TRANSACTIONAL WEB APPLICATIONS DEVELOPMENT

E.G. WORDPRESS DEVELOPMENT

TABLE OF CONTENT

CMS generalities and a brief presentation of WordPress

WordPress Installation and initial configuration

Managing a WordPress website

Customization of WordPress

Manage extensions and Widgets

Customization of WordPress template

Advanced Features

What is a Content Management System (CMS)?

A Content Management System is a site with a back end where you can add, update and delete the content

Why Content Management System (CMS)?

- Easy to manage the website
- No programming skills (always) required
- Increase your Organic reach (SEO)
- Focus on your Core Business
- Flexibility in terms of Marketing Strategies

EXAMPLES OF CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (CMS)



History of CMSs

- 1982 Ted Smith founded FileNet with Basic 4 FileNet is the first CMS
- 1995 Ross Garber and Neil Webber founded Vignette Corporation
- From 1995 1999. Many CMS began to appear -Interwoven (1995), Documentum (1996), FatWire (1996), Future Tense (1996), Inso (1996), and EPiServer (1997).
- At the beginning of 2000 Open Source CMS and Frameworks began to appear. Open CMS, PHP-Nuke, Mambo, WordPress, Drupal, Plone, and Joomla all offered free alternatives for content management.
- 2003 Matt Mullenweg and Mike Little created WordPress from the b2 codebase

Wordpress is the most popular CMS for Website development. In this course, we will focus more on WordPress

SOME STATISTICS ON WORDPRESS

CMS
GENERALITIES
AND A BRIEF
PRESENTATION
OF
WORDPRESS





35% of all the active websites uses WordPress

62% of the market for websites based on CMS



Top rated companies trust WordPress

Sources: https://www.codeinwp.com/blog/wordpress-statistics/

OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE AND COMMUNITY OF DEVELOPERS

Bloomberg

facebook newsroom



Top Companies using WordPress



WordPress is available in two versions: wordpress.org and wordpress.com. both uses the same features but have different purposes. let look at the differences between both.

WORDPRESS.ORG

- Need a Web Hosting and Domain Name
- More Customization freedom
- Pay for a start (Hosting, domain Name)
- More flexible in terms of features
- Free to monetize your site

WORDPRESS.COM

- No need for hosting Website hosted by WordPress
- 100% Free Blog or WordPress for the basic plan
- Limited in terms of Customization
- Less flexibility and Freedom
- No monetization option

WHAT IS AN OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE?

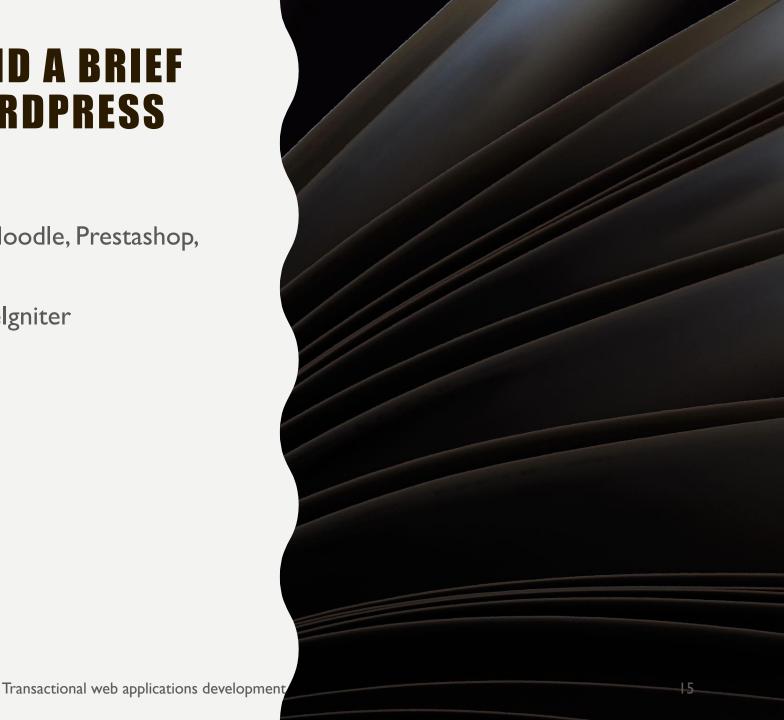
OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE IS SOFTWARE WHERE YOU ACCESS TO ALL THE SOURCE CODE EDIT. MOST OF THE OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE ONLINE FREE.

CMS GENERALITIES AND A BRIEF PRESENTATION OF DPRESS

Examples of open-sources software

- CMS:WordPress, Joomla, Drupal, Moodle, Prestashop, Magento
- Framework: Laravel, Symfony, Codelgniter





popular online discussion groups for developers

- Stack Overflow https://stackoverflow.com/ Known for all types of discussions on programming.
- Reddit https://www.reddit.com/r/programming/
- Code Project https://www.codeproject.com/
- Specific tools Forum Each Open Source tool has its forum. For example WordPress official forum is https://wordpress.org/support/forums/
- GitHub https://github.com/. It is an online repository. On GitHub, you will find a public pool and discussions on specific programming topics.

Differences between WordPress, Joomla, Drupal

- WordPress is open-source and free software
- It is easy to use even for non-developers or web beginners.
- WordPress is the best in terms of flexibility.
- Most of the reputable companies such as BBC, Bloomberg, BBC America, Facebook
 Newsroom uses WordPress
- The software is always in development and has the support of a large community of expert developers.

OFFICIAL WORDPRESS SITES AND RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPERS OFFICIAL WORDPRESS SITE

- WORDPRESS OFFICIAL FORUM -
 - HTTPS://WORDPRESS.ORG/SUPPORT/FORUMS/
- WORDPRESS DOCUMENTATION -
 - HTTPS://WORDPRESS.ORG/SUPPORT/
- DEVELOPERS RESOURCES -
 - HTTPS://DEVELOPER.WORDPRESS.ORG/
- WORDPRESS CODEX HTTPS://CODEX.WORDPRESS.ORG/

OFFICIAL WORDPRESS SITES AND RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPERS O T H E R R E S O U R C E S

STACK EXCHANGE WORDPRESS FORUM

(HTTPS://WORDPRESS.STACKEXCHANGE.COM/)

WPBEGINNER

(HTTPS://WWW.WPBEGINNER.COM/)

OFFICIAL WORDPRESS SITES AND RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPERS RECOMMENDED BOOKS

WORDPRESS 5 COMPLETE: BUILD

BEAUTIFUL AND FEATURE-RICH

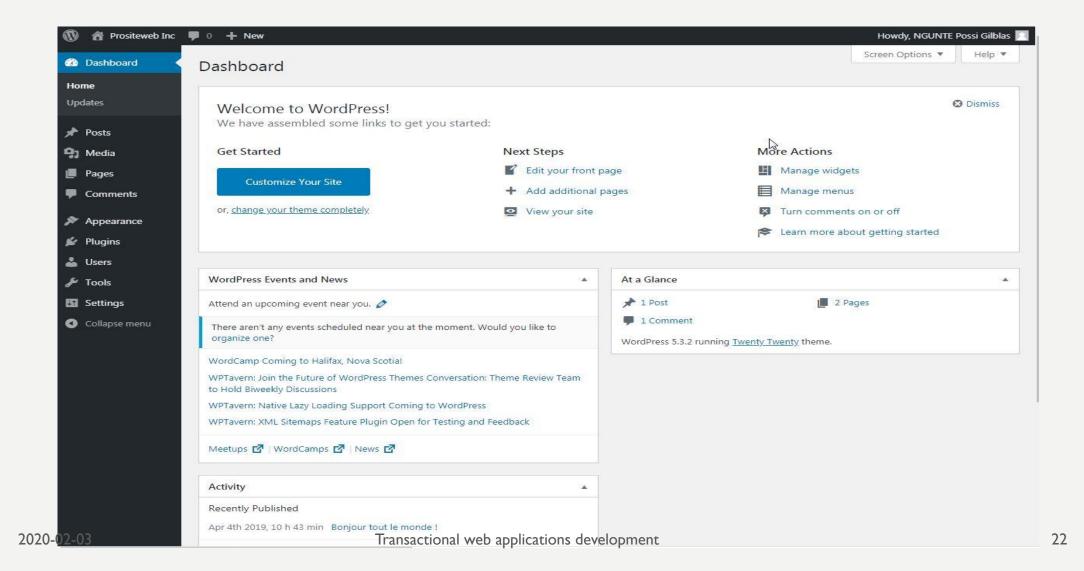
WEBSITES FROM SCRATCH, 7TH EDITION,

EDITION 7

CORE FEATURES OF WORDPRESS

WordPress, by default, has some features that can enable you to build a basic and functional website. However, to have a complete website, with much more functionalities, you need to use third-party resources.

