

Testimonial WordPress Plugin Documentation

The Testimonial plugin allows users to manage and showcase testimonials with grid display. It includes the following fields:

- Customer's Name
- Testimonial Content
- Rating (out of 5 stars)
- Customer's Photo
- Date of Testimonial

1. Steps taken to develop the plugin

- Created the plugin header
- Initialized the plugin class and methods
- Added activation, deactivation and uninstall hooks
- Registered a custom post type named "Testimonial"
- Added meta boxes for Customer's name, Testimonial Content and Rating
- Implemented save functionality for meta box data
- Created a shortcode [display_testimonials]
- Added additional fields Customer's photo and date of testimonial
- Styled the cards for the testimonial display

Note: For the development of the plugin because I was not familiar with this technology I followed instructions from *WordPress Plugin Developer Handbook*. Additionally, I watched several YouTube tutorials to improve my skills.

2. How to install and use the plugin

- Upload the Testimonial folder to the /wp-content/plugins/ directory
- Activate the Testimonial plugin in the 'Plugins' menu in WordPress admin page
- Install and activate the Advanced Custom Fields plugin
- Import the ACF field group
- In the WordPress admin dashboard navigate to Testimonials > Add New
- Populate the displayed fields with your information
- Click on Publish to save and publish your testimonial

- Use the shortcode [display_testimonials] to the post where you want to display the testimonials

3. Challenges faced and how they were resolved

- Challenge: The date field was not auto-filling with the current date if the user didn't select a date
- Resolution: The function to save the current date was initially implemented with the save_testimonial_meta_box_data() method, intended to store the current date if the user did not provide one. However this approach did not work as expected. To troubleshoot the logic was moved to the get_testimonials() method for testing. This resolved the issue but it resulted in the current date being displayed dynamically.

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GitHub repository: <https://github.com/Bella5856/Testimonial-WordPress-Plugin-/tree/TestimonialPluginWordPress>