Ubuntu (WebServer) Setup – Nginx, PHP 8.2, MariaDB 10.6 and WordPress

1. Install Nginx

sudo apt update && sudo apt install nginx -y

Verify installation:

nginx -v

```
user1@ubuntuweb: ~
Setting up libnginx-mod-mail (1.18.0-6ubuntu14.6) ..
Setting up libnginx-mod-http-ìmage-filter (1.18.0-6ubuntu14.6) ...
Setting up libnginx-mod-stream (1.18.0-6ubuntu14.6) ...
Setting up libnginx-mod-stream-geoip2 (1.18.0-6ubuntu14.6) ...
Setting up nginx-core (1.18.0-6ubuntu14.6) ...
* Upgrading binary nginx

Setting up nginx (1.18.0-6ubuntu14.6) ...

Processing triggers for man-db (2.10.2-1) ...

Processing triggers for ufw (0.36.1-4ubuntu0.1) ...
                                                                                                [ OK ]
Scanning processes...
Scanning linux images...
Running kernel seems to be up-to-date.
No services need to be restarted.
No containers need to be restarted.
No user sessions are running outdated binaries.
No VM guests are running outdated hypervisor (qemu) binaries on this host.
user1@ubuntuweb:~$ nginx -v
nginx version: nginx/1.18.0 (Ubuntu)
 user1@ubuntuweb:~$
```

2. Install PHP

```
sudo apt install php8.2 php8.2-fpm php8.2-mysql php8.2-curl
php8.2-gd php8.2-mbstring php8.2-xml php8.2-zip -y
sudo systemctl enable php8.2-fpm
sudo systemctl start php8.2-fpm
```

If the above command doesn't work then the reason is this: Ubuntu doesn't have PHP 8.2 by default so if the PHP installation with the above command doesn't work then do the following.

```
sudo apt update & sudo apt upgrade -y
```

Add PHP Repository:

```
sudo add-apt-repository ppa:ondrej/php -y
sudo apt update
```

Install PHP 8.2 and required extensions:

```
sudo apt install php8.2 php8.2-fpm php8.2-mysql php8.2-curl
php8.2-gd php8.2-mbstring php8.2-xml php8.2-zip -y
sudo systemctl enable php8.2-fpm
sudo systemctl start php8.2-fpm
```

Verify Installation:

User1@ubuntuweb:~

Q = - - ×

Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/php8.2-fpm.service - /lib/systemd/system/php8.2-fpm.service.

Setting up php8.2 (8.2.28-1+ubuntu22.04.1+deb.sury.org+1) ...

Processing triggers for man-db (2.10.2-1) ...

Processing triggers for php8.2-cli (8.2.28-1+ubuntu22.04.1+deb.sury.org+1) ...

Processing triggers for php8.2-fpm (8.2.28-1+ubuntu22.04.1+deb.sury.org+1) ...

Scanning processes...

Scanning linux images...

Running kernel seems to be up-to-date.

No services need to be restarted.

No containers need to be restarted.

No user sessions are running outdated binaries.

No VM guests are running outdated hypervisor (qemu) binaries on this host.

user1@ubuntuweb:~\$ php -v

PHP 8.2.28 (cli) (built: Mar 13 2025 18:13:24) (NTS)

Copyright (c) The PHP Group

Zend Engine v4.2.28, Copyright (c) Zend Technologies

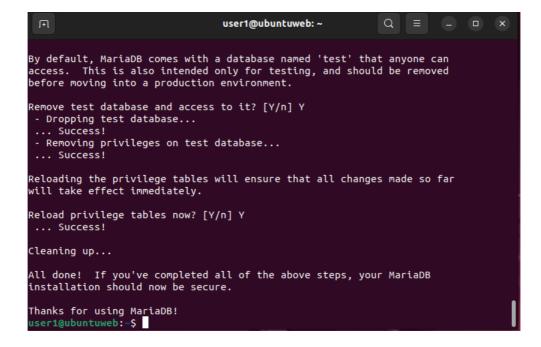
with Zend OPcache v8.2.28, Copyright (c), by Zend Technologies

user1@ubuntuweb:~\$

3. Install MariaDB:

sudo apt install mariadb-server mariadb-client -y
sudo mysql secure installation

- Set the root password (if prompted).
- Remove anonymous users.
- Disallow remote root login.
- Remove test databases.
- Reload privileges.



