WordPress Security

More than a Green Padlock!

WordCamp Lehigh Valley
Aug 18, 2018

Who am I and why am I up here?

- 40+ years in IT
- Started out in software development
- Network management and infrstructure
- Now WordPress dev / maintenance business owner
- Found my Joie de Vivre!

Have My SSL Cert - What More?

- Basic website security
- usernames / passwords / updates / scanning
- low hanging fruit
- Coding experience not required
- What can I stop
- Why does it happen:
  1. sub 1

What Does SSL Cert Get Me?

TODO: add image of https & Let's Encrypt

- Let's Encrypt cert installed
- Protects visitor connection to website
- Prevents man-in-the-middle vulnerabilites
- Visitors get sense of assurance
- Google is happy

Basic WordPress Security for Every Site

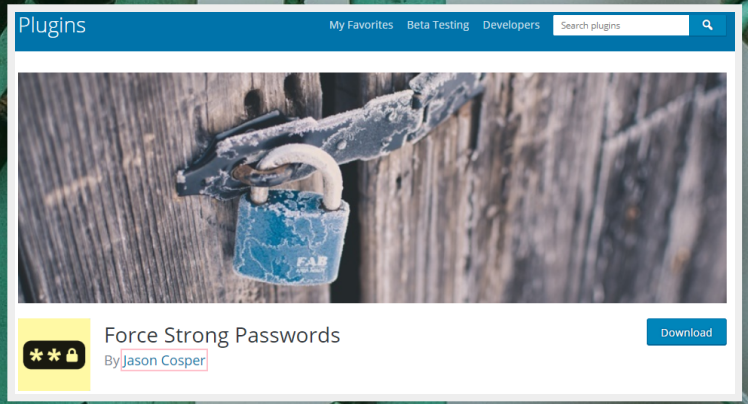
Low Hanging Fruit

Coding Not Required

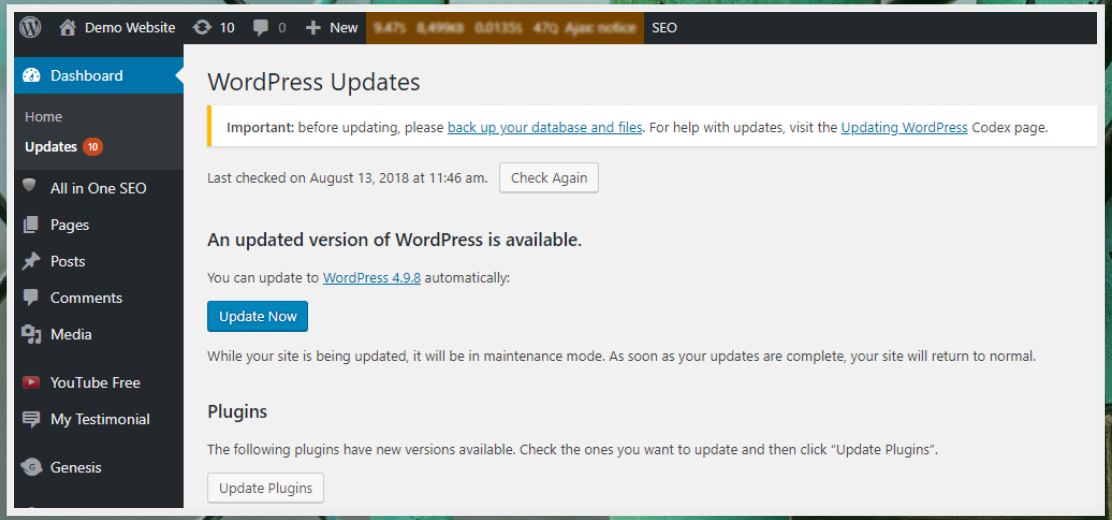
- Usernm4s and passwords
- Updates - Core / Themes / Plugins
- Malware Scanning

Protect Your Website - Other Websites

- Usernames - No -'admin' user
- Use strong passwords
  - Force Strong Passwords
- Delete 1st User



