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MSA CLOUD COMPUTING WITH AZURE WORDPRESS REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

In this report, I am going to introduce some plugins I used on my websites, and meanwhile to identify the issues that these plugins could resolve. Then this report will compare some similar plugins which are in the same type but different provider, and present why I choose the current one rather than others. Besides, I will go through steps about how to implement these plugins, also briefly discuss the applicable benefits after implementing each plugin on the website. This report will finally talk about other problems I faced when creating my resume blog, and show some effective solutions I found

My website Link: <https://msatraining.azurewebsites.net>

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CURRENT ISSUES

I did a resume website using WordPress, and after navigating the basic functions of it, I realized that it is a powerful tool to create a website. There are some issues associated with the development as well, the current issues I faced are as follows:

- How to have a good page design.
- How to improve the speed and user experience of the website.
- How to accelerate mobile pages.
- How to track the visiting data and keep visitors come back.
- How to make the website present on Google and other search engines.
- How to enable visitors to share my pages to other social websites.

In addition, when I trying to install the “SEO Plugin” there was another problem:

When I click install there was an error message said “destination folder already exists” so I can’t continue. The possible reasons and the way to solve it will be discussed more detail in the last section “Other problem and solutions”.

In next section, this report will discuss the types of plugins I used to solve the above issues and why I choose them.



TYPES OF PLUGINS TO SOLVE THE ISSUES

All of these plugins could solve the issues properly and make things easier when creating the resume website.



The types of plugins to solve the above issues are as follows:

- Page design issues - front-end page builder plugin
- Website speed and user experience - Web Performance Optimization (WPO) framework
- Mobile pages - Accelerated Mobile Pages (Google AMP Project)
- Visitor data – Analytics Plugin
- Search engines – SEO
- Social website sharing – Social Share

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PLUGIN COMPARISONS

There are numerous plugins available in Wordpress and how to choose them is another problem. You will not want to install a plugin only waste your Wordpress memory but not that helpful. So, the list below is the plugins I choose at the end:

- **Elementor** by Elementor.com.
 - **W3 Total Cache** by GoldGrid.
 - **Accelerated Mobile Pages** by Ahmed Kaludi, Mohammed Kaludi .
 - **MonsterInsights** by MonsterInsights.
 - **Yoast SEO** by Team Yoast .
 - **AccessPress Social Share** by AccessPress Theme
- other plugins used to my website***
- **Contact Form 7** by Takayuki Miyoshi.
 - **File Manager** by Aftabul Islam.
 - **WordPress Importer** by WordPressdotorg

In this section, I will briefly introduce some of the plugins I used and explain why I chose it rather than others. The comparison are based on the overview of the plugin itself, as well as other developers idea sharing on YouTube, Microsoft Azure website, and other developer discuss board.

05 PLUGIN COMPARISONS

Front-end page builder plugin

In terms of page builder plugin, I decided to use Elementor rather Divi or others. The main reason is that I believe Divi has a steeper learning curve and hard to master, whereas Elementor is only a standalone plugin and easy to use. Elementor is more friendly to people who are new to Wordpress (like us). Besides, Elementor offers many professional templates which we could directly use on our website. There also some default widgets available within the templates, so we can easily customize our pages, and make them creative and highly interactive with visitors.