CORE FEATURES OF WORDPRESS





2020+02-10310 h 43 min Bonjour tout le monde!

Posts

Media

Comments

Appearance

Plugins

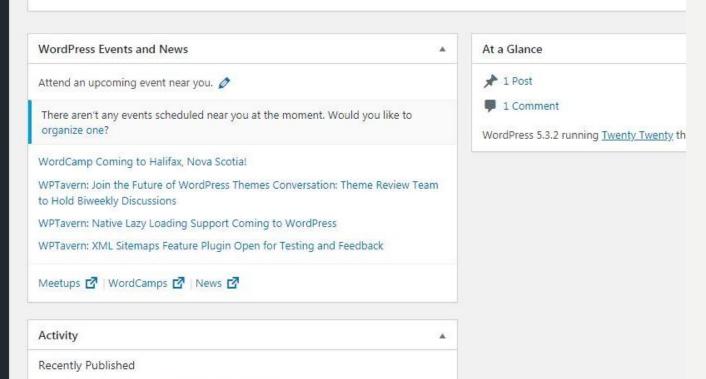
Users

Tools

Settings

Collapse menu

Welcome to WordPress! We have assembled some links to get you started: Get Started Next Steps Edit your front page Customize Your Site Add additional pages Manaç or, change your theme completely. View your site Learn in

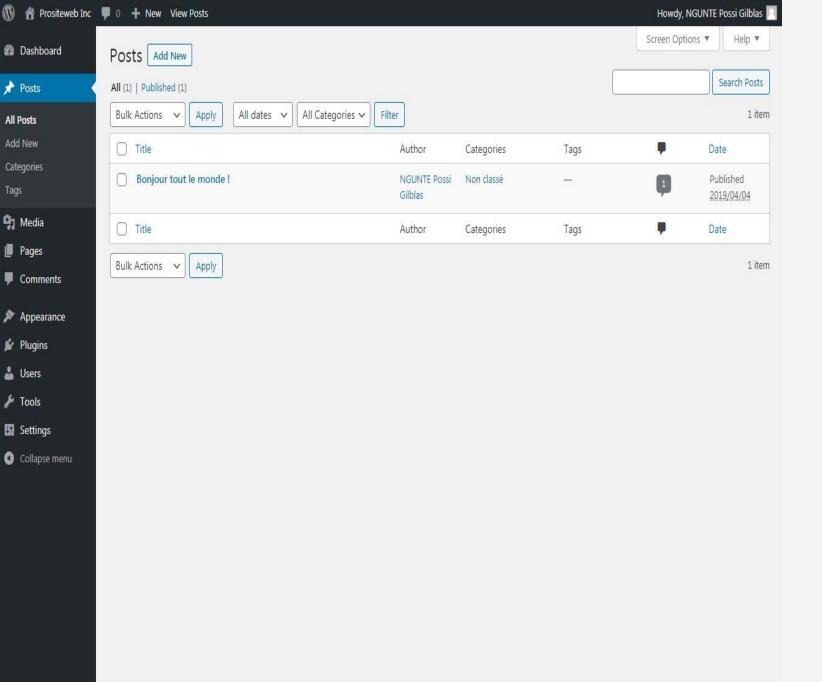


Transactional web applications development

CORE FEATURES OF WORDPRESS

Dashboard

The WordPress Dashboard provides a navigation menu that contains some menu options such as posts, media library, pages, comments, appearance options, plugins, users, tools and settings on the left side.



CORE FEATURES OF WORDPRESS

Posts

Posts are the basis for blogging. They are used for adding news (articles). The most recent posts appear on top.

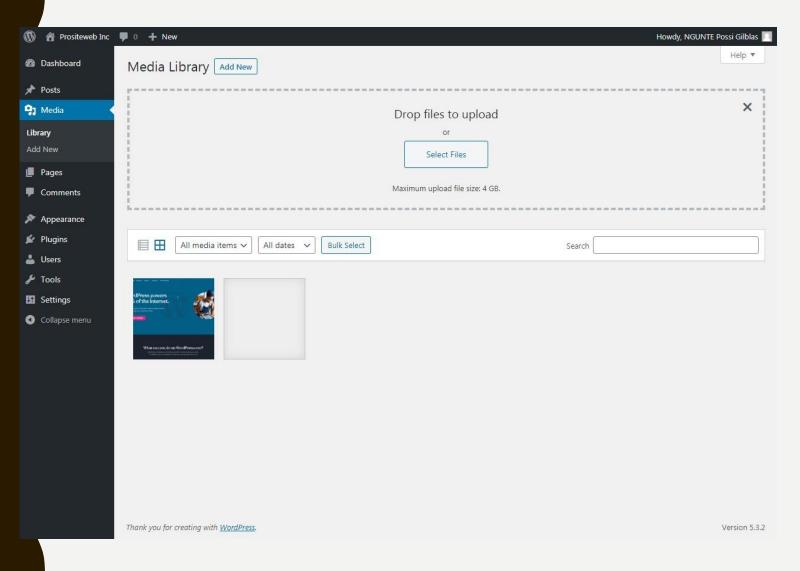
Posts

All Posts

Add New

Users

F Tools



CORE FEATURES OF WORDPRESS

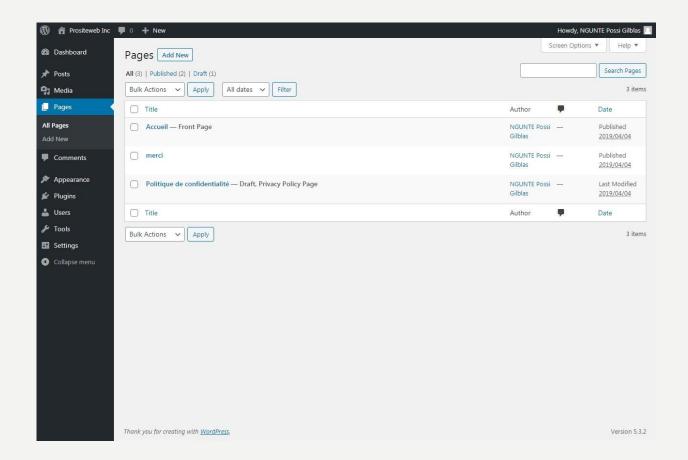
Media

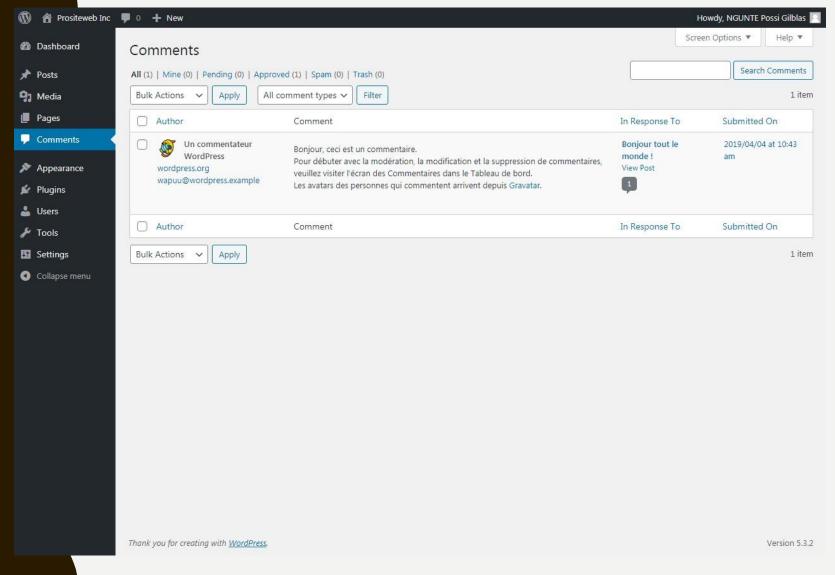
You can use the tab media to import files, images or documents to your website.