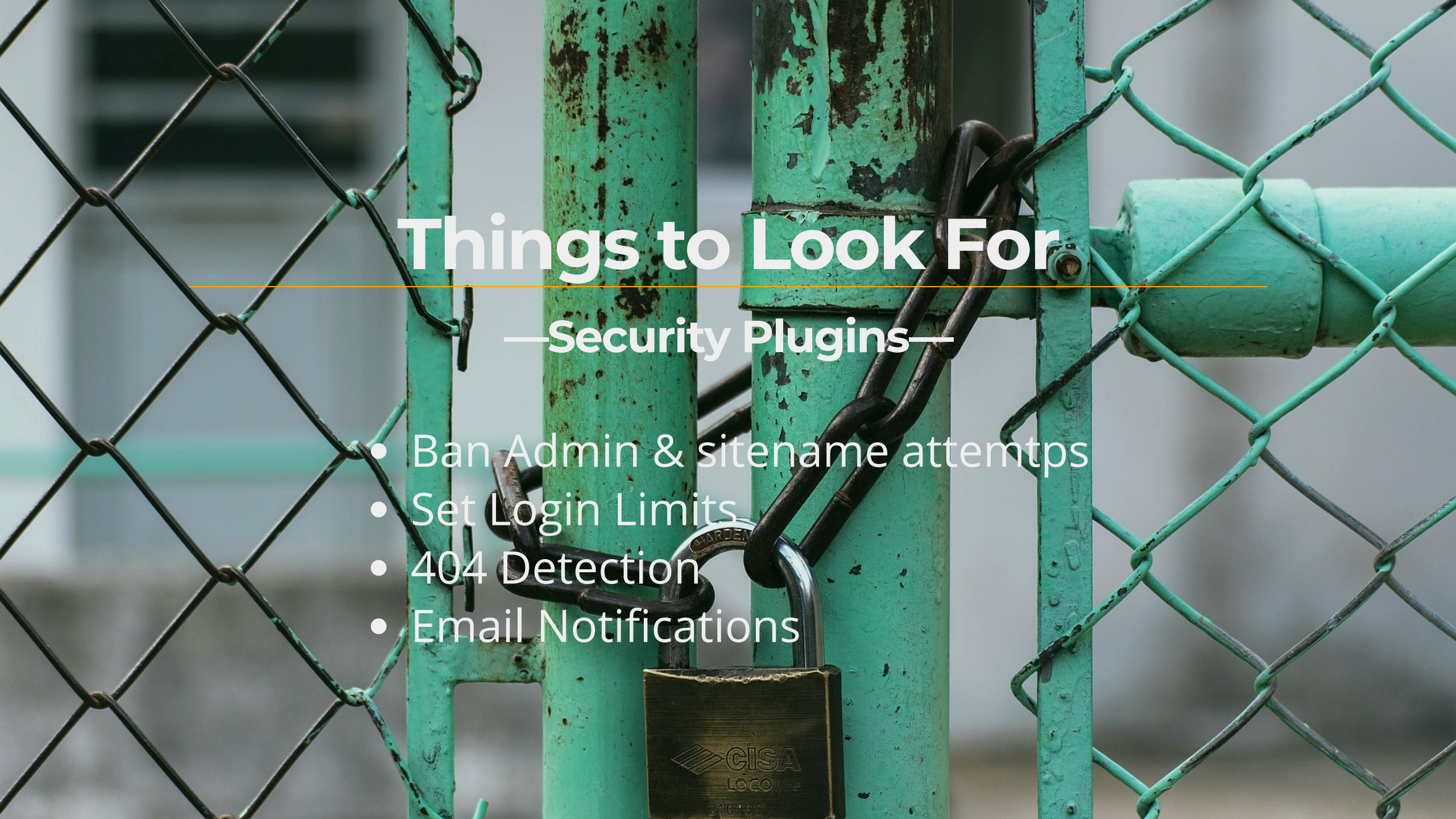
Keep Everything Updated



- WordPress Core
- Plugins
- Themes - including default t
- Periodic User Cleaning
  @TODO: Link/image
  https://www.wpbeginner.co
  guide/wordpress-user-roles

Security Plugins

- iThemes Security (FR)
- Wordfence Security (FR)
- Sucuri Security (FR)
- iThemes Security Pro ($)

