

Deploying WordPress on Kubernetes with MySQL

This guide walks you through deploying a **WordPress** application with **MySQL** in a **Kubernetes cluster**. It includes **persistent storage** for the database and static content, ensuring data is not lost when containers restart. 🚀

Architecture

The deployment consists of:

- ✓ **MySQL** as the database (with Persistent Storage).
- ✓ **WordPress** as the frontend & backend (with Persistent Storage).
- ✓ **Persistent Volume Claims (PVCs)** for **database storage** and **static content**.
- ✓ **Secrets** for secure database credentials.
- ✓ **Kubernetes Services** for internal and external connectivity.

Steps to Deploy

1 Create a Namespace (Optional but Recommended)

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Namespace
metadata:
  name: wordpress-app
```

Apply the namespace:

```
kubectl apply -f namespace.yaml
```

2 Create a Secret for MySQL Credentials

Store MySQL credentials securely as a **Kubernetes Secret**.

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: mysql-secret
  namespace: wordpress-app
type: Opaque
data:
  mysql-root-password: U2VjdXJlUGFzc2EyMyE= # SecurePass123! (base64 encoded)
  mysql-database: ZGI= # db (base64 encoded)
```

```
mysql-username: YWRtaW4= # admin (base64 encoded)
mysql-password: U2VjdXJlUGFzczEyMyE= # SecurePass123! (base64 encoded)
```

 **Note:** Use `echo -n 'your-secret' | base64` to encode secrets.

Apply the Secret:

```
kubectl apply -f mysql-secret.yaml
```

3 Create Persistent Volume Claims (PVCs)

PVC for MySQL

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: PersistentVolumeClaim
metadata:
  name: mysql-pvc
  namespace: wordpress-app
spec:
  accessModes:
    - ReadWriteOnce
  resources:
    requests:
      storage: 2Gi
```

PVC for WordPress

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: PersistentVolumeClaim
metadata:
  name: wordpress-pvc
  namespace: wordpress-app
spec:
  accessModes:
    - ReadWriteOnce
  resources:
    requests:
      storage: 5Gi
```

Apply the PVCs:

```
kubectl apply -f mysql-pvc.yaml
kubectl apply -f wordpress-pvc.yaml
```

4 Deploy MySQL Database

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: mysql-deployment
  namespace: wordpress-app
spec:
  selector:
    matchLabels:
      app: mysql
  template:
    metadata:
      labels:
        app: mysql
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: mysql
          image: mysql:5.7
          env:
            - name: MYSQL_ROOT_PASSWORD
              valueFrom:
                secretKeyRef:
                  name: mysql-secret
                  key: mysql-root-password
            - name: MYSQL_DATABASE
              valueFrom:
                secretKeyRef:
                  name: mysql-secret
                  key: mysql-database
            - name: MYSQL_USER
              valueFrom:
                secretKeyRef:
                  name: mysql-secret
                  key: mysql-username
            - name: MYSQL_PASSWORD
              valueFrom:
                secretKeyRef:
                  name: mysql-secret
                  key: mysql-password
          ports:
            - containerPort: 3306
          volumeMounts:
            - name: mysql-storage
              mountPath: /var/lib/mysql
      volumes:
        - name: mysql-storage
          persistentVolumeClaim:
            claimName: mysql-pvc
```

Apply the MySQL Deployment:

```
kubectl apply -f mysql-deployment.yaml
```

MySQL Service (ClusterIP)

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Service
metadata:
  name: mysql-service
  namespace: wordpress-app
spec:
  selector:
    app: mysql
  ports:
    - port: 3306
      targetPort: 3306
```

Apply the MySQL Service:

```
kubectl apply -f mysql-service.yaml
```

5 Deploy WordPress

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: wordpress-deployment
  namespace: wordpress-app
spec:
  selector:
    matchLabels:
      app: wordpress
  template:
    metadata:
      labels:
        app: wordpress
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: wordpress
          image: wordpress:latest
          ports:
            - containerPort: 80
          env:
```

