

The Best Word Press Plugins

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WordPress Plugins - The Basics

There's a lot of buzz around WordPress, and not surprising since this is an incredible flexible CMS system. It's not just a blogging platform. It's also a valuable platform for anyone wanting to publish content-based sites on the web. This is why WordPress usage has gone over the top in the last couple of years. This very active community has led to the development of WordPress plugins by the thousands.

So what is a WordPress plugin? It's a software program or simple script that extends the WordPress platform's functionality beyond that of the original developers. This is why CMS is so raw offering just the basic functionality such as the ability to create pages, posts, and edit basic code.

A WordPress plugin is usually installed through the WordPress plugin administration area. It can be done automatically through the plugin directory on WordPress or it can be installed manually using FTP or the backend upload on WordPress. Usually there's no need to manually install plugins.

There are two types of plugins that you'll come across. There are the plugins that are available free, and there are the premium plugins. Free plugins are generally available in the WordPress plugin directory. You can search by keyword(s). On the other hand premium plugins are found out in the market and you must pay for them.

The only reason to pay for WordPress plugins is if you require certain functionality that isn't available in the free plugins. This might be things like creation of close WordPress installs, code tweaks, etc.

WordPress plugins can turn your WordPress into its own separate system(s). For example there are membership plugins or shopping cart plugins that will turn your WordPress from a simple blog to a paid membership site. Other plugins might turn it into a sales letter, a payment portal, while other plugins will offer things like social media links, admin extensions, and backups.

Let's have a look at the top WordPress plugins.

- * Events Calendar – create custom events posts on your calendar.
- * Urban Menu – a mega menu that's highly customizable and ready to use right out of the box.
- * uBillboard – develop sliders for your WordPress themes, a nicely polished plugin.
- * Video Gallery – this stock video gallery is the most advanced in the world.
- * WP Auctions – this plugin lets you host your own auctions. It's one of the best out there.
- * uPricing – this is a pricing table that's nicely finished.
- * Gravity Forms – you can build your own forms fast and effortlessly, configure them how you want, and do it in just minutes.

Explore the World of WordPress Plugins

For those of you familiar with WordPress but not familiar with WordPress plugins it's time you were. These software extensions, which we call plugins, are designed to make your life easier, and which can make your browser carry out specific functions.

There are thousands of WordPress plugins each offering something that can make your blog more appealing and/or more attractive. They offer you all kinds of assistance and expand your blogs functionality.

Its WordPress plugins that allow you to download, upload, publish, comment, translate, link to Twitter and Facebook, and the list goes on. If you aren't familiar with WordPress plugin here's a few you might want to explore further.

Tweet Old Posts

If you've been building a Twitter following then this is a plugin that could be exactly what you need to help sprinkle your blog posts into your tweets. It has several options such as leading text and hashtags to name a couple.

SEO Smart Links

If you aren't interlinking your blog posts and articles, you should be. Linking from one article to another is a good way to build your page rank throughout the site, and it helps your readers find other articles. This SEO plugin will interlink the keywords to other articles.

WordPress Editorial Calendar

This WordPress plugin offers a clean, crisp, editorial calendar where you can present and post. You can drag and drop your articles from one date to the next, and a whole lot more. It's a valuable tool that any serious WordPress user should use.

Widget Context

This handy little plugin lets you pick which pages you want in your sidebar widget. You can create a different sidebar for each different page as well as for sections of the site.

Reply Me

This WordPress plugin will send an email to each person who leaves a comment, and when someone directly responds to their comment. It's an excellent tool for keeping conversations ongoing on your site.

Revision Control

The WordPress database can become really bloated really fast, slowing your site down. The revision control plugin limits the number of post revisions stores in the database. You set how many that will be.

Artiss YouTube Embed

Lets you add videos to your posts simply by using a piece of code. It's a simple and effective method.

WordPress Security Scan

This plugin scans your WordPress page protecting it and making sure your blog has the security that's needed.

WordPress plugins are a great way to improve your blog in many ways. Don't miss out on these great little tools.

How to Choose the Best WordPress Plugins

If you have a blog, it's likely that it is a WordPress platform, since that's the most popular blogging platform on the internet. If you haven't yet set up your blog there are plenty of reasons why you should use WordPress, and one of the main reasons is the number of excellent WordPress plugins you have available to you.

