Plugins for Videos and Reels on Wordpress

Complied by Newcomb Institue's Digital Research Internship

All-in-One Video Gallery

Video, Team Plugins360, [*https://wordpress.org/plugins/all-in-one-video-gallery/*](https://wordpress.org/plugins/all-in-one-video-gallery/)

- COST: Free with pro version
- PROS: can group videos by categories or tags to make them searchable, videos may loop or autoplay or play muted, subtitles
- CONS: must upgrade to pro to support certain video formats
- TECHNICAL COMPLEXITY: No coding necessary, very simple to embed from Vimeo
- VIDEO/PHOTO FORMAT: MP4, WebM, OGV, embeds players such as YouTube, Vimeo, Dailymotion, Facebook, or embed code from other third party video players
- DISPLAY OPTIONS: grid, list
- HOW IT WORKS: When I tested it, you had the option to input videos from a website (ex Vimeo) or upload from your computer. It supported one or multiple in the form of a gallery. It then generates a Shortcode to paste into the post/page where you want the video to be located or you can do it by going directly to "Video Gallery>Add new" in the Wordpress A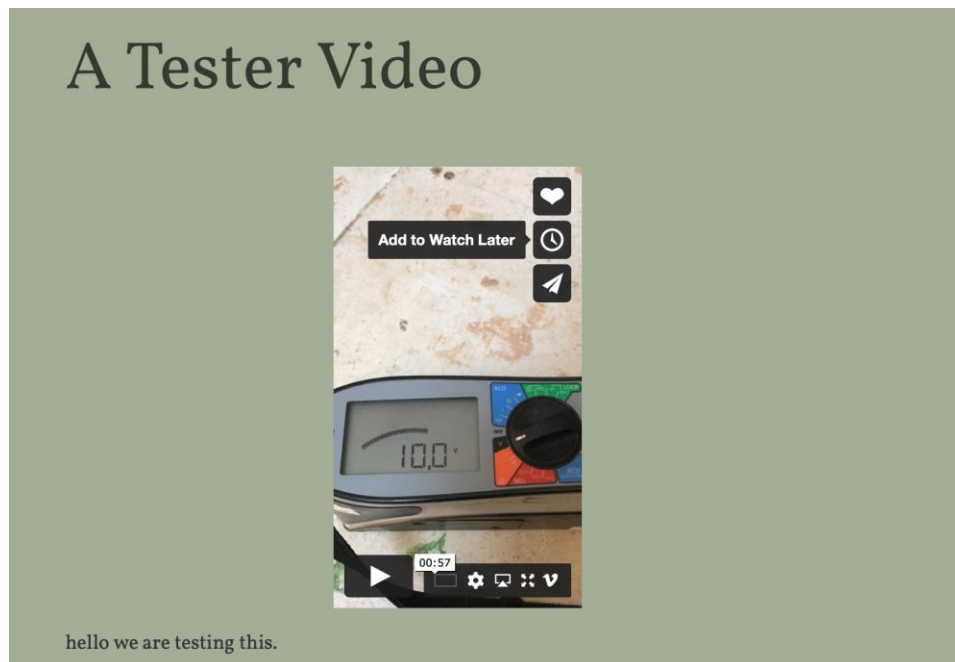dmin. Step-by-Step instructions are here: https://plugins360.com/all-in-one-video-gallery/add-your-first-video/

Image Horizontal Reel Slide Show

Photo Reel, Gopi Ramasamy, [*http://www.gopiplus.com/work/2011/05/08/wordpress-plugin-image-horizontal-reel-scroll-slideshow/*](http://www.gopiplus.com/work/2011/05/08/wordpress-plugin-image-horizontal-reel-scroll-slideshow/)

- COST: Free

- PROS: option to add hyperlink to images, can put the images on the page or in the sidebar, manual can edit the height, speed, background color, gap, and order
- CONS: less customizable, must hold the mouse over the images if you want the banner to stop moving, less aesthetically pleasing
- TECHNICAL COMPLEXITY: Simple, use the shortcode format found here to embed into a page or post: http://www.gopiplus.com/work/2011/05/08/wordpress-plugin-image-horizontal-reel-scroll-slideshow/
- VIDEO/PHOTO FORMAT: slideshow of pictures
- DISPLAY OPTIONS: rolling banner, pauses if the mouse is held over an image
- HOW IT WORKS: I tested this my placing the slideshow as a widget in the sidebar, which can be done by going to widgets and then dragging "Image Horizontal Reel Slide Show" to the sidebar menu. It was pretty small and the images were difficult to see. If you do it this way, it appears on every page so it would be better to embed it directly on the page you want it to appear on. I also tried embedding it with the shortcode pasted on the page, which created a slideshow the width of the page.

