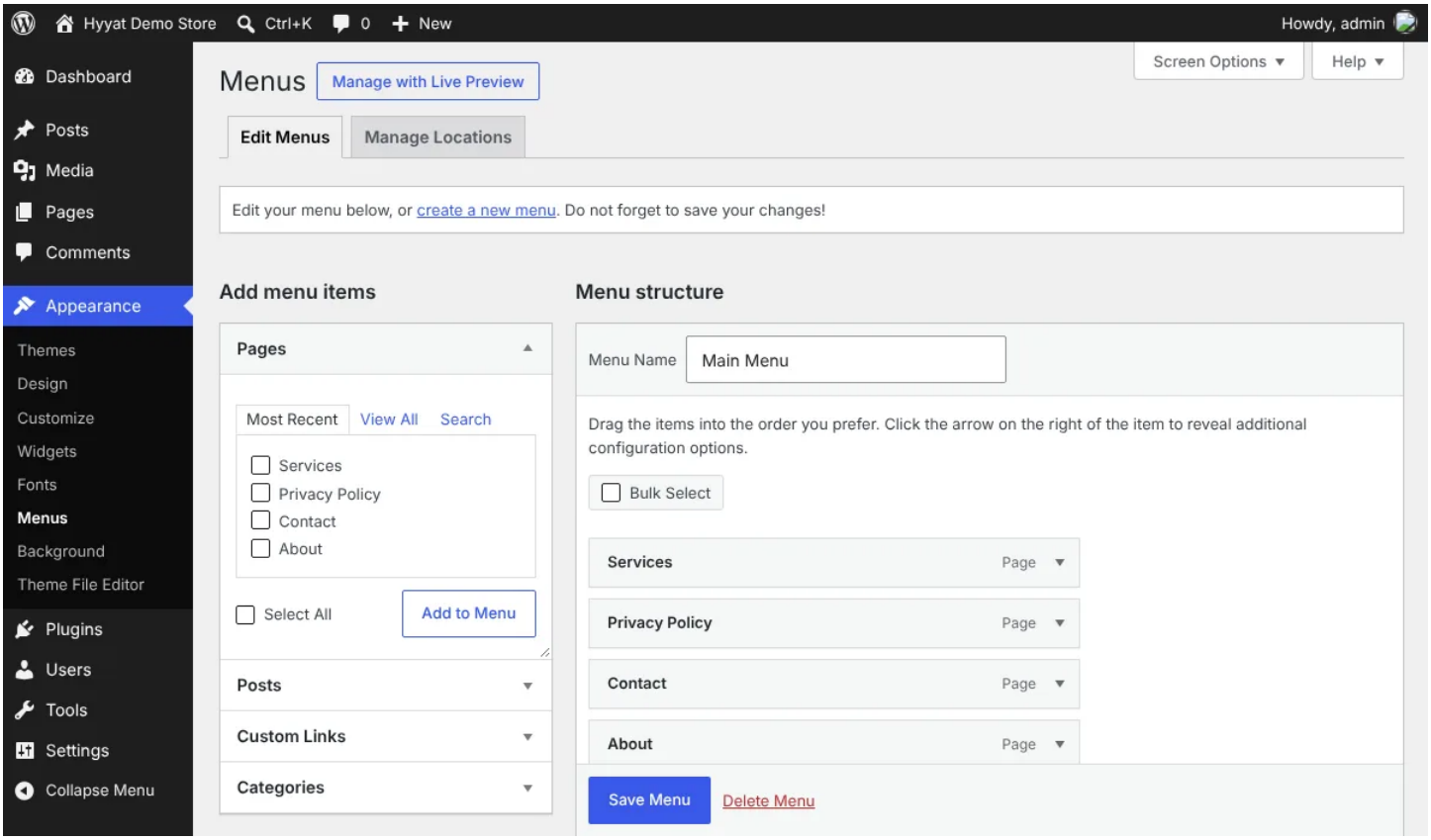
Embedded media: https://www.hyyat.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/11/hyyat-wp-menus-en.mp4?_=1

The menu is the first thing visitors use to move around your site. WordPress now has two ways to manage it, and your theme type decides which one you use.

Which kind of theme do you have?

If Appearance shows	Your theme is	Menus live in
Menus and **Customize**	Classic	Appearance › Menus
Only **Editor**, no Menus	A block theme	Appearance › Editor › Navigation

Classic themes: creating a menu



1. **Open Appearance › Menus** and if you already have menus, pick one at the top or click **create a new menu**.
2. **Name the menu** such as “Main Menu”, then **Create Menu**. The name is for you; visitors never see it.
3. **Add items** from the left column: **Pages**, **Posts**, **Custom Links** or **Categories**. Tick an item, then **Add to Menu**.
4. **Arrange** drag items up and down. To make a sub-item, drag it slightly right under its parent.
5. **Choose the location** in **Menu Settings** at the bottom, or the **Manage Locations** tab.
6. **Save Save Menu**.