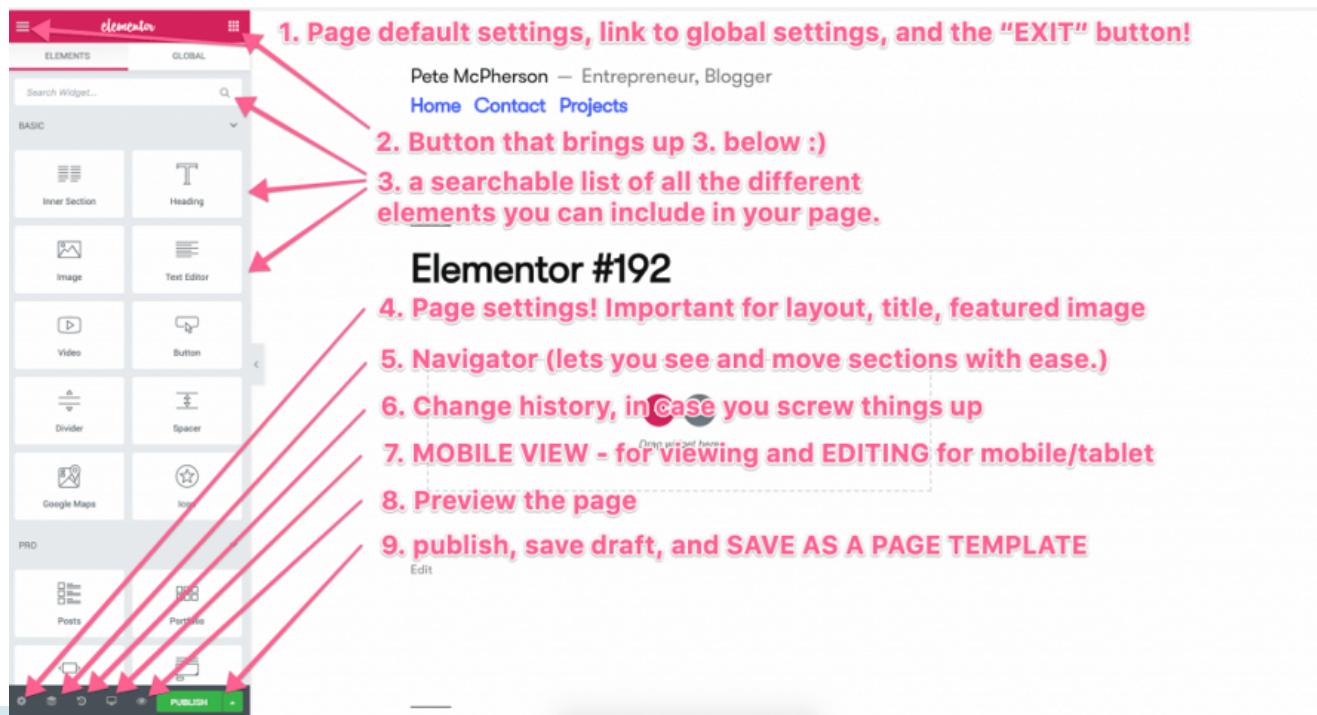
Analytics Plugin

I believe that MonsterInsights is the most user-friendly, most powerful, Google Analytics plugin for WordPress. It helps you to easily add Google Analytics to WordPress site and provides you with detailed information and stats about your site visitors and their interactions with your site. Compared with Google Analyticator, the main difference I believe is their reporting. The dashboard widget of Google Analyticator shows you a quick summary of your website analytics report, but it's limited. MonsterInsights, in contrast, has a well-designed and comprehensive report page inside your dashboard where you can view all the standard Google Analytics reports as well as advanced metrics.

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IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

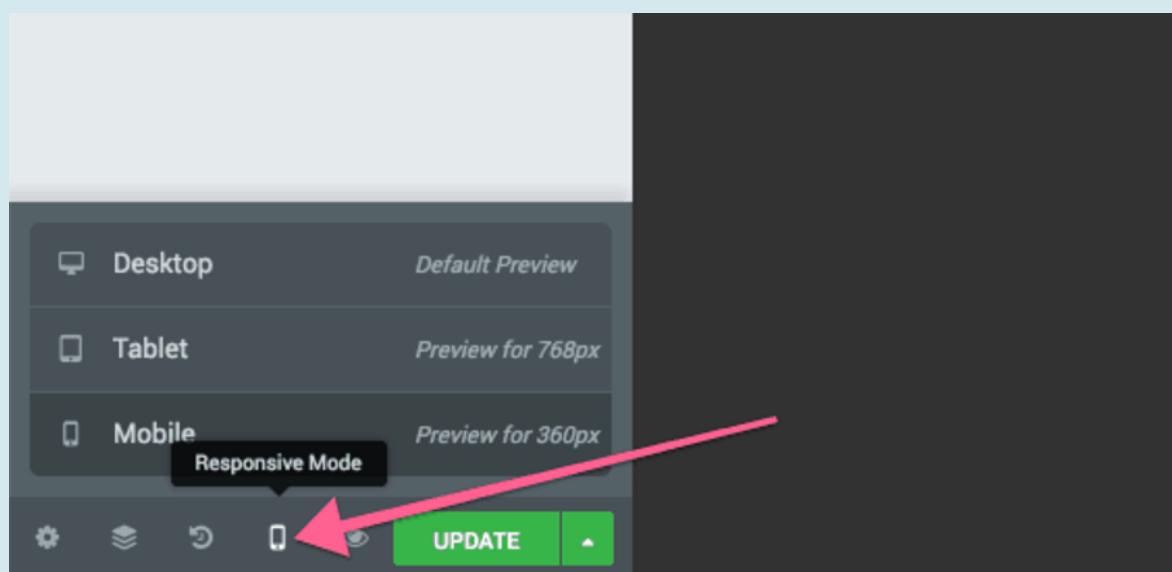
Elementor – How to style for phones and tablets