CORE FEATURES OF WORDPRESS

Pages

Pages are perfect for information that doesn't change a lot. You can use the page tab to create pages on your website





CORE FEATURES OF WORDPRESS

Comments

Manage comments on your website (approve, delete or reply)

CORE FEATURES OF WORDPRESS

OTHER TABS



Appearance - From the appearance tab, you can import your theme, search from themes on WordPress themes market or manage your themes.



Plugins - With plugins, you can extend the functionalities of your WordPress blog or site



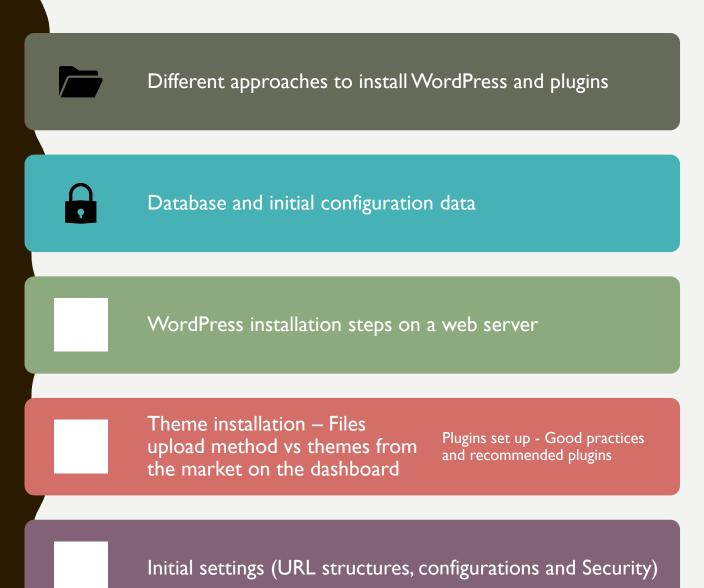
Users - The tab users enable you to manage users on your website.



Tools – Extra tools to improve your website. E.g. the site health, import or export



Setting – Tabs for your website setting.



WORDPRESS INSTALLATION AND INITIAL CONFIGURATION

DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO INSTALL WORDPRESS AND PLUGINS

System Requirements for WordPress

- Database: MySQL 5.0+
- Web Server
- Local Host WAMP (Windows), LAMP (Linux), XAMPP(Multi-platform), MAMP (Macintosh)
- Operating System: Cross-platform
- Browser Support: IE (Internet Explorer 8+), Firefox, Google Chrome, Safari,
 Opera
- PHP Compatibility: PHP 5.4+



cPanel quick start



The Command Line



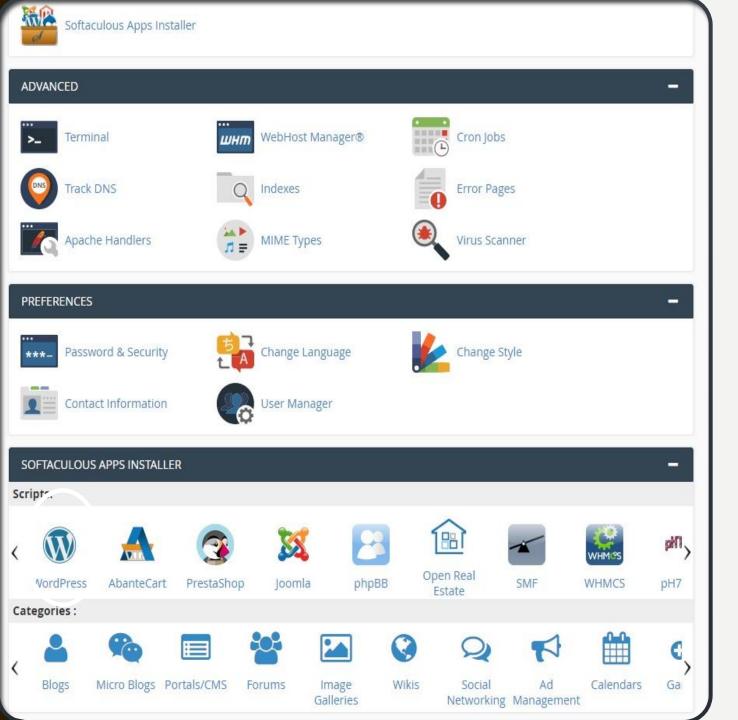


Manual Installation with ftp

Different approaches

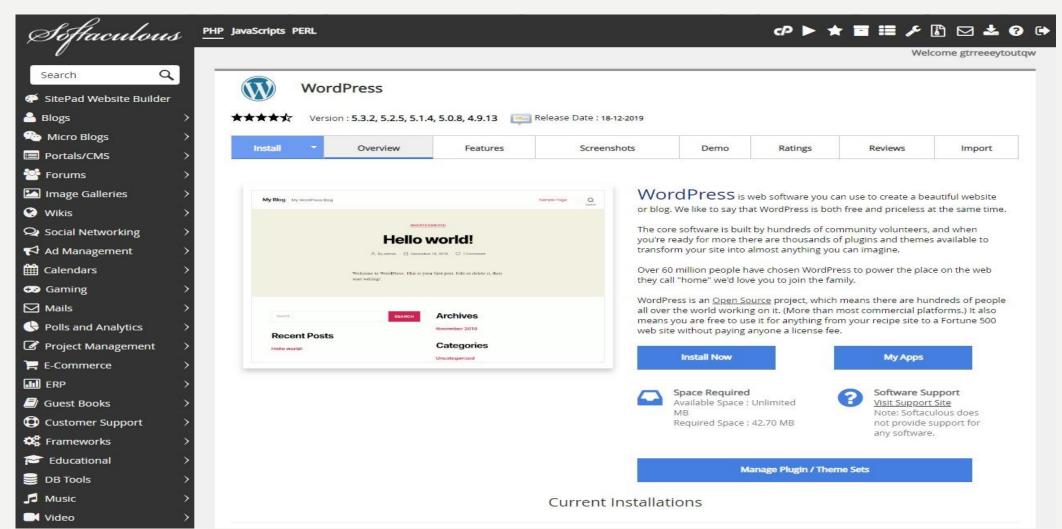
CPANEL QUICK START

most of the new cpanels come with scripts or software that can enable users to install wordpress in a few steps. E.g. softaculous Apps Installer



CPANEL QUICK START -SOFTACULOUS APPS INSTALLER

CPANEL QUICK START - SOFTACULOUS APPS INSTALLER



THE COMMAND LINE

- Install wp-cli https://wp-cli.org/#installing
- Create a directory for wordpress cd c:\xampp\htdocs\wordpress
- download Wordpress through the command line
- Create a database
- Set up the config.php file
- Finalise the installation

THE COMMAND LINE (REFERENCE)

- https://lmilosis.wordpress.com/2017/11/26/19/
- https://themeisle.com/blog/install-xampp-and-wordpress-locally/
- https://wp-cli.org/#installing

FTP - MANUAL INSTALLATION

- Download WordPress wordpress.org
- create a folder in your server. E.g. wordpress
- Create a database for wordpress phpmyadmin
- Launch the installation wizard and follow the steps
- For the set up host= LOCALHOST, USERNAME=ROOT, NO PASSWORD, DATABASE = DATABASE CREATED.

THEME INSTALLATION

FILES UPLOAD METHOD VS THEMES FROM THE MARKET ON THE DASHBOARD

HOW WORDPRESS THEMES WORK

In WordPress, the content is not really related to the design. You can switch from theme without touching the content. So, if you want a new design and you want to keep your content, you just need to install a new theme! Themes can be installed From:

- ❖ Dashboard → Appearance → Add New or,
- ❖ Dashboard -> Appearance -> Search installed Themes..., or through
- ❖ The FTP or Manual import. In this case, import your theme manually in the folder wp-content/themes.

