Customizing The Main Index Page (Quick Start Guide)

This tutorial deals with a few basic changes you can make just to get you started with custom branding your site. This is not a comprhensive guide on how to customize the entire site's template. If you want to do customizations beyond what's provided here it will require that you study the code and have a good knowledge in CSS and HTML. Template files are located in the **skins_site/def/** folder**.**

Adding Additional Content (below the quick search box)
You basically have two options:
1. Create another separate box for your content with the rounded corners.
2. Include your content below the search info, but in the same box.

First open the **index.html** file in this folder location ... **skins_site/def/**

For option #1, add the following code directly above this line ... </div><!-- END column 2-->

```
<div class="content_area small">
<h2>TITLE</h2>
<div class="box_content">
Your content goes here ...
</div>
</div>
```

```
                </form>
                <script type="text/javascript">
                    <!--loop name="search"-->
                    {search.js}
                    <!--/loop name="search"-->
                </script>
            </div>
        </div>

        <div class="content_area small">
        <h2>TITLE</h2>
        <div class="box_content">
        Your content goes here ...
        </div>
        </div>

        </div><!-- END column 2-->

    </div>
    <div id="footer-cleaner"> </div>
</div>
```

For option #2, simply include your additional content directly below the search script, like this ...

```
<br /><br />
Your content goes here ...
<br /><br />
```

```
            </form>
            <script type="text/javascript">
                <!--loop name="search"-->
                {search.js}
                <!--/loop name="search"-->
            </script>

            <br /><br />
            Your content goes here ...
            <br /><br />

        </div>
    </div>
    </div><!-- END column 2-->

    </div>
    <div id="footer-cleaner"> </div>
</div>
```

Customizing The Description Box

You can replace the background image with your own.

Create your image in **jpg** format sized to **width=710px** and **height=250px**. Save it as **description-bg.jpg** and upload it to this folder location ... **skins_site/def/images/**

Your image can have more height if you want, but you'll need to make some changes to your **index.css** file in this folder location ... **skins_site/def/styles/**

You will need to change the height of the description box to match the height of your image.
You may also need to re-position the **Sign Up Now** button by increasing the number of 150px from the top.

```
/* Description box */

#description {
    margin: 18px 0;
    padding: 15px;
    overflow: hidden;
    font-size: 14px;
    color: #fff; /* font color */
    width: 710px;
    height: 250px;  ◀
    background-image: url('../images/description-bg.jpg');
    background-repeat: no-repeat;
}

#description h1{
    font-size: 22px;
    font-weight: bold;
    text-transform: none;
    margin-bottom: 10px;
}

    #sign-up-now {
    position:absolute;
    top: 150px;  ◀
    }
```

Editing the text in the description box

You edit the text in the **index.html** file in this folder location ... **skins_site/def/**

```
    <div id="content-container">
<!--START column 1--><div id="content_column1">

    <div id="description">
    <h1>Welcome to the fastest growing online community</h1>
                <p>Meet new people for friendship and more</p>
                <div id="sign-up-now">
    <a href="{tplvars.relative_url}join.php"  title="Sign up now!"><img src=
height="113" width="178" alt="Sign up now!" /></a></div>
        </div>
```

You can change the font sizes and color in **index.css** file in this folder location ... **skins_site/def/styles/**

```
/* Description box */

#description {
    margin: 18px 0;
    padding: 15px;
    overflow: hidden;
    font-size: 14px;  ◀
    color: #fff; /* font color */  ◀
    width: 710px;
    height: 250px;
    background-image: url('../images/description-bg.jpg');
    background-repeat: no-repeat;
}

#description h1{
    font-size: 22px;  ◀
    font-weight: bold;
    text-transform: none;
    margin-bottom: 10px;
}

    #sign-up-now {
    position:absolute;
    top: 150px;
    }
```

Changing The Logo Icon In The Header

Create an image in **gif** format **42px** by **42px**. Save it as **logo.gif** and upload it to this folder location ... **skins_site/def/images/**