

# INTRODUCTION TO WORDPRESS SECURITY

Wordpress gets a lot of bad press as being easy to hack. However, set up correctly, Wordpress is extremely secure. In this section of the course, I want to show you how you can make your site as bulletproof as possible, protecting it from even the most persistent hacker and/or spammer.

We'll install a couple of plugins to help secure our site, but there are also a few simple measures we can take. We've actually already seen some of these earlier in the course, but let's go over them first.

**Step 1** – Always keep Wordpress up to date. Wordpress releases a lot of updates, and some of these are to fix security issues. By keeping up to date, your installation of Wordpress will have all known security holes fixed.

**Step 2** – Delete any plugins you do not use, and keep the plugins you are using up-to-date. Again, these measures are to prevent hackers using known exploits to gain access to your website.

**Step 3** – Delete any themes you do not use, and keep the theme you are using up-to-date. Again, these measures are to prevent hackers using known exploits to gain access to your website.

**Step 4** – Don't use **admin** as your WordPress username when you are setting up your Wordpress account. Change it to something else. Also use a long, secure password that would be impossible to guess. Use numbers, capital letters, small letters and symbols. Wordpress recommends a password with 30 – 50 characters, so use a password manager to remember your passwords. You won't want to type them in every time!

**Step 5** – Don't have comments set to auto-approve under any circumstances. Set this up as we did earlier in this course.

**Step 6** – If you are installing a theme or plugin that is not in the WordPress repository, do a quick check on Google to find out more about the them/plugin author. When you install a third party add-on like this, you need to trust the author 100%.

**Step 7** – Backup your database frequently. We'll set up a plugin which will do that for you.

**Step 8** – Install and configure the plugins we talk about in this section of the course.