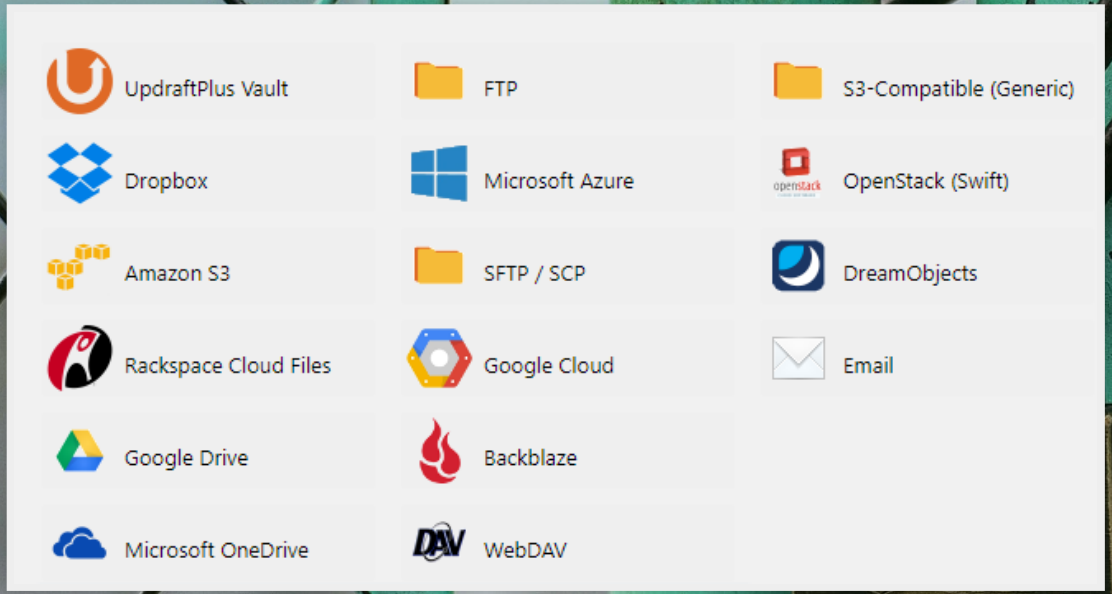


Things to Look For

—Security Plugins—

- Ban Admin & sitename attemtps
- Set Login Limits
- 404 Detection
- Email Notifications

Backup Plugins



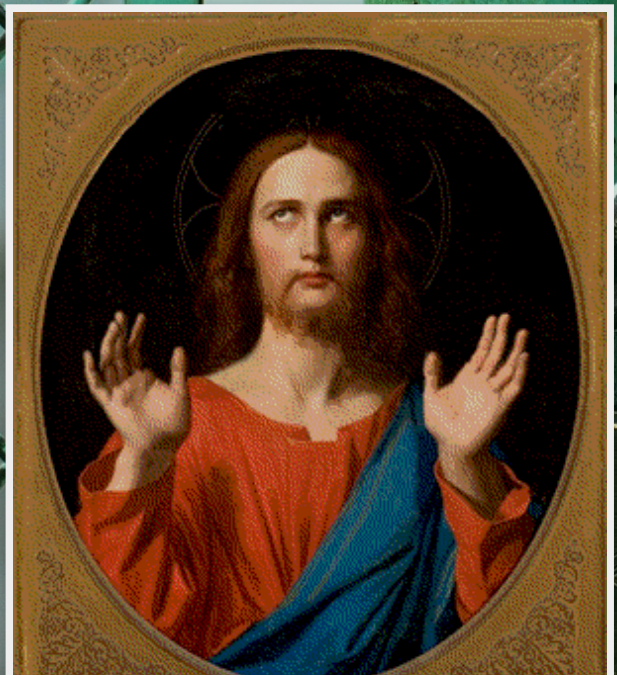
- UpdraftPlus Backups (FR)
- BackWPup (FR)
- BackupBuddy ($)

Things to Look For

—Backup Plugins—

- Automatic Backups
- Multiple Destinations
- Various Backup Types - full, db, media
- Restoration
- Email Notifications on Failure

WP Security 201



Not going to stop the hacker world at your doorstop —Items for your website secruity toolbox

