## Setting up WordPress

**\*\* Note: You do not have to purchase anything for WordPress. You should choose the free options throughout the setup process.**

1. Create your free WordPress account by writing on your browser: <https://wordpress.com/>
2. Select **Get Started** located at the top right of your screen
3. You will see a pop-up window asking for your email address and password. Provide that information and feel free to use your personal or U.C. Berkeley email address. Either should be fine
4. Now you will be asked to pick a plan. Click the button at the top that says **Start with a free site**

A screenshot of a social media post

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1. The next step is to create a blog domain. Feel free to write anything here, such as for example cp101\_lastname (the image below uses cp101-summer as an example). Once you have it written, **you should see some free domain alternatives. Go ahead and select one of those**

**A screenshot of a cell phone

Description automatically generated**

1. If WordPress asks if you want to upgrade your account, Select 'Start with a free site.'
2. Now you should see your new site on your screen. First, check what's the address of your website by looking at the address next to the square icon in the top left of the page. The address will be under the default “Site Title”
3. Done? Not really. Now you need to validate your email address. To do so, on the “My Home” page, you should see a button that says **Get started**. You should follow the steps (For creating a site menu and updating your home page, you do not need to make any significant changes for the purposes of this course). Once you get to the “Confirm email address” section, go to your email.

A screenshot of a cell phone

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1. Look into your email for a message from WordPress. Open it and click on **Confirm now**
   1. If you did not receive an email, go back to the “Confirm email address” section and click **Resend email**

A screenshot of a social media post

Description automatically generated

1. You will be automatically taken to your WordPress site. You will see on the top of your screen a message saying, "Your site hasn't been launched yet. Only you can see it until it is launched." Click on **Launch site**

A screenshot of a social media post

Description automatically generated

Once you confirm your email address, you can also just go back to the “My Homepage” section. The step after confirming your email address is “Create a site menu” (where you’ll have an option to skip this step) and the next step will be to “Launch your site.” Once all previous steps have been completed, the Launch site button will be highlighted in pink.

1. If WordPress asks you if you want to pay for a plan, Select the free domain by selecting **Skipping Purchase**
2. If WordPress asks to buy their services, Just click on **Continue with your free site**
3. Congratulations! You have launched your website. You can always update your homepage or customize the website. We are not covering that here.