Adding your theme using any of those 3 methods, the next step will be to activate through the dashboard.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF THEMES

There are many types of themes in WordPress:

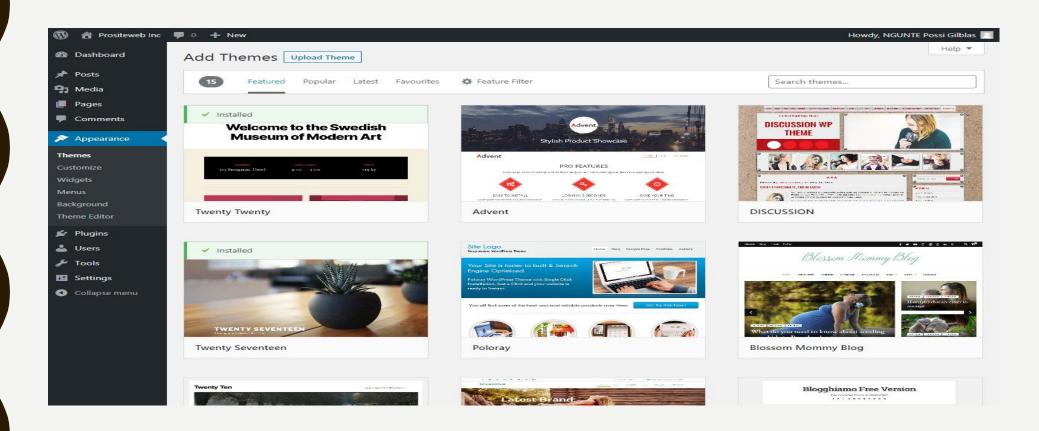
- ❖ Free Themes You can get them from your admin dashboard or on WordPress.org
- Commercial Themes Buy on themes and plugins Market. E.g. Themeforest, Template Monster,
- ❖ Build your themes With a little PHP skills you can build a WordPress theme for your website.

HOW TO INSTALL A WORDPRESS THEME

To install a WordPress theme, you need to get the theme from any source of your choice.

- ❖ If it is from your WordPress Dashboard, then, search and click on install.
- ❖ From wordPress.org, you will need to download and import your theme using the "import theme" button on Appearance → Add New → Upload Theme
- ❖ If you bought your theme online, you can either use the Appearance -> Add New -> Upload
 Theme feature or user FTP (or manual import) to move and extract the files in the folder wp-content/themes

HOW TO INSTALL A WORDPRESS THEME



PLUGIN INSTALLATION

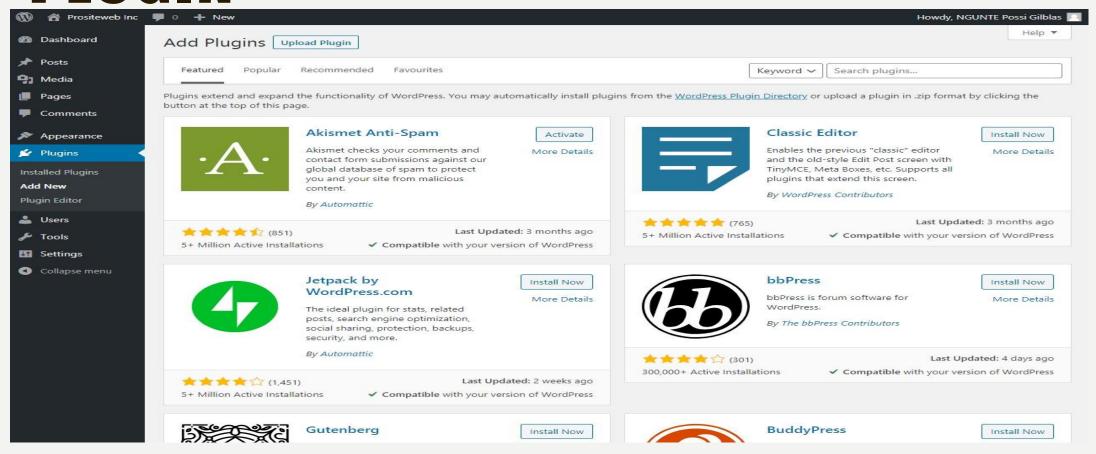
CMS GENERALITIES AND A BRIEF PRESENTATION OF WORDPRESS

HOW TO INSTALL A WORDPRESS PLUGIN

To install a WordPress plugin, you need to get it from any source of your choice.

- ❖ If it is from your WordPress Dashboard, then, search and click on install.
- ❖ From wordPress.org, you will need to download and import your theme using the "import theme" button on Plugin → Add New → Upload Plugin
- ❖ If you bought your theme online, you can either use the Plugins -> Add New -> Upload Plugin feature or user FTP (or manual import) to move and extract the files in the folder wp-content/plugins

HOW TO INSTALL A WORDPRESS PLUGIN



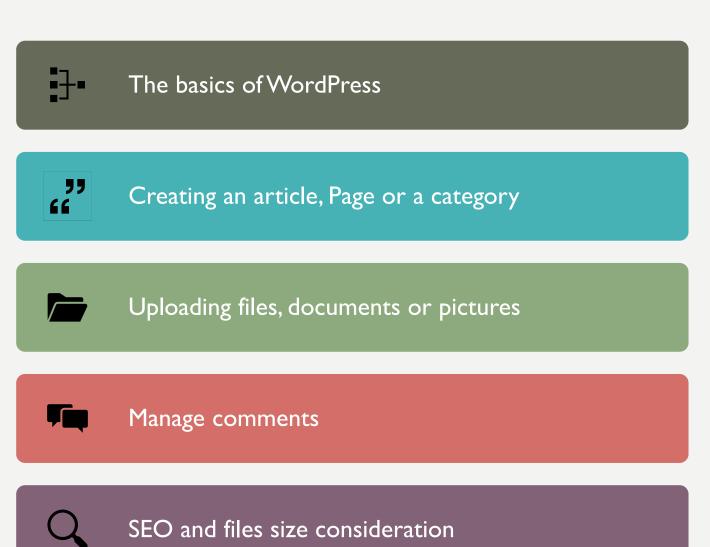
MANAGINGA WORDPRESS WEBSITE MODULE 3

MANAGINGA WORDPRESS WEBSITE

TRANSACTIONAL WEB
APPLICATIONS DEVELOPMENT



TABLE OF CONTENT



THE BASICS OF WORDPRESS









The WYSIWYG editor

permalink

Media

Pictures gallery









Comments

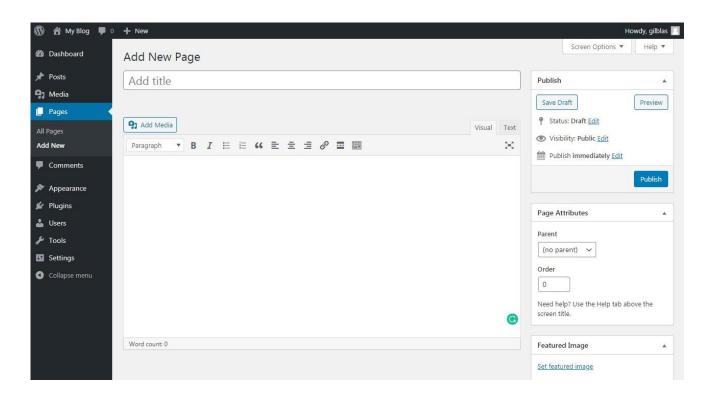
Pages

Blog

Categories

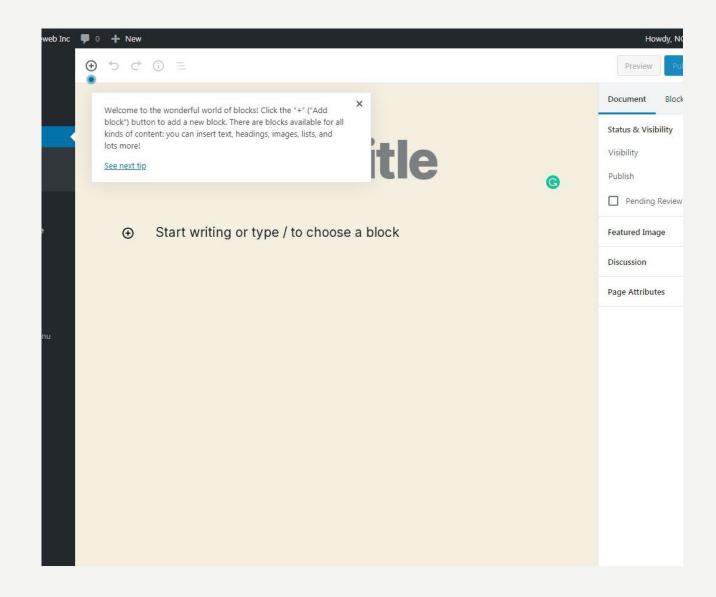
WYSIWYG EDITOR

CLASSIC EDITOR



WYSIWYG BLOCK EDITOR

New editor

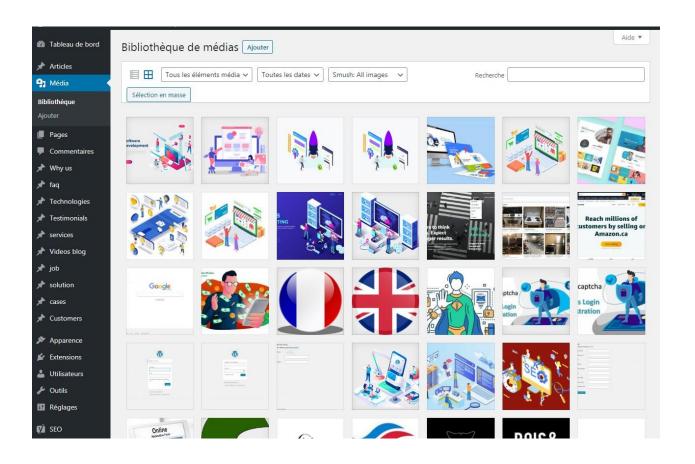


EDITOR OPTIONS



See

http://moodlen.isimtl.local/pluginfile.php/27347/mod_resource/content/0/wysiwyg%20code%20editor%20options.pdf for more details



MANAGE MEDIA(PICTURE, DOCUMENTS, GALLERY

Inserting an image/doc

Editing an image

Deleting an image/doc

Bulk delete

HOW TO ADD AN IMAGE?