Source: <https://doyouevenblog.com/elementor-pro-review-tutorial/>

Referring the image above, I used that tutorial to get basic knowledge about how to implement Elementor, and I think that picture is a really excellent overview of the menu of Elementor.

Nowadays, more and more people using phones view websites, so how to style your website to adjust it is an important issue. First, previewing your Elementor pages for phones and tablets is simple—click the “responsive mode” button and choose which to preview.



IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

AccessPress Social Share – How allow visitors share your posts

The screenshot shows the 'Social Networks' tab selected in the top navigation bar. Below it, there are tabs for 'Share Options', 'Display Settings', 'Miscellaneous', and 'How To Use'. Under 'Social Networks', there are two sub-tabs: 'About' and 'Wordpress Resources'. The main content area is titled 'Social Media chooser:' and contains a note: 'Please choose the social media you want to display. Also you can order these social media's by drag and drop:'. A list of social media icons with checkboxes next to them allows selection: Facebook (checked), Twitter (checked), Pinterest (unchecked), LinkedIn (checked), Digg (unchecked), and Email (checked).

Through AccessPress Social Share Plugin, you could let your website visitor directly share your blogs or posts to other social platforms, which will expand your websites.

The screenshot shows the 'Display Settings' tab selected in the top navigation bar. The left sidebar includes 'Contact', 'Elementor', 'Templates', 'Appearance', 'Plugins 8', 'Users', 'Tools', 'Settings', 'Shortcodes', 'SEO', and 'AccessPress Social Share' (which is highlighted in blue). The main content area displays a message: 'Please choose any one out of available icon themes:'. It shows three themes: 'Theme 1' (radio button unselected), 'Theme 2' (radio button selected), and 'Theme 3' (radio button unselected). Each theme displays a grid of social sharing icons with counts: Theme 1 has 210 for each icon; Theme 2 has 210 for each icon; Theme 3 has 210 for each icon.

In the editing page, we could select which social platforms you want to display. By clicking Display Settings, it allows you to select your favourite themes, and the icon display positions.

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BENEFITS



Yoast SEO

With this SEO plugin, you can get more visitors from Bing and Google. You can attract more visitors from the social networking media as well as enhance the engagement of the readers.

Elementor

Overall, I believe that using Elementor could create a very impressive page layouts and designs, even if you have no experience in site building. Also, you get a 100% separate interface to work on your posts and pages – the bulk of your work doesn't happen in the standard block editor that comes with WordPress. The most important benefit is that it doesn't require any HTML/CSS/PHP/coding skills – everything can be done through a handy user-facing interface.

MonsterInsights

MonsterInsights has made it extremely easy to connect our websites to our Google Analytics accounts. The dashboard is very user friendly; the setup process is extremely easy. It makes it extremely simple to get data for your website without having to login to Google Analytics. And according to the MonsterInsights website, it could provide Performance control, which could Adjust sample rate and site speed sample rate for Google Analytics processing limit.

