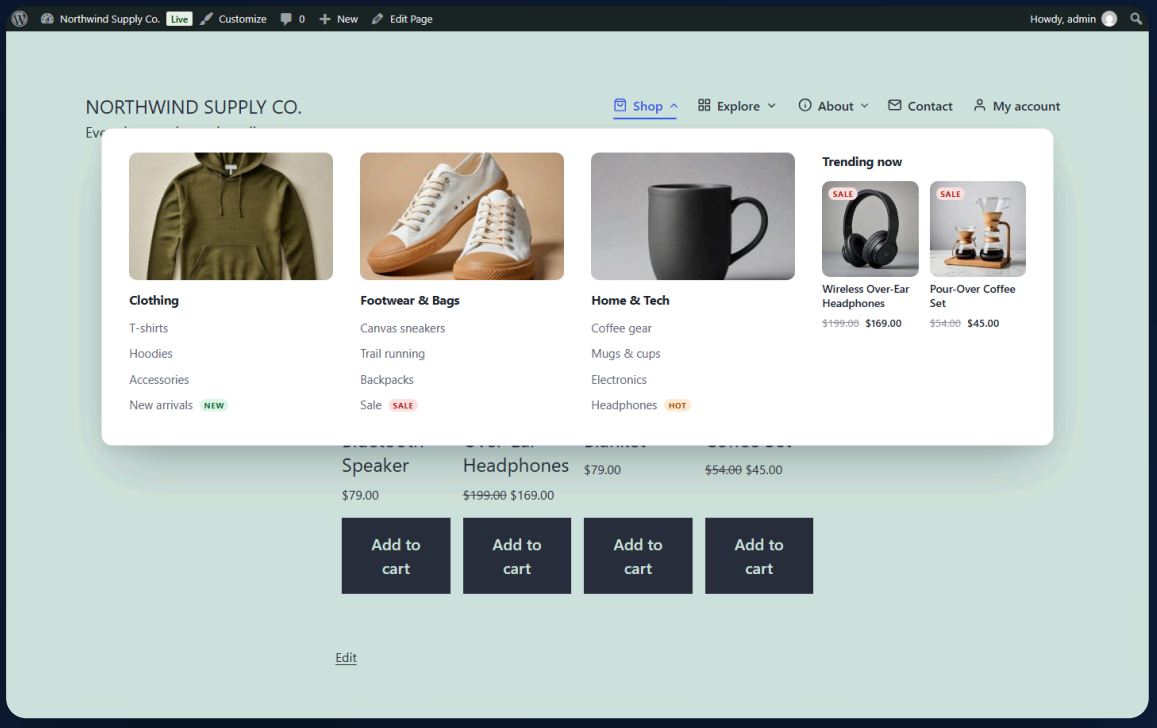
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WORDPRESS PLUGIN · USER GUIDE

MenuForge — Mega Menu for WordPress

Version 1.0.0 · Installation, licence activation, every setting explained, FAQ and troubleshooting.



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MenuForge — Mega Menu for WordPress: User Guide

MenuForge turns the menus you already build in **Appearance > Menus** into multi-column mega menus with icons, images and an accessible off-canvas mobile menu. This guide covers the Free and Pro versions.

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1. Installation

1. In WordPress go to **Plugins > Add New > Upload Plugin**, choose the MenuForge zip and click **Install Now**, then **Activate**.
2. On activation MenuForge ticks your theme's main menu location (for example "Primary") so it starts rendering that menu straight away. Nothing changes visually until you switch on a mega menu, except that dropdowns and the mobile menu now use MenuForge's styling.

Upgrading from Free to Pro: upload the Pro zip over the Free plugin (WordPress offers "Replace current with uploaded"). All your settings are kept.