Just above the WYSIWYG editor, you'll find a button to insert an image: If you click this button, the following window appears: There are three ways to add an image:

- Upload Files: upload an image from your computer, this is the default choice
- Insert from URL: use an image on the internet
- Media Library: insert a picture you already uploaded to your media library

Next to that, there is also the option to create a gallery, which I'll discuss later in this guide. It's better not to use the option "From URL." With this option, you use an image from elsewhere on the internet. Imagine you select

INSERTING AN IMAGE FROM YOUR COMPUTER: UPLOAD FILES

From the Dashboard -> Media tab

Click on Add New

Select Files

Locate the files your want to import and select them

From Pages/Posts

Click on Add Media

Then Upload Files

Select Files

Locate the files your want to import and select them

CATEGORIES/TAGS

features that enable you to group your blog posts

- Posts -> Categories
- Posts -> Tags

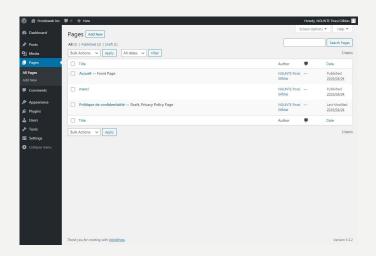




PAGES

used for static content / general information

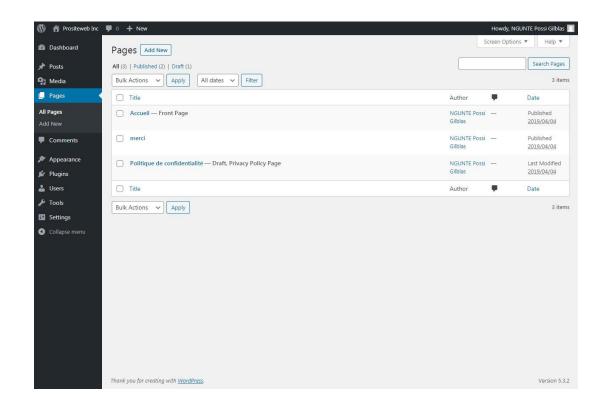
- ❖ Add New Page
- Edit Pages
- Delete Pages
- Publish a page

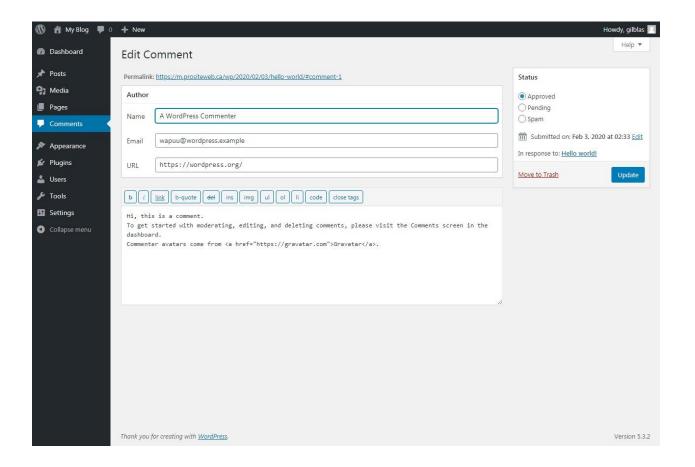


POSTS

Posts are used for blog page

- ❖ Add New post
- Edit Posts
- Delete Posts
- Manage Posts
- ❖ Publish a Post





COMMENTS

Manage comment on your site or blog

Approve

Delete

Reply to a comment

MANAGE COMMENTS



To disable comments:



Go to "Settings" >
"Discussion" in the left
menu

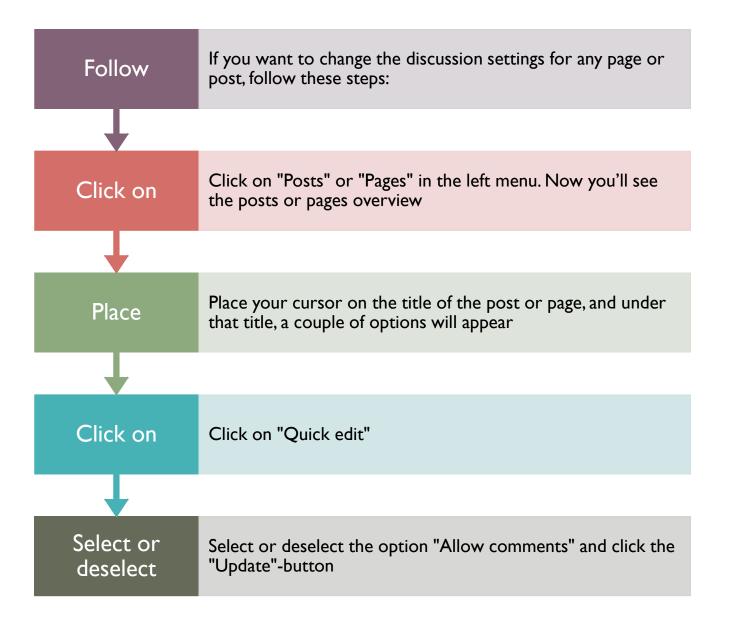


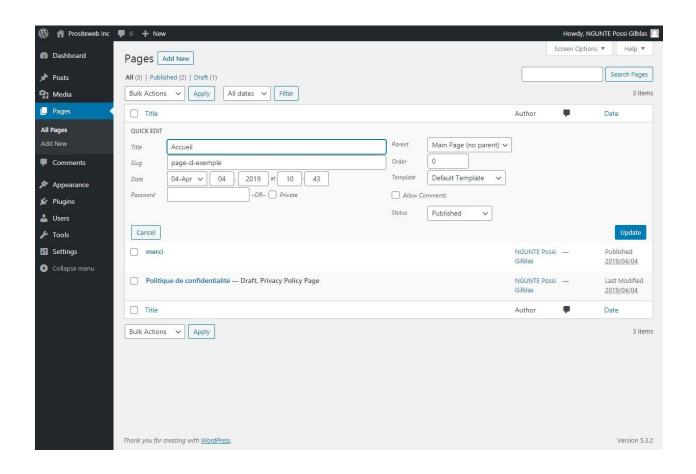
Deselect "Allow people to post comments on new articles":



Click the "Save changes" button on the bottom of this page.