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OTHER PROBLEM AND SOLUTIONS

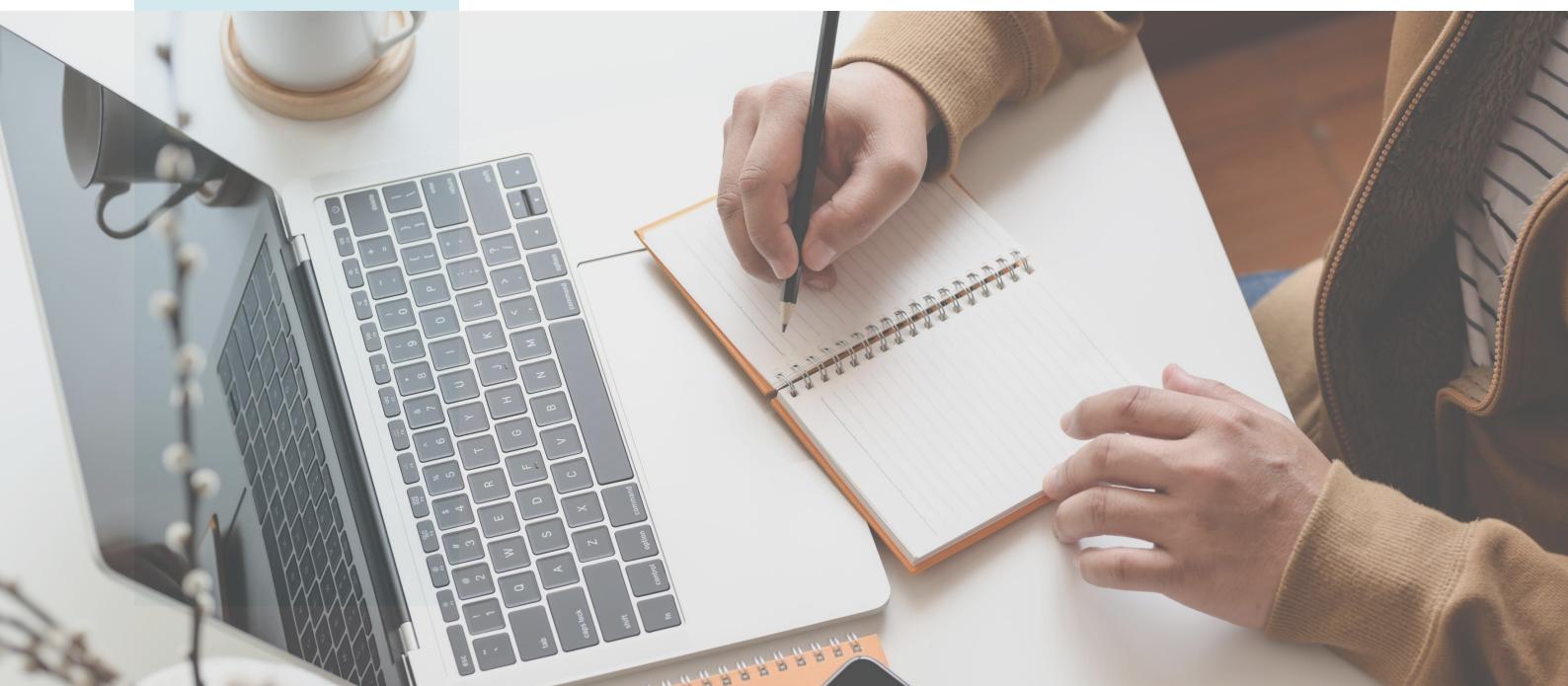
There was a problem I faced when I trying to install Yoast SEO.

The installation cannot complete, there always an error message said, “**destination folder already exists**”, so I cannot add it to my website.

I first search this problem on Google, and I found that it is a common problem because the following two situations:

1. *A previous attempt to delete the plugin or theme didn't succeed, and it left the plugin / theme folder behind.*
2. *A previous installation attempt was interrupted and left an empty destination folder.*

And the tutorial stated I need an FTP file manager or cPanel File Manager to delete the disturbing files. So, I first downloaded the FileZilla on my Mac and stated connect with my Azure website. However, no matter how I change the settings, it always shows “connection timeout, waiting to try again.” And I gave this way up, trying to find another method.



10 OTHER PROBLEM AND SOLUTIONS

The second time I tried to use cPanel, but I faced the same issue as I use FileZilla. So, I think there may some problems with connection and this problem is not that easy for me (a beginner) to solve in a short time. I turned to looking for help to our MSA Team. According to the suggestion, I successfully solve it by creating a new website. But I still wanted to know what happened to my original website and how to solve the mistake. I stated realized that if I cannot connect my website by using external software or website, can I find a way to delete the file within the WordPress? I started search again on YouTube and got inspired by a short video. I added a new plugin called “file manager”, which has same function as FileZilla and cPanel! I am so excited and trying to find the plugin content in it. After delete the incomplete SEO file, I finally successfully installed Yoast SEO on my website.



“It's so exciting to navigating the WordPress by myself and I am really appreciate that MSA provided this opportunity to learn the new skill!

