Neon Night

User guide · theme for Moodle™ (Boost Union child theme)

User guide

Theme · theme_efneonnight · Version 1.1.0 · Moodle 5.2 and 5.3

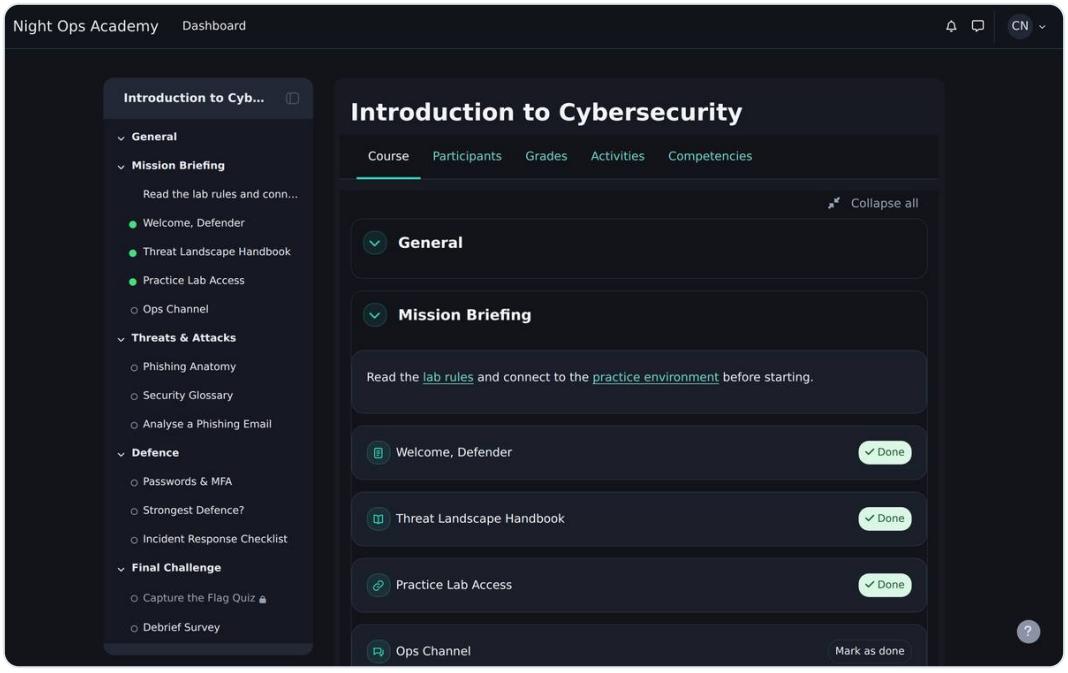
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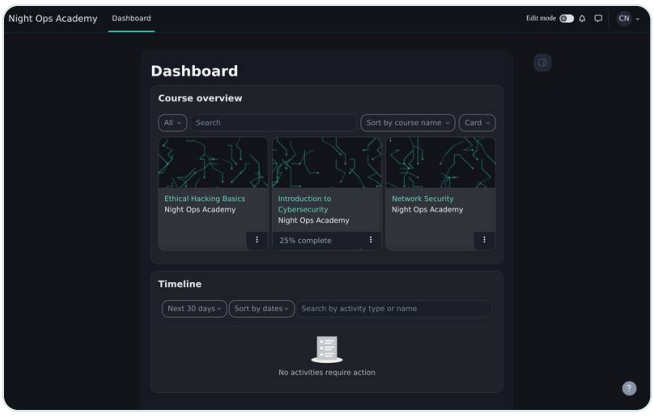
1 What it is and who it is for

Neon Night is a free theme that puts all of Moodle™ in black with a teal glow. It is made for technology, cybersecurity and programming courses, and it does not stop at the page background: forms, menus, dialogs, the login page and the tabs are dark too.