Verify installation:

mariadb -version

```
user1@ubuntuweb:/var/www/wordpress Q = - □ ×

user1@ubuntuweb:/var/www/wordpress$ mariadb --version
mariadb Ver 15.1 Distrib 10.6.18-MariaDB, for debian-linux-gnu (x86_64) using
EditLine wrapper
user1@ubuntuweb:/var/www/wordpress$

Help
```

4. Install WordPress & Configure Database

a) Download WordPress:

```
sudo mkdir -p /var/www/wordpress
cd /var/www/wordpress
sudo wget https://wordpress.org/latest.tar.gz
```

```
user1@ubuntuweb: /var/www/wordpress Q = - - x

user1@ubuntuweb:~$ sudo mkdir -p /var/www/wordpress
[sudo] password for user1:
user1@ubuntuweb:~$ cd /var/www/wordpress
user1@ubuntuweb:/var/www/wordpress$ sudo wget https://wordpress.org/latest.tar.gz
--2025-03-30 15:26:50-- https://wordpress.org/latest.tar.gz
Resolving wordpress.org (wordpress.org)... 198.143.164.252
Connecting to wordpress.org (wordpress.org)|198.143.164.252|:443... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: 26780969 (26M) [application/octet-stream]
Saving to: 'latest.tar.gz'
latest.tar.gz 100%[=============] 25.54M 8.57MB/s in 3.0s
2025-03-30 15:26:53 (8.57 MB/s) - 'latest.tar.gz' saved [26780969/26780969]
user1@ubuntuweb:/var/www/wordpress$
```

b) Extract WordPress tar gzip file:

sudo tar -xvzf latest.tar.gz --strip-components=1

```
user1@ubuntuweb: /var/www/wordpress Q \equiv -
user1@ubuntuweb:/var/www/wordpress$ sudo tar -xvzf latest.tar.gz --strip-compone
wordpress/index.php
wordpress/license.txt
wordpress/readme.html
wordpress/wp-activate.php
wordpress/wp-admin/
wordpress/wp-admin/about.php
wordpress/wp-admin/admin-ajax.php
wordpress/wp-admin/admin-footer.php
wordpress/wp-admin/admin-functions.php
wordpress/wp-admin/admin-header.php
wordpress/wp-admin/admin-post.php
wordpress/wp-admin/admin.php
wordpress/wp-admin/async-upload.php
wordpress/wp-admin/authorize-application.php
wordpress/wp-admin/comment.php
wordpress/wp-admin/contribute.php
wordpress/wp-admin/credits.php
wordpress/wp-admin/css/
wordpress/wp-admin/css/about-rtl.css
wordpress/wp-admin/css/about-rtl.min.css
wordpress/wp-admin/css/about.css
wordpress/wp-admin/css/about.min.css
```

c) Change Owner/User Permissions:

```
sudo chown -R www-data:www-data /var/www/wordpress
sudo chmod -R 755 /var/www/wordpress
```

5. Configure Nginx for WordPress

a) Create an nginx configuration file for wordpress:

sudo nano /etc/nginx/sites-available/wordpress

```
user1@ubuntuweb: /var/www/wordpress
GNU nano 6.2
                                                    /etc/nginx/sites-available/wordpress
         listen 80;
         root /var/www/wordpress;
index index.php index.html index.htm;
server_name 192.168.0.4;
        location / {
   try_files $uri $uri/ /index.php?$args;
        location ~ \.php$ {
   include snippets/fastcgi-php.conf;
   fastcgi_pass unix:/run/php/php8.2-fpm.sock;
   fastcgi_param SCRIPT_FILENAME $document_root$fastcgi_script_name;
   include fastcgi_params;
}
         location ~* \.(js|css|png|jpg|jpeg|gif|ico|svg|woff|woff2|ttf|otf|eot|mp4|webm|ogv|htc)$ {
    expires max;
    log_not_found off;
         location = /favicon.ico { log_not_found off; access_log off; }
location = /robots.txt { log_not_found off; access_log off; allow all; }
         error_page 404 /index.php;
         client_max_body_size 64M;
                                                              [ Read 29 lines ]
                                        ^₩ Where Is
                                                                                                                             M-U Undo
                      Write Out
                                                                                                        ^C Location M-U
^/ Go To Line M-E
 Help
                                                                 Cut
                                                                                    \T Execute
                       Read File
                                            Replace
 Exit
                                                                 Paste
                                                                                       Justify
                                                                                                                                    Redo
```