When it comes to being ranked in the search engines WordPress offers a platform that is search engine friendly, and it's very friendly to the user too, making it very easy to set up a successful blog without any experience.

If you aren't familiar with plugins, they are simply a piece of software that provides some type of functionality to your WordPress blog. The type of functionality depends on what plugin it is. There are thousands of different plugins available and many of them are free.

You can spend a great deal of time looking at plugins for your blog, and you should! But to get you started we've chosen a few of the best WordPress plugins that you should be using.

1. Akismet

Spam is one of the most annoying and frustrating things you'll have to deal with on your blog. The Akismet plugin is a tool you won't want to be without. It automatically blocks spam comments from appearing on your blog, and that leaves one less thing for you to have to do.

2. MaxBlogPress Ping Optimizer

Every time you edit, update, or post a new blog the ping services get pinged. You don't want your blog to ever become banned from any of the ping services, which can happen if you are pinging them too often. MaxBlogPress Ping Optimizer makes sure this doesn't happen by monitoring the number of pings that are being sent and stopping any further pings if you have maxed out your pings.

3. All in One SEO Pack

Every blog should place well in the search engines and using a plugin like All in One SEO pack to work its magic takes you that much closer to success. This plugin is easy to use and it can help you rank for your specific keywords.

4. Remote Database Backup

You need to know that if something happens your blog is safe and having a current backup will do that for you. It happens sites go down and if you haven't created a backup, you could lose everything. With Remote Database Backup, you can backup your blog whenever you like.

These four WordPress plugins are just a start. If you learn how to use plugins properly, your blog can do exceptionally well. Good content, good layout and good plugins equal success.

The Must Have Plugins for Every WordPress Blog

For every WordPress blog there are plugins that could make that blog function better, bring more traffic in, and do better in the search engines. With hundreds of plugins to choose from it can be a bit overwhelming trying to decide which ones you really need. We're going to look at the 7 must have plugins for every WordPress blog.

FeedBurner FeedSmith Plugin – Every blog should have an RSS feed because they do an excellent job of generating traffic. The FeedBurner FeedSmith plugin lets you see the number of people that are actually following your RSS feed and you can also see the most popular posts.

Broken Link Checker Plugin – This is a nice little plugin that crawls through your blog posts and blog pages looking for links that don't work any longer. Google and other search engines penalize you if you have dead links. Using this plugin your blog won't have any dead links to worry about.

Revision Diet Plugin – If you are the type of person that writes a post, saves the post, reads the posts, changes the post, then saves the post, and you do this often, you can land up with too many versions of the same post kicking around and this can fill your database up quickly. This plugin gets rid of all the extra versions you don't need.

Limit Login Attempts Plugin – This is an excellent security plugin. If anyone attempts to hack your WordPress blog this plugin will detect the attack and stop it in its tracks. Then it will email you telling you what has taken place.

WordPress.com Stats – Everyone who is running a blog needs to know the amount of traffic the site is getting, where that traffic is coming from, and what posts are getting read. WordPress.com stats can provide you with all the analytical information you'll ever need.

Yet Another Related Posts Plugin – This WordPress plugin will provide a list of other similar posts to the reader. So when they get to the bottom of the post they are reading they are presented with other blog post options that can keep them on your site longer.

Now that you know the 7 must have plugins for every WordPress blog your ready to get busy installing them. Of course, you should still check out some of the many other WordPress plugins that could benefit your blog.

The Best WordPress Article Marketing Plugins

If you are going to be using your WordPress blog for marketing products or services, you're going to want to ensure you have the best WordPress article marketing plugins installed. So let's have a look at a few that we think you should explore.

1. Nofollow Reciprocity Plugin

This WordPress plugin looks for links on big sites like StumbleUpon or Wikipedia, using the "nofollow tags" on their links. It then returns the favor to them. In the linking world when a site

does not reciprocate a link you lose a lot of link power so this is an excellent way of ensuring you are linking only to those who return a little karma your way.

2. Similar Posts Plugin

This WordPress plugin displays a list of relevant posts. You are able to configure how Similar Posts Plugin determines relevant content based on tags and/or titles. This is a plugin that will keep your visitors reading more blog posts on your site.

