

What is a service worker?

A service worker is a script that your browser runs in the background, separate from a web page, opening the door to features that don't need a web page or user interaction. They increase your site availability in spotty connections and are essential to making a nice user experience.

It supports features like push notifications and background sync.

Using service workers in Gatsby with `gatsby-plugin-offline`

Gatsby provides an awesome plugin interface to create and load a service worker into your site: [gatsby-plugin-offline](#).

You can use this plugin together with the [manifest plugin](#). (Don't forget to list the offline plugin after the manifest plugin so that the manifest file can be included in the service worker).

Installing `gatsby-plugin-offline`

```
npm install gatsby-plugin-offline
```

Add this plugin to your `gatsby-config.js`

```
plugins: [`gatsby-plugin-offline`]
```

References

- [Service Workers: an Introduction](#)
- [Service Worker API](#)