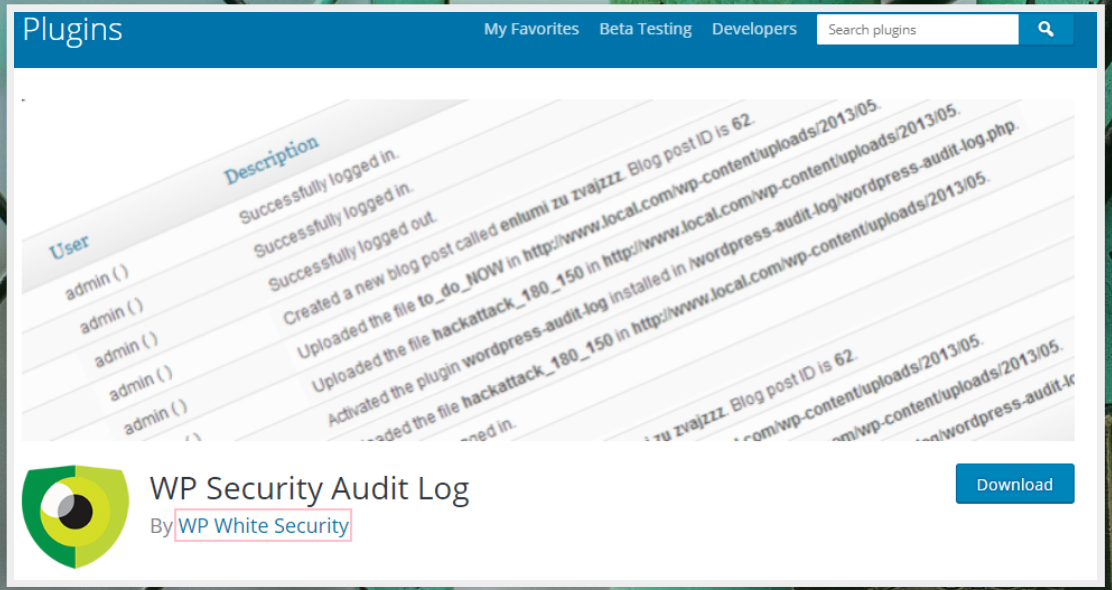
3 Overlooked WordPress Security Areas

- Know What's Going On
- File Editing From Dashboard
- File Permissions

What is Going On In My Site?