MANAGE COMMENTS





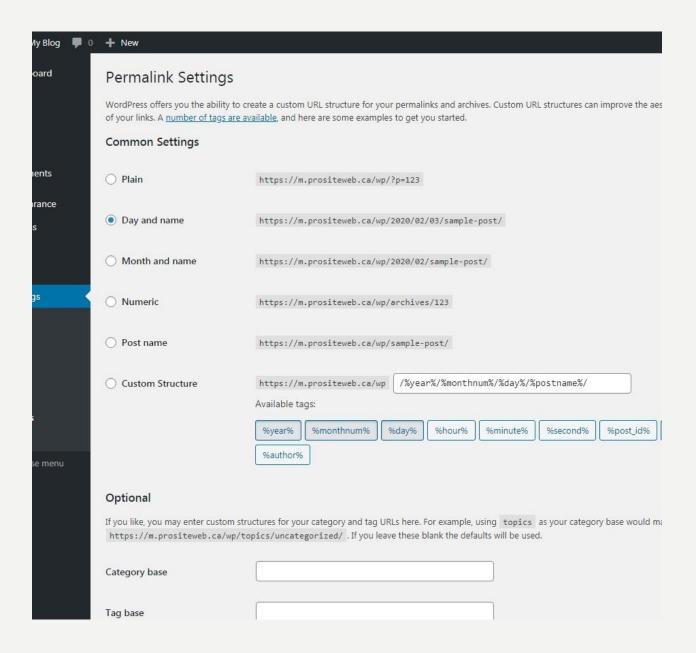
Allow comments

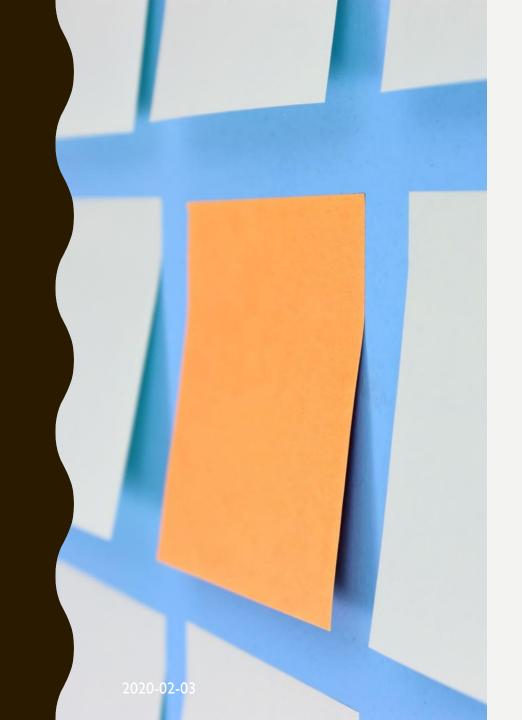
for a post/page

PERMALINKS

Allow you to choose how you want your website links to display.

- Plain (With Id) e.g.?p=123
- Day and name
- Month and name
- Numeric
- Post name
- Custom Structure





ADD GENERIC CONTENT (POST/PAGE/TAG/CATEGORIES)

Pages

- Select "pages -> Add New"
- Add title, Content, feature image, excerpt

Posts

- Select "posts -> Add New"
- Add title, Content, feature image, excerpt

Categories

- Select "posts->Categories-> Enter the name, slug, description"
- Click on "Add New Category"

tags

- Select "posts->tags-> Enter the name, slug, description"
- Click on "Add New Tag"

WORDPRESS CUSTOMIZATION

MODULE 4

Out of the box, WordPress contains only 5 different roles.

CUSTOMIZATION OF WORDPRESS

THE 5 DIFFERENT ROLES IN WORDPRESS

Administrator: The administrator role has the full right to do everything.

Editor: An editor has the right to create and edit posts and pages and can also edit posts from other users. An editor doesn't have administrative rights.

Author: An author can write posts and publish them.

Contributor: A contributor can write posts but can't publish them.

Subscriber: A basic member of a WordPress blog. Has the same rights as a guest, but doesn't need to log in again to react on posts?

HOW TO ADD A NEW USER

Choose "Users" > "Add new" in the left menu. You'll see the following screen: In this screen, you must fill in the following fields:

Username (required): the username of the new user

E-mail (required): the e-mail address of the new user

First Name: fill in the user's first name

Last Name: fill in the user's last name

Website: here you can fill in the URL of the user's website

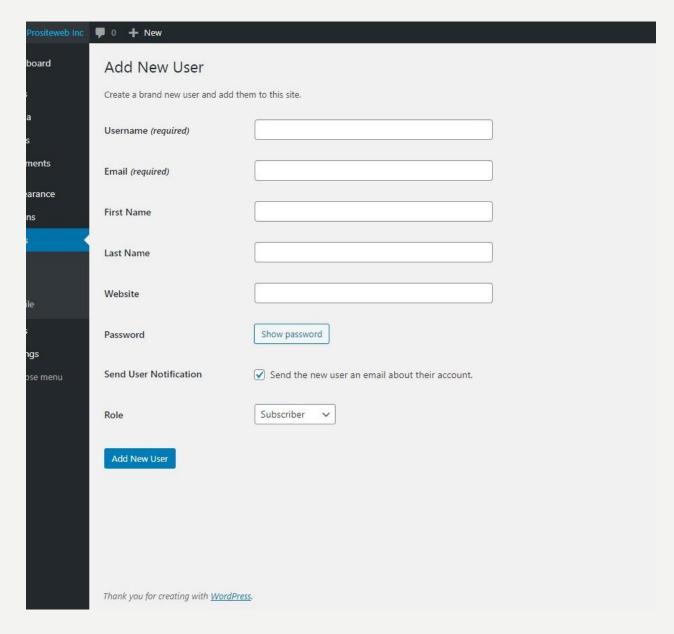
Password (twice, required): choose a strong password for your new user

Send Password: Do you want to send the password to your user?

Role: select a role for your new user

HOW TO ADD A NEW USER

"admin" or "administrator" as an account name. If created by default, create a new administrator user and delete the original one. The reason for this is that hackers who want to hack your blog will first try to break in with "admin" or "administrator".



HOW TO EXTEND THE BASIC USER MANAGEMENT?

The basic user management offered by WordPress is enough for many companies. However, if you need to extend the existing roles, or if you want to create new roles, then you could install the User Access Manager plugin.

MANAGE EXTENSIONS

MODULE 5



How to install an extension



How to activate an extension



Useful extensions



Update an extension



Security of extension and debugging

MANAGE EXTENSIONS

WHAT'S A PLUGIN?

Plugins are small "programs" that give you the possibility to extend the functionalities of a basic WordPress installation.



Through your WordPress Dashboard - Free plugins



Online on WordPress.org

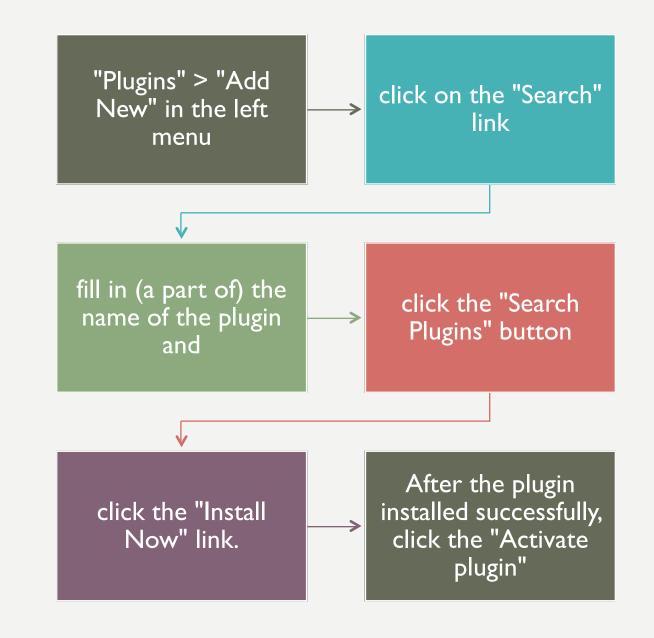


Online on Script and plugins Market. E.g. Codecanyon.

WHERE TO FIND A PLUGIN?

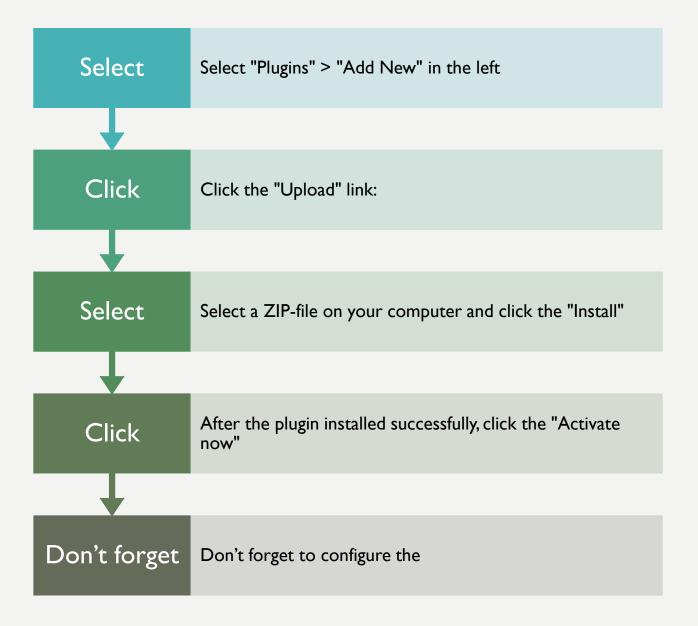
HOW TO INSTALL A PLUGIN?

