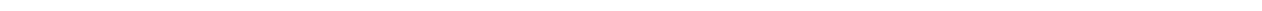# The 46 best essential WordPress plugins you'll ever need

When looking for essential plugins for your site, I'm sure you stumbled upon a lot of lists with tens of plugins for a specific part of your site. Yet, you don't need that many plugins, do you? You only need the best ones available so you can make a quick pick.

In this PDF, you have the best plugins that we tested during the past few years.

SEO plugins

Yoast SEO - The Yoast SEO plugin for WordPress is almost mandatory. It's the most complete WordPress SEO plugin that exists today on WordPress.

All In One SEO Pack - All in One SEO Pack is the second most comprehensive WordPress SEO plugin that is useful for optimizations of individual posts and pages.

Premium SEO Pack - Premium SEO Pack is a well-known SEO plugin that comes equipped with a complete set of cool SEO features including social sharing, image optimization and SERP tracking, just a few to name.

SEO SQUIRRLY - SEO Squirrly is a free WordPress SEO plugin that is designed to help those who do not know much about SEO. The plugin helps you create high-

quality content that is both SEO and human friendly.

The SEO framework - The SEO Framework provides an automated, accessible, unbranded, and a lightning-fast SEO solution for your WordPress website.

Caching plugins

W3 Total Cache - W3 Total Cache is one of the most popular caching plugins for WordPress, with over a million active installs.

WP Rocket - WP Rocket is the most popular premium option in our comparison of the best WordPress caching plugins. It consistently scores well in side-by-side comparisons with other caching plugins for WordPress.

WP Super Cache - Another highly popular free WordPress caching plugin, WP Super Cache earned its place in our guide to the best WordPress caching plugins as it has over a million active installs and a user rating of 4.2 out of 5 stars.

Breeze - Breeze is a free, simple (yet powerful) and user-friendly WordPress Caching Plugin developed by the Cloudways team. It offers various options to optimize WordPress performance at various levels.

Hyper Cache - Hyper Cache is a PHP caching plugin that works on any WordPress blog and does not require complex configuration.

WP Fastest Cache - WP Fastest Cache is similar to many other caching plugins, but with fewer customization options it's easier for the average user to get to grips with.

Security Plugins

WordFence - WordFence is one of the most popular WordPress security plugins. It keeps on checking your website for malware infection. If scans all the files of your WordPress core, theme and plugins. If it finds any kind of infection, it will notify you.

Sucuri Security - The Sucuri Security plugin offers both free and paid versions, yet the majority of websites should be fine with the free plugin. For instance, the website firewall requires you to pay for a Sucuri plan, but not every webmaster feels like they need that type of security.

iThemes Security - The iThemes Security plugin (previously known as Better WP Security) is one of the more impressive ways to protect your website, with over

30 offerings to prevent things like hacks and unwanted intruders.

BulletProof Security - BulletProof Security is another popular WordPress security plugin that takes care of various things. It adds firewall security, database security, login security and more. It comes with four-click setup interface.

All In One WP Security & Firewall - All In One WP Security & Firewall is another popular WordPress security plugin to check vulnerabilities in your WordPress website. This plugin is easy to use and reduces the security risks by adding recommended security practices.

SecuPress - SecuPress is a newer security plugin on the market (originally released as freemium in 2016), but it's definitely one that's growing rapidly. It's actually developed by Julio Potier, one of the original co-founders of WP Media, who you might recognize, as they develop WP Rocket and Imagify. There is both a free version and premium version which includes a lot of additional features.

Jetpack - Most people who use WordPress are familiar with Jetpack, and it's mainly because the plugin has so many features, but it's also because the plugin is made by the people from WordPress.com.

Design and UX plugins

Elementor Page Builder - It's about time for a live page builder, with no limits of design. A page builder that delivers high-end page designs and advanced capabilities, never before seen on WordPress.

Visual Composer - Visual Composer is the Best Website Editor for WordPress Experts and Beginners. Convert Your Imagination Into a Real Website.

Beaver Builder - Beaver Builder is a flexible drag and drop page builder that works on the front end of your WordPress website. Whether you're a beginner or a professional, you're going to love taking control of your website.

WPtouch - WPtouch is a mobile plugin for WordPress that automatically adds a simple and elegant mobile theme for mobile visitors to your WordPress website.

NextGEN Gallery - NextGEN Gallery has been the industry's standard WordPress gallery plugin since 2007 and continues to receive over 1.5 million new downloads per year. It's easy for simple photo galleries, but powerful enough for the most demanding photographers, visual artists, and imaging professionals.

Smush Image Compression and Optimization - Resize, optimize, optimise and compress all of your images with the incredibly powerful and 100% free WordPress image smusher.

Easy Google Fonts - A simple and easy way to add custom google fonts to any WordPress theme without coding. This plugin integrates with the WordPress Customizer so you can preview google fonts on your site in real-time.

Responsive FlipBook Plugin - Deliver web content within a beautiful UI with this incredible WordPress plugin. At first glance, the Responsive FlipBook Plugin looks like a nice way to display content with its cool bookshelf design.

Master Popups - This is a powerful popup plugin for creating Modal Popups, Full Screen Popups, Notification Bars, Slide-In popups and Inline & Widget Popups.

You can easily create popups from pre-made templates with few clicks.