(also available in a vertical reel)

Envira Gallery

Photo Reels and Gallery, Envira Gallery Team, https://enviragallery.com

- COST: Free with pro version
- PROS: drag and drop gallery builder, easy to customize and create your own layouts, sync from adobe lightroom, free version supports Vimeo
- CONS: unclear which features require the pro version, but it appears social media integration is a pro feature, can only upload one image at a time
- TECHNICAL COMPLEXITY: simple, save as a draft to generate shortcode that can be pasted onto the page
- VIDEO/PHOTO FORMAT: photo or Vimeo/YouTube
- DISPLAY OPTIONS: gallery with customizable dimensions and number of columns

- HOW IT WORKS: I only tested this with photos, but it claims to also support Vimeo and Youtube. In WordPress Admin, go to "Envira Gallery> Add New" to customize your post. You can upload photo content directly from the photo library on Wordpress or from your device. There are a lot of features below that allow you to personalize your gallery by adding captions, changing the dimensions, It also generates a shortcode that you can then paste onto the page where you want the gallery to appear.

Photo Gallery

Photo and Video, GT3 Video Gallery & Gutenberg Block Gallery, https://wordpress.org/plugins/gt3-photo-video-gallery/

- COST: Free with pro version
- PROS: aesthetic, easy to customize the dimensions of the photos and videos in the grid, can add links to the photos so that viewers are redirected when they click on the photo
- CONS: upgrade to have access to the video settings for each item, additional layouts, ability to link photos to a hyperlink, forced people to go Pro in the past by disabling the main plugin functionality
- TECHNICAL COMPLEXITY: Simple, generates shortcode to paste onto page/post
- VIDEO/PHOTO FORMAT: (lite version) YouTube and Vimeo
- DISPLAY OPTIONS: grid with customizable dimensions, masonry format
- HOW IT WORKS: I only tested this with photos, but it claims to also support video. In WordPress Admin, go to "GT3 Gallery > Add New" To customize your post. You can upload photo content directly from the photo library on Wordpress and customize the appearance there. It also generates a shortcode that you can then paste onto the page where you want the gallery to appear.
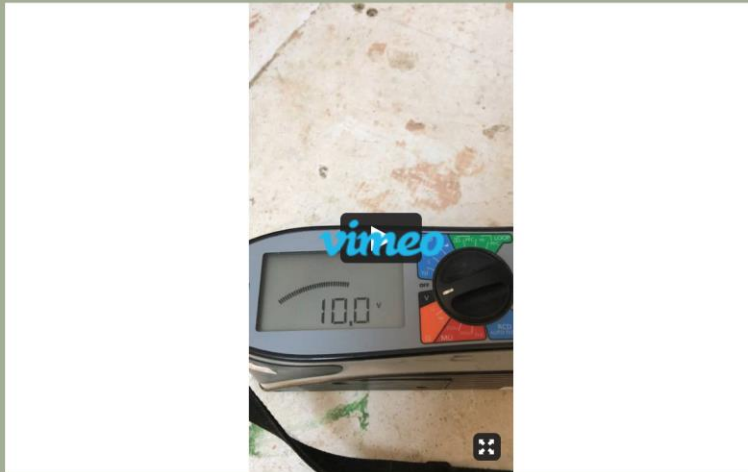
Video Gallery – Vimeo and YouTube Gallery