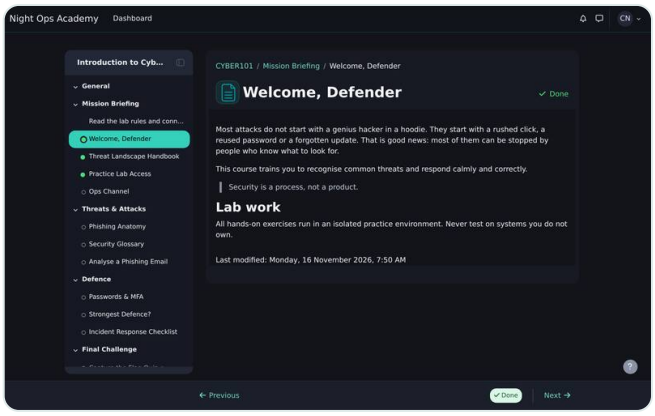
- **Dark everywhere**: forms, menus and dialogs follow the theme instead of flashing white.
- **A translucent, blurred top bar** that lets the page show through as you scroll.
- **A neon glow** on cards and activity icons.
- **A dark login page and dark tabs**, so the first screen already looks like the rest.
- **Built on Boost Union**: every Boost Union setting keeps working (block regions, smart menus, flavours, login and footer settings, raw SCSS). The theme only replaces the look.
- **Checked with axe-core (WCAG 2.2 AA)** on the login, dashboard, course and activity pages: 0 issues.



The course page.



The dashboard.



An activity page.

2 Requirements

- **Moodle™ 5.2 or 5.3** (5.3 verified manually with Boost Union v5.2-r13), with administrator rights to install plugins.
- **Boost Union** for your Moodle™ version (v5.2-r13 or later), installed. It is free and must stay installed, although it is not the active theme. Without it the theme cannot be installed.
- The PHP version and database (MySQL/MariaDB or PostgreSQL) your Moodle™ already requires.

> **DO NOT UNINSTALL BOOST UNION**
>
> Neon Night is a child theme of Boost Union: it uses its templates and its settings, so it cannot work without it. Leave Boost Union installed and keep it up to date. The theme selected on the site must be **Neon Night** (`theme_efneonnight`), not Boost Union: with Boost Union selected, the site shows Boost Union's own look, without the design.

3 Installation

1. Back up your site first, as with any plugin, and install Boost Union if it is not there yet.
2. Log in as administrator and go to **Site administration → Plugins → Install plugins**.
3. Upload the theme package (zip file), click **Install plugin from the ZIP file** and continue past the validation screen. Then click **Upgrade Moodle database now**.
4. Go to **Site administration → Appearance → Themes**, find **Neon Night** and click **Select theme**.

Updating

Install the new package (zip file) in exactly the same way, on top of the installed version, and run the upgrade. Then purge the caches in **Site administration → Development → Purge caches**. Your Boost Union settings are kept.

Uninstalling

Select another theme first in **Site administration → Appearance → Themes**, then uninstall Neon Night from **Site administration → Plugins → Plugins overview**. Nothing else on the site changes.

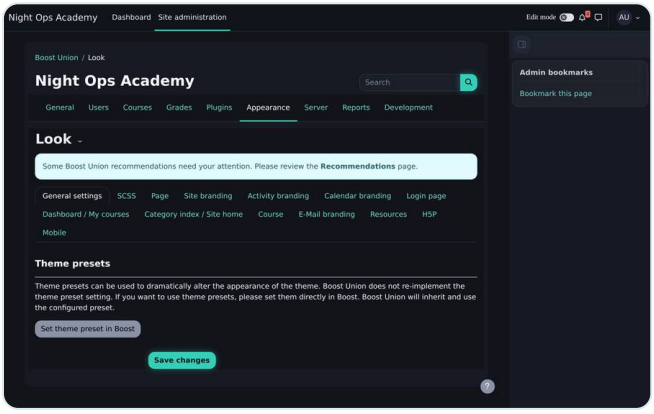
4 Setting up the site with Boost Union

Neon Night only changes the look. The logo, the login page, the footer, the block regions and the menus are configured in Boost Union, exactly as on any site that uses it.

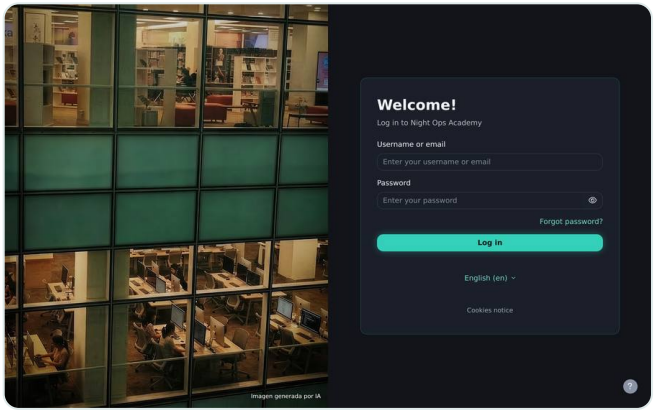
What	Where
Logo, compact logo and favicon	Boost Union → Look → Site branding
Login page: background images, position of the form	Boost Union → Look → Login page
Footer and footnote	Boost Union → Content → Footer
Additional block regions	Boost Union → Feel → Blocks
Smart menus	Boost Union → Smart menus
A different look for one category or cohort	Boost Union → Flavours

LEAVE THE BRAND COLOUR EMPTY

Leave Boost Union's **Primary brand color** setting (Look → Site branding → Brand colors) empty. The theme brings its own palette, and a brand colour set there would mix two accents.



