

# 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

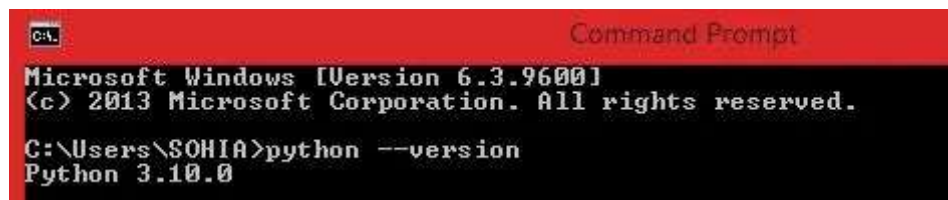
- Virtual env(Required for this tutorial)
- Gitpod
- Vagrant
- Docker

### Prerequisites

- Command prompt interface
- Python
- PiP
- Pillow package
- Wagtail and its dependencies.

1. Install Python, Recommended(Python 3.10.8) (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`



```
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.3.9600]
(c) 2013 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\SOHIA>python --version
Python 3.10.0
```

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` )



```
Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.3.9600]
(c) 2013 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\SOHIA>pip -U
pip 22.2.2 from C:\Users\SOHIA\AppData\Local\Programs\Python\Python310\lib\site-
packages\pip (python 3.10)

C:\Users\SOHIA>
```

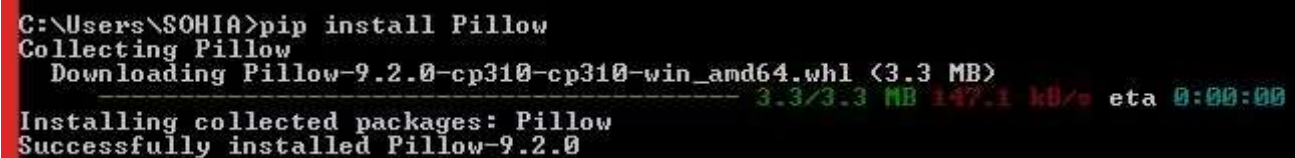
If it generates an error, visit the official website ([pip installation](#)), and follow the instructions there.

### 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
```



```
C:\Users\SOHIA>pip install Pillow
Collecting Pillow
  Downloading Pillow-9.2.0-cp310-cp310-win_amd64.whl (3.3 MB)
    3.3/3.3 MB 147.1 kB/s eta 0:00:00
Installing collected packages: Pillow
Successfully installed Pillow-9.2.0
```

### 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

```
C:\Users\SOHIA\outreachyWAG>python manage.py migrate
Operations to perform:
  Apply all migrations: admin, auth, contenttypes, home, sessions, taggit, wagtailadmin, wagtailcore, wagtaildocs, wagtailembeds, wagtailforms, wagtailimages, wagtailredirects, wagtailsearch, wagtailusers
Running migrations:
  Applying contenttypes.0001_initial... OK
  Applying auth.0001_initial... OK
  Applying admin.0001_initial... OK
  Applying admin.0002_logentry_remove_auto_add... OK
  Applying admin.0003_logentry_add_action_flag_choices... OK
  Applying contenttypes.0002_remove_content_type_name... OK
  Applying auth.0002_alter_permission_name_max_length... OK
  Applying auth.0003_alter_user_email_max_length... OK
  Applying auth.0004_alter_user_username_opts... OK
  Applying auth.0005_alter_user_last_login_null... OK
  Applying auth.0006_require_contenttypes_0002... OK
  Applying auth.0007_alter_validators_add_error_messages... OK
  Applying auth.0008_alter_user_username_max_length... OK
  Applying auth.0009_alter_user_last_name_max_length... OK
  Applying auth.0010_alter_group_name_max_length... OK
  Applying auth.0011_update_proxy_permissions... OK
  Applying auth.0012_alter_user_first_name_max_length... OK
  Applying wagtailcore.0001_squashed_0016_change_page_url_path_to_text_field...
```

## 8. Create an Admin user

python manage.py createsuperuser

```
C:\Users\SOHIA\outreachyWAG>python manage.py createsuperuser
Username (leave blank to use 'sohia'): dennis
Email address: 'dennis@gmail.com'
Password:
Password (again):
Error: Your passwords didn't match.
Password:
Password (again):
Error: Blank passwords aren't allowed.
Password:
Password (again):
This password is too common.
This password is entirely numeric.
Bypass password validation and create user anyway? [y/N]: N
Password:
Password (again):
Superuser created successfully.
```

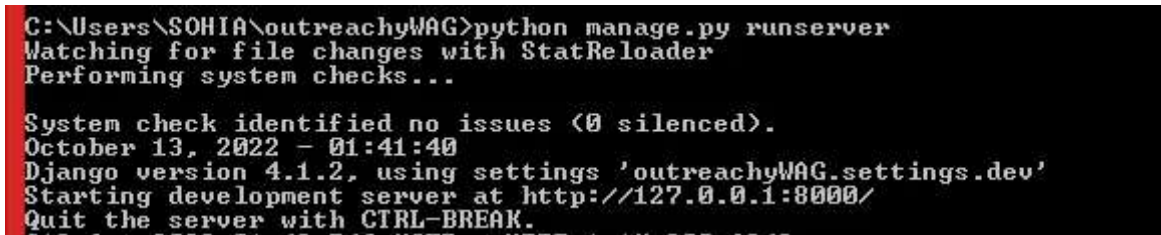
After executing the command, you will be required to put your login credentials such as Username, Email and password.

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
```



