

# What is WordPress?

**WordPress** is a free and open-source **Content Management System (CMS)** that allows you to create and manage websites easily without needing to know how to code. It was originally designed for blogging but has evolved into a powerful platform that supports all kinds of websites — from blogs and portfolios to business sites, e-commerce stores, and more.

## WordPress = Simple + Flexible Website Builder

Whether you're a beginner starting your first blog or a developer building complex websites — WordPress has something for everyone.

## Main Uses of WordPress

### 1. **Blogging:**

- WordPress started as a blogging platform, so it's ideal for writers, journalists, and content creators.
- You can post articles, add tags/categories, and manage comments.

### 2. **Business Websites:**

- Companies use WordPress to create professional websites to showcase their services or products.
- It supports static pages (like "About Us", "Contact", etc.) and dynamic content.

### 3. **E-Commerce (Online Stores):**

- With plugins like **WooCommerce**, you can turn a WordPress site into a full-featured online store.
- Manage products, payments, shipping, and more.

### 4. **Portfolio Websites:**

- Artists, designers, photographers, and freelancers use WordPress to showcase their work in elegant portfolios.

## **5. Educational Sites / LMS:**

- You can use plugins to build learning management systems (LMS) for online courses.

## **6. Membership Sites:**

- Restrict content and offer paid subscriptions or exclusive content using membership plugins.

# **1.Installing WordPress Locally (Using XAMPP/WAMP)**

## **Step 1: Install a Local Server (XAMPP or WAMP)**

- Download and install:
  - XAMPP (*recommended*)
  - or WAMP

## **Step 2: Start Apache and MySQL**

- Open XAMPP/WAMP Control Panel
- Start:
  - Apache
  - MySQL

## **Step 3: Download WordPress**

- Go to <https://wordpress.org/download/>
- Extract the zip file
- Move it to:  
C:\xampp\htdocs\your-folder-name (or WAMP's www folder)

## Step 4: Create a MySQL Database

- Open: `http://localhost/phpmyadmin`
- Click "New" → Enter DB name → Click "Create"

## Step 5: Install WordPress

- Open in browser: `http://localhost/your-folder-name`
- Choose language → Click "Let's Go"
- Enter DB info:
  - **Database Name:** (the one you created)
  - **Username:** `root`
  - **Password:** (*leave blank for XAMPP*)
  - **Host:** `localhost`
- Click "Submit" → "Run Installation"

## Step 6: Setup Site

- Enter:
  - Site title
  - Username & password
  - Admin email
- Click "Install WordPress"

## Step 7: Login

Go to: `http://localhost/your-folder-name/wp-admin`  
Login with the credentials you just created.

## **2.Installing WordPress on a Live Hosting Server**

### **Step 1: Buy Hosting + Domain**

You need a web hosting provider like:

- Bluehost
- Hostinger
- GoDaddy
- SiteGround

### **Step 2: Login to Hosting Control Panel (usually cPanel)**

### **Step 3: Find and Open "Softaculous" or "WordPress Installer"**

- Click on WordPress → Install

### **Step 4: Fill Installation Form**

- Choose domain
- Leave directory blank (for root installation)
- Site Name, Description
- Admin username, password, email
- Choose theme (optional)

### **Step 5: Install**

Click “Install” and wait for a few seconds.

### **Step 6: Access Your Site**

- Admin Panel: `https://yourdomain.com/wp-admin`
- Login using your admin credentials.

## Advantages

- It is an open source platform and available for free.
- CSS files can be modified according to the design as per users need.
- There are many plugins and templates available for free. Users can customize the various plugins as per their need.  
Media files can be uploaded easily and quickly.
- It offers several SEO tools which makes on-site SEO simple.
- Customization is easy according to the user's needs.
- It allows creating different roles for users for website such as admin, author, editor and contributor.

## Disadvantages

- Using several plugins can make the website heavy to load and run.
- PHP knowledge is required to make modifications or changes in the WordPress website.
- Sometimes software needs to be updated to keep the WordPress up-to-date with the current browsers and mobile devices. Updating WordPress version leads to loss of data, so it a backup copy of the website is required.
- Modifying and formatting the graphic images and tables is difficult.