

Bug Report: Broken Layout Issue

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Environment:

- **CMS:** WordPress 6.7.9
- **Theme:** Hello Elementor
- **Plugins:** LiteSpeed Cache, Elementor, WP Forms, Ultimate Addons for Elementor, Wordfence, and 6 other plugins
- **Server Environment:** LiteSpeed + PHP 8.1
- **Browser Tested:** Chrome (v.141), Edge, Firefox
- **Hosting:** Hostinger (Production)

1. Issue Summary

After updating the “Hello Elementor” theme to the latest version, several pages on the website started appearing with broken and misaligned sections across both desktop and mobile views. The issue primarily affected pages built using Elementor, where certain sections appeared shifted, margins collapsed, and background colors disappeared.

2. Steps to Reproduce

1. Navigate to the client website: <https://clientdomain.com>
2. Visit the affected page: <https://clientdomain.com/about>
3. Observe that hero sections, columns, and buttons appear misaligned or overlapping.
4. Inspect element via browser DevTools -> note missing or overridden CSS properties.
5. Check the browser console for CSS loading errors or failed file references.

3. Expected Behavior

The site layout should retain its intended structure post-theme update with proper spacing, alignment, and responsive design intact across all devices.

4. Actual Behavior

- Header spacing collapsed due to missing CSS variables from the Hello Elementor theme.
- Elementor's container width and column alignment were overridden by new theme defaults.
- Mobile layout inconsistencies appeared in Elementor blocks (container paddings reset to 0).

5. Technical Findings

- Browser console logs showed 404 errors for missing minified CSS files:
`https://clientdomain.com/wp-content/uploads/hello-elementor/css/theme.min.css`
- Custom CSS rules in the child theme depended on old Elementor class names (`.elementor-container`, `.elementor-widget-container`) that changed in the latest version.
- Elementor global settings were partially reset after the update, causing inconsistent spacing.
- Cached CSS (via LiteSpeed Cache) served outdated file versions post-update.

6. Steps Taken to Fix

- Cleared cache from LiteSpeed Cache, and browser storage.
- Regenerated CSS files via Elementor -> Tools -> General.
- Verified child theme CSS enqueueing using `wp_enqueue_style()` in `functions.php`.
- Updated Elementor global container settings to match Hello-Elementor's new layout system.
- Used browser DevTools to re-test mobile view and adjusted padding.
- Re-published affected pages and purged cache.
- Conducted final review across Chrome, Edge, and Firefox for layout consistency.

7. Resolution Status

 **Resolved.**

After regenerating assets and correcting outdated CSS dependencies, all layouts displayed properly. No alignment or spacing issues remained on desktop or mobile.

8. Recommendations

- Always clear cache and regenerate assets after major theme updates.

- Maintain version-controlled CSS via child theme or Git to track changes.
- Review release notes before updating themes to identify structural changes.
- Use a staging environment to test compatibility before applying updates to production.
- Regularly audit custom CSS for deprecated classes or overwritten properties.