3. Post Plugin Library Plugin

This plugin doesn't run standalone but it is necessary to provide you with the code to Similar Posts, Recent Posts, Recent Comments, and Random posts plugins.

4. Robots Meta Plugin

This WordPress plugin lets you add suitable robots Meta tags to your feeds and blog pages, and it lets you disable unused archives and unnecessary nofollow links.

5. WordPress.com Stats

This WordPress plugin tracks post views, click, referrers, and views. At a glance, you can see which posts are the most popular and who has written the most relevant content. You will need an API key from WordPress for this application to run. If you are running Akismet you can use that key.

6. Tweetbacks Plugin

This handy little plugin in will show you tweets that are related to your blog posts and pages.

7. Ultimate Plugins Smart Update Pinger

This plugin will replace the WordPress built in ping functionality. It will ping when any new posts are made but not when you edit a post. It will also ping the URL of the post rather than your main blog URL.

8. WP Super Cache

If you want your WordPress blog to run faster you'll want this plugin. It works by turning PHP scripts to HTML files. As your blog gets more traffic and demands are higher on your site, this tool can really save you a lot of grief.

These 8 WordPress plugins will come in handy if your plan is to market on your blog.

WordPress Plugin Secrets for the Business Blog

WordPress is the most common platform for blogging on the internet. Google loves WordPress and really it loves blogs in general. You can easily install on your own domain. In fact, many host sites offer an automated WordPress install using Fantastico or cPanel.

WordPress can be easily customized. Choose from one of the many themes available, and then customize that theme to meet your needs. Make your blog look exactly how you want. Once you've installed the theme you want it's time to get down to business and install some WordPress plugins that can help your business blog. We'll look at just a few of the best ones.

Google Analytics for WordPress

This WordPress tool is a must have for every webmaster. This tool allows you to track the traffic to your site, the length of time people stay on your site, the bounce rate, and a whole lot more. You just have to create your Google account and then insert the code that's provided.

Google XML Sitemap

This plugin creates a sitemap that the search engine bots can quickly find and crawl, which means your site will get indexed that much faster. This means better placement in the search engines and more traffic.

Yet Another Related Post Plugin

This is an excellent tool to keep your visitors staying on your blog for a longer period of time. YARPP tracks the pages your visitors view and then gathers information to create a list of other relevant posts that they might enjoy viewing. Your visitor can click the links and move on to the next post that interest them.

Broken Link Checker

Backlinks are very important to your site – both internal and external. Broken links, which are links that don't work, are very detrimental to your site. Google and other search engines will penalize you if you have broken links. This plugin whips through your site in no time at all looking for broken links, and then it lets you know so you can fix or remove these links.

All in One SEO Pack

This is one of the most talked about WordPress plugins because one single plugin does so much. It let you edit your site title and description easily, incorporates the keywords you want to use into your descriptions, and customize just about anything you can think of to improve your search engine optimization.

Anyone can set up a blog, but having a blog that's successful is another thing. By using plugins you can improve your online visibility and improve your ranking in the search engines. You'll be impressed at just how much difference the right plugins can make to your business blog.

The Best WordPress Social Networking Plugins

The intent is abuzz with Social Networking, so it makes great sense that if you could somehow link your WordPress blog to social networking your blog would definitely benefit. Let's look at some of the best WordPress Social Networking plugins.

Google+1 Plugin

Yet another social networking button has come to be – Google+1. If you aren't familiar with the Google + 1 feature, it allows Google account users to "vote" for a site, and suggest it to their friends in the also new Google Plus Social Networking site. Make sure your visitors can find the Google+1 plugin.

Facebook Plugin – The "Like" Button

This WordPress plugin uses a simple script that Facebook provides creating a quick and easy way for your visitors to “Like” your page and then it will appear on the visitor’s wall. If you want to leverage Facebook on your site, this is a great plugin for just that.

Twitter ReTweet Plugin

This WordPress plugin is very popular for Twitter. You’ve probably seen it on corners of the web. Once you install it, you’ll have a clickable counter badge in your post wherever you specify.

Digg Plugin

This official WordPress Digg plugin lets you display a variety of “Digg It” buttons that will be in all of your WordPress posts appearing wherever you want them. Digg is an excellent website to entice visitors to your blog to suggest it.