Boost Union's settings: everything is configured here, as usual.



The login page.

The photo of the login page is not part of the theme: it is the one set in Boost Union → Look → Login page → **Login page background images**. Upload your own there.

5 Making it yours

The colours and the other design choices are variables at the top of `scss/preset.scss`. These are the ones meant to be changed. You do not edit that file: you write the variable with its new value in Boost Union (see "How to change them" below).

Variable	Default	What it changes
`$neon-acento`	#35d0ba	Neon colour: buttons, borders, glows and icons.
`$neon-tinta`	#0b1512	Text on the neon colour: 9.6:1.
`$neon-fondo`	#12141a	Page background.
`$neon-panel`	#1b1f29	Cards, menus, forms and dialogs.
`$neon-panel-2`	#232837	Raised panel and hovered items.
`$neon-borde`	#2a3040	Borders and dividers.
`$neon-texto`	#e8ecf1	Text: 13.9:1 on panel.
`$neon-titulos`	#f4f7fa	Headings.
`$neon-enlace`	#6fd3c7	Links: 9.3:1 on panel.
`$neon-enlace-activo`	#9ce8de	Hovered links.
`$neon-brillo`	true	Neon glow on cards, buttons, icons and links.
`$neon-vidrio`	true	Translucent blur on the top bar and the cards.
`$neon-iconos`	true	Custom activity icons.

Switches (`true` / `false`) turn a part of the design on or off: write the variable with `false` to remove that part.

How to change them

1. Go to **Site administration → Appearance → Boost Union → Look → SCSS**.
2. In **Raw initial SCSS**, write the variable with its new value, for example:

```
$neon-acento: #ff7ac6;
```

3. Save. Moodle™ rebuilds the styles; if you still see the old colours, purge the caches.

> Changes made this way survive theme updates. If you edit `scss/preset.scss` directly, the next update replaces the file: keep a note of what you changed.

Glow, blur and icons

Text on the neon colour is dark (`$neon-tinta`), so choose a light neon: 5:1 or better against that text. Three switches turn off the neon glow, the translucent blur of the top bar and the cards, and the custom activity icons (Moodle™'s own icons come back):

```
$neon-brillo: false;
$neon-vidrio: false;
$neon-iconos: false;
```

