

## **Comparison between WordPress vs ordinary PHP for producing the product catalogue**

It is now common that many organizations and businesses undertake their activities, showcase their products and services using online platforms. However, the contending issue is whether to go for a PHP, WordPress or other website building options to create their website. The focus here is to compare WordPress and PHP and indeed these two are quite different from each other to an extent. It is worth to note here that each of the above application may be appropriate depending on the needs and required expertise.

**The paragraphs below give some comparison between the two:**

WordPress is an application used to publish content in the web or in short it is a content management system; it works as an interface between the publisher, a server and the visitor. WordPress can be used to create different types of contents including post, pages and media elements. PHP is also an application used to develop a website and serves just as a link between a database and a webpage.

**Experience Required:** PHP is a programming language that can be used to create a web page or a website. In order to operate a PHP application, one needs to understand and know how to do coding. From what I have learnt so far from this module, WordPress used on the Local by Fly Wheel does not require coding to develop a content which is not true for PHP with references drawn from assignment one and two of this module.

**Flexibility:** In terms of flexibility, WordPress seem to be more flexible, it requires little or no expertise at all to operate. Content within the WordPress can be easily managed, you can simply change, edit or add or delete from the back end. This is especially suitable for blogs or sites that require regular modification.

PHP on the other hand represents a bare bone foundation to create and develop a site. It requires expertise and a lot of work and for a learner like me I cannot classify it as flexible

**Security:** Security is key for any website operator which if taken lightly may lead to sensitive information leak. In terms of security, WordPress seem to be more secure than PHP

**Productivity and Update:** with WordPress, productivity is highly guaranteed as compared to PHP. WordPress sites do not need a HTML code which makes uploading images, posts blogs etc. easier and easily editable. Unlike WordPress, PHP requires code writing and thus uploading and editing requires technical knowledge and skills and this can consume a lot of time.

**Google Ranking:** WordPress as a content management system is a better choice than PHP because it has a search engine optimization which is more friendly and as such attracts a higher ranking than PHP.

**Plugins:** with WordPress, there are lots of plugins available for free to provide you with additional features, while with PHP site developers has to create plugins by themselves or ask for some assistance.

**Time:** Websites built using PHP (Beginning from scratch) takes time and can be expensive considering the fact that time is money. Using PHP means that the site can be customized according to the needs of the developer and in the process takes a lot of time to create as compared to a WordPress site. Any changes made to the site take time.

**Upgrades:** Both PHP and WordPress are upgraded with new versions introducing new features. However, the frequency of this upgrade is very high with WordPress as new features, bugs, plug ins etc. are regularly improved on .The current version of PHP is version 7.4 and the current version of WordPress is version 5.6. Kindly ignore the version numbers.

## **Conclusion**

WordPress which is a content management system and PHP framework are both open source applications that can be used to create or develop a website. WordPress is built on PHP and MySQL database system and thus WordPress is powered by PHP. Content Management System can ideally be used by non-coders who have no previous background on coding but are able to manage a website. PHP requires coding skills and experience to operate properly. To sum it all, PHP is a programming language, WordPress as a CMS uses the PHP as its programing language at the backend to use on its platform.

Both PHP and WordPress can run locally on your computers without actually using the net. Both applications use MSQL, Mamp, Wamp server, Vamp server etc. depending on your computer.