Digg Digg Persistent Social Icon Bar

You may have already seen the persistent social bookmarking bars on the left of the site. They’ll scrolls as you scroll down the site. You can pick the social networking badges you would like to appear.

Sphinn Plugin

Sphinn is a WordPress plugin with its very own little clickable WordPress badge that displays on all of your posts. It’s easy for Sphinn members to approve of your blog posts.

Google Buzz Plugin

For those visitors who use Google Gmail account holders they have access to Buzz. If you want to have visitors “Buzz Up” your blog posts, this WordPress plugin is one you will want to install. You can have it appear wherever you want.

You can choose one or many of these WordPress Social Networking plugins, and there are others too, so don’t be afraid to do a little exploring of other available social networking plugins. The one thing that’s for certain is don’t leave your blog out in the cold because the buzz really is on social networking!

WordPress Plugins for Success

WordPress is the buzz in most online forums and communities. How to use it, how to maximize your revenues by using it, and how to build a blog/site that visitors will like and keep on coming back to. There are two parts to success – good content, and great plugins.

Of course, there are thousands of plugins – some are excellent others are not so great – the only way you’ll discover which ones are what you need is to experiment and try a variety of plugins. We’ll look at a few of the favorites on the web but don’t stop there.

If you aren't familiar with plugins you need to be. WordPress plugins are just one type of plugin Adobe Acrobat Reader, Macromedia Shockwave Player, Windows Media Player, Google toolbar – those are just a few examples of plugins most of use on a regular basis. Plugins for WordPress are simply plugins designed to do specific functions on your WordPress blog/site.

Go Codes Plugin – This plugin is very helpful to anyone that blogs. It will promote your affiliate products and it hides the affiliate's URL instead converting it into a blog URL, and when a visitor clicks on the URL it will then redirect them to the affiliate.

WordPress Backup Plugin – This hand plugin is a must have for anyone that uses WordPress. It will make a backup of your theme directory, images, and plugins and then email the zipped file to you.

Google XML Sitemap Plugin – This handy plugin is a must have if you want to get indexed better in the search engines like Google, Bing, and Yahoo by indexing your entire blog.

WP-Super Cache Plugin – This plugin generates a static HTML file from your blog, which will reduce the time it takes to load your blog and the themes associated with it. Visitors are far more likely to stick around when a site loads fast.

SEO Smart Links Plugin – This plugin is a must have if you want to bring traffic to your site through the search engines. It interlinks with your blog posts based on your keywords and you configure it from the admin panel.

Akismet – The biggest problem with blogs is that the amount of spam can be overwhelming. Askimet deals with this by preventing spam comments.

Overall, these are some of the best WordPress plugins out there. Of course, with thousands to choose from we couldn't possibly cover even a fraction of them. These are thought to be some of the top WordPress plugins by serious bloggers so it's a good place to start and you can expand from there.

Top WordPress Ecommerce Plugins

E-commerce shopping online is at its peak. You can buy anything you want or need online from many different stores like Amazon, eBay, and hundreds of thousands of other sites. Many bloggers are making a comfortable living as affiliates for other companies. If you want to create your very own online store you can do it with no hassle by using one of the impressive WordPress ecommerce plugins that are available to choose from. These ecommerce plugins are ready to help you start your online business.

WP Ecommerce

This is the most downloaded WordPress ecommerce plugin. It's a fully-fledged shopping cart system, which integrates seamlessly with WordPress and it integrates with PayPal, Google Checkout, Payment Express, and Authorize.net. Have one checkout to support shoppers wanting to use various systems. It's great for those that are drop shipping from home.

PHPurchase

This WordPress plugin lets you sell both physical and digital products. It's a breeze with membership, multiple payment options, and subscriptions. Track your inventory, check the most recent postal rates, and all in real time. It includes multiple options for payment and inventory tracking on a per item basis.

Shopp

This plugin works well with the WordPress Ecommerce theme as well as other themes. The integration is seamless to your blog. It designed so you can quickly create ecommerce websites while at the same time allowing you a great deal of flexibility for fine-tuning.

Ecwid Shopping Cart

This full feature shopping cart and ecommerce solution is easily added to your Facebook profile or your blog. It offers flexibility and performance, and it's hassle free. Ecwid is the acronym for ecommerce widgets.

