

WordCamp Miami 2014 - Plugins

by Hector Torres - April 19, 2014

Bio:

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WordPress Plugins

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What are WordPress Plugins?

- A WordPress Plugin = an add-on = an extension
- A Plugin adds functionality to your website (e.g. the ability to backup your site)
- When you add or delete a plugin, your content (pages, posts, images, and permalinks - the URLs) does not get erased. However, deleting a plugin can drastically change the look or functionality of your site.

Selecting a Plugin from a Trusted Source

- #1 Trusted Place for Plugins = WordPress.org Themes directory <http://wordpress.org/plugins/>
 - Advantages: free, over 30,000 plugins
 - Disadvantages: limited support
- Other Trusted places for Premium/Paid plugins:
 - wpmudev.org - various types
 - <http://ithemes.com/plugin-suite/> - various types
 - yoast.com/ - SEO
 - gravityforms.com - input forms

Best Practices when working with Plugins

- Backup your website before installing or deleting a Plugin. Make sure that the plugin has the functionality that you need (e.g. slider, ecommerce).
- Make sure the plugin's functionality will work with your theme and that it is Mobile Responsive (e.g. slider)
- Make sure the plugin has good technical support from the vendor, at least 24hr email response.

Installing the Plugin

- Add the plugin from the WordPress.org Plugins directory

OR

- Upload the .Zip Plugin file you received when you purchased the plugin.

Must-have Plugins to install on a new site

- SEO Plugin - [Yoast SEO](#) by [Joost de Valk](#)
- Backup Plugin - [BackupBuddy](#) by [iThemes](#)
 - [Backup to Dropbox](#) by [Michael De Wildt](#)
- Traffic plugins - [Google Analytics for WP](#) by [Joost de Valk](#)
 - [Jetpack](#) by [Automattic](#)
- Spam Control Plugin - [Askimet](#) by [Automattic](#)

Must-have Plugins to install on a new site

- Social Sharing Plugin - [Share Buttons by AddThis](#)
- Security Plugin
 - [WordFence Security](#) by [WordFence](#)
 - [Sucuri Security](#) by [Sucuri](#)
- Contact form Plugin - [Contact form 7](#) By [Takayuki Miyoshi](#)
- Cache Plugin - [W3 Total Cache](#) By [Frederick Townes](#)

Using WordPress beyond a blogging platform

- Want to monetize your website?
- Membership Plugins
 - [Wishlist Member](#)
 - [Exchange](#) by [iThemes](#)
- Ecommerce Plugins
 - [WooCommerce](#) by [Woothemes](#)
 - [WP e-Commerce](#)