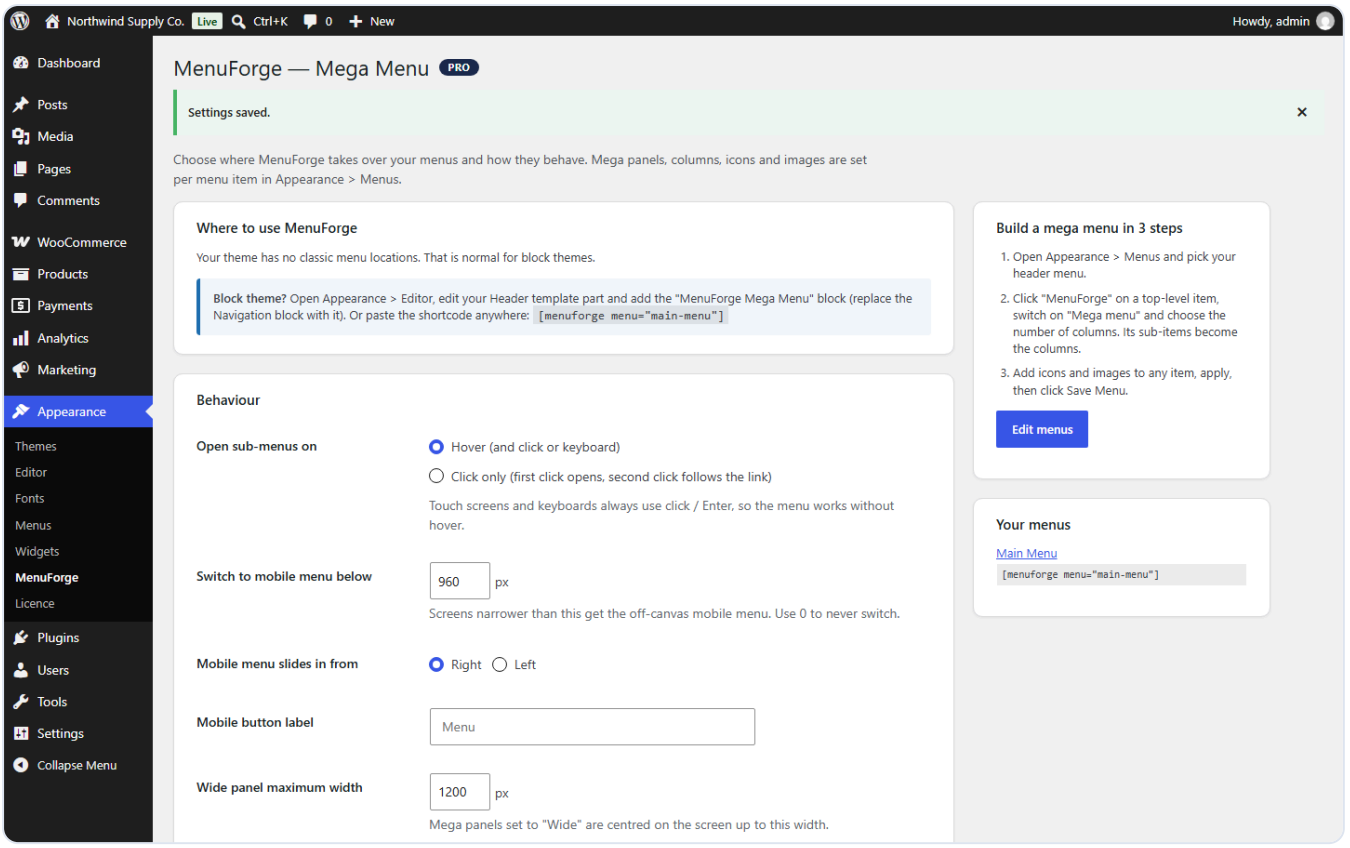
2. Activating your Pro licence

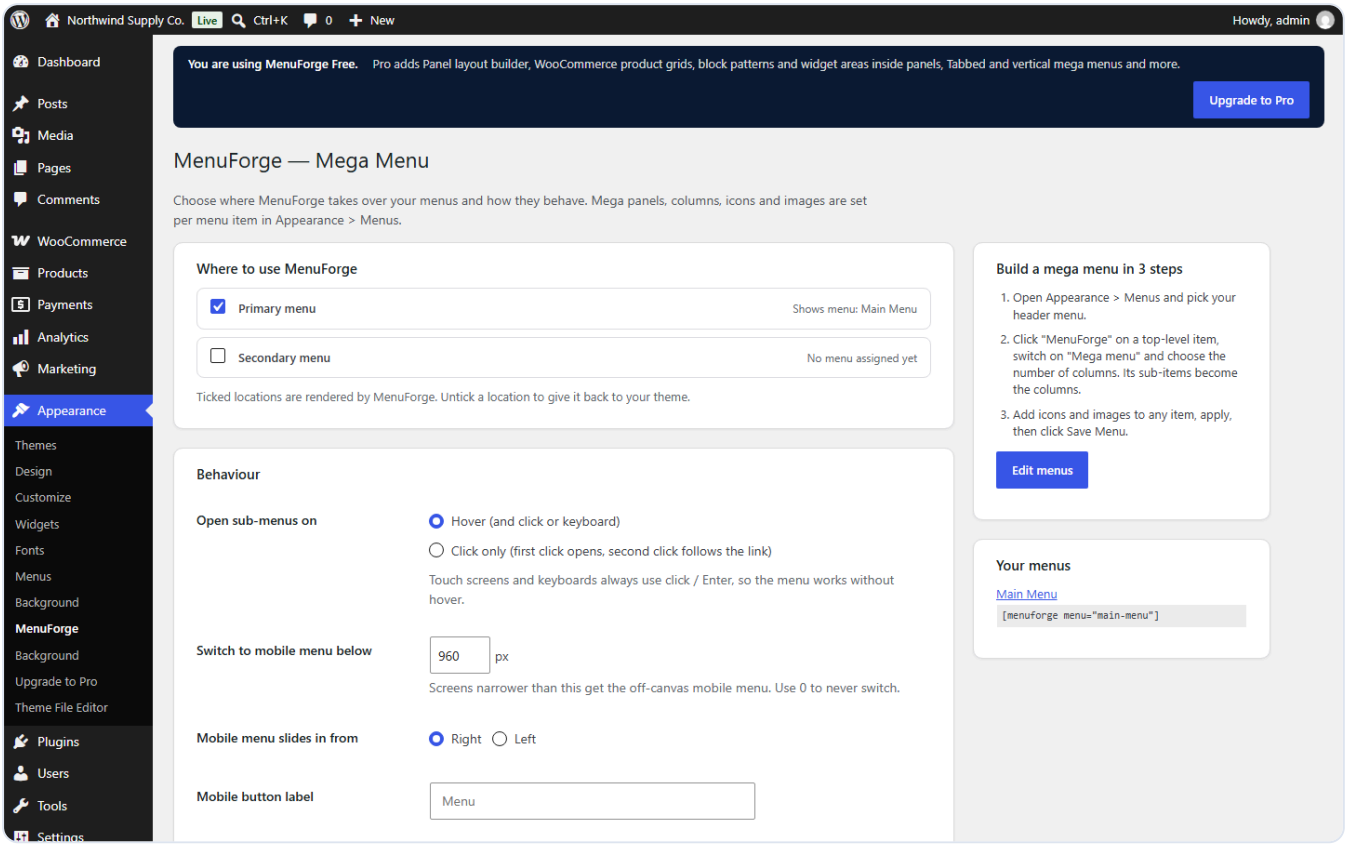
1. Go to **Appearance > Licence**.
2. Paste the key from your Code Craft purchase email and click **Activate licence**.
3. Pro controls (marked with a PRO badge in the Free version) become editable immediately.

Deactivate the key on this screen before moving it to another site. When a monthly or yearly licence ends, the Pro features switch off (the free features and all your settings are kept) and switch back on as soon as you renew; use **I have paid — check again** on the licence screen after paying. Lifetime licences never end.

3. Global settings — Appearance > MenuForge

Screenshot: `media/shots/` (Free:).





Where to use MenuForge

- **Theme menu locations** — tick each location MenuForge should render. Each row shows which menu is assigned. Untick a location to hand it back to your theme.

- **Block theme?** — block themes have no classic locations. Use the **MenuForge Mega Menu** block (see section 6) or the shortcode `[menuforge menu="your-menu-slug"]`. The "Your menus" card on the right lists the shortcode for every menu.

Behaviour

- **Open sub-menus on** — *Hover* (default; click and keyboard also work) or *Click only* (the first click on a parent opens it, the second follows the link). Touch screens and keyboards always use click / Enter.
- **Switch to mobile menu below** — screen width (px) under which the off-canvas mobile menu is used. Default 960. Use 0 to never switch.
- **Mobile menu slides in from** — Right or Left.
- **Mobile button label** — text on the mobile menu button (default "Menu").
- **Wide panel maximum width** — mega panels set to "Wide" are centred on the screen up to this width (default 1200px).

Style (Pro)

- **Style preset** — Light (default), Dark, Midnight bar, Warm, Minimal.
- **Colours** — menu bar background and text, panel background and text, accent (hover, focus, active underline). Leave a colour empty to use the preset's value.
- **Sticky menu bar** — keeps the menu bar pinned to the top while visitors scroll (desktop widths).

Data

- **Delete all plugin data when the plugin is deleted** — off by default. Leave it off when switching between Free and Pro.