Cart66

This WordPress ecommerce plugin makes selling a real breeze. Using Cart66 you can sell videos, digital downloads, music, electronics, legal services, web hosting, membership, and the list goes on. Using Cart66 is as easy as placing the product on any post of your WordPress blog. With integration with Amazon S3 you can deliver digital products easily. That includes complete MP3 albums. You can easily integrate with PayPal and you will collect sales right away. You can also set up a merchant account if you want to.

eShop

This WordPress shopping cart plugin is packed with all kinds of features. You customers can sign up on your blog, you can decide the method you want to list the products, or you can even choose a number of options.

These WordPress Ecommerce Plugins will have your shopping cart up and running in no time at all.

WordPress Plugins to Improve Your Ranking

Whether this is your first blog or your fiftieth making sure your blog is ranking well is as important as making sure your website ranks well in the search engines. There are a number of plugins to help your blog rank well. Let's look at a few of the best ones.

1. Permalink Redirect – This WordPress plugin replies with a 301 permanent direct, if requested URL is not the same as the entry or archive permalink. When used it will make sure that there is only a single URL associated with each entry to your blog.
2. Goggle XML Sitemap Generator – This plugin indexes all your articles on your WordPress blog and then creates a sitemap. This helps Google, Yahoo, Bing, and other search engines index each article you write.
3. Head META Description – This WordPress plugin inserts HTML META description tags by using excerpts from posts.

4. All in One SEO Pack – This WordPress plugin optimizes your blog so it will rank well in the search engines.

5. Broken Link Checker – This plugin is a handy tool that monitors and then notifies you when there are broken links on your WordPress blog.

6. Enforce www.Preference – This plugin will help to preserve your permalinks. It does this by enforcing your preferences for yes or no-www. preferences, and it will strip off the index.php for the URL ends.

7. Quick META Keywords – This WordPress plugin automatically adds META keyword tags to every post made based on the category(s) that the article is categorized.

In addition to using plugins to help your WordPress blog rank better there are a few other tricks you can use.

1. Use Title Tags – To make the search engines categorize your blog properly fix the title tags rather than relying on the default title tags. WordPress (and Blogger) don't have the best titling scheme for blog pages. This is especially true when you use a layout provided by a third party.

2. Manual Submissions – Google does a great job of crawling sites and finding any new sites. But if you're a bit impatient, or Google accidentally naps and misses your blog/site, you can submit it manually. You can also submit your XML sitemap, which can help you to rank better.

3. Blog Well and Blog Often – The best way to bring more traffic to your blog is to provide great content and make sure it's continuously forthcoming. High quality content, with new content regularly will increase your readership.

Improving your ranking isn't as difficult as you might have thought. Put one or all of these plugins into practice and follow these other great tips and you'll be on your way to ranking well.

WordPress Internet Marketing and the Plugins You Want to Have

Optimizing a website is an ongoing process and the same applies to your WordPress blog. Plugins are tools that can make your job of optimizing easier, and they can also make your blog environment for appealing to visitors. We'd like to share with you 5 WordPress plugins we think you should know about and include in your internet marketing bag of tricks.

1. Akismet

Spam can be a real problem with the comment on your blog. Trying to stay ahead of it can be annoying, frustrating, and time consuming. The Akismet plugin will automatically block spam from appearing on your blog's comments, and you can view the blocked comments anytime you like as they are stored.

2. Digg Digg

These days, social media is very important to the success of any site. Digg Digg plugin lets you add a Digg button to your blog posts and it also allows you to add just about any other social network's button including Twitter, Facebook, Reddit, Delicious, and more.

3. Related Posts

This WordPress plugin will increase the internal backlinks on your blog. Internal links are important and the search engines see them as valuable so they can help you to place better. Related Posts plugins also provides entertainment to your blog traffic keeping them on your site a little longer.

4. W3 Total Cache

Yet another very useful WordPress plugin is the W3 Total Cache, which will increase your site's performance. It allows you to optimize the experience of your visitor on your blog site via caching. Your site will load faster, provide instant second page views, reduce page load time, and improve the overall performance of your site.

5. Disqus

Disqus is one of the more complex WordPress plugins, using the Open ID concept. You can merge multiple logins under one account and use that login everywhere. Your visitors will feel comfortable on your blog and that means they'll stay longer. It's the small things that often make the viewer most happy.