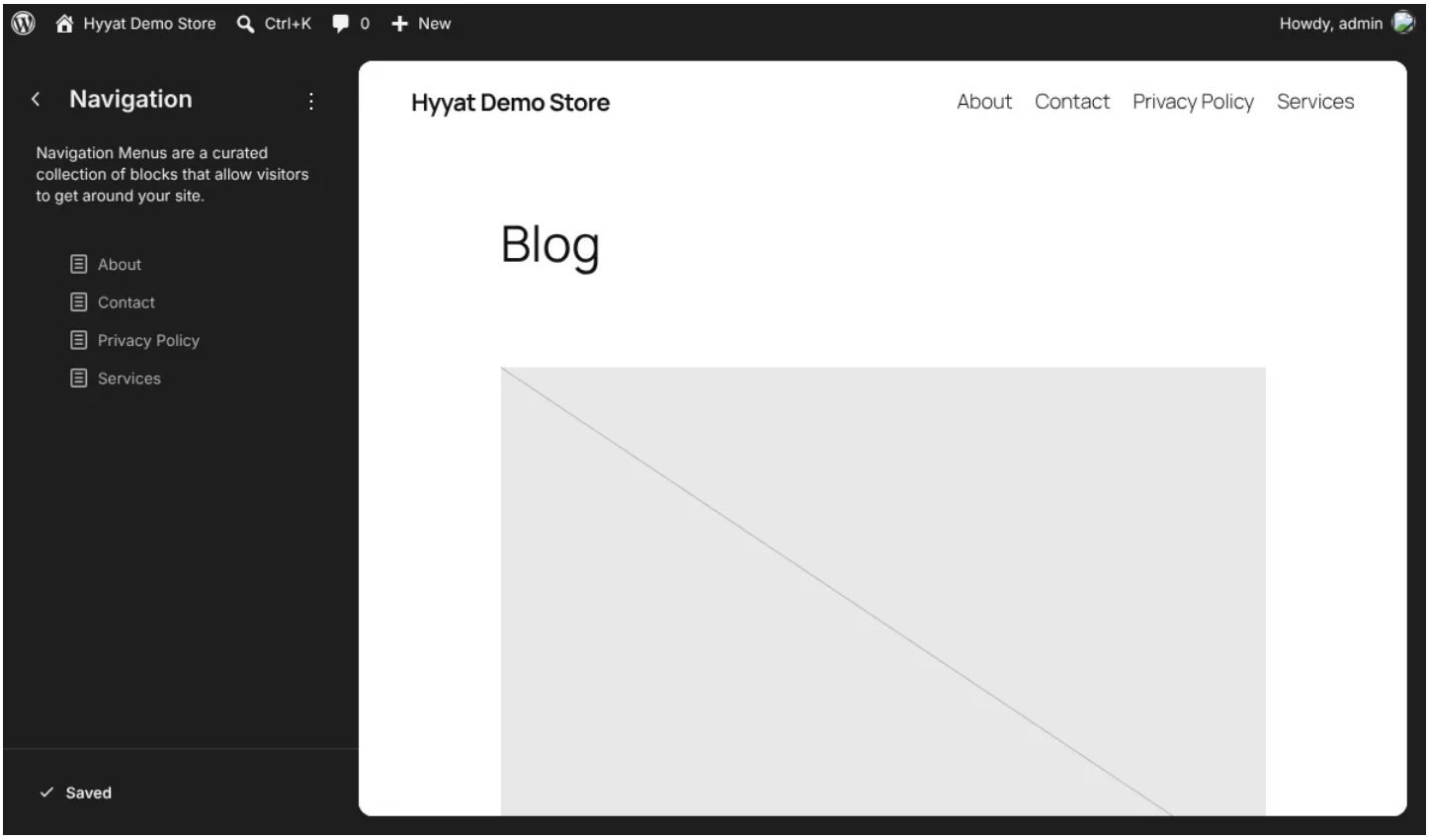
Removing or renaming an item

1. **Open the item** click the arrow beside it under **Menu structure**.
2. **Edit** change the **Navigation Label** for a shorter name than the page title.
3. **Or remove** click **Remove**, then **Save Menu**.

A common mistake: Forgetting **Save Menu** after dragging items around. Leave the page before saving and the changes are gone.

Want to see the result before saving? Click **Manage with Live Preview** to edit the menu while viewing your site.

Block themes: menus in the editor



1. **Open Appearance › Editor** then **Navigation**.
2. **Pick the menu** current items appear on the left and a preview on the right.
3. **Add** with **+** for a page or link. For a sub-menu, add an item under another.
4. **Remove** from the three dots (⋮) beside an item, then Remove.
5. **Save Save** at the top.

What goes in a menu?

Item type	Example	When
Page	About, Contact	Static content; see adding a page

Item type	Example	When
Category	Tutorials, News	To reach every post in a section; see categories
Custom link	Client area, an external page	Any other address

Keep the main menu to roughly five to seven items and put the rest in sub-menus or a footer menu. Long menus are tiring on a phone.

Try it now: Add a custom link called “Support” to your menu, save, then open your site on a phone and check it shows in the drop-down menu.
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Our customers asked

I added a page but it is not in the menu
Most themes do not add pages automatically. Add it to the menu and save.

I cannot find Menus under Appearance
Your theme is a block theme. Menus are in Appearance › Editor › Navigation.

Does removing an item delete the page?
No, only from the menu. The page stays published under Pages.

How do I make a menu link open in a new tab?
In classic themes enable **Link Target** in Screen Options on the Menus screen, then open the item and tick Open link in a new tab.

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