Getting Started with Wagtail: A Beginner's Installation Guide

Dennis O. · Follow

4 min read · Mar 9, 2023

What is wagtail?

Wagtail is an open-source content management system built on Django, It's focused on user experience, and offers precise control for designers and developers.

How to install Wagtail on Windows Operating System

This guide is recommended for new users using

- Windows 11

- Windows 10

- Windows 8.1 pro

- Windows 8.1

- Windows 8.1 Enterprise

- Windows 8.0.

Note: The guide was written based on the experience from Windows 8.1 operating system.
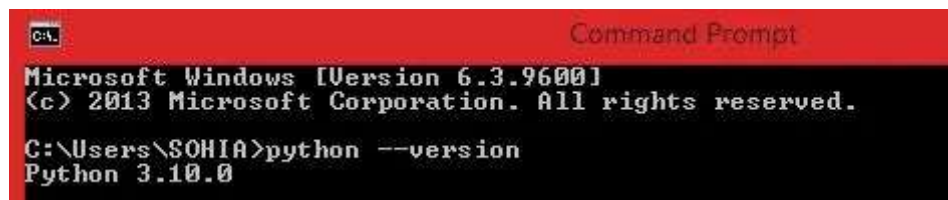
Let's get started!!

Mode of setup

- Virtual env(Required for this tutorial)

- Gitpod

- Vagrant

- Docker

Prerequisites

- Command prompt interface

- Python

- PiP

- Pillow package

- Wagtail and its dependencies.

1. **Install Python, <u>Recommended(Python 3.10. 8)</u>** (I installed python 3.10.0 on my PC).

After the installation verify that python has been successfully installed by typing the following in your **command prompt** `python --version` OR `python -V`

N/B — If it generates an error, quickly add python path to the Environment Variables.

2. **Install Pip** (pip is automatically installed if you're using Python downloaded from its official Website But try to check the version before proceeding by using this command in your **command prompt** `pip -V`)
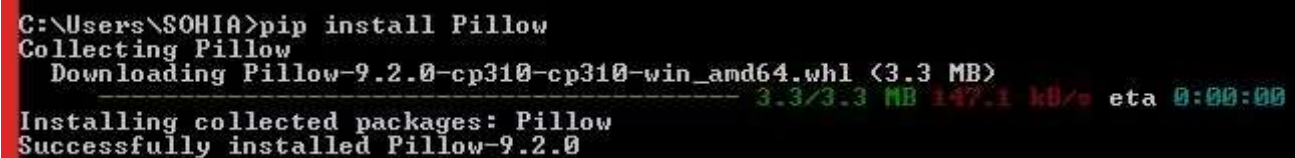
If it generates an error, visit the official website (pip installation) and follow the instructions there.

3. Install Pillow package

Still, on your command prompt window type `pip install Pillow`

If you already have Pillow installed and you want to upgrade it use this

```
pip install --upgrade Pillow
```


4. Create and activate a virtual environment

For this tutorial, we will be using `venv` because it's used for creating lightweight virtual environments.

Creating the environment is done by executing the following command on the cmd.exe `python -m venv outreachywag\env`

I chose the name "outreachywag" you can as well use a different name for your virtual environment.

Followed by this command to activate the virtual environment

```
C:\Users\YOUR PC NAME\outreachywag\env\Scripts\activate.bat
```

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After that, you'll have to open a new command window before proceeding to the next step.

5. Install Wagtail

Install wagtail using the pip command `pip install wagtail`

To effectively create a folder and site with wagtail dependencies use the following commands=> `wagtail start outreachywag outreachywag`

> N/B: Use the name you created earlier in step 4.

6. Install project dependencies

The project dependencies can be installed using the following commands

```
cd outreachywag
```

```
pip install -r requirements.txt
```

Wait till it installs.

7. Create a Database

```
python manage.py migrate
```


8. Create an Admin user

```
python manage.py createsuperuser
```
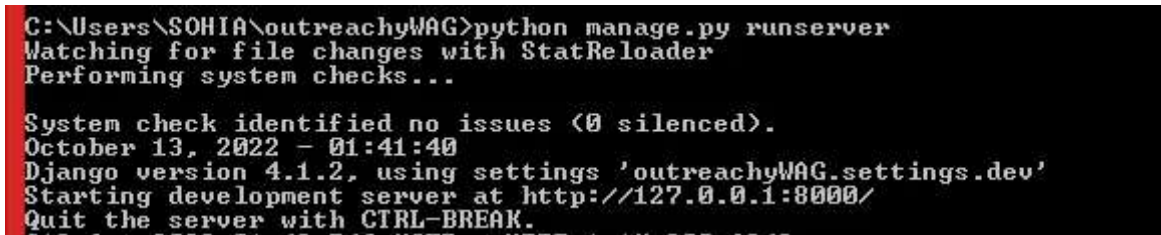
After executing the command, you will be required to put your login credentials such as Username, Email and password.