These five WordPress plugins don't even scratch the surface of recommended plugins. Others that would make my must have list include KB Robots, Google XML Sitemaps, All in One SEO Pack, and Contact Form 7.

Don't stop with this list. WordPress plugins are an integral part of your blogs success so take the time to learn about what's available out there and then don't be afraid to try a plugin. Remember if it's not right for you, it can always be uninstalled.

The All Time Favorite WordPress Plugins

WordPress is an excellent platform to create your site on because it is very search engine friendly, a breeze to update without ever needing a web designer, and every time you create a new blog post you are doing a site update, which the search engines love.

To make the most out of your WordPress blog you'll want to take advantage of plugins. While there are thousands of plugins available we thought we'd have a look at some of the all time favorite WordPress plugins. For those of you not familiar with plugins they are simply a piece of software that enhances your website.

1. TweetMeMe

This is an excellent plugin if you want to readers to re-tweet your blog posts into Twitter's universe. A button will show on your blog and it will also display the number of times you blog post has been tweeted. It's excellent for encouraging viewers to tweet.

2. Thesis Theme

This plugin will change how your blog looks and you can do this with just a few mouse clicks. Change the background color, the font, the page navigation, the number of columns, and so much more. It's quick and it's easy. There's no need to have web designer standing by. In just seconds your blog will look and feel different.

3. WishList Member

This WordPress plugin turns your blog into a membership platform that you can completely customize. You can make part of your site open to the general public, you can have part of your site for paid members only, and you can create a private client area. Only your imagination will limit you here.

4. Contact Form 7

This handy WordPress plugin lets' you add a form to your blog in just minutes. It's highly intuitive and very flexible. You can even manage a number of contact form. It supports a number of features such as CAPTCHA and AJAX.

5. Akismet

This plugin is standard in WordPress and it's a plugin you'll want to become familiar with. It's does an excellent job of protecting your blog from being over taken by spammers. It can be very frustrating trying to stay ahead of the spammers but with the help of Akismet it gets much easier.

By adding a handful of the best WordPress plugins you can improve your blog a great deal. You can make it more appealing, easier to update, and help it to rank better in the search engines – and that's just the beginning!

5 of the Best WordPress Mobile Plugins

The advancements in mobile technology have resulted in almost everyone carrying a mobile phone equipped with mobile internet access. As a result, the number of people turning to their mobile phones/devices to surf, stay in touch with friends and family, and follow their favorite blogs is on the rise.

There are tons of mobile plugins available to ensure your blog(s) is available to mobile visitors. Here are 5 of the Best WordPress mobile plugins.

1. WordPress Mobile Edition

Crowd Favorite developed this WordPress plugin. This WordPress mobile edition has a clean user interface designed specifically for mobile phones/devices for your visitors using mobile device. It will detect the browser being used then it automatically loads the appropriate version on your site. You can edit the list of mobile browsers in the settings page. This plugin will allow themes to load on a specific device such as the iPhone, Opera Mini, or Windows Mobile mobile web browsers.

2. WordPress Mobile Pack

This WordPress plugin has device adaptation, mobile recognition, and it is even widget ready. It features device adaptation and mobile recognition, and it will automatically re-size the images, post to multiple pages, or split the articles so it will look great on all mobile devices/phones. There's a mobile admin panel so it's easy to manage. The mobile ad widget ensures mobile AdSense and other ads are displayed properly on all mobiles.

3. Mobilize

Once this WP plugin is installed, it will detect all mobile phones and allowing them blog site access. It will then redirect to Mippin's server, where it will then be rearranged and the content is designed to suit the mobile phone or mobile device. For example, if your blog has images, Mippin resizes images so they fit mobile screens. It will also convert all videos to the 3gp format.

4. Mowser

The Mowser plugin allows your blog to load quicker and be viewed easier on any mobile device and the associated mobile browser. This WordPress plugin detects anytime a user is attempting to access your WordPress blog on a mobile device and it will automatically redirect to the appropriate mobile version of your blog.

5. Wetomo WordPress to Mobile

The Wetomo plugin automatically detects whenever a user attempts to access your URL from a mobile phone/device. Wetomo works as a proxy connecting your blog and the user, and then it modifies your blog to match the user's mobile phone or device so your blog looks terrific on whichever mobile browser is being used.