```
- name: WORDPRESS_DB_HOST
  value: mysql-service
- name: WORDPRESS_DB_USER
  valueFrom:
    secretKeyRef:
      name: mysql-secret
      key: mysql-username
- name: WORDPRESS_DB_PASSWORD
  valueFrom:
    secretKeyRef:
      name: mysql-secret
      key: mysql-password
- name: WORDPRESS_DB_NAME
  valueFrom:
    secretKeyRef:
      name: mysql-secret
      key: mysql-database
volumeMounts:
- name: wordpress-storage
  mountPath: /var/www/html
volumes:
- name: wordpress-storage
  persistentVolumeClaim:
    claimName: wordpress-pvc
```

Apply the WordPress Deployment:

```
kubectl apply -f wordpress-deployment.yaml
```

WordPress Service (NodePort)

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Service
metadata:
  name: wordpress-service
  namespace: wordpress-app
spec:
  type: NodePort
  selector:
    app: wordpress
  ports:
    - port: 80
      targetPort: 80
```

Apply the WordPress Service:

```
kubectl apply -f wordpress-service.yaml
```

Verify Deployment & Data Persistence

☒ Check Running Pods

```
kubectl get pods -n wordpress-app
```

```
abdelhamed@DESKTOP-RT16ELH:~/App$ kubectl get pods -n wordpress-app
NAME                                READY   STATUS    RESTARTS   AGE
mysql-deployment-685886c894-xl922   1/1     Running   0           61m
wordpress-deployment-6b7c585dbc-sgshg 1/1     Running   0           61m
```


☒ Access WordPress Locally

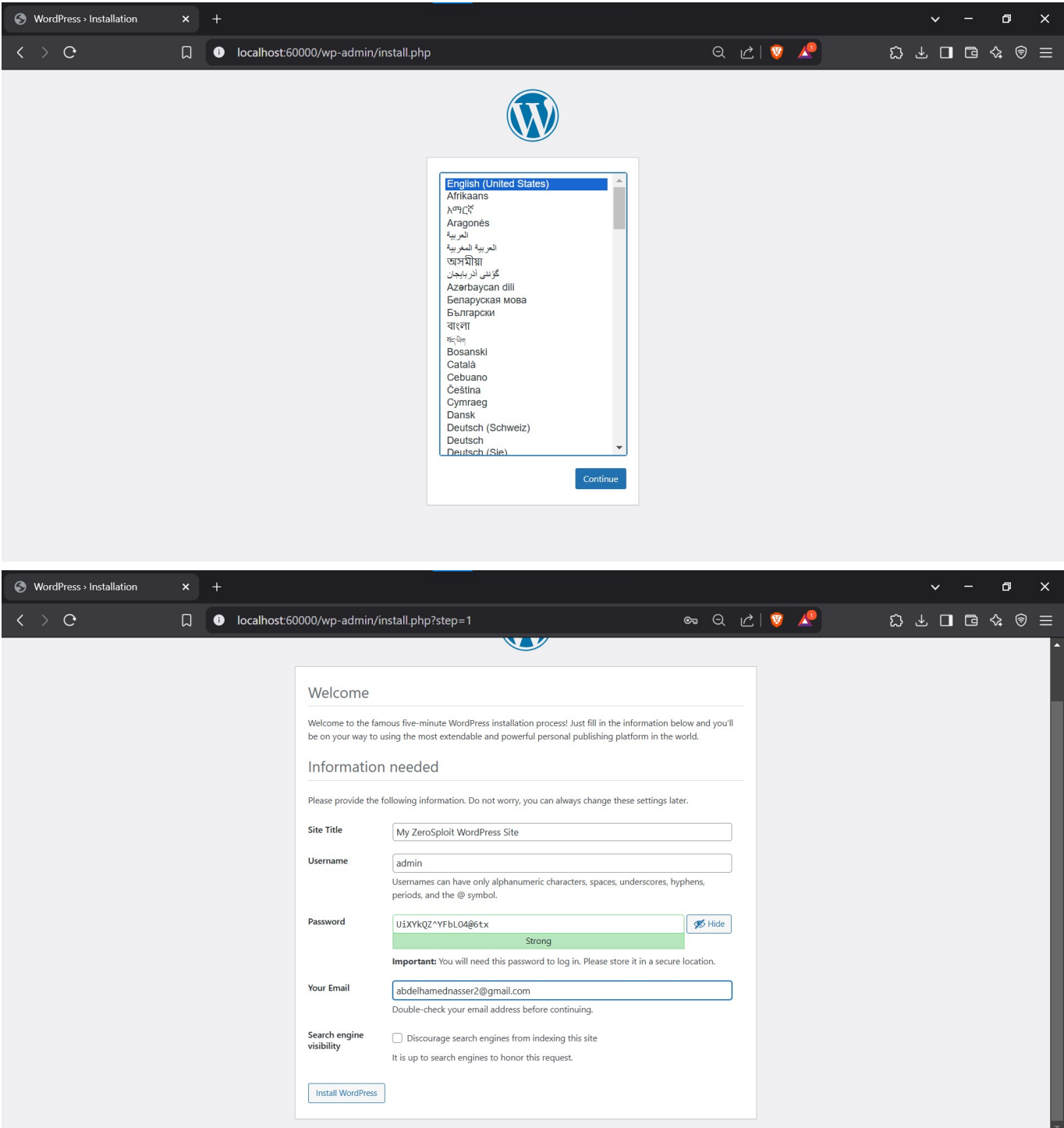
Forward the port to your local machine:

```
kubectl port-forward -n wordpress-app svc/wordpress-service 60000:80
```

```
abdelhamed@DESKTOP-RT16ELH:~/App$ kubectl port-forward -n wordpress-app svc/wordpress-service 60000:80
Forwarding from 127.0.0.1:60000 -> 80
Forwarding from [::1]:60000 -> 80
Handling connection for 60000
```