Content Timeline - Responsive WordPress Plugin for Displaying Posts/Categories in a Sliding Timeline is the perfect solution for a large array of content presentation types.
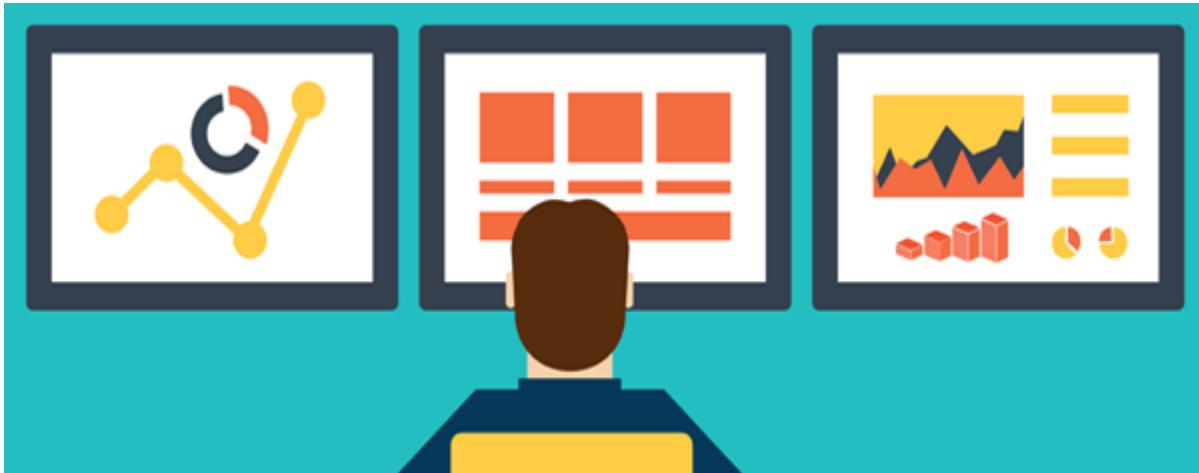
Page Builder - Page Builder is a plugin that allows your content editors to get involved with controlling the page layout, in an intuitive, WordPress-like environment. It works with all themes and plugins, making it simple to generate flexible responsive layouts without the need for any coding knowledge at all.

Modula Image Gallery - WordPress ships with some limited abilities to host image galleries, but for a truly customizable and flexible solution, a plugin such as Modula offers a far better experience for both the web designer and website maintainer, and for the visitor to your site.

AMP for WP - Whether or not you feel that Google's Accelerated Mobile Pages (AMP) project is a good thing, one thing is clear: Google is deliberately showing websites with AMP pages higher up the search results page than those without.

Slider Revolution - When you need a slider-especially if you want an easy way to build it-you have to consider the Slider Revolution Responsive WordPress Plugin. Animations, color pickers, layers-it's got it all baked in.

Plugins for stats and analytics

Analytify - The power of Google Analytics inside your dashboard. I don't mean a rinky-dink webinar. I mean an honest-to-god, full-length course. Just on getting the most from Google Analytics.

WP Power Stats - WP Power Stats describe themselves as a WordPress stats plugin that allows you to "discover your visitors in real-time, intuitively and with style". What I enjoy the most is that it's not clunky. I think the keyword here is lightweight.

Google Analytics by MonsterInsights - Google Analytics by MonsterInsights brings Google Analytics charts and stats into your WordPress dashboard. And again like Analytify, it comes in both free and premium versions

CAOS | Host Google Analytics Locally - CAOS for Google Analytics allows you to host analytics.js locally and keep it updated using WordPress' built-in Cron-schedule. Fully automatic!

Analytics Cat - Google Analytics is a lean, fast, simple, no-frills way to add your Google Analytics / Universal Google Analytics code to your WordPress site.

Simple Feed Stats - Simple Feed Stats (SFS) tracks your feeds automatically using a variety of methods, and provides a wealth of tools and options for further configuration and management. Also displays your subscriber count via template tag or shortcode.

WP Statistics - With WP Statistics you can know your website statistics without any need to send your users' data anywhere. You can know how many people visit your personal or business website, where they're coming from, what browsers and search engines they use.

Social sharing plugins

Monarch - Monarch is a flexible social share plugin from Elegant Themes. If you're not familiar with that name, Elegant Themes is the maker of the popular Divi theme, as well as a number of other plugins and themes.

Kiwi - Kiwi is a simple and easy to use social sharing plugin that is available as free as well as premium version.

Social Snap - Social Snap is a fantastic and practical WordPress social sharing plugin that helps you boost your website's traffic through the roof.

Easy Social Share Buttons - Easy Social Share offers one of the lengthiest feature lists that I've ever seen. Depending on your specific needs, that could be a good or a bad thing. But no one can say you don't have options with this plugin!

Social Warfare - Social Warfare is a visually stunning plugin that gives you access to great features. It supports popular social networks and works pretty well with most well built WordPress themes.

MashShare - Do you want to attract an insane amount of traffic to your WordPress site from Facebook, Twitter and other social networks? Then you need an easy-to-setup eye-catching "Share it" button that will make visitors want to spread your awesome content.

WP Social Sharing - WP Social Sharing is a lot more lightweight than many of the previous plugins. But if all you want to do is add social share buttons for the biggest social networks, this plugin makes it about as simple as possible.