b) Create symbolic link to enable the site:

sudo ln -s /etc/nginx/sites-available/wordpress
/etc/nginx/sites-enabled/

c) Test Nginx Configuration:

```
sudo nginx -t
sudo systemctl restart nginx
```

```
user1@ubuntuweb: /var/www/wordpress Q = - □ x

user1@ubuntuweb: /var/www/wordpress$ sudo ln -s /etc/nginx/sites-available/wordpress /
etc/nginx/sites-enabled/
[sudo] password for user1:
user1@ubuntuweb:/var/www/wordpress$ sudo nginx -t
nginx: the configuration file /etc/nginx/nginx.conf syntax is ok
nginx: configuration file /etc/nginx/nginx.conf test is successful
user1@ubuntuweb:/var/www/wordpress$ sudo systemctl restart nginx
user1@ubuntuweb:/var/www/wordpress$
```

6. Configure WordPress Database

a) Login to MariaDB:

```
sudo mysql -u root -p
Enter password: [YOUR PASSWORD]
```

b) Create a Database for WordPress:

CREATE DATABASE wordpress;

Check database: SHOW DATABASES;

c) Provide Grant access for WordPress admin user:

```
GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON wordpress.* TO
'wordpressuser'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'your_password';
FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
EXIT;
```

Check the grant:

SHOW GRANTS FOR 'wordpressuser'@'localhost'; EXIT;

```
user1@ubuntuweb: /var/www/wordpress
5 rows in set (0.000 sec)
MariaDB [(none)]> GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON wordpress.* TO 'wordpressuser'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY '@Wes
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.004 sec)
MariaDB [(none)]> FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
Query OK, O rows affected (0.000 sec)
MariaDB [(none)]> SHOW DATABASES;
 information_schema
  mysql
 performance_schema
  SVS
 wordpress
5 rows in set (0.000 sec)
MariaDB [(none)]> SHOW GRANTS FOR 'wordpressuser'@'localhost';
| Grants for wordpressuser@localhost
 GRANT USAGE ON *.* TO `wordpressuser`@`localhost` IDENTIFIED BY PASSWORD '*AA3CEA76C35FDE8460489BC61F3
B6BF1FBF9C94C
  GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON `wordpress`.* TO `wordpressuser`@`localhost`
2 rows in set (0.000 sec)
MariaDB [(none)]>
```

7. Configure WordPress:

a) Rename and Edit WordPress Config File:

sudo cp wp-config-sample.php wp-config.php



```
sudo nano wp-config.php
define('DB_NAME', 'wordpress');
define('DB_USER', 'wordpressuser');
define('DB_PASSWORD', 'StrongPassword');
define('DB_HOST', 'localhost');
```

```
User1@ubuntuweb: /var/www/wordpress

GNU nano 6.2

GRNU nano 6.2

Wp-config.php

**

** The base configuration for WordPress

** The wp-config.php creation script uses this file during the installation.

** You don't have to use the website, you can copy this file to "wp-config.php"

** and fill in the values.

**

** Database settings

** Secret keys

** Database stable prefix

** ABSPATH

**

** @link https://developer.wordpress.org/advanced-administration/wordpress/wp-config/

**

** @package WordPress

*/

// ** Database settings - You can get this info from your web host ** //

define( 'DB_NAME', 'wordpress');

/** Database username */

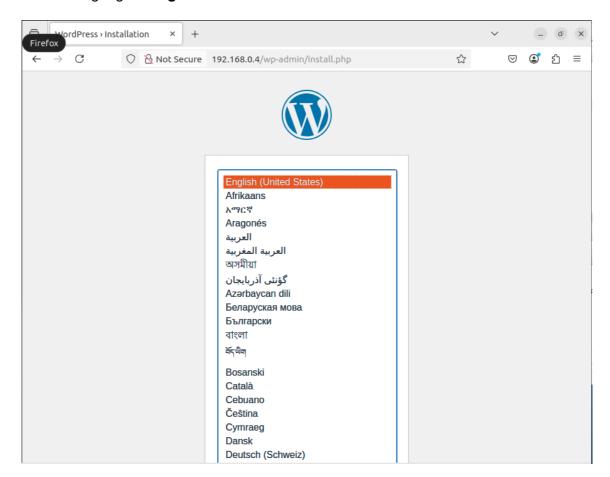
define( 'DB_DASSNORD', '@Wesome!');

/** Database password */

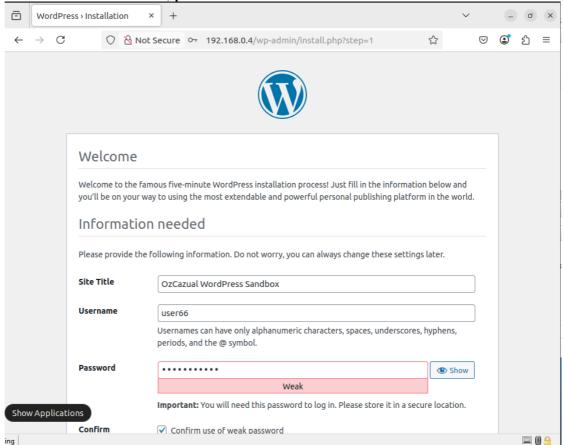
define( 'DB_PASSNORD', '@Wesome!');
```

b) Finalize WordPress Installation:

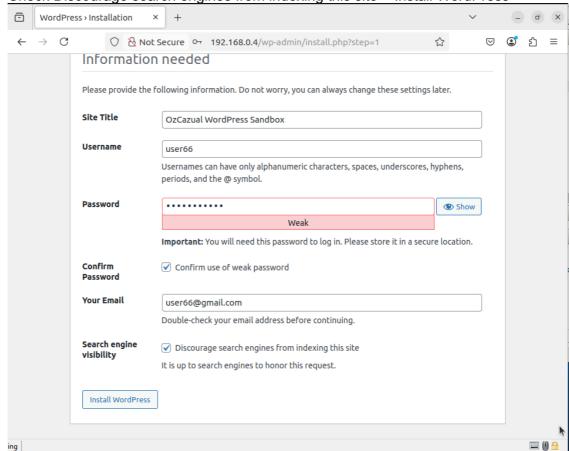
Open Firefox browser,
Go to http://[server_ip]/wp-admin/install.php
Select Language > English > Next



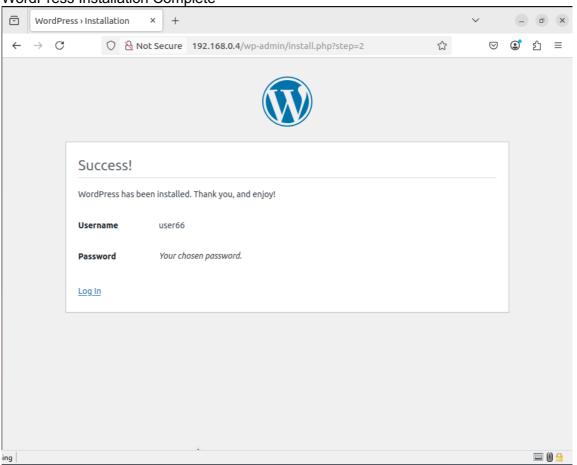
Create admin username, password and email