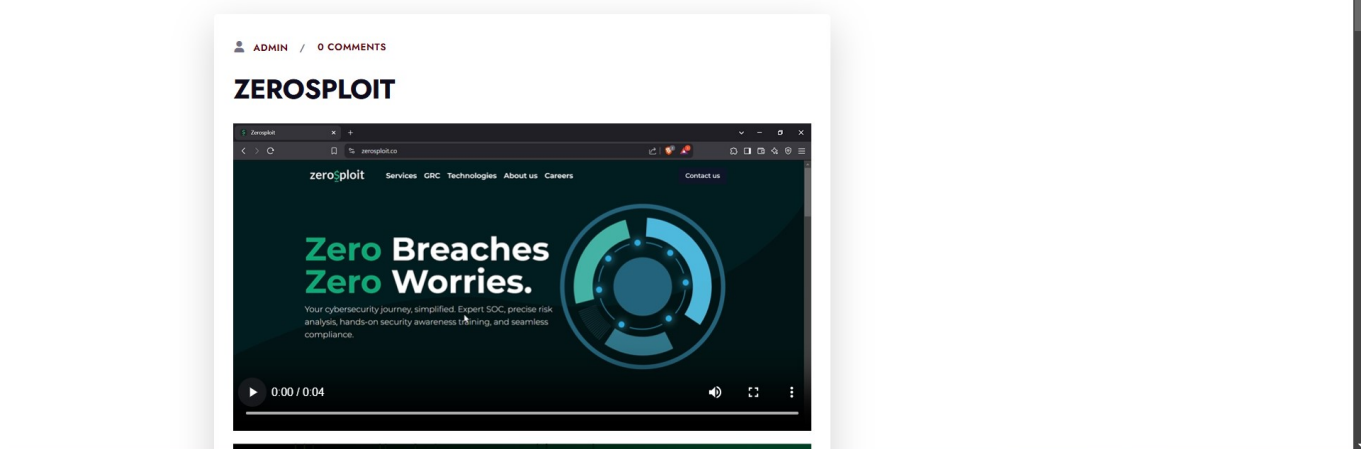
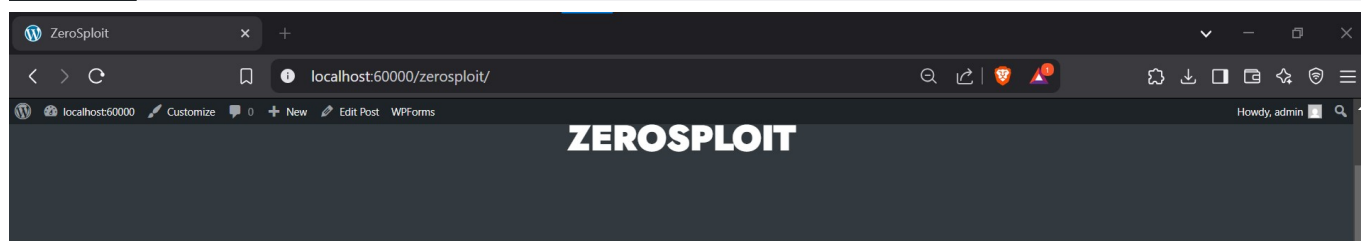