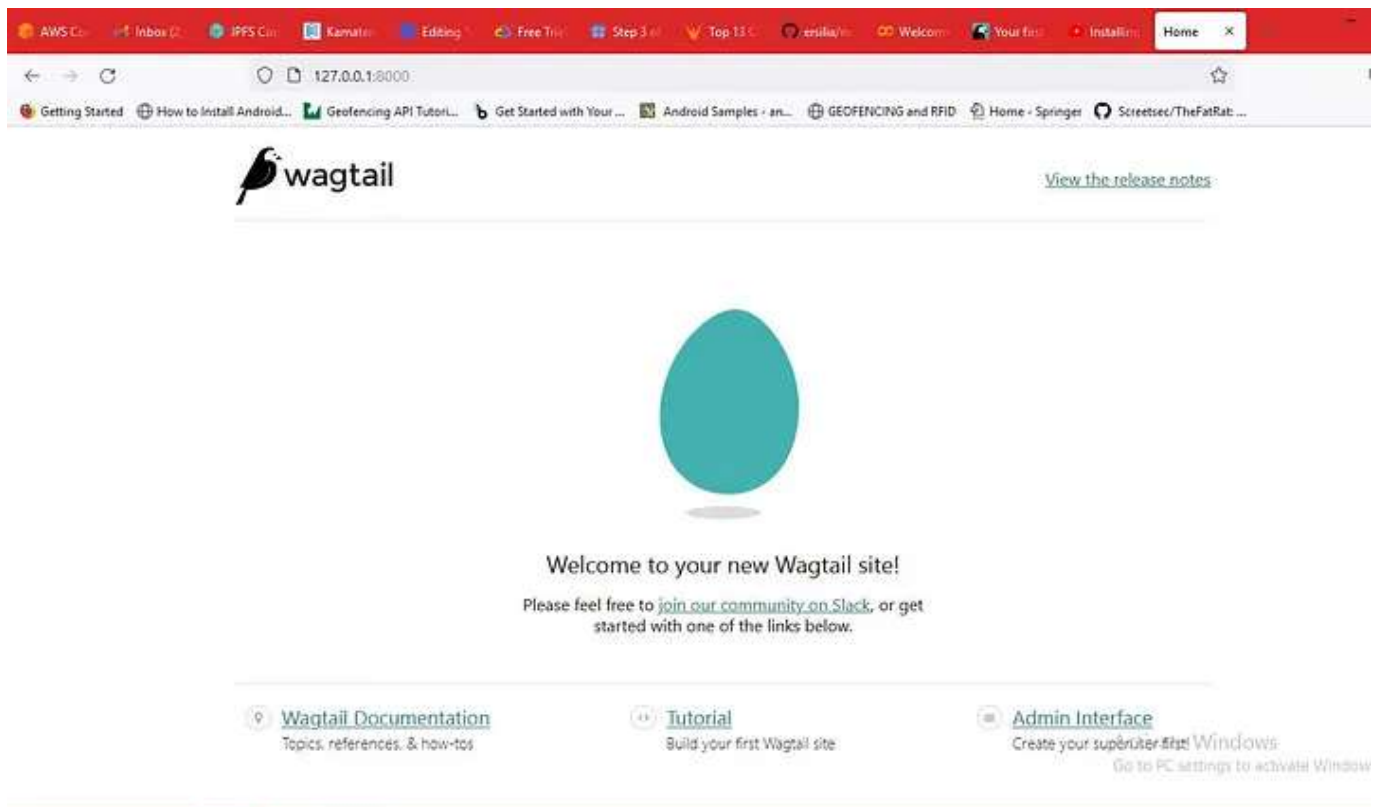
```
C:\Users\SOHIA\outreachyWAG>python manage.py runserver
Watching for file changes with StatReloader
Performing system checks...

System check identified no issues (0 silenced).
October 13, 2022 - 01:41:40
Django version 4.1.2, using settings 'outreachyWAG.settings.dev'
Starting development server at http://127.0.0.1:8000/
Quit the server with CTRL-BREAK.
```

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

CMS

Wagtail

Web Development

Technical Writing

Documentation



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