10 Great Ways to stop WordPress Spam

Whether you are a seasoned blogger or new to blogging spam is your enemy. In fact, it's like the minute your blog goes live the spam floodgates open. Combating spam can take up a great deal of your time, but it doesn't have to. Here are 10 of the best WordPress plugins to combat spam.

1. The reCAPTCHA Plugin – You may have already seen this one on sites like Twitter, StumbleUpon, or Facebook. It uses two words. The first one CAPTCHA knows, while the second one it doesn't know. Download, click install, get your key and then you can start using plugin.

2. Akismet – This is the most commonly used WordPress spam tools because it is bundled with your WordPress. It's very efficient at picking up on spam. It's a good place to start as far as spam goes. However, its biggest flaw is that it hides the spam from being displayed but it doesn't get to the root of spam like any of the other tools.

3. Math Comment Spam Protection Plugin – Using this tool lets you add a field to the comment box in your blog with simple math questions to answer. This ensures the poster is not a robot.

4. Simple Trackback Validation – This plugin checks the IP address of sender of the trackback to see if the IP address is the same as the trackback URL, which eliminates plenty of

spammers. If the page does not link to your blog, the trackback is treated as spam by this plugin.

5. Make User Login to Comment – Most bloggers won't need this tool but it will stop spam. It lets you set your blog up so that users have to login in order to leave a comment and this will stop spammers. However, it can also deter visitors too.

6. Ban Spammers by their IP Address – The .htaccess file is how we will stop spammers from accessing your blog by banning spammers by their IP address. This isn't a solution overall but if there are a couple of IP addresses that are driving you nuts, then all you have to do is insert the following into your .htaccess file in the root of your blog.

```
Order allow,deny
Deny from 100.100.100.
Allow from all
```

7. Bad Behavior – This is a group of PHP scripts that prevent spambots from being able to access your site by analyzing the HTTP requests and then comparing them to the profiles of known spambots.

8. Defensio – This plugin is actually a spam filtering web-based service that blocks spam comments.

9. WP-Contact Form With Spam Protection – This plugin will create a contact form that allows your readers to easily contact you on your blog.

10. Digital Fingerprint – This is another useful plugin that detects theft of your content.

Best WordPress Plugins to Manage Comments

If you use WordPress, there are some excellent WordPress plugins that can help you to manage the comments placed on your blog and your response to those comments. Let's have a look at some of the best WordPress plugins to manage comments.

1. Comment Relish – This WP plugin will send an automatic email message to site users who haven't commented before. It's become a popular tool for sending off a link back to a post, a thank you for a comment, and an even to tell them about your RSS feed. You can use it however you like, just avoid it having that auto-generated look and feel.

2. Better Comments Manager – This WP plugin will let you respond to blog comments at the same time you are moderating them on the backend. So rather than having to see comment placed, then visit the post and then respond it stream lines it into one process. You can view all the new comments, approve, and comment in one easy step.

3. Subscribe to Comments – This WP plugin lets your readers know when you have replied to a comment of a post they are subscribed to.

4. Comment Modification Notifier – This WP plugin will notify you right on your desktop when a new comment comes in that needs moderations.
5. WP AJAX Edit Comments – Using AJAX admin can edit all comments anytime, and for a limited time posters can edit their comments.
6. WP Grins – With this plugin put clickable smilies in your post(s) and comment form(s).
7. Live Comment Preview – This is a simple method to for posters to see how preview how their comment will look once it goes live on your blog/site
8. Show Top Commentators – This WP plugin will encourage more reader discussion by displaying the readers name and the number of comments they have recently posted.
9. Favatars – When a user leaves a comment on your blog, a trackback, or a pingback, if they have supplied a URL Favators will go look to see if there is a favion on their site. If they do, you are presented with the option of making it show next to their name on your blog.
10. Extended Comment Options – This WP plugin lets you switch pings and/or comments on/off for an entire batch of existing posts.

Finding WordPress Plugins that allow you to manage your comments quick and easy can save to tons of times. These ten are a great place to start and there are plenty of others you might want to explore too.

There you have it, an extensive list of plug-ins for you to explore and use for in the future. Good luck and happy blogging.