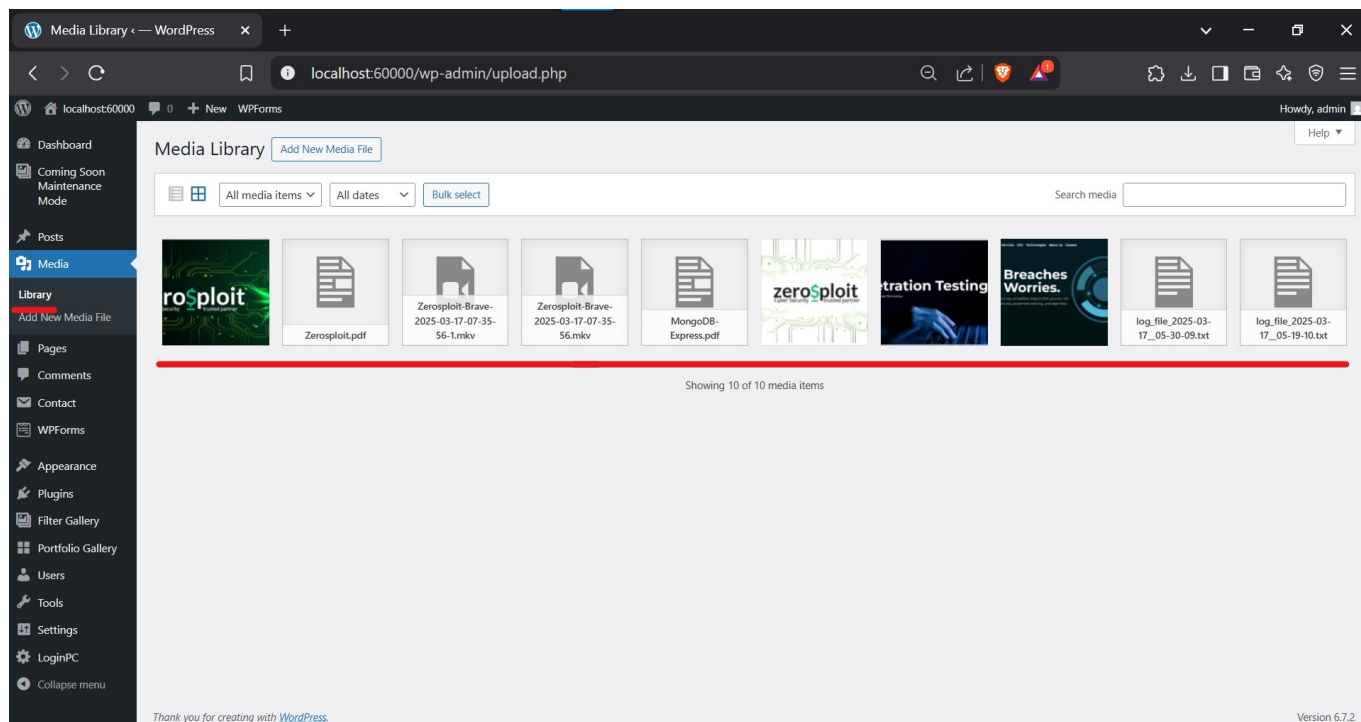
Then open:

 **http://localhost:60000** in your browser to access WordPress.



✓ Test Data Persistence

1 Upload images, videos and docs & create posts in WordPress.



2 Delete the WordPress pod:

```
kubectl delete pod -n wordpress-app -l app=wordpress  
kubectl delete pod -n wordpress-app -l app=mysql
```



```

abdelhamed@DESKTOP-RT16ELH: ~/App
abdelhamed@DESKTOP-RT16ELH:~/App$ kubectl get pvc -n wordpress-app
NAME          STATUS    VOLUME                                     CAPACITY   ACCESS MODES   STORAGECLASS   VOLUMEATTRI
mysql-pvc     Bound    pvc-9704e68e-1d1e-427c-9dcc-483cfaa15679   2Gi        RWO            standard      <unset>
wordpress-pvc Bound    pvc-699e8bfe-5525-4b0e-b599-edcb972442ea   3Gi        RWO            standard      <unset>
abdelhamed@DESKTOP-RT16ELH:~/App$ kubectl get pods -n wordpress-app
NAME                                READY   STATUS    RESTARTS   AGE
mysql-deployment-685886c894-ss4gf   1/1     Running   0          3h21m
wordpress-deployment-6b7c585dbc-k2wcn 1/1     Running   0          3h21m
abdelhamed@DESKTOP-RT16ELH:~/App$ kubectl delete pod -n wordpress-app -l app=wordpress
delete pod -n wordpress-app -l app=mysqlpod "wordpress-deployment-6b7c585dbc-k2wcn" deleted
abdelhamed@DESKTOP-RT16ELH:~/App$ kubectl delete pod -n wordpress-app -l app=mysql
pod "mysql-deployment-685886c894-ss4gf" deleted
abdelhamed@DESKTOP-RT16ELH:~/App$ kubectl get pods -n wordpress-app
NAME                                READY   STATUS    RESTARTS   AGE
mysql-deployment-685886c894-xl922   1/1     Running   0          35s
wordpress-deployment-6b7c585dbc-sgshg 1/1     Running   0          43s
abdelhamed@DESKTOP-RT16ELH:~/App$

```

3 Verify that the data is still available after the pods restart.

open the localhost again and you will find all the data:

🔗 **<http://localhost:60000>**

✅ Test MySQL Connectivity and ensure that your WordPress application can communicate with the MySQL database

Run the following command to start a MySQL client pod and connect to the MySQL database:

```
kubectl run mysql-client --rm -it --image=mysql:5.7 --namespace=wordpress-app --
bash
```

Inside the MySQL client pod, run the following command to connect to the MySQL database:

```
mysql -h mysql-service -u root -p
```

When prompted for the password, enter the decoded value of mysql-root-password:

```
SecurePass123!
```

Once connected, you can run SQL commands to verify the connection. For example:

```
SHOW DATABASES;
```

```
abdelhamed@DESKTOP-RT16ELH:~/App$ kubectl run mysql-client --rm -it --image=mysql:5.7 --namespace=wordpress-app -- bash
If you don't see a command prompt, try pressing enter.
bash-4.2# mysql -h mysql-service -u admin -p
Enter password:
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 31
Server version: 5.7.44 MySQL Community Server (GPL)

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owners.

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql> SHOW DATABASES;
+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| db        |
+-----+
2 rows in set (0.01 sec)

mysql>
```



Success! You Have Deployed WordPress on Kubernetes



Your WordPress site is now live in Kubernetes with a persistent **MySQL database** and **stored media files** 🏆