You can install most of the plugins through the WordPress Dashboard:



UPLOAD AND INSTALL A PLUGIN THROUGH THE BACK END

Some plugins can only be downloaded to your computer from the author's website. In most cases, these are commercial plugins. Luckily WordPress has a built-in function to upload and install downloaded plugins.



Some plugins don't need extra configuration whereas, for some others you need to follow the developers guide to do the configuration. In order to complete the configuration, check for the documentation for more details. To find the documentation, follow these steps:

HOW TO CONFIGURE A PLUGIN?

If you got the plugin from the developer website

Visit his/her website for instructions.

If you got the plugins from WordPress Dashboard

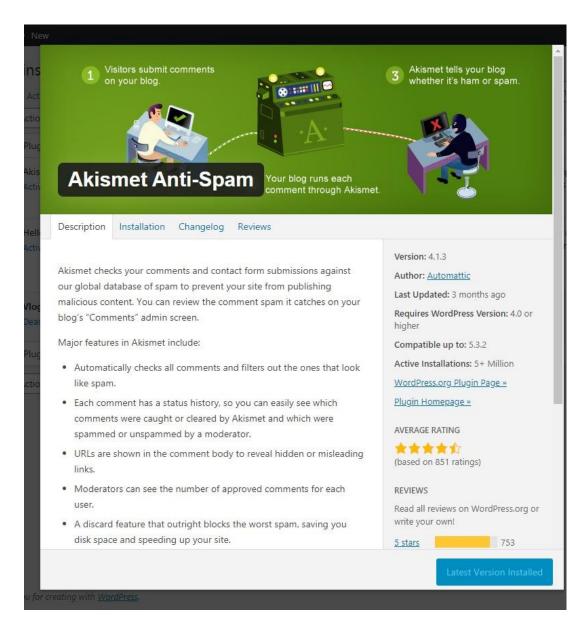
Click on the plugin the you installed

Locate view details at the bottom of the plugin

You can read all the information about the code.

HOW TO CONFIGURE A PLUGIN?

EXAMPLE OF DESCRIPTION, INSTALLATION STEPS OF AKISMET ANTI-SPAM



IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THE USE OF PLUGINS

All the plugins are not necessarily good for your site;

- Some plugins may affect the performance of your website
- Others will affect your website security
- There are plugins that will even affect the responsiveness of your site



HOW TO VALIDATE THE QUALITY OF A PLUGIN?



Read online reviews



If possible, check if it is approved by the community



Temporarily Enable the debug in the dev environment



Avoid plugins from untrusted sites



contact form 7 – add form on your site easily



Yoast SEO- helps you to increase your organic reach



fast velocity minify – compress, minify and merge your CSS and JS files



Smush – optimize your images for a better website performance



better wp security - helps you to secure your website



Akismet – helps to secure your site against spams

SOME RECOMMENDED PLUGINS

CUSTOMIZATION OF WORDPRESS TEMPLATE MODULE 6







CUSTOMIZE WORDPRESS TEMPLATE

ACCESS WORDPRESS THEMES FILES

EDIT WORDPRESS TEMPLATE FILE

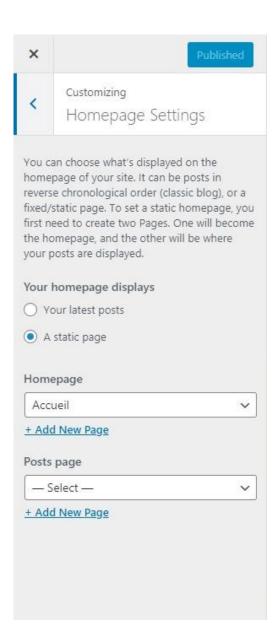




CREATE A CUSTOM WORDPRESS TEMPLATE FILE

A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO WORDPRESS SHORT CODE

CUSTOMIZATION OF WORDPRESS TEMPLATE



YOU CAN EITHER USE WORDPRESS AS A BLOG OR STATIC PAGE

CUSTOMIZATION OF WORDPRESS TEMPLATE

SETTING UP A PAGE AS THE FRONT PAGE

First, create a page you want to use as your front page

Open the "Reading Settings" screen (select "Settings" > "Reading" in the left menu)

Under "Front page displays" you choose "A static page", and then you select a page as the front page and another page as posts page:

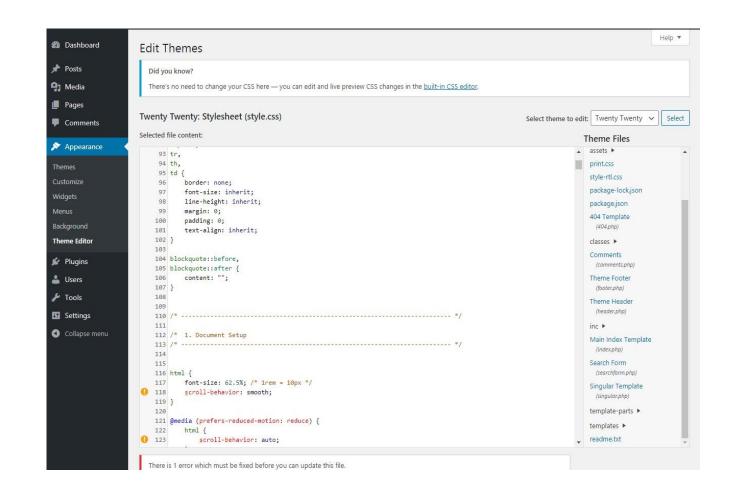
Click the "Save Changes"

Alternatively

- Go on Appearance -> Customize -> Home Settings
- And click on the the radios "A static Page"

ACCESS WORDPRESS THEMES FILES

CUSTOMIZATION OF WORDPRESS
TEMPLATE



ACCESS WORDPRESS THEMES FILES

With The Administrator
Privileges, You Can Access
The Theme Files From

Appearance-> Theme Editor

you can as well edit and save any file of your theme.

appearance-> theme
editor
search for the file you
wish to edit - > do
your changes -> click
on "update file"

ACCESS WORDPRESS THEMES FILES

Transactional web applications development



CREATE A CUSTOM WORDPRESS TEMPLATE FILE

It might happen that you want to create a custom design for a specific page of your site. In order to avoid overwriting your existing design or create unwanted error, creating a custom wordpress template file might be an option. Below are the steps to achieve that.

- Locate your main WordPress installation folder(on the server or localhost)
- Navigate to wp-content/themes/YourThemes (or the child theme)
- Create a php file. You can give any name. e.g. myportfolio.php
- Open the page.php file and code all the code from that file.
- Paste the content to your new file (e.g. myportfolio.php)
- Finally give a name to your template by writing Template Name : Name to your template at the third line.

CODE EXAMPLE FOR MYPORTFOLIO.PHP

```
<?php
* Template Name : My portfolio Example.
* @package WordPress * @subpackage Twenty_Twenty * @since 1.0.0
*/
get_header();
?>
Your content here
<?php
get_footer();
?>
```

A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO WORDPRESS SHORT CODE

A Short code in WordPress is an easy way to abstract backend development and enable front-end developers or community managers to easily use some features. You will find short code with many plugins. WordPress Short code is written in this format:

- [short code parameters] Where the short code parameters represents information provided by the plugins developers.
- You can add the short code in any page/post in the format [short code parameters] to display the content on the site or
- Use the Wordpress function do_shortcode([short code parameters]
) in your template file to display plugins information.

