



WordPress 2.5

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WordPress 2.5, the culmination of six months of work by the WordPress community, people just like you. The improvements in 2.5 are numerous, and almost entirely a result of your feedback: multi-file uploading, one-click plugin upgrades, built-in galleries, customizable dashboard, salted passwords and cookie encryption, media library, a WYSIWYG that doesn't mess with your code, concurrent post editing protection, full-screen writing, and search that covers posts *and* pages.

For a short overview of the features with screenshots, it'd be best to [visit our sneak peek announcement for RC1](#). Or check out [a 4-minute screencast of the new interface in action](#). If you just want to jump straight to the good stuff [here's where you can find 2.5 upgrade and download information](#).

If you want to see everything I would grab a cup of coffee or a mojito, because this post is epic.

User Features

Cleaner, faster, less cluttered dashboard — we've worked hard to take your

See Also:

Want to follow the code? There's a [development P2 blog](#) and you can track active development in the [Trac timeline](#) that often has 20–30 updates per day.

Want to find an event near you? Check out the [WordCamp schedule](#) and find your [local Meetup group](#)!

For more WordPress news, check out the [WordPress Planet](#).

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Friendlier visual post editor — I'm not sure how to articulate this improvement except to say "it doesn't mess with your code anymore." We're now using version 3.0 of TinyMCE, which means better compatibility with Safari, and we've paid particular attention this release to its integration and interaction with complex HTML. It also now has a "no-distractions" mode which is like Writeroom for your browser.

Built-in galleries — when you take advantage of multi-file upload to upload a bunch of photos, we have a new shortcode that lets you to easily embed galleries by just putting [gallery] (without the space) in your post. It'll display all your thumbnails and captions and each will link each to a page where people can comment on the individual photos. I've been using this feature on my blog and have already uploaded over [1,200 pictures into 23 galleries](#). The shortcode has some hidden options too, [check out this documentation](#).

Developer Features

Now for the geeky stuff. While we're excited about the above features, each one represents a new opportunity or API for other developers to take to another level. (The best of which we'll someday integrate back into WP.)

Salted passwords — we now use the [phpass](#) library to stretch and salt all passwords stored in the database, which makes brute-forcing them impractical. If you use something like [mod_auth_mysql](#) we've [created a plugin that will allow you to use legacy MD5 hashing](#). (The hashing is completely pluggable.) Users will automatically switch to the more secure passwords next time they log in.

Secure cookies — cookies are now encrypted based on the protocol described in [this PDF paper](#), which is something like `user_name|expiration_time|SHA256`