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4. Building a mega menu — Appearance > Menus

Every menu item now has a **MenuForge** button inside its settings (open the item with the arrow on its right). A short summary next to the button shows what is set (for example "Mega menu · 4 columns · Image").

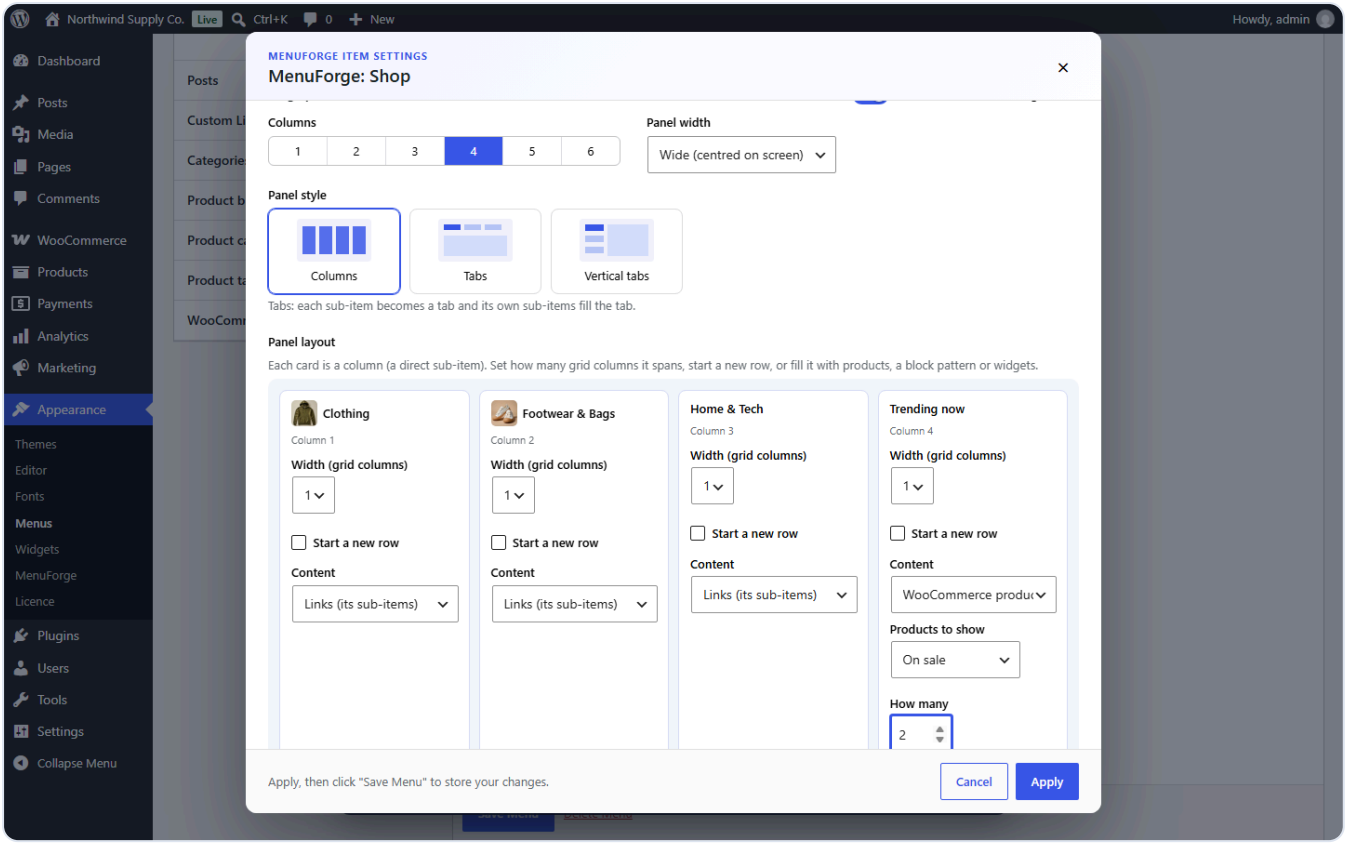
How the structure maps:

Menu level	Becomes
Top-level item	The menu bar entry
Its direct sub-items	Columns of the mega panel (column heading, image, description)
Their sub-items	Links in that column (deeper levels are indented)

A top-level item whose URL is `#` (or empty) becomes a button that only opens its panel.

The item settings modal

Screenshot: `media/shots/`.



