**Setting up an E-Commerce Site**

Starting an e-commerce website has a multitude of issues that must be examined when we are choosing to launch a website for our own business or as an employee. What is the technical level of the person who will be managing the website? What platform should you use? Will you have to pay fees? Are you choosing open source options, a plugins that are purchased, or paying for the development of the website.

For this lab we are using Wordpress and the extension Woocommerce. You are welcome to use your chosen CMS and ecommerce tool you have chosen. We will be installing applicable plugins to help round out the website, but if we were developing a new website there are several answers that would still need to be examined before we chose the CMS, and other tools for the website.

This lab can be conducted on a virtual machine if you would like to complete this assignment separately from your project. This lab will be restricted to free or open-source components.

**Download and install Wordpress.**

<https://wordpress.org/>

**Install Plugins:**

Choose a theme for the website. Identify and install plugins for SEO, Social Media integration, and a firewall.

Choose and add a minimum of 2 security plugins.

<https://wordpress.org/plugins/tags/security/>

**Install WooCommerce**

Now that your website is setup. Download WooCommerce and install it. Finally, you need to go through the configuration process of your e-commerce store (the store details, payment gateway integrations, products, and etc.) We will choose only free extensions for this lab.

Woocommerce - <https://woocommerce.com/> you can also find it on the Wordpress website <https://wordpress.org/plugins/woocommerce/>

**Review database security settings**

Review the settings for the databases installed on your webserver. What users exist that can access the database? What concerns do you have about the database?

I currently only have one database user that can access the database. This user does have administrative privileges and is the only user which concerns me somewhat. Best practice in this case might be to create duty specific accounts with only certain privileges.

**Review Hardening Wordpress**

<https://wordpress.org/support/article/hardening-wordpress/>

You can utilize the internet to identify tasks for hardening your Wordpress installation. Find and complete at least 4 tasks to improve the security of your installation.

Backups

Plugins updated

Firewall

Malware scanner

**Submit the following:**

Answer the following questions and submit them in a document to canvas by the due date.

1. Summarize what you did for this lab.

I used the website I am working on for my final project to do this lab. I already had AIOS (All in one SEO) installed, so I didn’t have to install an SEO plugin, but I did install social media integration to allow users to share pages/posts/etc, a firewall (BBQ), a malware scanner(Sucuri), and a login attempt limiter(Limit Login Attempts).

2. What plugins did you choose to install? What does each plugin do?

- BBQ Firewall: This plugin is a simple firewall that adds basic protection

- Limit Login Attempts Reloaded: This plugin does just what its name implies, it blocks excessive login attempts.

- Limit Login Attempts Reloaded: This plugin allows you to include social media icons at various spots in your pages and posts so that users can share them on social m edia sites or visit your various social media pages.

- Sucuri Security: This plugin provides some more robust firewall capabilities, audits your site for security issues, and scans for malware. It provides a report of possible security breaches at the very top of its dashboard.

3. Did you run into any difficulties setting up your website? If so did you resolve the issues, and how?

- I did not really run into any difficulties setting the site up. I ran into issue designing my site, but that is another thing.

4. Provide a screenshot of your running website, as well as a screenshot of the administrative side of the website. In the screenshot have a user with your name in the users. (Provide a minimum of 2 screenshots with a 2-3 sentence description of what the screenshots are demonstrating.)

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

This is a picture of the users section of the admin panel. You can see my user listed as the only user.

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

This is a screenshot of the site itself. I am still working on designing it as you can tell 😊.

5. What users exist that can access the database? What concerns do you have about the database?

I currently only have one database user that can access the database. This user does have administrative privileges and is the only user which concerns me somewhat. Best practice in this case might be to create duty specific accounts with only certain privileges.

6. What security steps did you take to protect your installation?

- I made sure that I have backups enabled. They are currently backing up on a daily basis, and I can restore the whole site or only part of the site from each backup.

- I made sure that all of my plugins are trusted and up to date.

- I installed a firewall to block potentially harmful traffic.

- I added a malware scanner and security auditing plugin that gives me real time reports on the site security.