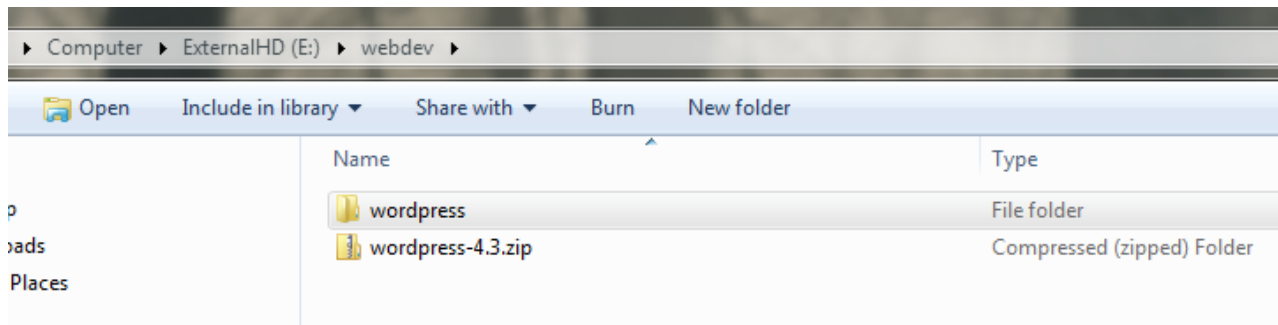# WordPress Installation

WordPress is popular and easy-to-use content management application. The focus of the application has been ease-of-use from the start, so we want to begin with security in mind and it should be in the forefront of every decision made. We are going to work from a local file store to tweak the basic configuration settings before exposing anything to the internet.

On your external or cloud storage device, extract the WordPress archive.



## Customize the WordPress installation to be more secure

Browse to the wordpress folder and open wp-config-sample.php using a text editor.

- Update the database connection settings
    - define('DB_NAME', '<YOUR_MYSTLCC_ID'>);
    - define('DB_USER', '<YOUR_MYSTLCC_ID'>);
    - define('DB_PASSWORD', '<YOUR_A_NUMBER>');
- Edit the $table_prefix variable to be something other than 'wp_' - use an online password generator or passphrase.
    - $table_prefix  = 'HTsWPV2yBE9Q7TVifcVn_';
- Open a web browser and go to https://api.wordpress.org/secret-key/1.1/salt/ - replace the key and salt values in the wp-config file
- Toward the end of the file (before the /* That's all... line) add the following security enhancements

```
/** Require encrypted connection to login and admin pages */
define('FORCE_SSL_LOGIN', true);
define('FORCE_SSL_ADMIN', true);

/** Enable auto-updating for major releases (minor releases are done automatically
already) */
define( 'WP_AUTO_UPDATE_CORE', true );
```

Save the file as wp-config.php and delete wp-config-sample.php

Delete readme.html, license.txt, and xmlrpc.php

We can prevent search engine crawling of the innards of the site by adding a robots.txt file to the root folder with the following contents

```
User-agent: *

Disallow: /feed/
Disallow: /trackback/
Disallow: /wp-admin/
Disallow: /wp-content/
Disallow: /wp-includes/
Disallow: /wp-
```

Delete the pages for any site functionality you do not plan to use:

No comments? delete wp-comments.php

Delete any themes and plugins you do not plan to use.

- Hellodolly.php
- no comments? - no need for Akismet

## Install WordPress

Copy the wordpress folder contents to your site.
Go to https://students.stlcc.edu/ART_125_695/<username>

Create your admin user - use a name that is not obviously an admin. Use a 16+ character password.

Once created, log in with your admin user - you will be taken to your administration dashboard.

## Delete and reconfigure WordPress default settings and pages

Select "Turn comments on or off"

- Disable Attempt to notify any blogs linked to from the article
- Disable Allow link notifications from other blogs (pingbacks and trackbacks) on new articles
- Disable Allow people to post comments on new articles
- Select users must be registered and logged in to comment
- Select Comment must be manually approved

Delete the default first post

1. Click on "Posts" on the left menu
2. Mouse-over the Hello World! post and click "Trash".
3. On right under publish click "Move to trash".
4. Click on the Trash category up top.
5. Mouse over the Hello World! post and click "Delete Permanently".

Delete the default sample page

1. Go to the dashboard
2. Select "Pages" from the left
3. Mouse over the Same Page and click "Trash"
4. Click on the Trash category up top.
5. Mouse over the Hello World! post and click "Delete Permanently".

That's it - now you're ready to create and manage your site!