Color Theme feature 🌈 is not working properly in the updated version of Blackboard. How can I make my course menu colorful again and avoid illegibility issues?

Previous color themes are no longer reusable in the upgraded version of Blackboard. There is not contrast between background and text in the Add Menu Item frame, and text in many of the toolbar buttons is illegible.

However, we put together a list of fully accessible color palette combination (background and text colors) to make your course menu colorful again and avoid illegibility issues. ¹

Steps you should follow to fix course Color Theme issues.

**Change Course Theme to the default option**

1. Click on the Change Color Theme icon 🌈 and select the **Default** option.

¹ Information from the U.S. Web Design System website, [https://designsystem.digital.gov/components/colors/#palette](https://designsystem.digital.gov/components/colors/#palette)
Add fully accessible combination of background and text colors

1. Navigate to Customization and press Teaching Style.

2. Within the Teaching Style page select Menu Style, click on the Background and Text Color dropdown buttons and enter provided list of fully accessible combination of background and text colors.

List of fully accessible combination of neutrals text color on a colored background that will work for the new Blackboard environment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background: gray-warm-dark color</th>
<th>Text: white</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#494440</td>
<td>#FFFFFF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background: gray-dark color</th>
<th>Text: white</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#323a45</td>
<td>#FFFFFF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note: Do not use light colors to avoid illegibility issues with the Add Menu Item frame.

If you choose to customize beyond this palette, this color contrast tool is a useful resource for testing the compliance of any color combination. 
https://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker/

For more information, visit the the U.S. Web Design System website: 
https://designsystem.digital.gov/components/colors/#palette

Where are my Blackboard Course Buttons?

Because of recognition issues with screen readers’ software, course buttons are no longer available in the updated version of Blackboard. However, you can use Dividers or Subheader to group related links below and between them and help students to find information.
Creating Dividers on the course menu

1. Select the Add Menu Item icon above the course menu to access the menu.
2. Select the **Dividers** item.

3. To move a divider with the drag-and-drop function, press the arrows next to the divider.
4. Drag the Divider to the desired location.
Creating Subheader on the course menu

1. Select the Add Menu Item icon above the course menu to access the menu.
2. Select the **Subheader** item and type a name.
3. Select Submit. A link to the new content appears on the course menu.
4. Drag the Subheader to the desired location.