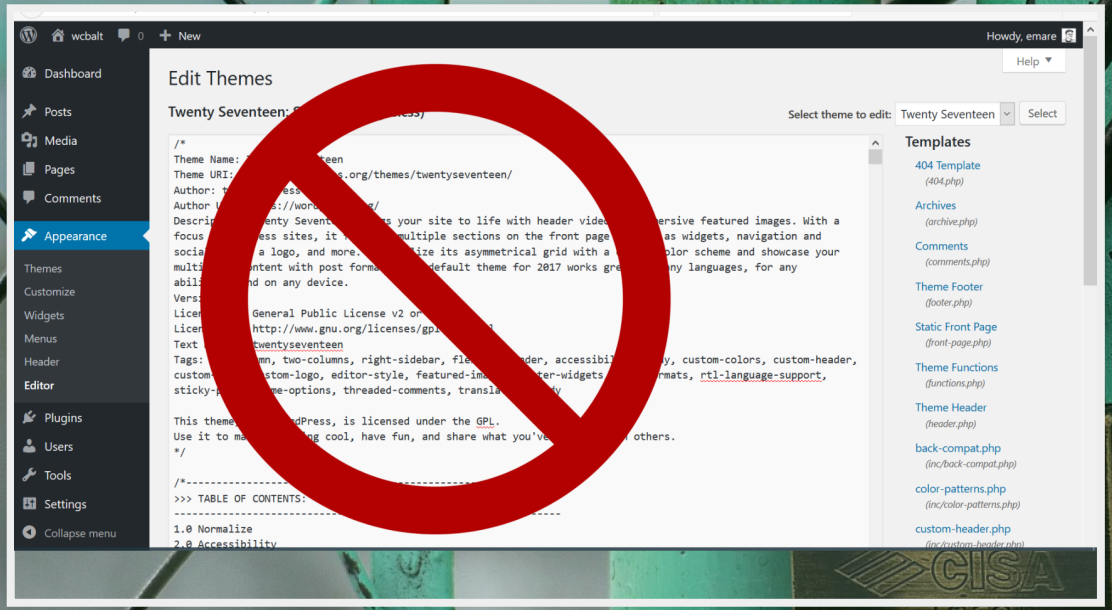
Keep An Audit Log

Plugin: WP Security Audit Log



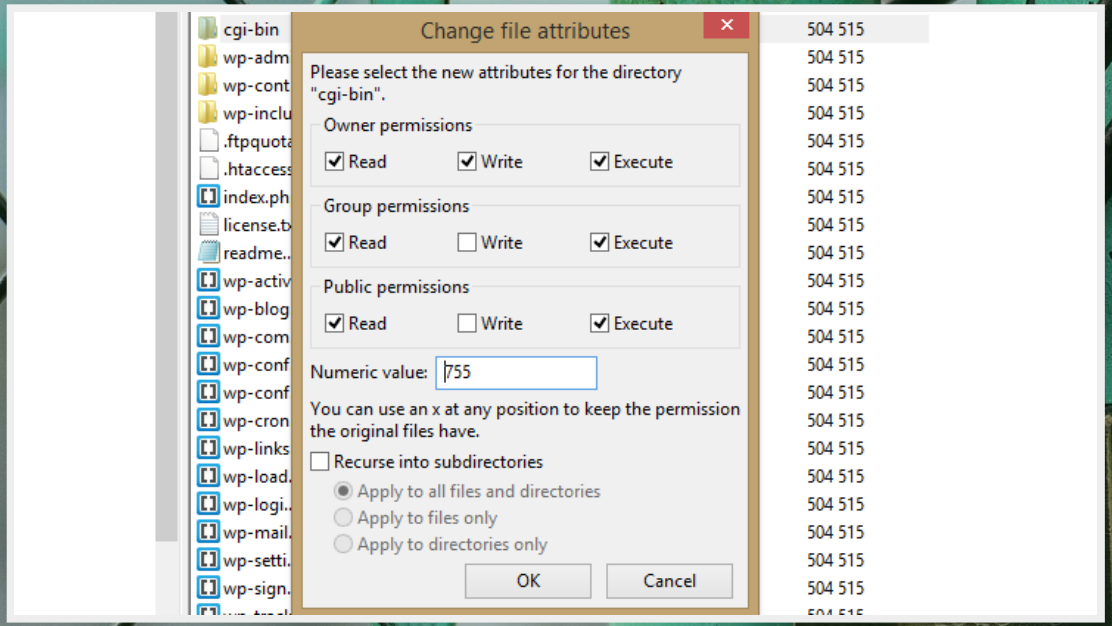
Prevent File Editing From Dashboard

```
define('DISALLOW_FILE_EDIT',true);
/* That's all, stop editing! */
```



wp-config.php tweak

File Permissions



Correct permission scheme

Folders –> 755

Files –> 644

File Permissions Unwrapped

Privledge Escalation

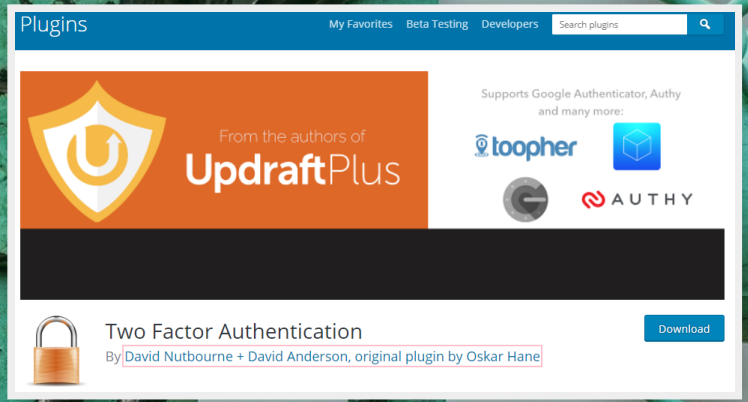
- Don’t give your users more power than they need.
- Learn about WP roles and capabilities
- Don't share your admin account
  —Create a new one for them
- Use Password Reset
  —Don't email passwords

Lock Down Your Login Page

- Two-factor authentication
- Limiting login attempts via security plugin Local Brute Force Protection & Banned Users Configurable by iThemes Security (FREE) | 404 DetectionDon’t give your users more power than they need.
- Learn about WP roles and capabilities

Lock Down Your Login Page

- Two-factor authentication —Works with Authy, Google Authenticatopr
- Limiting login attempts —Configurable by iThemes Security (FREE)
  - Local Brute Force Protection
  - Banned Users
  - 404 Detection
- Learn about WP roles and capabilities



How To Follow Up

Resources & Attributions

- Article: https://www.wpbeginner.com/wordpress-security/
- Article: https://premium.wpmudev.org/blog/a-complete-guide-to-wordpress-password-security/
- Article: https://en.support.wordpress.com/selecting-a-strong-password/
- Article: https://www.wpbeginner.com/beginners-guide/wordpress-user-roles-and-permissions/

- Plugin: https://wordpress.org/plugins/force-strong-passwords/
- Plugin: iThemes Security https://wordpress.org/plugins/better-wp-security/
- Plugin: Wordfence https://wordpress.org/plugins/wordfence/
- Plugin: Sucuri https://wordpress.org/plugins/sucuri-scanner/
- Plugin: iThemes Security Pro https://ithemes.com/security/
- Plugin: https://wordpress.org/plugins/updraftplus/
- Plugin: https://wordpress.org/plugins/two-factor-authentication/

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- Photo Credit: Padlocks on red by Jon Moore on Unsplash

Questions ?
Lingering Thoughts ?

anyone?
anyone?

Thanks!

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