Mega panel (top-level items only)

- **Show sub-items as a mega menu** — the main switch. When off, the item shows a classic dropdown (multi-level fly-outs).
- **Columns** — 1 to 6.
- **Panel width** — *Wide* (centred on screen, up to the maximum width), *Same as the menu bar*, or *Fit content, under the item*.
- **Panel style** (Pro) — *Columns*, *Tabs* or *Vertical tabs*. In tab styles each direct sub-item becomes a tab, and its own sub-items are laid out as columns inside the tab (with their images and links).
- **Panel layout** (Pro) — one card per column. For each column set:
  - **Width (grid columns)** — how many of the panel's columns it spans.
  - **Start a new row**.
  - **Content** — *Links* (its sub-items), *WooCommerce products* (Newest, On sale, Featured, Best sellers or From a category, 1–8 products), *Block pattern* (any synced pattern) or *Widget area* ("MenuForge panel 1–4", filled in Appearance > Widgets on classic themes).

The same column options also appear when you open the modal on a column item itself.

Icon and image (every item)

- **Icon** — 18 built-in line icons. Tick "Show the icon only" for icon-only items (the label is kept for screen readers).

- **Image** — pick from the Media Library. On a column it is shown as a banner at the top of the column; on deeper links as a small thumbnail.

Badge and visibility (Pro)

- **Badge** — New, Sale or Hot, shown after the label.
- **Who can see this item** — Everyone, Logged-in visitors, Logged-out visitors, or Chosen roles (tick the roles). Hidden items also hide their sub-items. This applies to every menu on the site, not only MenuForge locations.

Click **Apply**, then **Save Menu**. Nothing is stored until you save the menu.

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5. What visitors see

- **Desktop** — `media/shots/pro-04-mega-menu-desktop.png` : hover (or click) Shop to open a four-column panel with column images, links with badges and a product grid. `media/shots/pro-05-vertical-tabs.png` : a vertical-tab panel.
- **Mobile** — `media/shots/pro-06-mobile-menu.png` : the menu button opens an off-canvas panel; parents expand as accordions.

Accessibility

- Every sub-menu is opened by a real `<button>` with `aria-expanded` and `aria-controls` .
- **Enter / Space** open and close, **Arrow Down** opens and moves into the panel, **Arrow Left / Right** move between top-level items, **Escape** closes the panel and returns focus to its button.
- Tabs use the ARIA tabs pattern (arrow keys, Home, End).
- The mobile menu is a modal dialog: focus moves to its Close button, Tab is kept inside it, Escape closes it and focus returns to the menu button.
- Without JavaScript, panels still open on hover and keyboard focus (desktop).
- Animations are switched off for visitors who prefer reduced motion.

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6. Block themes: the MenuForge Mega Menu block

1. Build your menu in **Appearance > Menus** (MenuForge enables this screen on block themes).
2. Open **Appearance > Editor > Patterns > Header** (or any template), add the **MenuForge Mega Menu** block, usually in place of the Navigation block.
3. In the block sidebar pick the **Menu** and optionally an **Accessible name** (e.g. "Main menu").

Shortcode alternative: `[menuforge menu="main-menu" label="Main menu"]` — `menu` accepts the menu slug, name or ID.

7. FAQ

My theme's own mobile button still shows. MenuForge hides it for Twenty Twenty-One automatically. For other themes add a CSS rule hiding the theme's menu toggle, or untick the location and place the shortcode in the header instead.

The panel is too wide / narrow. Change the item's **Panel width**, or the **Wide panel maximum width** setting.

Products don't update in the menu. Product lists are cached for up to 6 hours and refreshed whenever a product is saved.

Can I use the WooCommerce product grid without WooCommerce? No — that option only appears when WooCommerce is active. Everything else works on any WordPress site.

Does MenuForge work in the Customizer menu editor? Item settings are edited in Appearance > Menus only.

Do other plugins' menu filters still work? Yes. MenuForge applies the core `wp_nav_menu_objects`, `nav_menu_css_class`, `nav_menu_link_attributes` and `nav_menu_item_title` filters.

8. Troubleshooting

- **Nothing changed on the site** — check Appearance > MenuForge: the location must be ticked and have a menu assigned (Appearance > Menus > Manage Locations).
- **Settings disappeared after Save Menu** — make sure you clicked **Apply** in the modal before **Save Menu**.
- **Panel hidden behind content** — some themes put a high `z-index` on page sections. Add `.mfmm { z-index: 1000; }` to Appearance > Customize > Additional CSS.
- **Pro controls are greyed out** — activate your licence in Appearance > Licence.

Support: https://coodecraft.com/market/product/wp-mega-menu