Video, OriginCode, https://wordpress.org/plugins/smart-grid-gallery/

- COST: Free with pro version
- PROS: 7 formats to choose from, can optionally add a URL to redirect users when the video is clicked, drag and drop added videos to easily rearrange order
- CONS: need the pro version to customize the layouts and to access design lightbox
- TECHNICAL COMPLEXITY: Simple, generates shortcode to paste onto page/post
- VIDEO/PHOTO FORMAT: Vimeo and YouTube
- DISPLAY OPTIONS: thumbnail gallery, slider, blog-style, content pop-up
- HOW IT WORKS: In WordPress Admin, go to "Video Gallery" and click the "add new video gallery" button. Then, click the "add new" button on the right to paste the link of each video you would like to add. It also generates a shortcode that you can then paste onto the page where you want the gallery to appear. It looked a lot nicer with a gallery or a horizontal video than vertical videos.
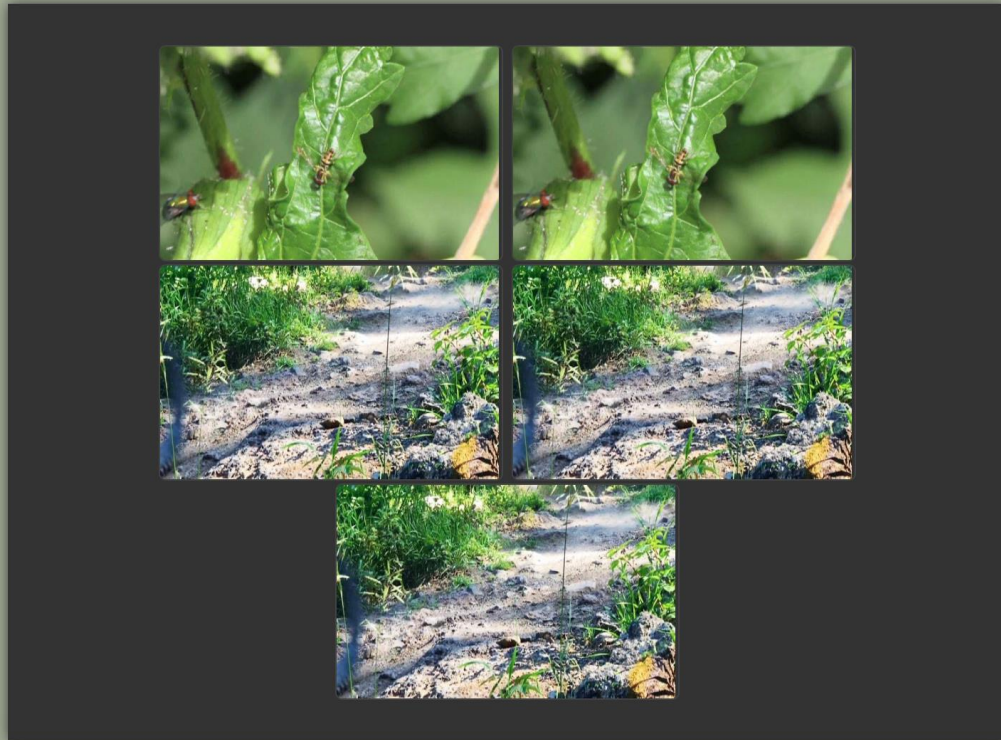-

Testing Video/Photo Plugins

Edit

WP Video Lightbox

Video, Tips and Tricks HQ and Ruhul Amin, https://wordpress.org/plugins/wp-video-lightbox/#description

- PROS: disable suggested videos (at the end of a YouTube video), automatically generates thumbnail that the user can click to start the video, adjust opacity, resizing,
- CONS: short code not automatically generated
- TECHNICAL COMPLEXITY: simple, must manually edit the shortcode template, the automatic thumbnail didn't seem to work
- VIDEO/PHOTO FORMAT: YouTube or Vimeo
- DISPLAY OPTIONS: linked from text or linked from thumbnail
- HOW IT WORKS: After activating, in WordPress Admin Settings, enable "pretty pictures" under the lightbox tab. Then, (for Vimeo) you can edit one of the two shortcode formats to create the shortcode for your page:
    - [video_lightbox_vimeo5 video_id="13562192" width="640" height="480" anchor="click here to open vimeo video"]

      This inserts a link to the video on the text of your choice.

- o [video_lightbox_vimeo5 video_id="13562192" width="640" height="480" anchor="http://www.example.com/images/vimeo-thumb.jpg"]

   This inserts a thumbnail that can be clicked on to play the video.

After customizing the shortcode, you can paste in onto the page/post where you want the video to appear.

Testing Video/Photo Plugins

click here to open vimeo video

Edit

Template

Name

What type of plugin, made my who, URL

- PROS:
- CONS:
- TECHNICAL COMPLEXITY:
- VIDEO/PHOTO FORMAT:
- DISPLAY OPTIONS:
- HOW IT WORKS:

Photo of test on Website