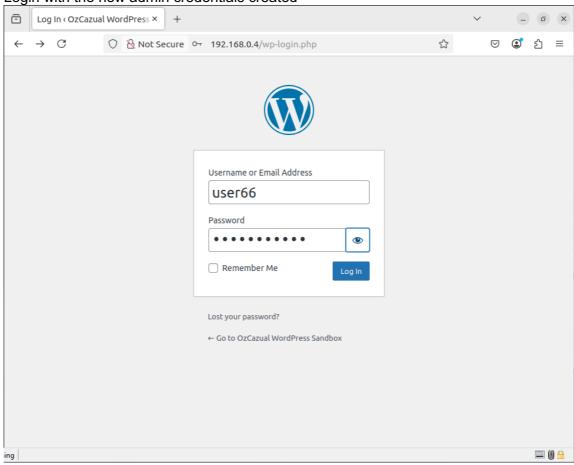
Check Discourage search engines from indexing this site > Install WordPress

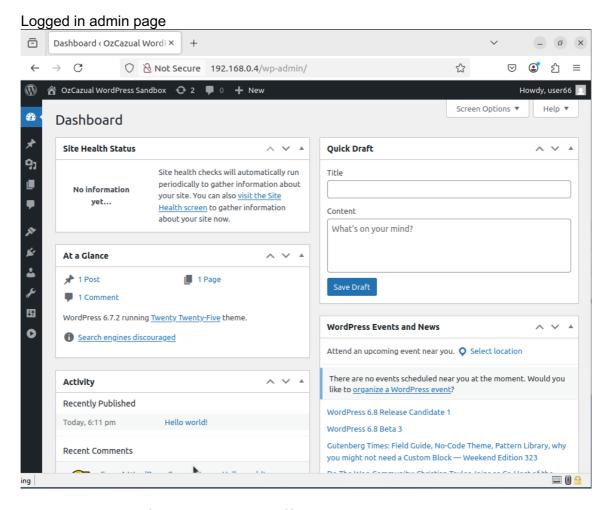


WordPress Installation Complete



Login with the new admin credentials created





If you changed your IP after connecting to pfSense, Say like this,

sudo nano /etc/netplan/50-cloud-init.yaml

```
user1@ubuntuweb: ~
GNU nano 6.2
                          /etc/netplan/50-cloud-init.yaml
    dhcp4: no
    addresses:
      - 192.168.1.20/24
      - to: 0.0.0.0/0
        via: 192.168.1.1
      addresses:
        - 192.168.1.1
        - 8.8.8.8
        - 8.8.4.4
version: 2
                              [ Read 16 lines ]
              Write Out ^W Where Is
Help
                                                       Execute
                                                                 ^C Location
```

sudo netplan try sudo netplan apply sudo reboot

Check:

ip a

Configure the nginx to change the server name:



sudo nginx -t sudo systemctl reload nginx

Check if you have wp-cli installed: wp --info

If not installed then install it:

curl -O https://raw.githubusercontent.com/wp-cli/builds/gh-pages/phar/wp-cli.phar chmod +x wp-cli.phar sudo mv wp-cli.phar /usr/local/bin/wp wp --info

Make changes in the wordpress tables using mariadb: sudo mysql -u root -p [password]

SHOW DATABASES;
USE wordpress;
SHOW TABLES;
UPDATE wp_options SET option_value = 'http://<new_IP>' WHERE option_name = 'siteurl';
UPDATE wp_options SET option_value = 'http://<new_IP>' WHERE option_name = 'home';
FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
EXIT;

If it still shows old_IP in any links of wordpress website, then search the database tables like this: sudo mysql -u root -p [password]

USE wordpress;

SELECT * FROM wp_options WHERE option_value LIKE '%<old_IP>%';

SELECT * FROM wp_posts WHERE post_content LIKE '%<old_IP>%';

SELECT * FROM wp_postmeta WHERE meta_value LIKE '%<old_IP>%';

SELECT * FROM wp_usermeta WHERE meta_value LIKE '%<old_IP>%';

SELECT * FROM wp_usermeta WHERE meta_value LIKE '%<old_IP>%';

EXIT;

After updating the wordpress database tables, if you still see your old_IP in any of the wordpress links in the website:

wp search-replace 'http://<old_IP>' 'http://<new_IP>' --all-tables