Examples

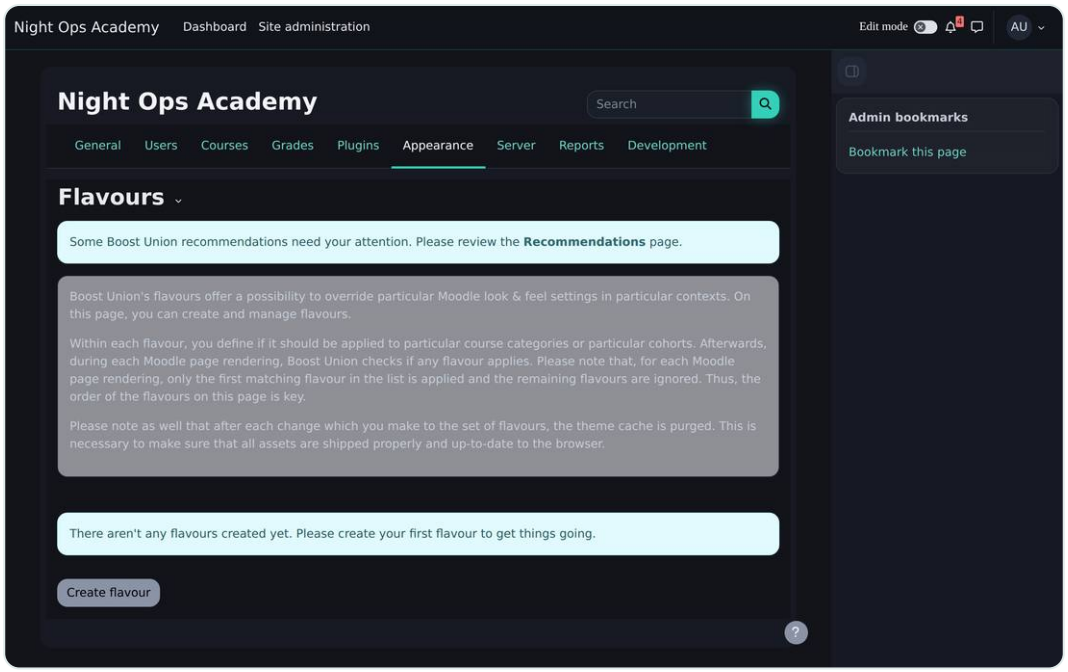


The same course with other colours.

> **CHECK THE CONTRAST**
>
> If you change a colour that carries text, check that the text keeps a contrast of 4.5:1 or better against its background.

One category or cohort only

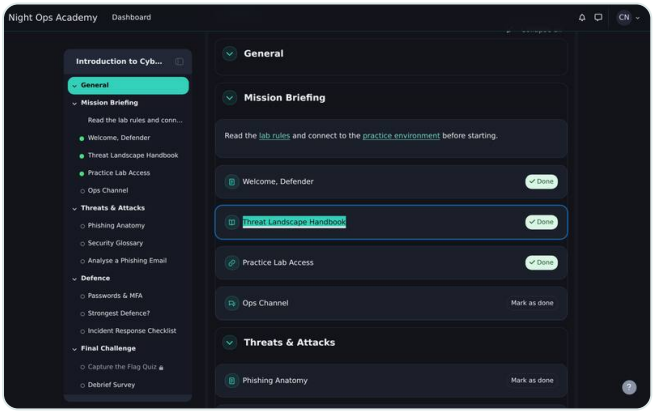
Create a flavour in **Boost Union → Flavours**, choose the categories or cohorts it applies to and write the same variables in its **Raw initial SCSS** field. The rest of the site keeps the default palette.



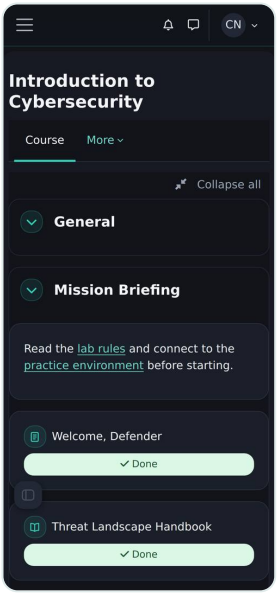
Boost Union flavours: another palette for one category or cohort.

6 Accessibility, phones and colour modes

- **Checked with axe-core (WCAG 2.2 AA)** on the login, dashboard, course and activity pages, as a student and as a teacher: 0 issues.
- **Text contrast of 4.5:1 or better**, and links inside text underlined.
- **Visible keyboard focus** on every control, even in Windows high contrast mode.
- **Reduced motion honoured**: if the user asks the system for less movement, the theme's animations stop.
- **Desktop and phone**: the same design at any width.



Keyboard focus on a control.



The course on a phone.

Colour modes in Moodle™ 5.3

Moodle™ 5.3 brings experimental colour modes (light, dark, automatic), off by default. Neon Night has a single palette and keeps its own colours whatever mode the site or the user chooses.

7 If something does not look right

What you see	What to do
The site looks like plain Boost, without the design	Purge the caches (Site administration → Development → Purge caches) and reload. If it stays that way, check in Appearance → Themes that Neon Night is the selected theme.
The theme cannot be installed	Boost Union is missing or older than v5.2-r13. Install or update Boost Union first.
Links or buttons show an unexpected colour	Boost Union's Primary brand color setting has a value. Clear it and save.
After an update the old look is still there	Purge the caches and reload the page without the browser cache (Ctrl + F5).
A colour you changed does not apply	Check the name of the variable and that the line ends with a semicolon; then purge the caches.

8 Privacy, support and licence

PRIVACY

The theme stores no personal data and makes no external requests: everything it uses is served from your own site. It implements the Moodle™ Privacy API with a null provider.

SUPPORT AND UPDATES

Neon Night is free. Bug reports and feature requests: **github.com/anarosiris/moodle-theme_efneonnight/issues**. · **elearningfacil.com**

LICENCE

The code is licensed under the GNU GPL v3 or later (see `LICENSE`).

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