



Learning With Purpose

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Today I'll cover from start to finish, basic installation of an ever popular Content Management System based web "application" called Wordpress . If you clueless you're about to discover a gem. If you're already an intermediate or adept user, I hope I can accommodate any questions or concerns you may have. A copy of this document will be available online, please leave me your contact info if you would like it forwarded personally. This document in hand covers the basics:

- What Is Wordpress
- Installing Wordpress
(see page 5 for the required)

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What is Wordpress?

Wordpress is an award-winning content management system (CMS), which enables you to build Web sites and powerful online applications. Many aspects, including its ease-of-use and extensibility, have made Wordpress the most popular Web site software available. Best of all, Wordpress is an open source solution that is freely available to everyone.

What's a content management system (CMS)?

A content management system is software that keeps track of every piece of content on your Web site, much like your local public library keeps track of books and stores them. Content can be simple text, photos, music, video, documents, or just about anything you can think of. A major advantage of using a CMS is that it requires almost no technical skill or knowledge to manage. Since the CMS manages all your content, you don't have to.

What are some real world examples of what Wordpress can do?

Wordpress is used all over the world to power Web sites of all shapes and sizes. For example:

- * Corporate Web sites or portals
- * Corporate intranets and extranets
- * Online magazines, newspapers, and publications
- * E-commerce and online reservations
- * Government applications
- * Small business Web sites
- * Non-profit and organizational Web sites
- * Community-based portals
- * School and church Web sites
- * Personal or family homepages

Who uses Content Management Systems Like Wordpress?

Here are just a few examples:

- * MTV Networks Quizilla (Social networking) - <http://www.quizilla.com>
- * IHOP (Restaurant chain) - <http://www.ihop.com>
- * Harvard University (Educational) - <http://gsas.harvard.edu>
- * Citibank (Financial institution intranet) - Not publicly accessible
- * The Green Maven (Eco-resources) - <http://www.greenmaven.com>
- * Outdoor Photographer (Magazine) - <http://www.outdoorphotographer.com>
- * PlayShakespeare.com (Cultural) - <http://www.playshakespeare.com>
- * Senso Interiors (Furniture design) - <http://www.sensointeriors.co.za>

More examples of companies using Wordpress can be found on Wordpress.org.

I can't afford to have someone manage my domain. How will Wordpress help me?

Simple Admin interface

Wordpress is designed to be easy to install and set up even if you're not an advanced user. Many Web hosting services offer a single-click install, getting your new site up and running in just a few minutes.

With a minimal amount of instruction, you will be empowered to manage your own site yourself.

If you need specialized functionality, Wordpress is highly extensible and thousands of extensions (most for free under the GPL license) are available in the Wordpress Plugins Directory.

For more informations see:

Search "Wordpress" on Wikipedia or visit

Visit <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WordPress>

How can I be sure there will be Wordpress support in the future?

Best CMS

Wordpress is the most popular open source CMS currently available as evidenced by a vibrant and growing community of friendly users and talented developers. Wordpress's roots go back to 2003. WordPress is the most popular blog software in use today, and, with over 200,000 community users and contributors, the future is very bright.

I'm a developer. What are some advanced ways I can use Wordpress?

Many companies and organizations have requirements that go beyond what is available in the basic Wordpress package. In those cases, Wordpress's powerful application framework makes it easy for developers to create sophisticated add-ons that extend the power of Wordpress into virtually unlimited directions.

The core Wordpress framework enables developers to quickly and easily build:

- * Inventory control systems
- * Data reporting tools
- * Application bridges
- * Custom product catalogs
- * Integrated e-commerce systems
- * Complex business directories
- * Reservation systems
- * Communication tools

Since Wordpress is based on PHP and MySQL, you have powerful applications on an open platform anyone can use, share, and support.

Wordpress! seems the right solution for me. How do I get started?

Installing WordPress

WordPress is well known for its ease of installation. Under most circumstances installing WordPress is a very simple process and takes less than five minutes to complete. Many web hosts now offer tools (e.g. Fantastico) to automatically install WordPress for you. However, if you wish to install WordPress yourself, the following guide will help. Now with Automatic Upgrade, upgrading is even easier.

Things to Know Before Installing WordPress

Before you begin the install, there are few things you need to have and do.

You need access to your site and its directory and software to proceed with the installation. These are:

- **Access to your web server (via shell or FTP)**
- **A text editor**
- **An FTP Client**
- **Your web browser of choice**

Things You Need to Do to Install WordPress

Begin your installation by:

- 1.** Checking to ensure that you and your web host have the minimum requirements to run WordPress.
- 2.** Download the latest release of WordPress.
- 3.** Unzip the downloaded file to a folder on your hard drive.
- 4.** Be prepared with a secure password for your Secret Key
- 5.** Print this page out so you have it handy during the installation.

Famous 5-Minute Install

Here's the quick version of the instructions, for those that are already comfortable with performing such installations. More detailed instructions follow.

1. Download and unzip the WordPress package, if you haven't already.
2. Create a database for WordPress on your web server, as well as a MySQL user who has all privileges for accessing and modifying it.
3. Rename the wp-config-sample.php file to wp-config.php.
4. Open wp-config.php in a text editor and fill in your database details as explained in Editing wp-config.php to generate and use your secret key password.

5. Place the WordPress files in the desired location on your web server:

* If you want to integrate WordPress into the root of your domain (e.g. <http://example.com/>), move or upload all contents of the unzipped WordPress directory (but excluding the directory itself) into the root directory of your web server.

* If you want to have your WordPress installation in its own subdirectory on your web site (e.g. <http://example.com/blog/>), rename the directory wordpress to the name you'd like the subdirectory to have and move or upload it to your web server. For example if you want the WordPress installation in a subdirectory called "blog", you should rename the directory called "wordpress" to "blog" and upload it to the root directory of your web server.

Hint: If your FTP transfer is too slow read how to avoid FTPing at : Step 1: Download and Extract.

6. Run the WordPress installation script by accessing wp-admin/install.php in a web browser.

- 7.

* If you installed WordPress in the root directory, you should visit: <http://example.com/wp-admin/install.php>

* If you installed WordPress in its own subdirectory called blog, for example, you should visit: <http://example.com/blog/wp-admin/install.php>

That's it! WordPress should now be installed.