While typing the password, it will remain unseen by the user but keep typing and use a short and secure phrase for the password.

9. Start the server

To start up the server, run the command below to get started

```
python manage.py runserver
```


If it runs successfully, Open your browser and enter the following address, http://127.0.0.1:8000

If the connection was successful it will show a welcome page as shown below.

10. Additionally, navigate to http://127.0.0.1:8000/admin to access the administrator area.

You will be asked for a username and password that you created in **step 9.**
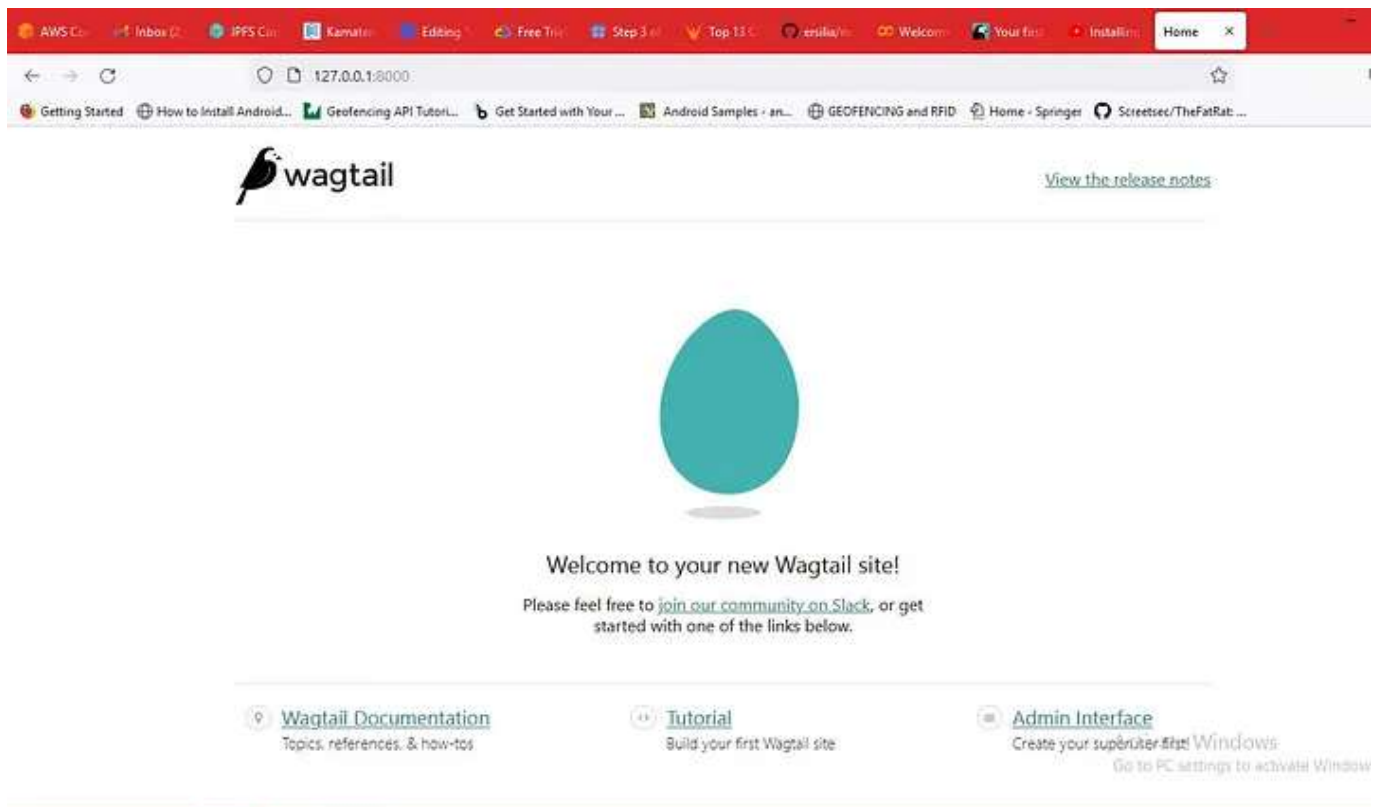
11. You've successfully installed wagtail and its dependencies!!.

Conclusion

This tutorial walked you through installing the open-source Wagtail CMS into your windows operating system. To learn more about installation into other operating systems, customising wagtail and wagtail APIs, visit https://docs.wagtail.org/en/stable/

Sources

- Wagtail

- [Caktus](#)

- [Django CMS](#)

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