ADVANCED WORDPRESS FEATURES MODULE 7



Widget



WordPress Updates



Import/Export content



Debugging

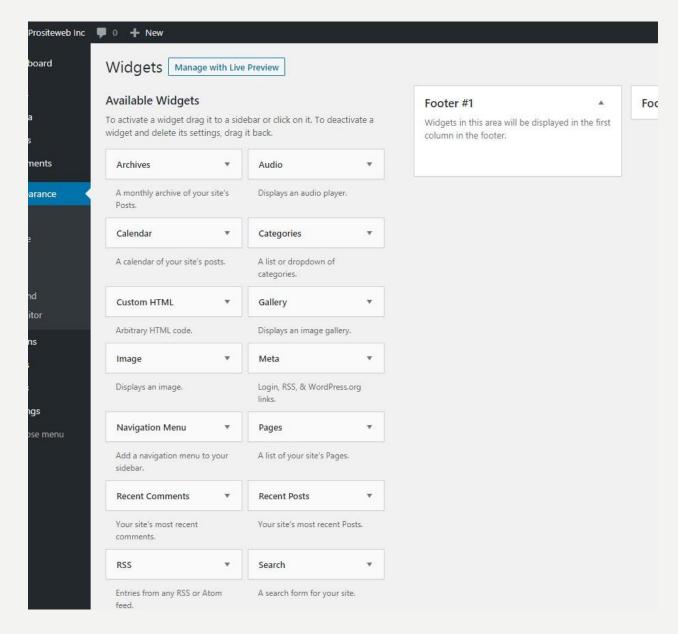


Handling WordPress security: in-built features

ADVANCED WORDPRESS FEATURES

WORDPRESS WIDGETS

Widgets are small applications/extensions you can place in a space provided on your blog or website. This is usually a column left or right on the page (where also the menu is located) or a space at the bottom of the blog or website. The number of spaces to place widgets is limited and depends on the used theme.



EXAMPLES ON HOW TO USE WIDGETS

There are widgets to:

- Show categories or tags on all the pages or posts
- Add custom text in a specific location
- Display your latest tweets from Twitter
- Show adverts on a page. And so on.

How to activate a widget?

- Select "Appearance" > "Widgets" in the left menu
- Drag a widget from the central screen to a widget space right:

WORDPRESS UPDATES

To update a WordPress core website,

- Go to Dashboard -> Updates
- Check if there is a new version of WordPress
- Click on Update. And after few minutes your WordPress will be updated to a new version

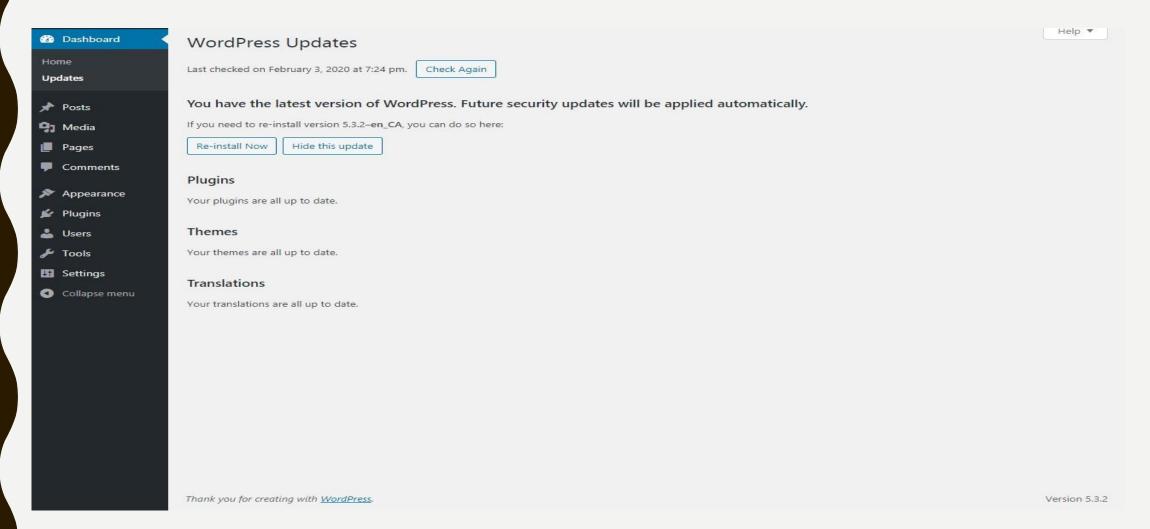
To Update WordPress Theme

- Go to Appearance -> Theme (if your theme is from the search, you can click on the update button to update at the bottom of your theme)
- If you bought the theme from scripts market, you will need to overwrite the main template.

To update plugin:

- Go on Plugins ->Installed Plugins,
- Select the plugin you will like to update
- Click on Update

WORDPRESS UPDATES



IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THEME UPDATES

If you are constantly changes your themes code, it is recommended to create the child theme. So that whenever you update your theme, you will not lose your changes. Moreover, in case you face an issue on your site, it will be easier to revert back to the initial setting.



IMPORT/EXPORT CONTENT

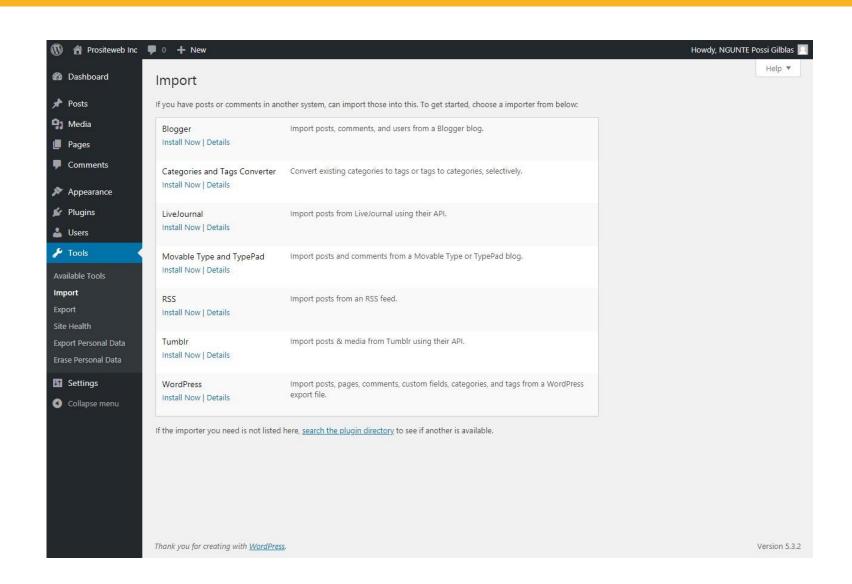
WordPress offers a basic tool that can enable you to import or export your content. For more advanced feature, you can install a plugin. To use the WordPress Import or Expert feature,

To export

- Go to Tools -> Export
- Select an option (All content, Posts, pages ...)
- And then Download Export File

To import

- Click Tools -> Import and
- Select a plugin (Blogger, Categories and Tags ...)
- Install and do the import

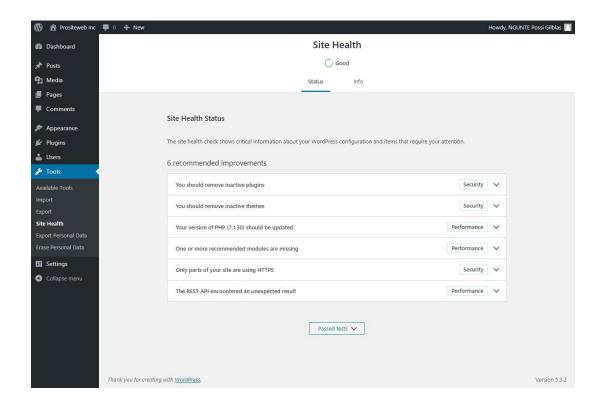


WORDPRESS DEBUGGING

To fix buggies on your WordPress site, you have some built-in tool such as:

- Site Health (Tools -> Site Health) and
- WP_DEBUG constant in the file (wpconfig.php) – Use only in dev environment

For more advanced features, a plugin can help.



HANDLING WORDPRESS SECURITY: IN-BUILT FEATURES

To handle security, WordPress now offers to:

- Send automatic emails to inform administrator on critical issues on the site
- Use the site Health to fix some common vulnerabilities
- Generate a more complex password during registration or password reset
- Check if the emails in the account are still valid.



WORDPRESS SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS



CHOOSING A STRONG PASSWORD



CHANGING THE TABLE PREFIX. BY DEFAULT IT IS WP



PICKING THE RIGHT ADMINISTRATOR USERNAME



USE CAPTCHA TO PROTECT YOUR SITE AGAINST SPAMS



ADVANCED PLUGINS FEATURES CAN HELP TO FURTHER REINFORCE SECURITY

REFERENCES

- WordPress documentation;
 https://wordpress.org/support/
- WordPress for beginner Online Blog; https://www.wpbeginner.com/
- Hostinger https://www.hostinger.com/tutorials/wordpress/